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SA 5281

PRIMARY

"Flying Saucer" Reports

SECONDARY

Reports and unusual incidents at Vrooman

INSTRUCTIONS

REMARKS

LRW File.





file 15

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONE:
MXY 550

DEPARTMENT OF AIR

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AIRFORCE MELBOURNE"

MELBOURNE, S.C.I.

IN REPLY QUOTE 114/1/201(11A)

Mr. H.J. Brown,
Controller,
Weapons Research Establishment,
SALISBURY. S.A.

8 NOV 1955

INVESTIGATIONS OF REPORTS OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING
OBJECTS

The President of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" visited this Department recently and requested, inter alia, that his Society be given the name of some person at Woomera, or in the Salisbury or Adelaide area, with whom they could discuss their investigations.

2. The Society is apparently very concerned that none of their investigations into reported sightings of unidentified flying objects should clash with the security of official projects emanating from the Weapons Research Establishment.

3. Since this matter is primarily the concern of your Department, I would be grateful if you would arrange to contact Mr. Stone and make whatever arrangements you may consider desirable to cover his and your requirements.

4. The name and address of the President is:-

Mr. Fred Stone,
22 Northcote Street,
KILBURN. S.A.

*Contacted
17/11/55
A.P.B.*

A. Hicks
E. W. Hicks
SECRETARY

~~130~~
508

AA

UNCLASSIFIED

R.W. Boswell
111 ML7471

SA 5281

10th December, 1954

Professor L.G. Huxley,
Physics School,
University of Adelaide,
ADELAIDE

Dear Professor Huxley,

You may be interested in the attached report, which has been forwarded from Woomera.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) R. W. BOSWELL

(R. W. BOSWELL)
A/e CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

Enc.

71761

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY
LONG RANGE WEAPONS ESTABLISHMENT

MINUTE PAPER

(This side only to be written on)

SUBJECT :

As Hurley may be interested

SUPERINTENDENT/TRIALS

(Through P.O./M.P.)

PA 13/11

18/11

Re our conversation on the "Dancing Light" seen at Woomera recently herewith two copies of my report.



(P.G. Norman)
MISSILE PROJECTS GROUP

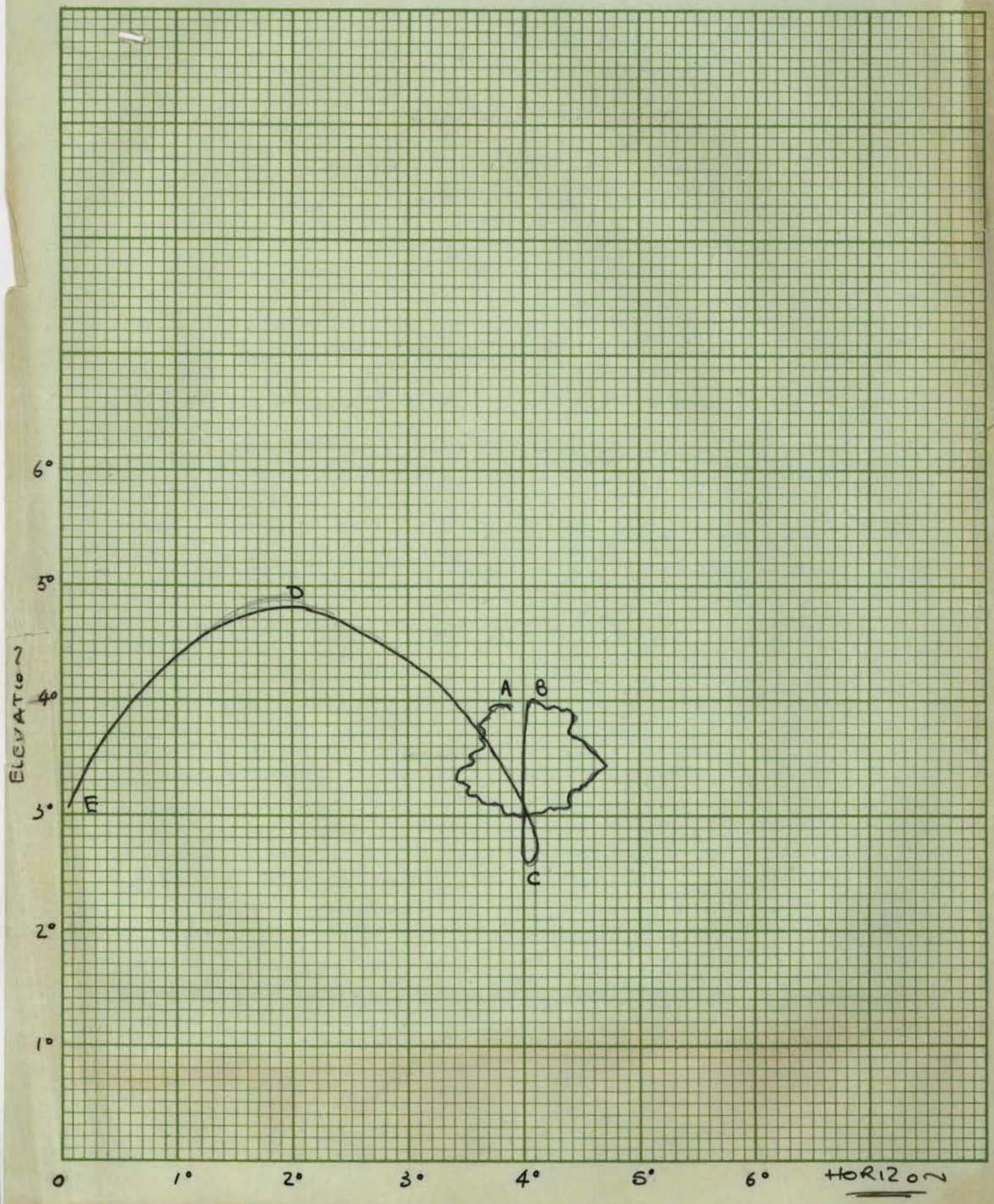
Apur
ENJ

Encls.

17th November, 1954.
PGN:SML

REPORT ON THE "DANCING LIGHT" SEEN AT WOOMBRA

1. DATE - Thursday 21st October 1954.
 2. TIME - 2125 to 2131 hours.
 3. OBSERVERS - P.G. Norman - T.Harrison - A.R. Perkins.
 4. OBSERVERS POSITION - Adjacent to Launcher Apron No. 1 Range (Height above M.S.L. = 490 ft.)
 5. POSITION OF LIGHT - $215^{\circ}T$ (approx) at 3° Elevation (approx)
- Horizon is 3500' distant at 500 ft above M.S.L.
 6. COLOUR OF LIGHT - Varying between a deep orange (plus halation) and a deep yellow (negative halation)
 7. SIZE OF LIGHT - Very approximately three times the largest size that Venus has ever been observed - *by myself.*
The shape was vaguely "FIG SHAPED" with the longest dimension always in the horizontal plane.
 8. POSITION OF PLANET VENUS - $238^{\circ}T$ at $1^{\circ} 22''$ elevation.
 9. METEOROLOGICAL - Temp. = $70^{\circ}F$.
Humidity 18%
Surface wind - N.N.E. 10 m.p.h.
Clouds $\frac{3}{8}$ ^{ths} at 15000'
small scattered patches of ice crystal cloud at 30,000'.
 10. MOVEMENT OF 'LIGHT' - First observed at Point 'A' it then moved, in an anticlockwise direction around the "jagged ellipse" to Point 'B' - this was repeated 3 or 4 times. It then paused at Point 'B' and very slowly descended to Point 'C' - paused again and then moved, in a period of approx 2 seconds, through Point 'D' to Point 'E' and disappeared.
-



All corr. to be addressed to
the Superintendent

Security Classification **UNCLASSIFIED** 3A

ABJ:KR **COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

Telegrams:
"Rocran" Woomera

LONG RANGE WEAPONS ESTABLISHMENT RANGE, WOOMERA

Telephone: Woomera West 5

Postal Address:

BOX 1391K, G.P.O.,
ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

1209/19/Security

20 MAY 1954

04430

Chief Superintendent

....

Forwarded herewith for your information, are two reports of an unidentified object sighted at Woomera on the 5 May 54.

2. The persons reporting were separated by a distance of approximately three hundred yards and give corroborative accounts of what each observed.

3. It has been noted that a similar object was observed on about the 3 May 54, by two ladies at Henley Beach, South Australia, and reported in "The Advertiser" of 4 May 54.



A.G. Pither

(A.G. PITHER)
Group Captain
Superintendent LRWE Range

COPY

WOOMERA

7th May, 1954

RSO

REPORT ON A FLYING OBJECT SIGHTED ON 5th MAY, 1954

I was at Range R1 (Post R1), the Radar Post, standing by the Security Officer's Hut, and looking towards the Radar Post at approximately 1645 hours, observing one of our trials through binoculars.

This object appeared to be travelling towards me or directly across a path of the approaching Canberra. When it got to the path of the Canberra it turned to my right and was going in the direction from which the Canberra had just come.

When it got directly over the Canberra it slowed down. During this time I found it very hard to believe what I was seeing, so I shut my eyes and then looked again through the binoculars and the object was still stationary over the flight path of the Canberra.

Since it appeared to be the same relative size as the Canberra through the binoculars, I thought it would be possible to see it with the naked eye. However, when I looked over the top of the binoculars the object had either gone or I could not see it with the naked eye, and when I looked again through the binoculars I could not pick it up.

The object appeared to be travelling about three times as fast as the Canberra, but of course it is impossible to estimate, since I did not know what height it was. It was perfectly circular all the time and a dark grey colour, and gave the appearance of being translucent. It did not glisten at all when it turned or was it shiny.

(Signed) Sydney BAKER

Vickers-Armstrong



All corr. to be addressed to
the Superintendent

RESTRICTED
Security Classification RESTRICTED 2A

RMG:DB

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Telegrams

"Rocran" Woomera

Telephone: Woomera West 5

LONG RANGE WEAPONS ESTABLISHMENT RANGE, WOOMERA

Postal Address:

BOX 1391K, G.P.O.,

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

4 DEC 1953

02956

Chief Superintendent

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT

A verbal report received from F/Lt. Starkie on Saturday, 14th November, 1953, regarding sighting of glare believed to be exhaust of Aircraft at 0145 hours on 14th November, 1953, was passed to Principal Officer Flying.

2. Principal Officer Flying received two confirmatory reports from Sqn. Ldr. and Mrs. Anderson who stated they saw navigation lights of aircraft flying North to South at 0150 hours the same day.

3. Action taken to identify aircraft by Principal Officer Flying was unsuccessful.



A.G. Pither
for (A.G. PITHER)
Group Captain
Superintendent LRWE Range.

All corr. to be addressed to
the Superintendent

Security Classification SECRET

ABC:KR

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

SECRET

Telegrams:
"Rocran" Woomera
Telephone: Woomera West 5

LONG RANGE WEAPONS ESTABLISHMENT RANGE, WOOMERA

Postal Address:

BOX 1391K, G.P.O.,

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

13 JAN 1953

002

Chief Superintendent

.....
✓
Enclosed herewith is various correspondence concerning
several strange occurrences which have happened at Woomera.

The originals are being forwarded by the Security
organisation to Melbourne, where it is understood the Director of
Air Force Intelligence has been appointed Central Authority for
Australia for enquiry into these occurrences.



W. Perry
Group Captain
Superintendent LRWE Range

SECRET

C O P Y

Security Branch,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA.

27th October, 1952.

The Security Officer,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA S.A.

FLYING SAUCER PHENOMENON OVER RANGE "G1"

In further inquiries made regarding the above subject Mr.G.Trefry, Meteorological Officer, has been interviewed. He states that such phenomenon has occurred before and has been known to affect radar. It is believed to be caused by ice packs at certain altitudes.

2. A summary of the weather for 8th October is given as follows "Fine, 5/8 high cloud 25,000 ft., warm temperature, 84F., strong northerly wind 25-30 m.p.h."

3. In view of the foregoing and in the absence of anything visible to the reporting Warrant Officer it is probably that the signals came from a cloud as described by Mr.Trefry.

(Sgd.) J.A.McCAHEY

Security Officer.

SECRET

Security Branch,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA.

24th October, 1952.

The Security Officer,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA S.A.

"FLYING SAUCER" PHENOMENON OVER RANGE "G1".

Resultant from a report submitted by W.O.II MILLWARD G.E. regarding an invisible phenomenon which registered on his radar station at Range "G1" on 8th October, 1952, this officer has conducted inquiries among other Radar Operators with a view to gaining further information. To date, however, nothing useful can be added to W.O. Millward's version (Appendix "A").

2. It will be observed from the time/height log in W.O. Millward's report that the phenomenon was locked to his radar beam for a period of at least twentyfour minutes which can in no way be compared with the alleged "flying saucer" phenomenon of previous reports. The height ranged from 1500 to 5600 feet during the time involved.

3. Inquiries made among other Radar Operators, particularly F/Sgt BIRKETT D., attached to Range "G" revealed that it is most probable that the snow cloud had some connection. However, the possibility of a neutron cloud is not ruled out and the fact that small portions were breaking away tend to show that whatever it was the radar was registering the target very efficiently on something other than ordinary snow.

4. As it is definite no object was visible there is nothing of security interest. The plan and report are submitted for record purposes.

(Sgd.) J.A.McCAHEY
Security Officer.

SECRET

Report Submitted by W.O.II MILLWARD

Date :- 8th October, 1952.

Red Line shows the course of the target.
Scale of map :- 10,000 ft - 1 inch.

At 1345 hours whilst searching for a Mustang on G1 a target was locked on to the above, the Shell Lagoon area. On looking through the telescope on radar dish (also visual tracker) no target could be seen (Radar Range 3000 yards).

The signal to noise ratio was at least 5 to 1 which is similar to that obtained from a large aircraft. At one time between 1345 hours and 1400 hours the target came within 1 mile distant and still no target was to be seen.

At 1405 hours I decided to plot the course of the target, this can be seen on the attached map.

At times during the movement of the target smaller targets seemed to detach themselves from the main target and drift away.

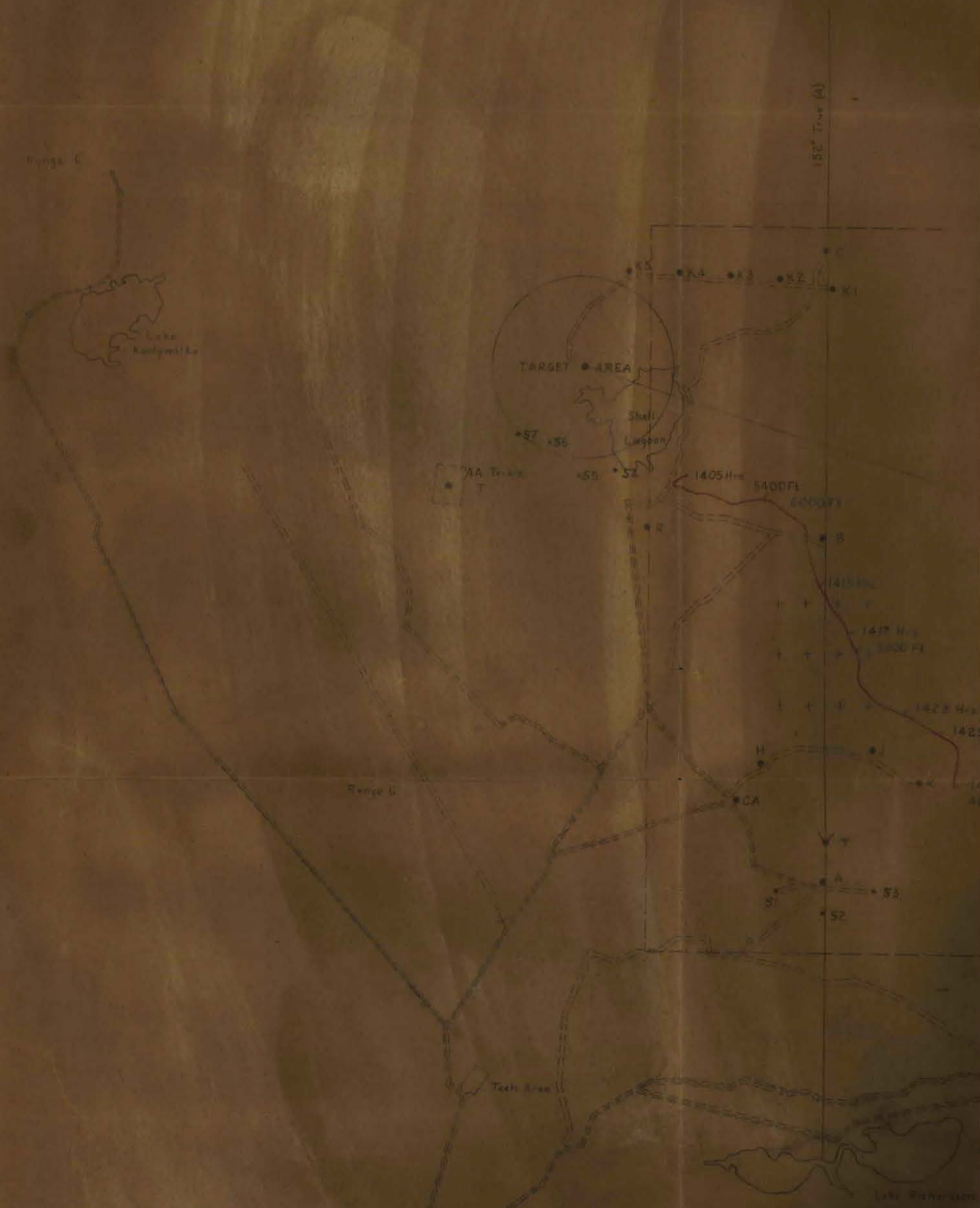
<u>Time</u>	<u>Height</u>
1405	3100
1406	2250
1407	1500
1408	1550
1410	1700
1412	2500
1412	3000
1413	3700
1414	3700
1415	4100
1416	4300
1417	4400
1419	5000
1420	5600
1421	5300
1424	4300
1424	4900
1426	3800
1427	5000
1428	4300
1429	4800

NOTE: At 0900 hours on 9th October, light snow fell at R2/Red Lake for a short period.

(Sgd.) G.E.MILLWARD WOII

MAP OF TARGET COURSE

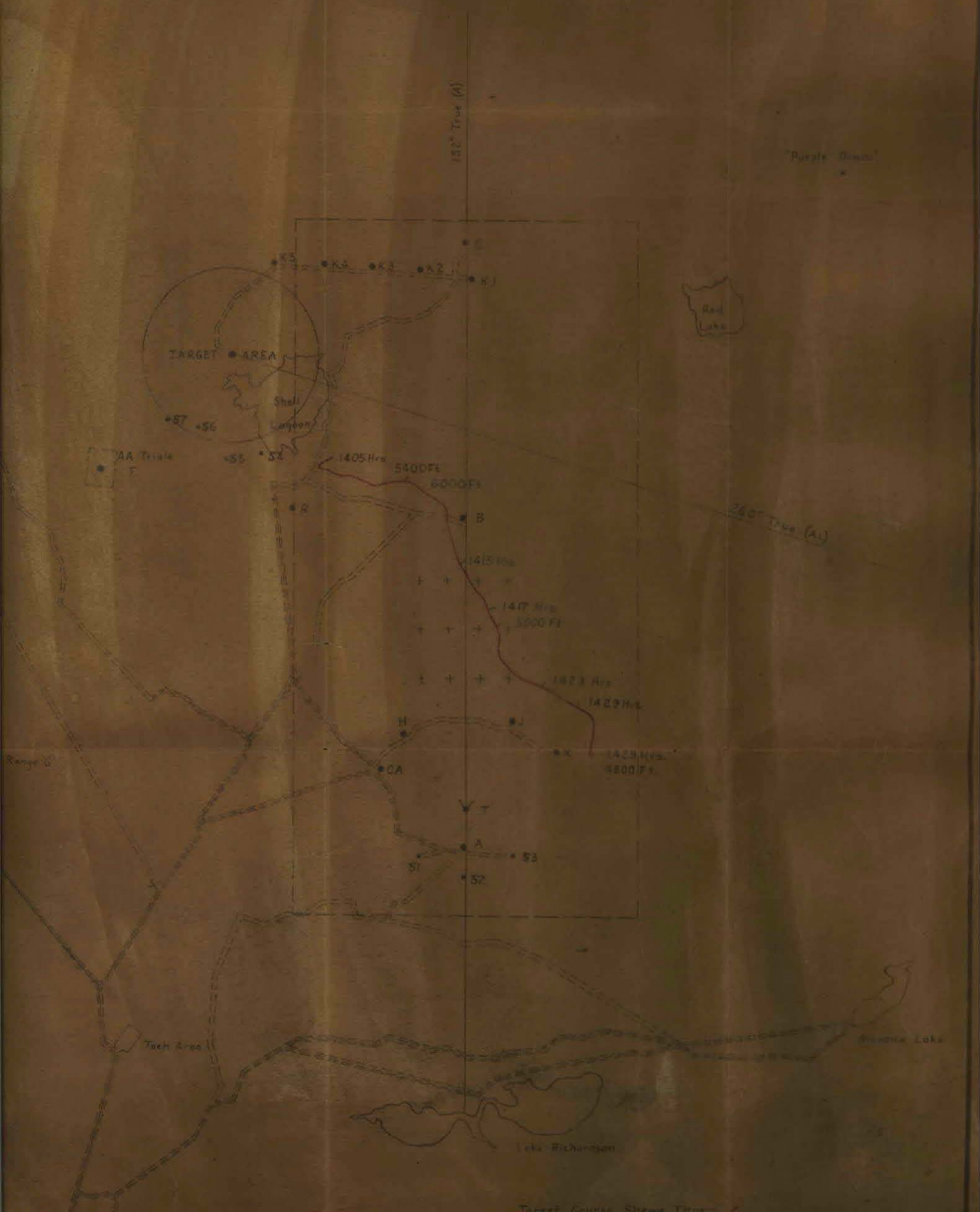
SECRET



SCALE 2 MILES TO 1 IN.

MAP OF TARGET COURSE

SECRET



COPY

UNCLASSIFIED

INVESTIGATIONS GENERAL - FLYING SAUCERS

RSO/52/618

3rd October, 1952.

The State Security Officer,
Adelaide.

Attached hereto is a report submitted by Mr. J. A. McCahey who investigated reports that a strange object was seen at Woomera at about 2100 hours on 27th September, 1952.

2. The persons whose statements are attached are all reliable witnesses and it would appear that an object of cigar shape, whether man made or not, was observed.

3. Forwarded for information.

Security Officer,
Security Branch, WOOMERA.

Copy : Deputy Chief Security Officer, Melbourne.

C O P Y

Security Branch

L.R.W.E.Range,

Woomera.

2nd October, 1952.

The Range Security Officer,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA.

Subject: "FLYING SAUCER" OBSERVED OVER WOOMERA.

This officer reports investigation of information of an object alleged to be a "Flying Saucer" seen in the sky at about 2100 hours on Saturday, 27th September, 1952.

2. Statements have been taken from the following persons as a cross section of a reported number of people at Woomera who also observed the object:

2/45663 W/O2 HANLEY, E.J.V. new arrival to relieve
2/46902 W/O WALKER, A.F. who has been posted out from
Details Issue Depot, Woomera, and due to depart on 29th September, 1952
Mr. Joseph AGER, Head Baker employed by Dept. of
Supply and attached to D.I.D.
1/9043 Sgt. PHILLIPS, A. attached to D.I.D. Woomera.
Mrs. Lila Joy DEAN, Home Duties, 557 Woomera.

3. The first four named above were at the Woomera West Theatre when Sgt. Phillips sighted the bright object in the sky. He drew the attention of W/O Hanley to it and he in turn nudged W/O Walker. In the meantime Phillips had informed Ager and all four were able to see the phenomenon before it was obscured by the projector tower after it had traversed the sky from a line to the right of the screen. This shows that the object was visible for several seconds as it traversed the sky on an even keel parallel with the earth.

4. Mrs. Dean was standing with her five-year-old son at the corner of the Junior Ranks Club on Central Avenue when the child drew her attention to a light. She thought he pointed to a motorcar light on the road near Woomera West in the distance but the boy corrected her and she saw the bright object as it travelled well above the horizon until it left her view over the horizon past the Phillips Ponds. Mrs. Dean stated that the time was about 2100 hours.

5. In each of these cases the persons concerned were quite sober and of responsible type therefore, no doubt exists regarding what they saw. This is further borne out by reports from other parts of South Australia examples of which are attached from "The Advertiser" Adelaide, under dates 29th, 30th Sept. and 1st October, 1952.

(Sgd.) J.A.McCAHEY

Assistant Security Officer.

COPY

Statement of W/O2 2/45663, HANLEY E.J.V., D.I.D.,
Woomera, taken at 1850 hours 28th September, 1952, by
J.A.McCahey, Assistant Security Officer.

I was one of a party of four D.I.D. personnel who attended the Woomera West Open Air Theatre on Saturday, 27th September. The others were Sgt/Maj.Walker and two others. I have just arrived up here myself. Sgt/Maj.Walker will give the other names.

Some time after the show started Sgt.Phillips, that's his name, nudged me on the arm and said "Look at this". I looked from my position on the left of the Projector towards the right of the screen and in the sky, well above the level of the fence round the theatre, I saw an illuminated object shaped like a cigar with a spurting light at the rear travelling from West to East in a horizontal way. It was travelling in an even keel and was observed until it was out of sight. As I saw the thing I then nudged W/O Walker and remarked "Look at this" at the same time pointing in the direction of the object. I would say that the object was visible to me for about five seconds. I did not hear any noise as the picture show may have drowned any.

Comparing the object with a shooting star I would say that it was definitely something other than a shooting star or anything from the heavens.

(Sgd.) E.J.V.HANLEY WO2

C O P Y

Statement of W/O 2/46902 WALKER A.F., D.I.D., Woomera, made at 1910 hours, 28th September, 1952, and taken by J.A.McCahey, Assistant Security Officer, Woomera.

I was with W/O Hanley, Sgt. Phillips and Mr. Ager at the Woomera West Open Air Theatre on Saturday, 28th September.

At between 2045 and 2100 hours W/O Hanley nudged my arm and said "Look at the rocket". I looked directly right from my seat on the left front of the projector and saw the object and said "That is not a rocket". It was cigar shaped tapering off towards the back. It was lit up like a neon light with a haze around it. The colouring was whitish and the exhausts or flames at the back were yellowish or cream. I have no idea of the height but its size to me looked eighteen inches to two feet but comparing it with an aeroplane the size and height would be about the same as aircraft I have seen. From my position I would say the angle was 40 to 45 degrees. From the time I first saw the object until it went out of my sight I would say the time elapsed would be three seconds.

I have observed fast aircraft, meteorites and shooting stars. This object was travelling on an even steady keel faster than any aircraft I've seen but not as far as the falling star besides this object was travelling horizontally south-west.

(Sgd.) A.F.WALKER W/O

C O P Y

Statement of Mr. Joseph AGER, baker, employed by the Department of Supply and attached to D.I.D., Woomera, made at 1940 hours, 28th September, 1952, to J.A.McCahey, Assistant Security Officer.

I was with W/O's Walker, Hanley and Sgt. Arthur Phillips at the Woomera West Open Air Theatre.

We four were seated on seats back from the Exit Door on the left of the Projector. At about 2050 hours, the time was checked by Sgt. Phillips. Sgt. Phillips said to me "Look around to your right Joe, what do you think that is?" I looked and saw a peculiar object which I thought shouldn't be up here, it was travelling at such speed - faster than any of the jets up here. It was of a dark greyish colour and of airship shape. I thought that the lights being emitted from the stern were more yellow than the remainder. The object was travelling on an even keel at between four to five thousand feet. I gauge this height from experience of flying. The direction of travel was s/south-west. It was in view to me for only two to three seconds and during that time it kept its definite course.

From my experience of aircraft of different types, meteorites and stars I have no hesitation in saying that this object was man made.

(Sgd.) Joseph AGER.

C O P Y

Statement of 1/9043 Sgt. PHILLIPS, A. attached to D.I.D., Woomera, taken at 2010 hours, 28th September, 1952, by J.A.McCahey, Assistant Security Officer, Woomera.

I accompanied W/O Hanley, Walker and Mr. Ager to the Woomera West Open Air Theatre on Saturday, 27th September, 1952.

At about 2050 hours we were seated on the left side of the theatre facing the screen and about third of the distance from the screen. My attention was drawn to a movement in the sky over the right hand corner of the theatre fence. I observed a cylindrical shaped object with what appeared to be two port holes with internal lighting. The whole had a lightish grey colour, the size appeared to the eye to be four to five feet. A Lincoln travelling at night at the same angle looks much bigger. It was moving on an even keel, horizontally from north-west to south-west, and at a height of about the height of the theatre fence doubled.

The object had moved some distance before I nudged W/O Hanley. I said "Do you see that", and pointed. I turned right and remarked to Mr. Ager, "See that".

The object was travelling fast - faster than any jet aircraft I have seen. It is difficult to estimate the speed especially at night.

I am not prepared to say whether this object was an earthly object, but it was a fuselage of some kind.

I have discussed this incident with Ager who shares room with me because we thought we had something which should be reported. I have today made a rough sketch setting out my impression of what I observed.

(Sgd.) A. PHILLIPS, Sgt.

C O P Y

Statement of Mrs. Lila Joy DEAN of House No. 557, Woomera, made at 1630 hours, 29th September, 1952, and taken by J.A. McCahey, Assistant Security Officer, Woomera.

At about 2100 hours on Saturday 27th September, I was standing with my son five years old at the corner of the road by the Junior Ranks Club; my husband had gone down to the Peace Officers' Lounge to collect mail.

My son suddenly remarked "Look at that light" and pointed towards Woomera West. I saw a car light on the road by Woomera West and replied, "That is a motor-car". He said, "No, the light in the sky". I then observed a bright bluish white object travelling fast in the sky. I followed its movement from over in the direction of Woomera West until it went out of sight over the horizon past the Ponds. It was travelling much faster than any of the jet planes here and appeared to be travelling at about the same height as they usually fly. I could not discern any particular shape but thought the light was reflected off the object. I do not think it came from the heavens because it looked like a manufactured thing.

I told my husband when he returned and he said, "I wish I had seen it".

(Sgd.) L.J. DEAN

COPY

UNCLASSIFIED

INVESTIGATIONS GENERAL - ALLEGED OBSERVATION OF
"FLYING SAUCER".

RSO/52/336

13th June, 1952.

The State Security Officer,
Adelaide.

Attached hereto are copies of reports concerning a strange object which was reported to have been seen at approximately 0345 hours on Monday, 28th April, 1952.

2. The delay in the submission of the report was brought about by the fact that the witnesses could not be contacted earlier.
3. P.O.1 Newall is considered to be reliable.

(Sgd.) A.B.CARTER

Security Officer,
Security Branch, WOOMERA.

Copy : Deputy Chief Security Officer, Melbourne.
Security Officer, Salisbury.

C O P Y

Security Branch,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA.

13th June, 1952.

The Security Officer,
L.R.W.E.Range,
WOOMERA S.A.

"FLYING SAUCER" - ALLEGED OBSERVATION OF

This officer reports on continued investigation of unusual object observed in the sky by Peace Officer First Class Newell G.M. on 29th April, 1952 (See Appendix "A").

2. Several bus drivers were interviewed before the reporting officer identified the other witnessing person as Mr. Norman Henry GREGORY, Driver, Department of Works & Housing, Koolymilka, Pass No. 6147. He stated that he was at Woomera West Siding on the morning of 28th April and whilst awaiting arrival of the Budd Car sat in a Vanguard with Mr. W.H. Tomlinson. He said a Peace Officer was also in the vicinity. About three-quarters hour prior to the arrival of the Budd Car he observed an exceedingly bright object passing along the sky from South-east to West. He said he had never seen anything like this object before and compared it with a very-light but ruled that such could not be the case because of its great height, distance of travel and the speed which was faster but not nearly as fast as the usual shooting star. Remarks were passed between Tomlinson, possibly the Peace Officer and himself whilst the object was in flight.

3. Mr. William TOMLINSON, employed by WILCKENS and BURNSIDE, Woomera, Pass No. 4870, has been interviewed. He corroborates the information of P.O. 1 Newell and Mr. Gregory. He stated that he looked through the windscreen of his car and observed the object travel horizontally across the sky from approximately South to West. It headed slowly towards earth. It was much larger than anything he had ever seen in the sky but did not move so fast as a falling star. It was not nearly so far off yet, probably, could have fallen to earth outside Australia. Asked by this officer if Mr. Tomlinson thought the object could have been manufactured on earth he said "Definitely not".

4. Mr. George Trefrey, Meteorological Officer was interviewed and the facts as obtained given with a request for observation on the subject. Mr. Trefrey intimated that it was a peculiar thing that no Met. people ever observe "flying saucers". He checked his records and found that

there was some light cloud known as Stratus-Cumulus at about 2500-3000 feet moving at about 18 knots. There was a new moon which would be high in the sky at about 0330 hours, 28th April. He was sceptical of the phenomenon observed and put forward a possible answer saying that under circumstances with cloud similar to that on the occasion the powerful headlights of a moving car could be reflected in the cloud.

5. P.O.1 Newall was interviewed regarding the possibility of the object being a reflection of car lights turning a corner. He is definite that the object was in the sky because he saw it pass behind the cloud as well as in the clear starry sky.

6. In conclusion this officer is satisfied an object, most likely a meteor, was definitely observed by the three persons Newall, Gregory and Tomlinson and, although the time differs, is similar to an object observed by a milkman in an Adelaide suburb on the same morning.

(Sgd.) J.A.McCAHEY

Security Officer Material.

C O P Y

Peace Officer Guard,
Woomera Detachment,
WOOMERA S.A.

8th May, 1952.

Range Security Officer,
WOOMERA.

Subject : - Supposed "FLYING SAUCER" - Seen at Woomera West.

Sir,

In reference to the above subject, I wish to report that at approximately 0345 hours on the morning of Monday 28th April, 1952, while waiting at Woomera West for the arrival of the BUDD car, I saw a very bright light in the sky. It was approximately 45 degrees above the horizon, in a South Easterly direction from my position when I first noticed it, and moving in a West North Westerly direction, keeping parallel to the ground. The sky was overcast and it had been raining earlier in the morning, but the light lit up the clouds, like that of a full moon, also the countryside was reflected by its brilliance. The light was visible through breaks in the clouds several times, and was the same color as a Meteor, and appeared to be the size of 1/3 of a full moon, and it was a good 15 seconds from the time I first noticed it until it disappeared in the distance.

A Bus driver remarked that "They are firing Rockets early this morning" and I remarked "That it was not a Rocket".

(Sgd.) G.M.NEWALL

No.2598 P.O.1