



The driver of the family car, Mr Sean Knowles, 21, and his brother, Wayne, 18, in Adelaide yesterday.

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After 38 years of UFO-watching, Colin Norris had his heyday yesterday.

The report of a UFO sighting in the Nullarbor, and the media scramble that followed, helped to compensate for years of frustration, Mr Norris said.

"I am delighted with the whole thing," said the man who set up Australia's first UFO club in 1951. "I am rather concerned for the people in the vehicle, but it's the greatest thing since sliced bread. I am not scared. I hope these people come down more frequently."

"I don't have to apologise any more. Let them (the sceptics) explain it to me."

After years of being rejected by the media as a fool, Mr Norris became their darling yesterday, with calls from radio stations and newspapers across Australia and overseas, and television interviews lined up for last night.

Mr Norris, 67, claims that he saw a UFO in Geraldton in 1942 when he was a member of a Royal Australian Air Force crew. Since then he has kept reports, published quarterly magazines and kept in contact with like-minded people across the world.

He has the biggest collection of information on UFOs in the Southern Hemisphere, including an album of photographs of alleged sightings in Australia.

The 'visitors' make a UFO expert's day



Mr Norris: incident is "the greatest thing since sliced bread".

Mr Norris, who is director of Australian International UFO Research, an organisation with 118 members, said that Wednesday's Nullarbor incident supported his request that the

Federal Government investigate UFO sightings.

"As a taxpayer, I want the departments of Defence and Science to tell me what happened," Mr Norris said.

Using the word "people" to describe the occupants of UFOs, Mr Norris said that the visitors from outer space were humanoid, with feet, arms and eyes.

"People had better take a warning from this and recognise that we are not the only God-chosen planet with humanoids on it."

Asked if he believed the visitors were dangerous, he said that UFOs had done nothing hostile. But by launching armed satellites, Earth with its "military philosophy", was provoking the sort of action which the UFO undertook in the Nullarbor, when it allegedly raised then dropped the car driven by the Knowles's family from Perth.

"We in our wisdom feel quite free to shove cancer and AIDS on to chimpanzees and think it is our right to do so, but let some alien do that to us and we are up in arms. We are in a big universe and big fish eat little fish and that's that."

He also said the "visitors" could have a sense of humor in lifting the Knowles's car and then dropping it.

"We do things to tantalise people, so why shouldn't they?" Mr Norris said that in South Australia eight authentic UFO sightings were made last year.