

1969 NZ  
Waipukurau  
GAL  
Multiple  
Independent  
Witnesses

Mr. Bob Stahl, insurance clerk of 169 Wellsley Road, said today he was awakened about 3.30 a.m. "I heard this terrific noise. It sounded like a jet on full throttle about to take off. Looking out of the window, he saw a large fluorescent light. It was saucer-shaped and was hovering over the stretch of green near the Hastings street railway crossing," he said.

"The object, which measured about 20ft. across, hovered about 50ft. from the ground.

Mr. Stahl said the object was in view for about 10 seconds before it 'suddenly whisked away at tremendous speed' towards the sea.

"It was bright enough to photograph so I will keep my camera handy in future. If I hear that sound again I will know what it is," he said.

Following his sighting, he had inquired if neighbours had heard the jet-like sound, but without success.

Credit: Harold H. Fulton of Palmerston North.

#### Airfield low level UFO

From the Napier *Daily Telegraph* of October 30, 1969, we learn how:

"An unidentified flying object, which he estimated at 60ft. long, was sighted low over the Waipukurau aerodrome at 3.10 a.m. today by a Central Hawke's Bay Security Services patrol officer.

"The officer, Mr. J. F. Cudby, 33, of Mount Herbert Road, Waipukurau, told the police this morning that the circular metal object was only 300ft. away and about 60ft. above the aerodrome.

"It remained in sight long enough for him to traverse it three times with a searchlight attached to his patrol van, and then moved off at high speed.

"Mr. Cudby was making a routine check at the Central Hawke's Bay Aero Club's clubhouse when lights reflected in a glass door attracted his attention.

"He turned and saw the large aerial object, and then ran to his van, which was only about 20ft. away.

"At the same time, his patrol dog became unusually excited.

"After the object moved off, Mr. Cudby moved over to the area where he had seen it. He found that the grass, wet with dew elsewhere, was hot and dry below where the object had been.

"When he stepped out the dry area he estimated it to be 60ft. long.

"He said the object had appeared to him to be about 12ft. high.

"When the object was first seen, Mr. Cudby said he was conscious of a dull, swishing sound coming from it. As it moved away, the sound increased to a high whine.

"Although it seemed much longer, Mr. Cudby said he thought the whole

episode would have only lasted a minute or so."

Credit: Harold H. Fulton.

#### Confirmation of Waipukurau report

The Napier *Daily Telegraph* of October 31, 1969, carried the following interesting account:

"A Christchurch man, Mr. S. T. Grant, who was travelling through Hawke's Bay to Gisborne, also reported yesterday seeing an object while travelling down Pukeora Hill towards Waipukurau.

"This was at about the same time as the sighting by Mr. Cudby.

"Mr. Grant's report placed the object in exactly the same area as that mentioned by Mr. Cudby. Neither was aware the other had reported it.

"I had often read of UFOs and was always sceptical about them," said Mr. Grant. "Then I realised with a kind of sick shock that I was looking at one."

"He said the object appeared to be circular, and was stationary about 100ft. above the ground when he first saw it. Then it gradually gained height, and abruptly took off southward.

#### SHEEP DISTURBED

"One other Waipukurau resident, who did not wish to be named, has also reported an unusual happening at the same time.

"His home is about half a mile in a direct line from the aerodrome. He was awakened just after 3 a.m. for no apparent reason, and on going outside found the sheep on his property disturbed.

"The thought of an unidentified flying object did not occur to him at the time, he said, but the sheep were highly excited for some reason which he could not explain.

#### STICKS TO STORY

"Mr. Cudby said this morning that while many had expressed disbelief since his report was published, there had been some people who have commended him for not being afraid to speak up.

"He said he could understand the reluctance of most people to believe in the existence of anything like this without proof. 'I was the same until yesterday morning,' he said.

"Reflecting again on the incident, which lasted only a minute or two, he was unshaken in his description of what he saw.

"He added that at the time his seven-year-old patrol dog had refused to obey him—something that had never happened before."

Credit: H. H. Fulton.

#### Radioactivity at alleged landing spot

The following, one of several accounts of the discovery of mysterious

"circles" in New Zealand, is taken from the Napier *Daily Telegraph* of October 6, 1969:

"Manuka from a mysterious circle of bleached scrub found at Ngatea in the Waikato last month is radioactive and has been cooked instantaneously from the inside outwards.

"A leading horticulturist who has tested the manuka said today he knew of 'no earthly source of energy' which could produce this effect.

"The 42ft. diameter circle was discovered by Mr. B. G. O'Neil in manuka on his 50-acre Ngatea farm. It contained three V-shaped grooves in the ground, forming a perfect triangle.

"The manuka was bleached dry but showed no visible signs of burning.

"A horticultural consultant, Mr. John Stuart-Menzies, of Te Puna, said today he had subjected manuka from the circle to a geiger-counter test and found it to be radioactive.

"Every ounce of moisture in the plants had been instantaneously vaporised and they were bone-dry and brittle, he said.

"This is most unusual in manuka, which normally takes a long time to dry out. Some kind of short-wave, high-frequency radiation has cooked the material from the inside outwards," said Mr. Stuart-Menzies.

"The effects appear to have been instantaneous. The energy received has reduced the pith to black carbon, without the outside showing any signs of burning. The cells in the medullary rays were burst by the sudden vaporisation of cell sap."

"Mr. Stuart-Menzies said he knew of 'no earthly source of energy which could have produced these effects. A meteorite or lightning could not do this, and it has been too sudden for combustion.

"Some outside object appears to have landed on the spot, and in taking off emitted the energy which cooked the plants," Mr. Stuart-Menzies said.

"He said the process appeared to have been similar to that employed in the infra-red cooking of meals, but on an enormous scale."

Credit: H. H. Fulton.

#### SOUTH AFRICA

##### Object with seven searchlights

Now, an older case report omitted from an earlier FSR due to pressure on space.

From the Johannesburg *Sunday Express* of November 12, 1967, we learn that:—

"Naval Intelligence units from Maritime Headquarters in Cape Town are investigating reports of flying objects off the South African coast. The investigations follow the arrival in Cape Town this week of the Thesen Line coaster 'Pondo', from Walvis Bay.

1969: Waipukurau, NZ CE1 ... this one could  
be a very good case.

Waipukurau Man sees "Saucer."

This sighting was an excellent one in all respects. We received excellent reports on it from Hawkes Bay field helper, Mr W.F.C. Craven, and also from MR C.L. Elmes. The witness, Mr J.F. Cudby, also sent his own written report and drawing.

Mr Cudby, an officer of Central Hawkes Bay Security Services, Waipukurau, gives his brief account:--

On October 30 at 3.10 a.m. while doing my second round of inspection, I arrived at the Central Hawkes Bay Aero Club buildings. I drove right up to the doors, switched the lights and motor off, let the Alsatian dog out and walked about 20 feet to the large glass doors to check them. I heard what seemed to be a train moving slowly, then my dog began to bark and get very apprehensive. I thought that she had found a stray sheep, but when I turned around she was looking at something behind me. Reflected in the glass doors were three bright lights--two green and one red and on following the source of the dog's barking, I saw hovering about 50 feet up and about 100 yards away, an object with these lights on it. They were that bright that I could dimly see the object making a slow backwards and forwards motion and emitting the low rumbling whine that I had first heard.

I rushed over to the van and switched the spotlight on, and shone the beam on to the object while I watched it between the open door and the pillar of the windscreen. In the strong light I clearly saw a very large round up-turned saucer shape with a dome on the top, made with a metallic substance very like stainless steel, as it reflected my light back. A point which then struck me was that nowhere could be seen a joint, rivet or opening of any description.

Underneath this craft were a series of coloured lights streaming down vertically and although the colours were quite definite they were slightly diffused when they met the next colour.

I shone my beam along its length, which I estimated to be approx. 60 feet, three times and upwards once to gauge its height at about 12 feet, when it suddenly increased the volume of its motor, tilted at approx. 15 degrees angle and took off in a westerley direction at a great speed. The lights on the underside brightened noticeably on take-off.

As it left, the windsock on the hangar spun crazily about the pole for a moment, then sank back to its former limpness. I then went across the dew-covered grass to the approximate area that it had been hovering over and hot air was very noticeable, an instinctively I felt the ground which was also dry and

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quite warm. I paced out the dry grass and roughly reckoned it to be 60 feet.

All this time my dog had consistently refused to obey my commands. It was very excited and ran round the van.

The whole sighting was no longer than 1½ to 2 minutes.

Two people who read Cudby's story in the Napier Daily Telegraph contacted him and told him they had heard a loud jet-like noise from their homes near the aerodrome that morning. A farmer, mentioned anonymously in the newspaper, said he found his sheep in a very disturbed state shortly after 3 a.m. that morning. He lives near the aerodrome also.

A Christchurch man, Mr S.T. Grant, who was travelling through Hawkes Bay to Gisborne also reported to the newspaper on October 30 what he had seen--apparently without knowing of Mr Cudby's sighting reported the same day. As he descended Pukeora Hill near the aerodrome at about the same time in the morning he said he suddenly realised "with a sick shock" that he was seeing a UFO. It appeared to be circular and about 100 feet above the ground when it gradually gained height and abruptly took off southwards.

Efforts by Group field helpers in Christchurch have failed to locate this man in Christchurch.

Auckland UFO Bull 3.

Dr. J. W. K. ...  
... this one could  
be a very good case.

Jackson No. 2.