



Mr Norman (left) and Mr Auchetti examining the car today

Meteorite 'not UFO answer'

A LEADING UFO researcher has dismissed claims that a meteorite "abducted" the Knowles family's car on the Nullarbor Plain.

Mr Paul Norman, vice president of the Victorian UFO Society, said these and other similar explanations were "hogwash".

"They watched it fly off - what sort of meteorite does that?" he said.

Mr Norman and fellow researcher Mr John Auchetti were in Adelaide to carry out a series of tests on the Knowles' car.

Although the encounter took place 12 days ago, the men were satisfied the results of their tests would reveal

By Carolyn Collins

evidence of a UFO encounter. The car has been impounded by Channel 7 since it arrived in Adelaide from Ceduna.

Mr Auchetti said the dents on the roof could not have been caused by the car rolling, as some reports have suggested.

"The probability of getting them so evenly spaced is very rare. It is not like someone has walked over it," he said.

The blown-out tyre was also "very unusual" because there were no signs

of wear and tear and it would be sent to its manufacturer for analysis.

The pair collected dust samples from inside the car and from the brake linings, and tested the car for radioactivity and changes to the its magnetic field.

Mrs Faye Knowles and her sons Patrick, 24, Sean, 21, and Wayne, 18, claimed their car was picked up by a bright white object near the WA-SA border on January 21.

They told police their car was covered with ash before being dropped, bursting a tyre.