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UFO 'mystery' solved

WHAT was thought to have been a UFO (unidentified flying object) sited over the Amman Valley last week, is nothing more than a barrage balloon tethered at several hundred feet at a point near Llyn Llech Owain, Penygroes, Carmarthenshire.

Almost as soon as the balloon was put up, the area was swarming with sight-seerers, and since its launching there have been numerous reports of UFO sitings in the area.

But the balloon, visible over a 20-mile radius, is just an ordinary barrage balloon, being used by a television company who are testing the suitability of the area for a permanent aerial mast.

The balloon has since caused further excitement because it is winched down at a

certain time each evening — when most UFO sightings are reported.

Mr. J. C. Thomas, of Dyllcoed Uchaf Farm, Maes-y-Bont, Cross Hands, who lives not far from where the balloon is tethered, said: "It's quite laughable really, because the balloon has caused a big stir in the locality."

Mr. Thomas agreed that the balloon, from a distance, did look "most peculiar" in the evenings when there was no breeze, because it hung motionless in the night sky.

Another local resident said: "The balloon has puzzled a lot of people, I think, because people have either seen it drop slowly to the ground in the early evening, or watched it before it was lowered on the winch, after which they have been puzzled by the balloon's disappearance."