

GRASSTREE HILL. Friday night Summer 1974 (maybe Feb/Mar) 9 to 9.30pm
Mr A.V Richardson, plus son and daughter then about 11 and 12 years old.
Investigation...Jeanette Bigwood, Jan Drew, Paul Jackson, K.Roberts.

ABSTRACT...Father driving car with trailer when children say they can see a UFO over roadside house. Appears elliptical with lights and windows, figure seen before it moves away. Father pulls up car but only in time to see light going over hillside.

INVESTIGATION...Witness (father) called to report his sightings after Centre had been mentioned in relation to investigations into a March sighting over Hobart. Claimed had no interest until saw nocturnal light in 1973. Then in subsequent conversation with K.Roberts said his children had seen a figure in an object in 1974. Also suggested we enquire about traces by nearby oval. His lead on this case proved correct, see TA 77 033.

Further telephone calls in which Richardson told the same stories plus claims of being able to spot lights on other times led to a visit on 27.4.77.

Richardson would not permit the investigators to see his children saying he did not want them troubled by this matter. He gave details of this and two other events, one of which would appear to be due to astronomical causes.

The investigators feel that claims to see lights at other times could be due to misidentification of astronomical objects. Richardson was unable to give an exact account of other lights seen by him from his home.

Enquiries at local shop, PO, Police and resident know to K.Roberts failed to produce any knowledge of Richardsons sightings, also no one mentioned case TA 77 033. In TA 77 033 it is known the witness wanted to keep it quiet, it also seems that Richardson did not mention his cases, notoriety it appears was not sought. A neighbour who saw the 1973 light with Richardson apparently got a ribbing from the locals.

Richardson appears to keep to himself, not involved in local parties, or it seems a drinker. His children one source said were a bit wild at times and not top of their class. The investigators thought maybe this is why he didnt want them interviewed. He also did not seem to happy with Robartians moving into area and forcing up land prices???

CHILDRENS SKETCHES..Richardson claimed on the telephone that his children had done sketches of the object seen. On our arrival he produced some folded paper, on unfolding the same dust and dirt fell out and he passed over two very worn sketches. At least these were done long before his contact with the Centre and may well be the originals.

Richardson was concise and never varied on the details of his and the childrens sightings. He claimed no idea of who, what etc UFOs are. Also said he only read newspaper reports and old magazines that may have a story (Post, Box Pix). As the investigators have never seen anything we felt Richardson possibly may have for once felt "important"..this of course is only an opinion and be quite erroneous.

DETAILS OF EVENT...See attached report by Jan Drew, and sketches.

CONCLUSION...The investigators could not dismiss this sighting as a hoax. If this is indeed what it is then it is for the benefit of the Centres investigators only. The sketches now in our possession were certainly done long before the father was aware that the UFO Centre existed?? He appears to have sought no other fame for his reports, in fact the local reception would seem to be a "ribbing". We were certainly not happy about not seeing the children but had to respect Mr Richardson's wishes.

The sighting locale fits the description given by Richardson, the road is downhill and not in very good condition. Trying to stop a car and trailer would take a minute or so. The witness was taking his stock car to the circuit the night before so they would not have to rush on Saturday morning.

TASMANIAN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS INVESTIGATION CENTRE

Please read this form prior to filling it in

SIGHTING FORM

T.U.F.O.I.C.
366 Huon Road
South Hobart, Tas., 7000

NAME A. V. RICHARDSON ADDRESS KETTERING

PHONE 674494 AGE 50 OCCUPATION RETIRED

DATE OF SIGHTING 1974 DAY FRIDAY TIME 9/9.30pm TIME SEEN FOR COUPLE MINS

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU SAW THE OBJECT GRASSY HILL Rd (down hill to Richmond)

DIRECTION FIRST SEEN To left side NW side ESTIMATED HEIGHT/ELEVATION ABOVE HORIZON over road side house eye level - 500? ?

DIRECTION TRAVELLING NORTH SPEED

DIRECTION LAST SEEN NORTH ESTIMATED DISTANCE NO MORE 100 YDS

MOVEMENTS OF OBJECT Shot off over hill after being stationary

Sludgy Hobbly over house - increased stability as moved off increased speed.

HOW DID THE OBJECT DISAPPEAR FROM VIEW Went over hill top.

COLOUR(S) GREY, Green light, red & blue flashing

SHAPE See drawings SOUND No sound

APPARENT SIZE (Compared to full moon, 10 or 20c at arms length etc.) 50 FT. DID OBJECT APPEAR SOLID YES

DID THE OBJECT APPEAR TO: (Answer Yes/No. If Yes, please explain in the columns below)

GIVE OFF SMOKE OR VAPOUR - CHANGE DIRECTION -

EXPLODE OR BREAK UP - CHANGE SPEED Increased speed

CHANGE BRIGHTNESS Brighter as moved off STAND STILL/HOVER YES

Father pulled up car turning trailer downhill on night road, only saw object depart over hill. Base rotating

DID THE OBJECT PASS IN FRONT OF ANYTHING (TREES, HILLS, ETC.) Yes

CONDITION OF SKY CLEAR STARRY NIGHT

AT TIME OF SIGHTING

NUMBER OF OTHER WITNESSES 3 NAMES AND ADDRESSES IF POSSIBLE A. V. RICHARDSON, & SON, DAUGHTER

WERE THERE ANY PHYSICAL EFFECTS, To you, to others, Car, Radio, Animals etc. If so explain -

WERE THERE ANY TRACES LEFT BY THE OBJECT -

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER SIGHTINGS -

PLEASE PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE SIGHTING, SKETCH OF THE OBJECT AND AREA IF POSSIBLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FORM. AGE AND OCCUPATION QUESTIONS ARE OPTIONAL, IF OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE "ADULT" WILL DO. THANK YOU FOR GOING TO THE TROUBLE OF MAKING THIS REPORT IT WILL HELP US A GREAT DEAL WITH OUR INVESTIGATION INTO THE PHENOMENON. T.U.F.O.I.C.

DO YOU WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS

SIGNATURE A. V. Richardson

THIS DATE 27.4.77

YES / NO

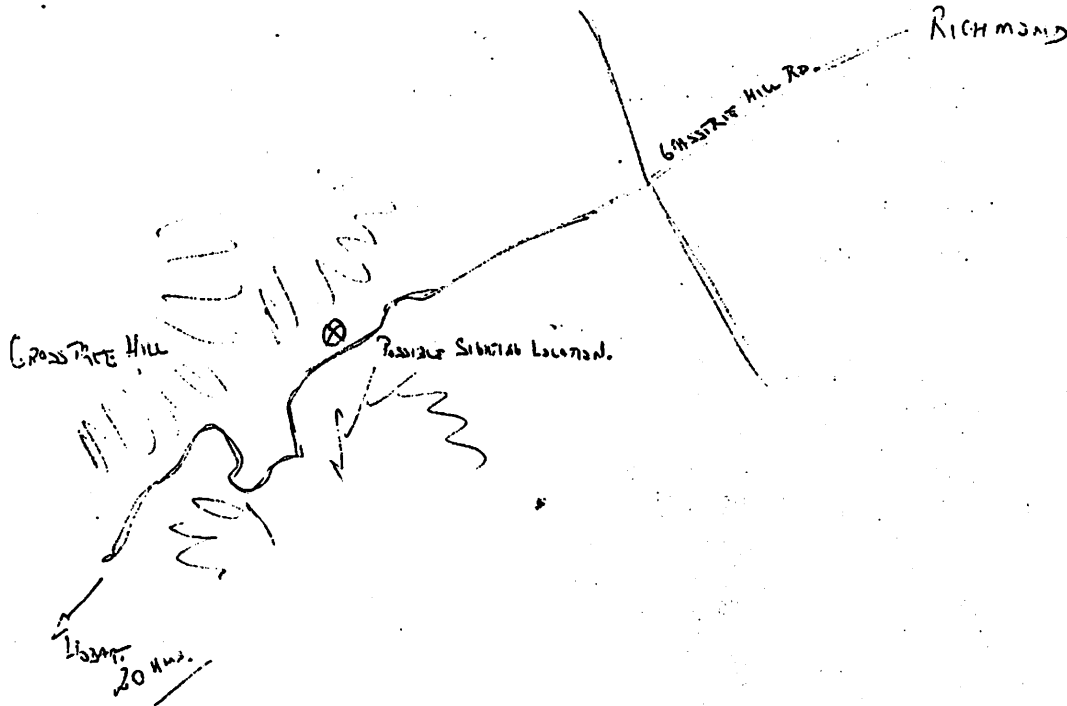
Refs:

The figure seen by the children bears a resemblance to the Pacific Highway figure near Grafton in early 1973. Aust CE 3 Catalogue case 32.

A Feb 77 sighting TA 77 036 has an object which was spinning and in which a figure has been reported, strangely the witnesses are children again in the same age group, 10 to 12. The object is elliptical to dish with lights around it.

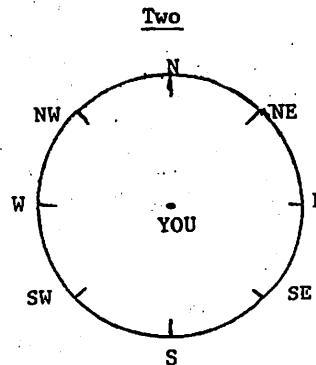
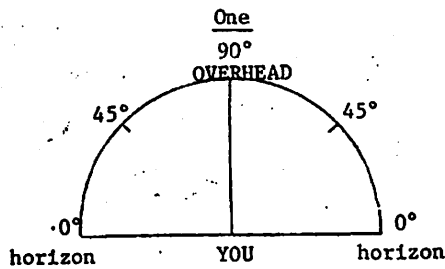
Possibilities 80% 60%, Hoax 20%, Reflection or local phenomena 20%

SKETCH OF THE SIGHTING AREA WITH THE OBJECT IN POSITION SEEN



SKETCH OF OBJECT ABOVE

On the diagrams below, please mark with an "A" the first position of the object(s) and with a "B" the last position of the object(s). On Diagram two, please draw the apparent path of the object as seen by you.

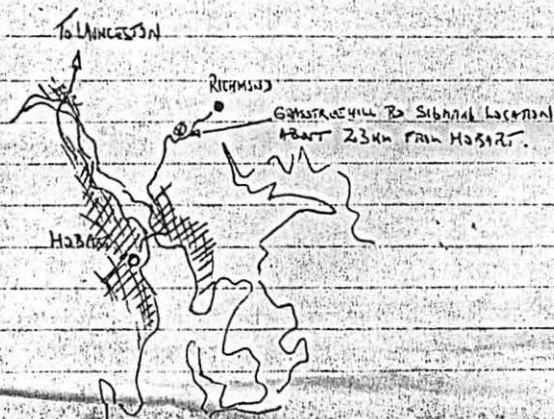


In the summer of 1974 Mr. A. V. Richardson, his son and daughter were travelling from Hatteras to the Richmond Stock Bar tracks; they were towing a stock car. It was a clear starry night. It was between 9:00 PM to 9:30 PM. The children were sitting in the front seat with Mr. Richardson. They were coming down Brass Tree Hill Road. When the two children saw on the left hand side of the road a U.F.O. It was level with the car, hovering over the top of a house which was 100 yards off the road. It was wobbling from side to side. It was as big as a house, about 50 feet across. The bottom was rotating around and there was red and blue flashing lights. The windows had oval glass. There was a dark shape in the window (see diag). The U.F.O. straightened up and as it increased speed it became brighter. The shape turned in the window as it increased speed.

The children were very excited and told their father, "Stop stop." Mr. Richardson tried to stop but had difficulty as he was going down the hill. When he managed to stop, the stopped right in front of a telegraph pole. Jumping out of the car he managed to see a small bright light going up and over the next hill, disappearing out of sight. There was no sound.

Then using the headlights of the car to see Mr. Richardson got his children to draw what they had both seen (see diag).

The children said the shape in the window looked like Dad's leather jacket, he used to wear when driving his stock car.



DAUGHTER



Grey

Windows
Yellowish

rotating
part only

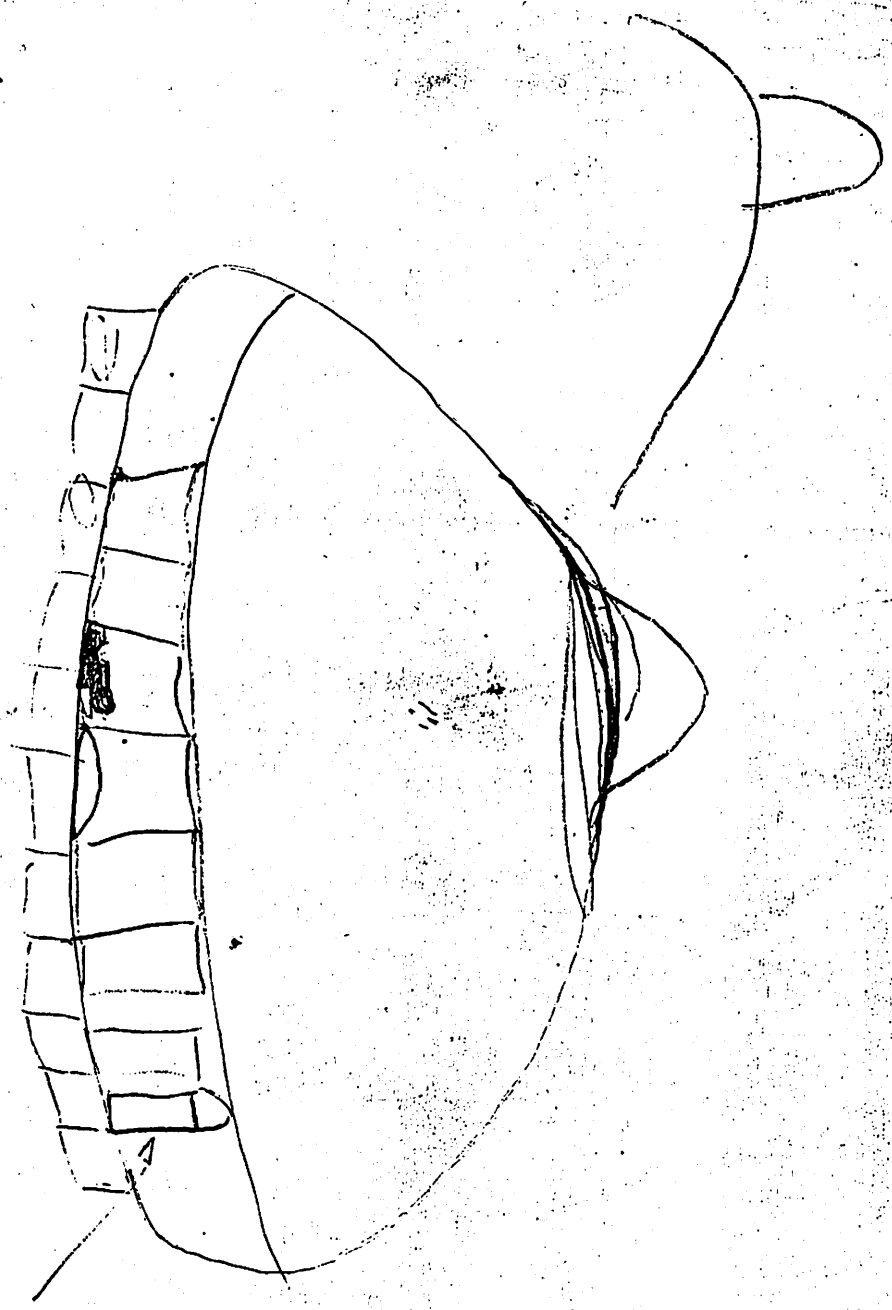
lights - red & blue flashing

green

hovering and wobbling action as speed increased it
stabilised.

Son

Cylinder type tank.



nos