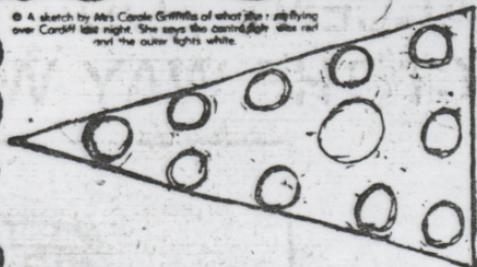


© A sketch by Mrs Carole Griffiths of what she is flying over Cardiff last night. She says the central light was red and the outer lights white.



What Carole saw over Cardiff . . .

● THE sketch and headline that appeared with the report in last night's South Wales Echo.

MYSTERY is growing over reports of a low-flying object, that appears to be skirting the South Wales coast at nights.

And the strongest theory, that the flashing lights belong to a patrolling Sea King helicopter, have been denied by the Sea King search and rescue flight at RAF Brawdy.

"Our helicopters have the standard aircraft lights, red, white and green, and up to seven very bright spotlights that could be shining at any one time," said a spokesman from the flight.

"But we haven't been flying after 4pm, so the possibility it was one of us is remote."

Sightings of the UFO have continued to flood in to South Wales Echo offices, after last night's publication of a sketch of the craft.

"I saw two massive lights, close together in the sky," said Mrs Jennifer Brotherton, aged 37, of Church Rise, Wenvoe. "Until we saw the front page of the Echo, I would have thought people

UFOs? It's not us, say RAF rescue flight

would think I was some kind of a nut.

"It was standing still in the sky — that was what caught my attention. It seemed to be like an aircraft on its side."

Mr Robert Whitehouse, of Carter Place, Fairwater, described exactly the same phenomena, spotted at 7.15pm on Tuesday.

Moon

Mrs Vera Russell, of Sedgemoor Road, Llanrumney, said she saw three identical objects flying across the light of the moon, last night.

"It's not a word of a lie," she said. "An aeroplane went by at the same time, so we could tell how slowly they were going."

Mrs Russell's flying objects all followed the same course through the sky, and she was most struck by the size of them.

The Cardiff Weather Centre say they have not released any meteorological balloons recently, and air traffic controllers at Cardiff Airport have not reported anything unusual.

Police say they have passed on their reports to the Civil Aviation Authority, at West Drayton, and the Ministry of Defence will be investigating.

But meteors and air refuelling theories have also been dispelled by a long-standing member of the British UFO Research Association, Mr Bill Rich, who says that what he saw in the night sky did not answer either description.

"People get UFO happy," said the Swansea coastguard, "on clear nights, dust in the atmosphere causes refraction — even a planet can look like a lantern in the sky."