

NZ Air Force on standby over UFO

WELLINGTON, Mon, AAP —
The New Zealand Air Force's Strike Squadron has been put on standby to investigate any further positive UFO sightings over the country.

A Defence spokesman said tonight one or two Skyhawk fighter - bombers would be "scrambled" if the Wellington Airport radar picked up more positive sightings that "looked as though they could be interesting."

The move follows the sighting of a UFO over the north-west of the South Island early yesterday morning, which

Friday morning, which was filmed by an Australian television crew.

The film has already been screened in Britain by the BBC.

"We do not consider there is a defence threat," a Ministry spokesman said.

"But it's all very interesting."

The Wellington Airport radar picked up several unexplained signals in the Clarence River area of the South Island on Saturday night.

Strange lights were seen at the same time

seen at the same time by an Argosy freighter on a newspaper run with the television crew abroad.

Was too

nervous

Melbourne's Channel O television station claims its film is the best-ever documented sighting of a UFO.

The Argosy pilot, Captain Bill Startup, said today: "It was spectacular. I have never seen anything like it in 23 years of flying."

He said the mystery object had apparently tracked his plane.

TV crew

frightened

The television crew were frightened and shaken by what they

SEARCH BY WHAT THEY
SAW.

A woman sound recordist, who accompanied the cameraman and reporter on the initial flight, was too nervous to go up the second time, when the cameraman switched lenses and got what station news director Neil Miller called startling footage.

Miller said reporter Quentin Fogarty was *on leave in New Zealand* when news reports appeared late last month, quoting the pilot of a plane flying newspapers from Wellington to Christchurch, as saying he had seen UFOs.

The station arranged to recreate that flight, although it had to settle for another pilot who also flies the route regularly.

the

