1971: Brighton, TAS

C21

BELL-SHAPED UFO SEEN AT BRIGHTON

It was a clear, frosty night as Mr. G. Purcell returned to his quarters during a C.M.F. camp at Brighton Army Camp. It was about 2.55 a.m., he recalled, on the 19th June 1971.

Purcell paused and glanced towards the night sky, the stars clearer than in the usual city view, bright and twinkling high above. Suddenly, he noticed a strange light to the south-east, which came from a strange object that was stationary above the paddock next to the camp. It was only some 200 yards distant and he was able to judge, from the pine trees that bordered the camp, that it was about 100 feet up.

The object was a squat bell-shape with a dull silver body area; there was a white hazy-like vapour around the top of the object which gave the impression of there being a glass dome on top. The object appeared to be 15 feet high and 20 feet across.

Purcell watched amazed as the mysterious object remained in its hovering position over the paddock; he made no attempt to approach any closer. Five minutes passed before the object moved 300 yards across the paddock directly in front of Purcell but still remaining beyond the pine trees. As it moved, the orange exhaust below strengthened, a vapour shot from beneath towards the ground, which the witness described as a rainbow, orange, red, green and blue to violet colours.

The vapour died away to an orange glow as the object came to a halt. All was silent as the stars twinkled above; Purcell could hear no noise from the object.

For about 3 minutes the object remained stationary, then another burst of exhaust heralded its next move. Silently, it rose slightly and moved away from the witness about 100 yards before hovering once again. A further 3 minutes elapsed before the object began to rise. As it climbed, it seemed to assume more of a disc-like shape, then it gave a flash and shot off into the north-eastern sky at high speed.

It was now about ten past three and Purcell was once more alone, the stars gleaming above and the frost crunching underfoot as he turned to continue on his way.

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exhaust's related concelates to object motion.

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