

Cops investigate NT UFO invasion

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A FULL-SCALE alien invasion of the Northern Territory has begun.

Astronomers and police say that the flares seen across a 360km-long stretch of the Top End coast were probably caused by a meteor shower.

But highly-qualified UFO-ologists said they believed the bright lights were space ships on a pre-attack scouting mission.

Darwin-based UFO expert Alan Ferguson said the flares were obviously aliens. "This all sounds like UFO activity," he said.

"Meteors usually just flash across the sky and leave a tail.

"But UFOs will stay in the same spot and wobble up and down and side to side. Fast movements.

"That's how they work."

[Do you believe in UFOs? - leave your comment below](#)

Mr Ferguson said UFOs, like Swedish backpackers and Canberra politicians, nearly always came to the Top End during the dry season.

"It may be just that there are less clouds and we can see better," he said. "Or it maybe that we're outside more during the Dry.

"Or maybe the UFOs are interested in our military activity. There are always more of them about during (Operation) Pitch Black."

Superintendent Bruce Porter said police received many calls about the flares at about 9pm on Tuesday.

Police feared a boat was in distress and launched a search. "We took this seriously, but the indications are that nobody is missing," they said.

Just last month the NT News reported on how one Territory town's invasion by UFOs had been recorded in the world's most famous museum for extraterrestrial life.

The tiny community of Marlinja came to a standstill in June 2008 when UFOs reportedly descended on the town. Now the event has been recorded at the International UFO Museum in Roswell.

Roswell in New Mexico is home to arguably the most famous UFO incident of all time.

On July 8, 1947, it was reported that US Army personnel had recovered a crashed flying disc from a ranch near Roswell.

Supt Porter believes the flares were probably a meteor shower.

For those who don't believe the NT is being invaded by Martians, meteors are pieces of debris that burn up when entering the earth's atmosphere. If they hit the ground, they become meteorites.

** LAST month the NT News established the Gerrymeter scale to give Territory UFO sightings a credibility rating. The Gerrymeter was named in honour of the Territory's most powerful man, independent MLA Gerry Wood, who has seen UFOs flying over his electorate in Darwin's rural area.*

THE GERRYMETER

5 Gerrys As credible as the Territory's most honest politician, Gerry Wood

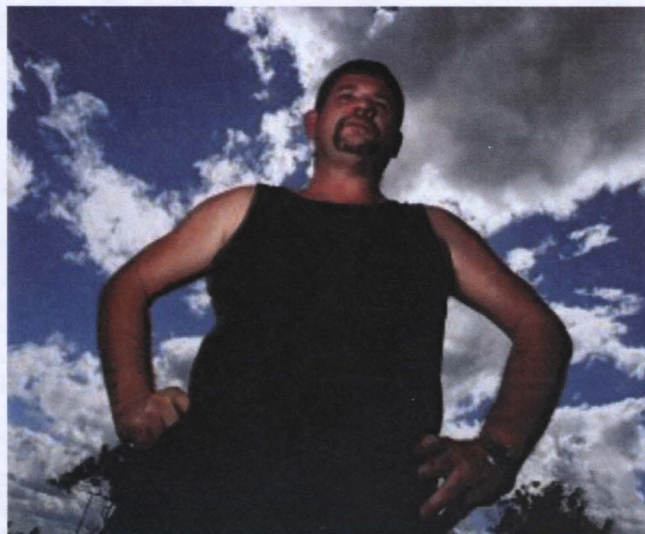
4 Gerrys Definite alien potential. Time to break out your anti-abduction helmet

3 Gerrys Was it a shooting star? Or could it be something more sinister?

2 Gerrys No wonder your friends call you Alf

1 Gerry Is that a UFO I can see through the wacky weed haze?

However, since this latest mass sighting is being investigated by the NT Police, we believe it is off the Gerrymeter scale. The NT News is giving it **5 Gerrys + 1 McRoberts**.



BELIEVER: Local UFO-ologist Alan Ferguson says the aliens could be coming. Picture: CHLOE ERLICH