

# Lemoore Women Claim UFO Sighting

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Two Lemoore women recently revealed that they had personally seen an unidentified object—last February and were afraid to report it to the authorities.

The two women, who asked not to be identified, said they were driving back from a business trip from Los Angeles to Lemoore on Houston Avenue on Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. when they first noticed an unusual flying object in the sky.

"It was like a bright airplane light off to the left as we were driving west past 11th Ave.," said the driver of the car. "It wasn't going anywhere, it was just hovering. We commented that it must be a helicopter since it was staying in one place."

The passenger in the car said they slowed down to watch the object as there were no other vehicles on the dark stretch of road, and as they did, a beam of light shot out of it, lighting up the sky, and then the object exploded.

"There was this explosion and then the light mushroomed into a large cloud which just kept getting larger and larger over the city of Lemoore," the passenger said. "At that point the cloud started shrinking and began coming towards us, and then this cloud or fog came towards the side of the car and stayed beside us and followed us along the road."

Both women described the cloud as "clinging like fog," and said they were so frightened they began speeding towards Lemoore.

"By this time I had the accelerator to the floor," said the driver. "We must have been going 90 or 100 mph, but it stayed right with us."

"I kept saying, 'Go faster, go faster,'" said the passenger. "As we were reaching Lemoore, a car came the other way and we watched as the cloud disappeared in its headlights. We were so frightened. I called up the police station when we got home to see if they had reports of anything unusual, but they didn't, and I didn't want to report it because they would think we were crazy."

According to Robert Wilson, public affairs officer at Lemoore NAS no reports of anything unusual were logged by air personnel on the night of Feb. 12.

"We have a daily log kept by air traffic control," he said. "If they should see anything that would be unexpected or unusual, that would go in the log."

While the Lemoore police department also said they had received no reports of UFO's, the two women's account of their frightening experience eerily coincides with another Lemoore woman's story of what happened to her on the same road about five years ago.

The woman, also not wishing to be identified, said she was

near the slough on Houston near 11th Avenue, going towards Lemoore at 11 p.m. on a February evening when suddenly she saw "a white thing, like a smoke screen on the side of the road."

She said the cloud or fog came right across the road and then she felt a bump in the road as she was driving.

"I was scared half out of my mind," she said. "It felt like I hit a rabbit or something in the road, so I stopped and got out and looked around. The white thing looked like cellophane paper, you could see through it, and it floated out around the car and went across the road into a field."

She said she had "never run into anything like that in her life," and that she was so upset by the experience by the time she got home that she was crying. She told her husband about it, and her family went out to look for the cloud but couldn't find it.

"But it left little white dust marks on my car and some sort of scratches, so they knew I had seen something," she said.

She said she didn't want to report it to the police, since she was frightened and thought they would not take her seriously.

While most local police authorities said they usually refer UFO reports to National phenomenon research organizations such as the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization in Tucson, Ariz., Tulare County UFO in-

vestigator Joseph Martin said he is interested in receiving any local reports of UFO activity.

Martin said Kings County is a "dead area" for UFO activity, since the only thing to attract UFO activity is the Lemoore Naval Air Station.

But, occasionally, UFO experiences do occur, such as the one last week around midnight in which a Kings County deputy and a deputy in reserve noticed "a large orange ball with a tail on it" hovering over Hanford, but as they tried to call other police units in the area to notify them of it, it slowly disappeared ...

UFO