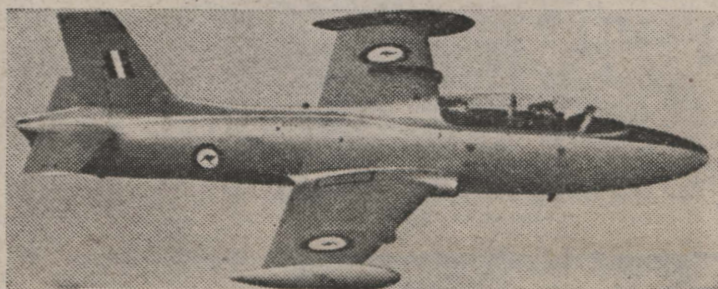


JET HUNT FOR UFOs - MYSTERY

MELBOURNE "SUN"
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• A RAAF Macchi jet.

PERTH – The RAAF is baffled by four mysterious unidentified flying objects seen over Perth and tracked by radar.

A Macchi jet was "scrambled" by the RAAF after the UFOs were sighted, but the pilot could not find them.

The UFOs were first seen on Thursday by Mr Graham Moyle, an air traffic controller at Perth Airport.

He and other air traffic controllers made two or three visual sightings between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

The regional director of transport, Mr Ellis Keil, said that the

"silver tumbling discs" were tracked on radar at a height of more than 26,000 feet until they disappeared at more than 65,000 feet.

There were no aircraft or weather balloons in the area to explain the sightings.

Wing-Cdr. Ian Lindsay, administrative staff officer at Pearce air base, said the RAAF could not account for the UFOs.

Danielle Russell, 12, of Jennings Way, Lockridge, saw four objects moving quickly across the sky from north to south about 11 a.m.

She said: "When I first saw them through the lounge-room window I thought they were birds, or a plane."

"They were changing color from red, blue and green, and two of them were doing a ballerina act."

However, the UFO mystery may never be solved.

The RAAF, which is handling the investigation, is concerned only with establishing that there were no aircraft or obvious objects such as weather balloons in its air space.

One RAAF spokesman said that the atmospheric conditions were unusual on Thursday and this could have accounted for the sightings.

He said the sudden onset of hot weather could have produced an atmospheric phenomenon.

The last sighting of a UFO was by crew members of a Darwin-bound TAA jet, which reported a shining object at around 49,000 feet.

That was on August 8.