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UFO REPORT - WRITTEN FOR WREXHAM EVENING LEADER FROM TELETEXT REPORT ON 27 APRIL 1992

AIRLINER 'WITHIN FEET' OF UFO CRASH

AN airliner narrowly missed colliding with a UFO as it flew 14,000ft over south-east England, according to an official CAA report.

The Boeing 737 airliner was descending towards Gatwick Airport at 355 knots when the co-pilot spotted "a black lozenge-like object" just 500 metres ahead at the same level.

"Within the space of 1.5 seconds it passed very close, less than 100 yards away, down the port side of the aircraft, and only 30ft above the wing," says the report into last summer's air misses.

The crew reported their sighting to London air controllers, who spotted a small primary radar contact behind the 737.

"No impact or disturbance was felt on the aircraft, and no damage was found during a post flight inspection. The pilot assessed the risk of collision as high," added the report.

London controllers tracked the UFO as it headed south east at about 100 knots and warned another aircraft following the 737 into Gatwick to make a turn to avoid collision.

The baffled air miss working party said a black weather balloon had been released that day but it was not thought to have been able to reach such a high altitude.

SUBMITTED BY JOE KELLY

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