

# UFO coming for me calls missing pilot

A pilot reported an unidentified flying object hovering over his single-engined aircraft seconds before losing contact over Bass Strait at the weekend.

Frederick Valentich, 20, told Melbourne Flight Service later that a long object with "green and metallic lights" seemed to be playing some kind of game with him.

Melbourne Flight Service lost contact with Valentich after he reported his Cessna engine was rough-idling and coughing with "an unknown aircraft hovering above me."

Department of Transport officials working at MFS said there was a sort of metallic sound before radio communication was lost.

Valentich, from the Melbourne suburb of Avondale Heights, is believed to have crashed between Cape Otway and King Island in Bass Strait on Saturday.

An RAAF Orion sighted an oil slick in Bass Strait under the plane's flight path late yesterday and dropped a signal beacon.

Late last night a fishing boat was heading toward the beacon.

Samples of the oil will be taken to establish whether it is from the plane.

Department of Transport officials said the six-minute conversation with Valentich between 7.06 pm and 7.12 was "quite extraordinary."

A spokesman said last night it was possible Valentich's plane was flying upside down.

## Disoriented

"He may have become disoriented and confused by reflection from the Cape Otway and King Island lighthouses," the spokesman said.

"The lighthouses may have reflected off particles of cloud."

Officials said it was the first incident of its kind reported in Victoria for at least 15 years.

Weather conditions were perfect at the time of the disappearance. It was a clear night with little wind.

In the conversation with MFS, Mr Valentich described the object as flying "at a speed I cannot estimate."

MFS asked for a description and Valentich replied: "It is a long shape. I cannot identify more than that. It's coming for me right now."

Last night Mr Guido Valentich said his son believed in UFOs.

The Valentich family still believed that Frederick was alive.

What does this mean?

all reports weather/visibility perfect. So how did he fail to make any kind of visual observation?