



Plane vanishes after 'loud metallic noise'

By ROBIN SCOTNEY



A MASSIVE sea and air search was continuing last night for a light aircraft which vanished over Bass Strait seconds after the pilot reported he was being followed by an unidentified flying object.

The pilot, Mr Frederick Valentich, 29, of Avondale Heights, a Melbourne suburb, was on a flight from Melbourne to King Island on Saturday night when radio contact was lost at 7.12 pm.

The plane, a \$43,500 single-engined Cessna 187, owned by Southern Air Services, of Moorabbin, Ont, the pilot was on board.

In his last minutes of radio contact near Cape Otway the pilot said Melbourne control he was being followed by an unidentified flying object.

Police Tape-Record Eerie Noises Made by Glowing UFO

Oregon police watched and listened in awe as a brilliant orange, whining UFO hovered over the Portland area.

And on an incredible police tape recording of the police officers' conversations that morning, the huge craft's eerie noises are audible in the background.

"The UFO shook everybody up," said Sgt. Rusty Yokum of the St. Helens, Oreg., Police Department.

"It was an intense ball of light that made strange noises. We recorded them.

like a helicopter for about 90 minutes."

Before dawn March 17, Yokum first saw the UFO while on patrol.

"I thought it was an aircraft landing light — but it was brighter than a normal landing light would be."

The light disappeared — then Yokum was told on the radio that state police officer Tom McCartney could still see it in another spot. He drove there, and along with

they watched the blinding orange craft hover over a river.

Sgt. Yokum said his department called Portland International Airport, which confirmed the UFO had been sighted on radar. But within five minutes, he added, airport authorities mysteriously called back and denied it.

As the startled officers described the blinding UFO over their police radios, a tape recorder in one of their patrol cars captured the dra-