

# UFO? Venus? Wait a while

*Received March 1*

WITH reference to comments made by Malcolm Miller (March Sky, CT, February 28, p.28) regarding Venus being mistaken for a recent UFO sighting in Canberra — “viewers unused to its cycle . . . couldn't believe it was just a nearby planet”:

I agree that the image on the video film shown on TV may very well turn out to be Venus. The planet at the time of the sighting was in the general direction that the witnesses were looking. Venus at this time is about 35 million kilometres from the Earth and, although it is only a crescent, in fact 0.2 of its normal size, it is still very impressive in the morning sky, being 4.6 in magnitude, and could, to anyone unfamiliar with the planet's cycle, appear unusual. Before we dismiss the recent UFO sighting as just another planet we should wait until the results of the analysis of the video film are completed before making any unsubstantiated comments about

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*Responsibility for election comment in this issue is taken by Crispin Hull, 9 Pirie Street, Fyshwick. Until the end of the election period, all letters commenting on election matters must bear full name and address.*

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the image, particularly if those making any comments have not ana-

**ing any comments have not analysed the video film themselves.**

**At this stage it is only an assumption that the image shown on the video film is Venus, and until such time as the film is properly analysed using computer enhancement it will remain unidentified. Whatever the results of the tests on the video film, you, the public, will be given those results; so let's wait until we have the facts before dismissing such a controversial matter.**

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