

Sept 22, 1974

ACOS Reference T014

DIDDLEM PLAINS 22.9.74  
CROSS ROADS

Investigation...J. Dean, K. Roberts

- 28.9.74 Geoff Curran rang to report Riverside sighting (27/9), says contacted DCA, they advised of similar report, form just received from a woman who was driving along Diddleum Plains Rd, reportedly a triangle object came so low over her car she lost control and went into the ditch. Request can we follow up with RAAF.
- 29.9.74 Contacted Scottsdale Radio (Sheila Ryan) has heard of this report, believes witness is Mrs Bill Lethborg of Diddleum Plains. Heard that as she was driving home some weeks ago she saw an UFO in a roadside paddock. It had steps and ladder, she ran off the road with the surprise. Got out of car and ran home, permed hair was straight by the time she got home. Returned to car no sign of UFO.
- 30.9.74 Checked with RAAF, heard nothing to date.
- \*Curran and Nthn Rep rang advised them of witnesses name etc.
- 3.10.74 RAAF (Plt Lt O'Brien) advises that details of Lethborg case coming from Lton.
- 3.10.74 Nthn Rep advises visiting Diddleum Plains on 4/10.
- 8.10.74 RAAF provide copy of witnesses drawing of object and sighting location. Other details..Witness Mrs Joyce O.Lethborg of Tayene, a housewife, Ph 993382.
- Heavy rain and low cloud at time, mountain mist. Sighting lasted 4 mins. First seen almost in front of car, slight angle to left 20 to 30mts away and 15 to 20mts up. Noticed flashlight as in lightning and radio interference, radio OK before but has been bad since.
- Only one object with hard glaring light, hard on vision, glowing orange/yellow. Many times more brilliant than moon.
- Apparent size 10 to 12ft at closest. Noise disturbance on radio overpowering piercing noise.
- Stationary 60secs, witness reversed car, object kept approaching until witnesses car backed off road. Object then hesitated, then moved off at slight angle, then straight up. No trail. Witness left car and ran away, nrvve shattering experience, still in disturbed condition a week later
- \*Weather Bur advise sunset at 6.08pm. Weather in area at time heavy showers, overcast with cloud at 2500ft. No thunder activity recorded in state that day, chance of electrical phenomena negligible. Winds x NW.
- 10.10.74 Sighting details x Dean, plus map and photographs of sighting point. Dean reports...Mrs Lethborg still very nervous when interviewed, didnt beleive in UFOs although her husband did, relatives said she should report sighting.
- Dean examined road and saw wheelmarks where car ran off edge, 200ft drop down hill at this point.
- Examined sighting area, no marks, checked with compass but no magnetis faults. (see attached for other full details)
- 11.10.74 Rang RAAF (O'Brien) discussed report, says they have not come up with \*any explanation, ruled out weather ballon, aircraft, and meteorological ph

UNIDENTIFIED

28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?

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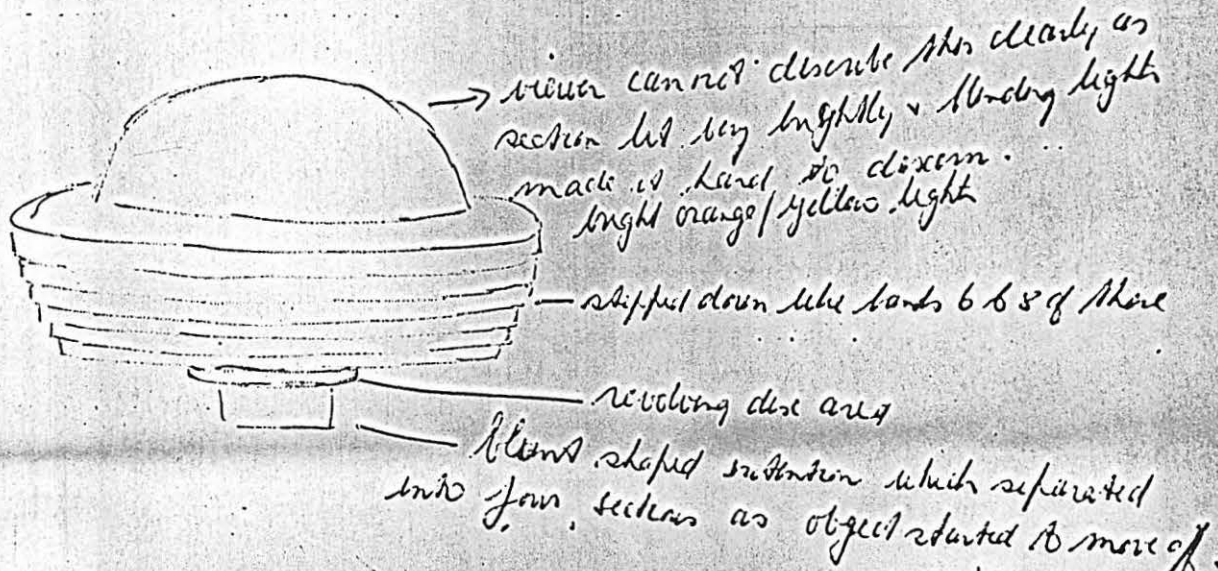
29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation? *NOTHING*

.....

30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?

*I HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED OR SEEN ANYTHING SIMILAR*

31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.



With close proximity of object behind tunnel & windscreen <sup>of vehicle</sup> was cleaned as if disc had been cut & polished, remainder of car still remained dirty even in heavy rain.

Distortion on radio still evident - Radio was excellent before sighting. interference to transmission.



The following are stated to have been all taken in  
 the vicinity of the ...

Abundant ...  
 The ...

The ...  
 The ...



These are ...  
 The ...  
 The ...

The ...  
 The ...

TASMANIAN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS INVESTIGATION CENTRE.

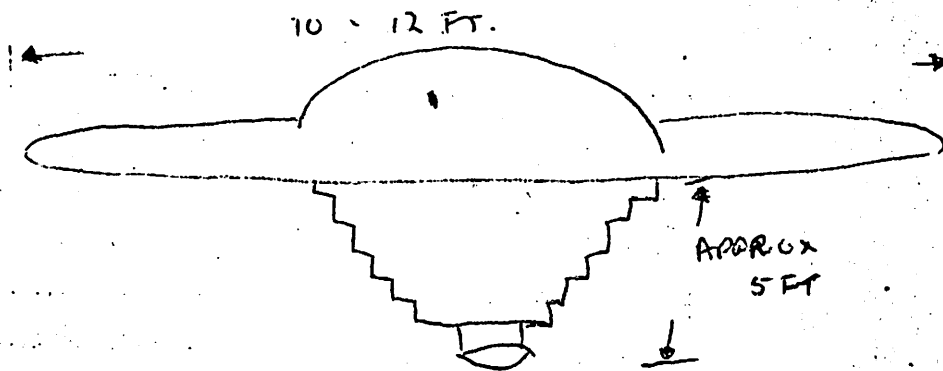
SIGHTING FORM

TUFOIC,  
366 Huon Rd,  
Sth Hobart 7000.  
Ph 23 6009.

NAME... MRS B. LETHBRIDGE... ADDRESS... DIDNUM PLAINS... PH... /  
 OCCUPATION... HOUSEWIFE... DATE... 27. 9. 74... DAY... SUNDAY...  
 TIME OBJECT SEEN... 5.20 PM... DIRECTION FIRST SEEN...  
 BEARING OR DIRECTION TRAVELLING... COMING FROM EAST SOUTH EAST  
 AND SPAC ROUND TO SOUTH WEST... DIRECTION LAST SEEN... REVERSED TO S.W.  
 TIME OBJECT SEEN FOR... 3-4 MIN... SOUND... STAFF ON CAR RADIO...  
 COLOUR... ~~RED~~ SILVER GREY UNDERNEATH. BRIGHT TOP ORANGE YELLOW  
 SHAPE... DISC/D SHAPE, B-RADIAL SHAPE TOP. REVERSE STEP SHAPE  
 APPARENT SIZE (Compared to full moon or 10 UNDERNEATH) LARGER THAN 50¢  
 APPROX ELEVATION ABOVE HORIZON... 90-100 FT...  
 CONDITON OF SKY AT TIME... RAIN WINDY MIST... DID OBJECT APPEAR SOLID... YES...  
 SPEED... UNKNOWN, APPROACHED CAR SLOW, WENT AWAY FAST  
 HOW WAS OBJECT LOST FROM VIEW... TOOK OFF ON ANGLE THEN STRAIGHT UP  
 ANY REMARKS ABOUT SIGHTING... IT APPEARED TO BE 10-12 FT  
 ACROSS  
 DID IT EXPLODE/BREAK UP... NO... GIVE OFF SMOKE/VAPOUR... NO...  
 STAND STILL... YES... CHANGE SPEED... YES...  
 CHANGE BRIGHTNESS... NO...  
 CHANGE DIRECTION... YES...  
 WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE OBJECT... ~~DRIVING~~ PARKED ON CAMDEN  
 RD WAITING FOR SISTER IN LANE, 200 YARDS FROM  
 JUNCTION  
 ANY OTHER WITNESSES, DO YOU KNOW OF OTHER SIGHTINGS, WITNESSES NAMES & ADDRESSES...  
 NO WITNESSES NO OTHER SIGHTINGS.  
 DID THE OBJECT PASS IN FRONT OF ANYTHING (trees, hills etc)... CAME FROM ABOVE  
 TREE, DOWN HILL ROUND JUNCTION THEN STRAIGHT UP  
 DO YOU WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS... YES  
 PLEASE PROVIDE SUMMARY OF THE SIGHTING, SKETCHES OF OBJECT, AND DIAGRAMS ON THE  
 BACK PAGE....

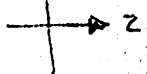
10 0 1 11

I WAS PARKED ON CAMDEN ROAD  
YARDS FROM CROSSROADS WHEN THE INTERIOR  
OF MY CAR HIT UP, AND MY WIRELESS START  
ED A HIGH PITCH WHISTLE. I LEANED OVER TO  
TURN THE WIRELESS OFF, AND I SAW THE OBJECT  
COME FROM OVER THE HILL, DOWN TOWARDS THE  
ROAD, CAME TOWARDS THE CAR. I TRIED TO REVERSE  
OUT OF THE WAY, AND THATS WHEN I RAN OFF  
THE ROAD. I THEN GOT OUT OF THE CAR AND  
RAN BACK TO MY HOUSE, ABOUT 1 MILE AWAY.  
THE OBJECT WAS NOT IN SIGHT DURING TIME  
I RAN TO MY HOUSE. THE NEXT DAY WHEN  
MY CAR WAS BROUGHT BACK TO THE HOUSE,  
THE FRONT OF THE CAR WAS VERY CLEAN,  
ALTHOUGH THE REST OF THE CAR WAS FILTHY.  
I DONT THINK IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR THE  
RAIN TO WASH THE FRONT AND NOT THE OTHER  
PARTS OF THE CAR ALSO.



OBJECT ON BOTTOM OF UFO OPENED OUT WHEN  
IT SPED UPWARDS. THERE APPEARED TO BE  
SOME SORT OF WINDOWS ACROSS THE SIDE.

21E  
22



MT  
BARRON  
4537  
▲

MAG 210°  
GRAD BEARING 215°  
TO MT BARRON.

MAG 390°  
ON  
MAG BEARING 295°  
WITH R.

WITNESSES  
HOUSE.

position

DIP-EM

MAG 110°  
ON  
MAG BEARING &  
DIRECTION VFO CHINE.

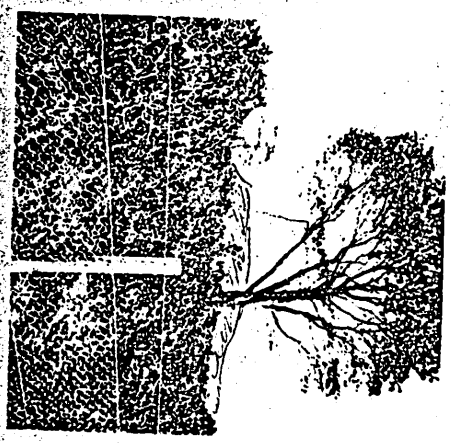
WITNESS FIRST SEEN VFO.

GRAD BEARING WITH  
CUKAO

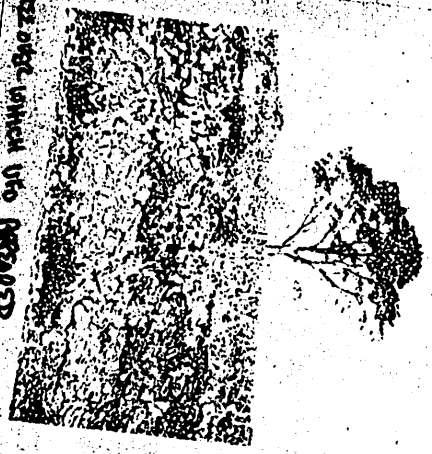
MAG 50°  
55°

PLAINS AND  
CAMDEN JUNCTION

THE GRASSY HILLS



THE GRASSY HILLS



ON SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPT 1974 1720 HOURS (5-20 PM) MRS L. WAS PARKED 200 YARDS FROM THE JUNCTION TO CAMDEN AND DIDDNEUM PLAINS. SHE WAS WAITING FOR HER SISTER IN RAIN. OWING TO THE SHEER BANK ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE, SHE PARKED ON THE WRONG SIDE TO ENSURE THE LOG TRUCKS COULD SEE HER. THE WEATHER WAS VERY BAD, RAIN WIND AND SNAIGHT MOUNTAIN MIST. AT 5-20 PM, SHE HEARD THE RADIO ANNOUNCER REPORT THE TIME. ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE WHOLE AREA HIT UP, PENETRATING THE INTERIOR OF THE CAR AT THE SAME TIME THE RADIO DEVELOPED A VERY HIGH PITCHED WHISTLE. MRS L REACHED OVER TO TURN OFF THE RADIO, AND SPOTTED THE UFO COMING FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL AT TREE HEIGHT. AS THE UFO CAME DOWN TOWARDS THE ROAD, MRS L. PANICKED AND TRIED TO REVERSE BACK UP THE HILL, (TOWARDS HER HOME) AND NEARLY RAN OFF THE ROAD 50 YARDS FROM WHERE SHE STARTED. THE UFO IN THE MEANTIME APPROACHED THE CAR AND HOVERED FOR A SHORT TIME BEFORE SWEEPING ROUND TO THE JUNCTION AND THEN BACK TO THE POSITION WHERE FIRST SEEN. THE SPEED UP TO THEN WAS FAIRLY SLOW. WHEN IT SWEEP AROUND TO THE HILL, A TUBULAR SHAPED OBJECT ON THE BOTTOM OF THE UFO OPENED INTO SECTIONS AND THE UFO SPED UPWARDS FAIRLY RAPIDLY. MRS L THEN LEFT HER CAR AND RAN UP THE HILL AND DOWN THE ROAD TO HER HOUSE. SHE KEPT ON LOOKING BACK TO SEE IF IT WAS FOLLOWING. SHE COULD NOT SEE IT, BUT SHE HAD A FEELING OF BEING WATCHED. ON REACHING HER HOUSE, HER HUSBAND AND

SON MET HER. THEY WENT BACK TO THE CAR BUT COULD FIND NOTHING. THE NEXT DAY WHEN THE TOW TRUCK BROUGHT THE CAR BACK, THE FRONT OF THE CAR WAS EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN ALTHOUGH THE REST OF THE CAR WAS DIRTY. THERE PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN CAT FOOT PRINTS ALL UP THE BONNET BUT THE BONNET WAS CLEAN WHEN THE CAR WAS BROUGHT BACK. NEITHER THE WITNESS OR HER HUSBAND FEEL THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR THE BONNET TO BE CLEANED SO IMMACULATEDLY BY RAIN WHILST THE REST OF THE CAR WASN'T. THE WITNESS STATED THERE APPEARED TO BE SOME SORT OF WINDOWS OR PATTERNS ACROSS THE DISC OF THE UFO.

MRS W. WAS VERY SHAKEN BY THE INCIDENT AND WAS SICK FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS AFTERWARD. WHEN I INTERVIEWED HER, A WEEK LATER, SHE WAS STILL VERY EDGY AND WAS A BIT HESITANT ABOUT BEING INTERVIEWED. SHE TOLD ME THAT TODAY WAS HER FIRST DAY ALONE SINCE THE INCIDENT, AND SHE STILL WORRIED THAT SOMETHING ELSE MIGHT HAPPEN. THE SHAPE OF THE UFO WAS DISCOID, WITH ROUNDED EDGES AND THE ENDS, DOME SHAPE TOP. ACTUAL SIZE IN RELATION TO REST OF UFO DOUBTFUL AS THE ENTIRE DOME EMITTED AN INTENSE ORANGE/YELLOW LIGHT. THE UNDERSIDE OF THE UFO APPEARED TO BE REVERSE STEPPED WITH A CIRCULAR FUNNEL/TUBE PROTRUDING FROM THE BASE. THIS APPEARED TO SPLIT INTO SECTIONS AS IT SPED OFF. I ASKED HER IF IT FOLDED UP INTO THE BASE, BUT SHE SAID NO.



# UFO'S OF THE WORLD UNITE

AUSTRALIA recently joined a growing world body which is studying the unidentified flying objects phenomenon on a global basis.

The nerve centre of the international body is "Centre For UFO Studies" — an organisation set up by Prof J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Department of Astronomy of North-Western University, USA.

Dr Hynek visited Australia a year ago and personally investigated sightings made in Tasmania and other States.

On his return home he set up

Centre for UFO Studies, an organisation which now has hundreds of investigators across the United States.

Membership of the centre is made up largely of professional scientists and engineers and faculty members from various universities. The centre is entirely supported by private funds.

The centre also operates a toll-free telephone line 24 hours a day for the use of official agencies in transmitting UFO sightings. All police departments and sheriffs' offices are co-operating.

Computers are used for comparison of UFO sightings. Laboratories test anything affected by UFO's such as trees, soil, plants, cars, radios, television sets.

Medical studies are made of witnesses who report being temporarily blinded, paralyzed, and subject to nausea, headaches, and other complaints after sightings.

In Australia all UFO groups are being urged to use a standard report form which has earned praise from the RAAF.

Another move is to introduce the international "Panatone" colour system. Instead of a witness describing a UFO's colour as "yellow-goldy" one of the 150 colours in the "Panatone" system can be picked and logged as Panatone 120 (or whatever the number is).

The Australian section of the Centre For UFO Studies will co-ordinate reports from all UFO groups across Australia, and pass them on to the American centre.

Similar work is being done in France, England, South America, and Japan. A complete global network is the aim of Dr Hynek.

The Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre will be filling information with the Australian section which is based in Gosford, NSW.

There have been many sightings in North-East and North-West Tasmania this year.

One of the most recent was near St Helens (a number have been reported in SEM) and recently the RAAF said it could not logically account for what was seen.

The sighting was made by a woman who wished to remain unnamed. She was sitting in her car waiting for a relative when the car's radio began "playing up" — crackling, and making piercing noises. Formerly in good condition, it is now still faulty.

She then noticed the UFO (see diagram). It was about 30 metres off the ground, and it flew in low towards the car.

The woman said it hovered at "fence-top height."

She was alarmed, and reversed her car with the intention of turning round and going home. In her panic she bogged the car.

While she was reversing her car the UFO followed slowly, and the car radio gave out a "piercing noise."

The woman got out of her car and ran the one mile home. She picked up her car the next day.

What investigators cannot understand is that the front of the car which had been facing the UFO was absolutely clean when the woman picked the car up the next day.

The rest of the car was "filthy." The woman drew the UFO for the RAAF. She said she had it in view for about four minutes before it flew off.

The case was discussed at the recent annual meeting of the Tasmanian centre. Officers elected: President, J. Bigwood; secretary, K. Roberts; investigating officer, K. Bennett.

Committee: Messrs E. Bantick, P. Jackson, Mrs. E. Davis.

