

A CLOSE ENCOUNTER

A police party claimed to have seen an unidentified flying object over Gaire village, about 36km east of Port Moresby, early yesterday morning.

The party led by National Capital divisional police commander, Assistant Commissioner Mr David Tasion and the commander of 'A' Division, Superintendent Paul Tobian, had been chasing a stolen car when they spotted the UFO.

They saw the object some-

time between 3.15 am and 4.30am.

The director of police public relations, Mr Leith Anderson, who was also at the scene, said the object was at a fixed position in the sky.

"It was like a bright search-light which kept switching on and off at two minute intervals," Mr Tasion and Mr Anderson said.

The light intensity varied from a faint glimmer to full brightness before dimming and going out again.

“Police checked with civil

aviation duty officers but inquiries revealed there were no flights either domestic, international, civil or military overhead PNG at the time,” they said.

Mr Tasion and Mr Anderson said it was the first time they had seen such an object.

The stolen car was later found and identified as the Police Commissioner, Mr Philip Bouraga's private car.

A police spokesman said six youths from Gaire village have been arrested in connection with the theft.