

Case write-up from:

UFOs: GREATEST SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM OF OUR TIMES?
James E. McDonald

(Prepared for presentation before the 1967
annual meeting of the American Society of
Newspaper Editors, Washington, D. C., April 22,
1967.)

* * *

DAVIS
CA

1967: CE1

Case 7. Davis, Calif., February 13, 1967

At about 1915, two young women driving back to their homes in Woodland, Calif., after a Sacramento shopping trip, noted a bright light which both took to be an aircraft landing light at first, before they even exchanged comments on it. As they left the Sacramento Freeway (Hwy. 80) to turn off on Mace Blvd. to head north to Woodland, the object seemed to head for their location, and continued to close with their car until it came to within a (very roughly) estimated 100 yards. By this time, the driver, Miss Karen Prather, and her passenger, Miss Carol Richied, both of whom I interviewed, had become somewhat frightened, and Miss Prather had accelerated to over 80 mph in a futile effort to move out of what had seemed like the diving approach of an aircraft. But as the object approached, both knew it could not be an aircraft, for the "big light" became resolvable into three separate lights in triangular array. Both described these lights as "huge." Just as it appeared that it might move right into their car, the object tipped up, displaying a disc-like base with one central red light and five or six dimmer white lights. As the disc tipped its nearer edge up, it simultaneously executed a quick turn to the southwest and sped off towards Davis, eventually passing out of sight in the lights and haze over that city. No sound was audible over the noise of Miss Prather's speeding Mustang, they stated.

The girls reported the incident immediately to the Woodland office of the California Highway Patrol, and from the latter office it got to the Woodland *Daily Democrat*. The following day a California Highway Patrolman contacted them and stated to them that they should not take seriously the kidding they were probably receiving, for he had seen an object answering to the same description at about 1945, only about 30 minutes after the girls' sighting. To date I have been unable to secure the name of that officer. A Davis NICAP member is pursuing the case, I understand, and hopes to get an open confirmation of his sighting. Reports that other motorists in the same area saw this object are being investigated, but no other witnesses have been located to date.