

# Family tells of close encounter

By NORMAN AISBETT jun.



TWO Northam families are convinced that they have seen the same big, unexplainable flying object moving in a brilliant ball of light over a similar point on Great Eastern Highway.

Both say that the object was moving only at treetop height and was big enough to straddle the road.

They also claim that it was moving at no more than 20kmh and made no sound.

By coincidence, the families say that the sightings were made almost a year apart to the day and were both about 47km from Perth —about half way to Northam.

An Air Force spokesman confirmed yesterday that a detailed report of the latest "sighting" had been made to the RAAF base at Pearce. The report was being investigated by the "unusual aerial sightings officer."

He said that he was impressed by the manner in which the report had been detailed.

The report was made to the RAAF about 9.30pm on Monday by

Mr Andrew Potocznyj, who had been driving his family home to Northam.

He said yesterday that he was accompanied by his wife Glennis, daughters Michelle (9) and Andrea (3) and his son Damian (6).

"It started off in the sky some distance ahead and looked like a brilliant star, then it dropped down in altitude and came slowly directly above the highway," he said.

Michelle said: "It was big and round, with a lot of light coming out. Damian was screaming and jumped in the back of the car.

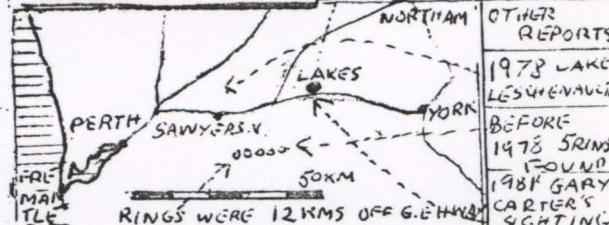
He told mum to ring the police."

The other sighting was reported by Mr

Gary Carter, a Northam Westrail worker, who was with his wife Cheryl and three children including his daughter, Donna-Anne (4).

He described the object as "like a Hercules plane . . . glowing brilliantly . . . but without wings, a tail or a nose."

SKETCH MAP OF SAWYERS VALLEY "UFO PRONE" AREA  
● LOCATION OF ANDY'S SIGHTING



Mr Andy Potocznyj shows a sketch of the object. He is with his wife Glennis and children Andrea (3), Damian (6) and Michelle (9).