

MACKAY CASE

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James W. Tilac (Tila)

mail: Box 222, Machan Wholesales, Machan Species tim

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Petum to Box 222

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MACKAY CASE

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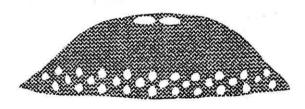
1965: Mackey (Eton Ridge) Queensland CEI & grobable CEII't

This incident from the Cairns district of Northern Queensland followed soon after a number of sightings in other parts of the State. There was for instance, one near Mackay, on May 24 when Mr. Jim Tilse, commercial pilot and licensee of the Retreat Hotel, Eton Ridge, and two other men, told how a flying saucer type of machine "buzzed" the hotel, and remained nearby for 40 minutes. It appeared to be about 30 feet across, and had a bank of floodlights in front of it. It had a large black disc on top, and three legs protruding from the base. Strange scorch marks were found both on the ground and on nearby trees. An investigation is being conducted.

The James Tilse report

OUR Australian article had already gone to press when we received further details of the Retreat Hotel incident from Mrs. Magee. Among them were a report signed by James William Tilse, and some rough sketches on which our artist's impressions are based. The accompanying drawing shows the object as seen at rest on (or near) the ground: our cover illustration depicts the object as seen on departure.

We note that Mr. Tilse, who is a Justice of the Peace as well as a hotel proprietor, was also a senior pilot (Licence No. 225) with T.A.A. (four years) and Queensland Airlines (two years). His cowitnesses were Mr. Judin, a guest at the hotel, and



Our artists impression based on a rough sketch

The James Tilse report (continued)

a truck driver, Mr. Burgess.

It was Mr. Burgess who first saw the object when he went outside to move a vehicle just after midnight on the night of May 23–24. Mr. Judin was immediately called out, and shortly afterwards, Mr. Tilse followed. They could see what was described as a "well-defined machine, solid and metallic." When questioned later, the three men gave varying estimates of the size of the object. Mr. Tilse estimated the diameter at about 30 feet, Mr. Judin was of the opinion that it was 20 feet, while Mr. Burgess was satisfied with a mere 6 feet. Otherwise their testimony did not differ greatly.

According to Mr. Tilse, the sky was practically cloudless, and the Moon was about 30° above the

horizon and some 20° to the left of the object. The Temperature was estimated at 80°F.

The machine, which had prominent banks of floodlights, was silent both whilst stationary, and whilst engaged in movements towards and away from the witnesses. After some 40 minutes, it departed swiftly until it appeared only as a small point of light. Messrs. Burgess and Judin claimed that as it moved off they heard a gentle buzzing, but at that moment they were closer to the machine than Mr. Tilse. At the instant of departure a bright light appeared on each of the three "legs" of the device. No electro-magnetic effects were observed: the hotel's power is generated by a diesel unit and the lights were unaffected. No radio sets were working, and no car engines were running. The undersides of trees nearby were illuminated whilst the object was on or near the ground, and a circular ring impression was found two days later. The internal diameter of the ring was 20 feet, and it formed a perfect circle. The width of the ring itself was 3 feet 2 inches.

Mr. Tilse states that previous UFO reports had left him with the belief that some people had imaginations that were far too vivid, and he adds, drily, that the same is now thought of himself.

We understand that photographs were taken on high-speed Kodachrome, but that they have not yet been processed.



Sunday night on May 23, 1965, had been like any other Sunday night at the lonely Retreat Hotel, on Eton Range, forty miles from Mackay. Five minutes after midnight when the licensee, Mr J. Tilse was cleaning up the bar things began to happen. One of the patrons, John Burgess, who was just leaving, raced back in and shouted: 'Come and have a look at this.' He said that he saw a strange, luminous machine resting on the ground, 500 yards away.

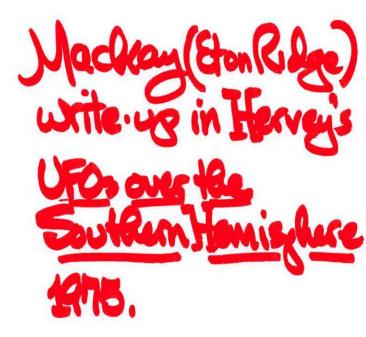
Outside, Mr Tilse, a former commercial pilot, with 11,500 flying hours, and local Justice of the Peace, together with Mr E. Judin and Mr Burgess, saw a black disc-like object with banks of brilliant lights underneath, hovering over tree tops

and about 200 feet above the ground.

The upper part was a flat, elongated top, gently convex and appearing solid, metal-like. It measured possibly one foot in thickness and twenty-five to thirty feet across. The understructure, approximately fifteen feet high, consisted of several rows of orange-yellowish lights numbering ten in the top row and then in decreasing order to six lights on the bottom. Three extremely bright lights which pulsated, were situated slightly below and outside of the arrangement. The whole light complex cast an illumination upon the area beneath with intensity of floodlight beam 200 feet wide on the ground. Trees and grass in the area were clearly visible.

For ten minutes the scene remained unchanged; the craft floating in the air, motionless and silent from time to time dimming its lights to half brilliance. Suddenly the object began to move slowly towards the hotel and stopped about 200 yards away. From this distance, but seen only in profile, some additional features of the object became discernible. On the bottom of the craft, now appearing as a great, illuminated mass of 1,000-gallon tank size, three triangular leg-like structures with a brilliant, pulsating light on each, were protruding. Some orange glow emanated from the under-

belly, but no exhausts could be seen.



Mr Tilse ran inside to call the Mackay Police who promised to look into the matter. At the same time, while the police were still on the telephone, he also rang—on a party line—his neighbour, a cattle rancher. The man took binoculars and went outside, but could not see the object because of the ridge between his property and the hotel.

Meanwhile, the craft began to retreat, moving backwards on the same height and following the same path as it came. It moved now slightly slower and appeared to halt for a few moments over some spots. When approaching the original point, it swerved gently towards the right, only to make a

turn to the left and to glide in slow motion.

'Then it started coming back again just upon us, when at approximately half the distance of the first approach, it turned south for about 400 yards and then back again to its original line,' said Mr Burgess.

Finally, after thirty minutes, the craft rose slowly to approximately 300 feet and with a sudden burst of speed, accelerated extremely rapidly under an angle of forty five

degrees and disappeared in an easterly direction.

No sound was heard while the machine was hovering or cruising around, but only at departure. Mr Burgess and Mr Judin heard a buzz or low pitched hissing to whining sound, but Mr Tilse could not hear anything since he was standing closer to the hotel's generating plant. No electro-magnetic effect or heat waves were felt; the lights of the hotel kept on but no radio or TV were in operation at the time.

The following day Mr Tilse examined in detail the area where the object landed and took colour photographs. On the ground he found a circular impression and the tops of the

trees showed some signs of burning.

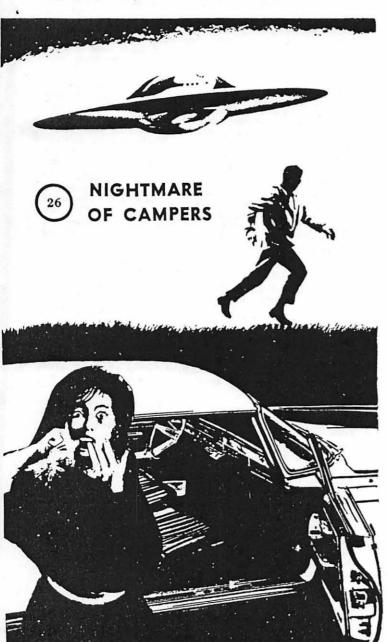
On the arrival of local police who were sent to investigate, the examination of the area was repeated and the following details recorded: 'The impression was a perfect circle with radius of twenty feet; it consisted of flattened grass, but not burned; the centre was untouched. A distinct belt or ring, three feet, two inches wide of less-flattened grass encircles the area making thus the total diameter of the impression forty-six feet four inches.'

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At daytime, Mr. Tilse examined in detail the area where the object was supposed to have landed and took colour photographs. On the ground, he found a circular impression and the tops of the trees showed some signs of burning.

On the arrival of local police, who were sent to investigate and to collect statements, the examination of the area was repeated and following details recorded: "The impression was a perfect circle with radius of 20 feet; it consisted of flattened grass, but not burned, the centre was untouched. A distinct belt or ring, three feet two inches wide of less-flattened grass encircles the area—making thus the total diameter of the impression 46 feet 4 inches".

Many people have visited the area since, some claiming to have discovered similar impressions in nearby localities, however, no objects were seen.



Incredulity at first, then fear and curiosity were the emotions of Antonin Gulka, medical graduate from Europe, and Mrs. Audrey Lawrence, when a greenish coloured object swooped on them near Carnarvon, West Australia and harassed them for almost half an hour, on 15th July, 1965.

The time was about 7.40 p.m. and the couple on a rock hunting trip, was driving a Landcruiser with headlights on about 12 miles from Pimble Station. The incident began tamely enough, but then developed into a whirl of night-marish action.

As the two people drove along, they saw a slowly moving green light which subsequently disappeared behind a cloud. A few minutes later it reappeared, but its colour had changed to orange.

The object was about 40 degrees above the horizon when it suddenly made a sharp turn and hurtled towards the car, its apparent size growing six-fold in a second — from about tea-saucer size to a mass measuring at least three feet.

"It's going to crash on us!" Mr. Gulka shouted. He slammed on the brakes, switched off the lights and engine, and he and Mrs. Lawrence fled into the bush in panic. About 15 feet away from the car they looked at the object. It had stopped in mid-air and was hovering, now green in colour and rocking gently from tip to tip. "It was impossible to judge what distance it was trom us", said Mr. Gulka.

After a while he sneaked back to the car to pick up a monocular lens. The dog, a bull-terrier, which they took along, was still in the car, crouching in the back seat with terror and hair standing up. It refused to get out—which was most unusual, since normally it is the first one out of the car whenever it stopped. Mr. Gulka rested the monocular lens on the car and had a good look at the object still hovering in silence some distance away.

His first impression was that the shape was like a squashed football or a magnifying lens viewed from the side. Then he said it appeared to him that it rather looked like a bright green gelatinous mass with an undulating surface. ',It put the fear in me, that whatever I was looking at, was not man-made", Mr. Gulka recollects today.

Mrs. Lawrence soon joined him at the car and both watched the object for almost 30 minutes. At times the object descended below the tree-line, then reappeared. It also hovered in a banked position and at one stage appeared hovering on its edge. Its outline did not change, nor the colour. Their last sight of the object was when it drifted westwards and eventually disappeared, changing colour slightly, but still predominantly green.

Back in the car the couple decided to leave the place as fast as possible—but the engine did not start. Mr. Gulka recalled how car engines had been reported to be affected by the proximity of UFOs, interfering with ignition. It took a half a minute of forced re-starting drill before it fired.

Relaxed now and free of fear, they began to analyse the experience. Both agreed that the event was a "saucer" phenomenon. 'It had a definite saucer configuration, while travelling, it was orange in colour, and when swooping down on us it changed to vivid orange-red, glaringly bright. The colour changed to a transparent, fluorescent green while hovering in the distance. There was no sound heard whatsover", Mr. Gulka and Mrs. Lawrence attested.

RAAF CHALLENGED

An unidentified flying object profoundly upset the routine at Canberra Airport on the morning of 15th July, 1965. At 10.55 a.m., the men in the tower spotted an object which looked to be about 10 miles away and which, for all they knew, shouldn't be there.

The officer-in-charge of civil aviation at Canberra, Mr. A. B. Lindeman, said the object was clearly visible to the naked eye on a bearing of 020 magnetic from the airport. However, even with field glasses, it was impossible to see what is was.

Mr. Lindeman said it glinted in the sun and appeared to be metallic. The object remained stationary for about 20 minutes and then sudenly vanished.



In recent years only a few UFO reports refer to a filamentous substance, "angel's hair", having been seen falling from the sky after a flying saucer had passed over. In the case below, the second in Australia, but only now reported to UFOIC, it is believed that the same substance is involved. In the earlier report of October, 1953, over Victoria, a sample was recovered and made available for laboratory analysis. The examination revealed that the substance consisted of a nylon-like, amorphous mass with traces of Magnesium, Calcium, Boron and Silicon. Since then the original material, which was kept in an air-tight container, shrank from three feet to a mere half inch without residue. (See photo above.)

WISPY THREADS FROM SKY

On 6th June, 1962, at 11.20 a.m., six silent UFOs flying erratically, high in a cloudless sky, attracted the attention of residents of "Shalimar", Caroda, N.S.W. The first of these resembled a very brilliant star and climbed slowly to an altitude slightly south of the zenith, where it became too small to be seen.

A few minutes later, a second silvery globe was observed travelling from the north, about half-way between the zenith and north-east horizon, then in an arc which brought it overhead. After completing a circle, it hovered for 10 seconds, then moved off in a south-easterly direction, until lost from view about 30 degrees above the horizon. Of all the objects, this one was the lowest and best-defined, enabling its circular outline to be distinguished from that of an aircraft.

A third object appeared, resembling the first and following a similar route. Then another very high speck of light became visible in the west. It appeared to leave a trail of shiny, web-like filaments, which gradually disintegrated as they drifted through the air. Two UFOs followed very high in the sky and were seen for only a short while.

Mrs. Jean Williams, her daughter, Julie, and Mrs. Marie Moore are agreed that, for some time afterwards, a hazy mist of light threads seemed to fill the sky. Mr. Stan Williams, who returned home later, noticed that these traces of silvery thread, which slowly disintegrated, were sometimes as long as five feet, and seemed to be of a fine nylon-like texture.

Although a search over the countryside for traces of these wispy threads was to no avail, he is convinced that he was not chasing mere cobwebs, but a strange substance emanating from the flying saucers which had passed overhead.



MACKAY LANDING

Sunday night, 23rd May, 1965, had been like any other Sunday night at the lonely Retreat Hotel, on Eton Range, 40 miles from Mackay, Queensland. Five minutes after midnight, however, when the licensee, Mr. J. W. Tilse was cleaning up the bar and getting organised for the next day, things began to happen.

One of the patrons, John Burgess, just leaving, raced back in and shouted: "Come and have a look at this". He said that he saw a strange, luminous machine resting on the ground, 500 yards away.

Outside, Mr. Tilse, a former commercial pilot with 11,500 flying hours, and present local Justice of the Peace, together with Mr. Eric Judin and Mr. Burgess, saw a black disc-like object with banks of brilliant lights underneath, hovering over tree tops and about 200 feet above the ground.

The upper part was a flat, elongated top, gently convex and appearing solid, metal-like. It measured possibly one foot in thickness and 25 to 30 feet across. The understructure, approximately 15 feet high, consisted of several rows of orange-yellowish lights numbering 10 in the top row and then in decreasing order to six lights on the bottom. Three extremely bright lights which pulsated, were situated slightly below and outside of the arrangement. The whole light complex cast an illumination upon the area beneath with intensity of floodlight beam 200 feet wide on the ground. Trees and grass in the area were clearly visible.

For ten minutes the scene remained unchanged; the craft floating in the air, motionless and silent from time to time dimming its lights to half brilliance—three speechless men watching in a grip of fear.

Then, suddenly, the object began to move slowly towards the hotel. It stopped about 200 yards away. From this distance, but seen only in profile, some additional features of the object became discernible. On the bottom of the craft, now appearing as a great, illuminated mass of 1,000-gallon tank size, three triangular leg-like structures with a brilliant, pulsating light on each, were protruding. Some orange glow emanated from the underbelly, but no exhausts could be seen.

Now Mr. Tilse ran inside to call the Mackay Police. His message was greeted with howls of laughter—but they promised to look into the matter. At the same time, while the police were still on the phone, he also rang, on the party line, his neighbour, a cattle rancher. The man took binoculars and went outside, but could not see the object because of the ridge between his property and the hotel.

Outside somebody shouted: "Get a rifle and shoot at it". "No fear, it might shoot back" was the answer.

Meanwhile, the craft began to retreat, moving backwards on the same height and following the same path as it came.

It moved now slightly slower and appeared to halt for a few moments over some spots. When approaching the original point, it swerved gently towards the right, only to make a turn to the left and to glide in slow motion. Then "it started coming back again just upon us, when, at approximately half the distance of the first approach, it turned south for about 400 yards and then back again to its original line", said Mr. Burgers

Finally, after 30 minutes, the craft rose slowly to approximately 300 feet—then, with a sudden burst of speed, accelerating extremely rapidly under an angle of 45 degrees—disappeared in an eastern direction.

Perplexed by the experience and shaken over with nervous tension, the men discussed the event, later recollecting the observations in a form of statement accompanied with a sketch of the object.

They all agreed that the event took place under perfect conditions of observation: "There was practically clear sky with only a few small clouds low over the horizon; the last quarter-moon was clearly visible, independently, and far away from the object. The object was very well defined and solid; the movements appeared intelligently controlled, although no living beings were seen. No sound was heard while the

ELB May 23 rg, 1965: Whekay, Greensland Australia

CB1422 multiple independent witnesses

Actred Hotel, Eton range near Mackey.

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J.W. Illse (proprietor, former gilot, current Justice of Jeans).

Eric Judin.

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No noticeable em effects.

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