

UFO sighted over Shanghai

BEIJING, Saturday (Reuter). — Chinese fighter pilots tracked an unidentified flying object that appeared over Shanghai on Thursday night for seven minutes before it vanished in the East China Sea, the *China Daily* said yesterday.

The UFO was described by one of many witnesses as looking at times like an oval plate and at others like a comet with an umbrella-shaped tail.

China Daily said its staff member Mr Yao Kang saw the UFO above People's Square in central Shanghai while he was walking with his wife and baby shortly before eight o'clock on Thursday night.

"I looked up and saw an amazing reddish orange basin-shaped luminary hanging in the sky over the south-west of the square," he said.

"Above the bright basin-like object was a misty parachute with a diameter of about one metre. It looked like a lump of milky white gas."

The paper said military jets took off immediately to track and observe the UFO.

The UFO disappeared in the East China Sea seven minutes later, but not before the pilots were able to corroborate the descriptions of witnesses on the ground.

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Mr Shu Jiabin, chief engineer of the Shanghai Meteorology Bureau, said the UFO was probably caused by meteoric ice.