



CASE HISTORIES

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Case Histories

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CASE HISTORIES

TWENTY-FOUR PENCE

SUPPLEMENT 17

DECEMBER 1973



UFO OVER NAGAI CITY, JAPAN

See pages 5 & 6

CANADIAN POWER FAILURES AND UFO SIGHTINGS

Claude MacDuff

An enquiry into the possible relationship between the presence of UFOs and electricity failures in Quebec Province in July, 1971. Our contributor is a French-Canadian correspondent of FSR. The article was written in English.

RESEARCHERS into the UFO phenomenon have shown that there is a definite relationship between UFO sightings and electricity blackouts which occur at the same time in the same regions, and that relationship certainly applies to happenings in Quebec Province in 1971, between July 18 and 24. In that period of one week a succession of power failures occurred, coinciding with many observations of UFOs in the same localities, some of them even occurring over and near electric power stations of Hydro-Quebec, the electricity company of the Province of Quebec. The city of Montreal and its surroundings were particularly stricken by the blackouts which occurred twice in the same week.

These events were reported in many French language newspapers of the Province. At that time, no connection between the two categories of occurrences could be made because we lacked the principal data, but as the weeks went by and as reports of observations came in, and an "official explanation" from Hydro-Quebec was given to the newspapers, the truth (or at least part of it) began to emerge.

The material for this article is taken principally from articles and clippings from French language newspapers and also from personal accounts of observations in the region of Montreal. One interesting case of a UFO which left traces in a farmer's field was investigated by me and some of my collaborators. First, however, I will relate an important sighting that occurred at the city of Rimouski, situated 345 miles north-east of Montreal. The case was published three days later in the principal newspapers, including one of the most serious and staid, *Le Devoir*, which carefully checks its facts before publishing them.

Subsequently reports on the observations were received by me and by the French-Canadian "Société de Recherches sur les Phénomènes Mystérieux du Québec." Here is an extract from *Le Devoir* of July 23, 1971:

"Rimouski, P.Q.: Some unidentified flying objects, round in shape, continuously flashing, were sighted in the sky at different places in the Rimouski region, causing much disturbance among the population.

"It twirls, and it is red as fire with green and blue rays that flash around.' This is the way many witnesses described the phenomenon sighted Tuesday night, July 20, 1971, at Rimouski, Sainte-Odile, Sacré-Coeur and Bic. (Note areas marked Nos. 1, 2 and 3 on Map).

"The same phenomenon was also sighted on the North Shore, at Grandes-Bergeronnes, where the objects were observed to be above Rimouski, and also from Betsiamites, on the same North Shore. (Areas Nos. 4 and 5 on Map).

"The most acceptable hypothesis that these objects could have been artificial satellites of earthly origin, but seen in special conditions, has been denied by the Chief of the Department of Physics of the Centre d'Etudes Universitaires de Rimouski, Mr. Michel Campagnat, who mentioned that such satellites traverse an arc in the sky in ten minutes and, most important, cannot in any way be geo-stationary as in the case of the sighted objects."

I would like to draw attention to details of the observations and to certain points relating to these sightings which will demonstrate that the "official explanation" by Hydro-Quebec does not correspond to the facts.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

We regret to announce that publication of FSR CASE HISTORIES is to be suspended after Supplement 18. From 1970 until 1972, *FSR Case Histories* was subsidised from the successful FSR and Special Issues, and from 1973 it was breaking even. However, it has now ceased to be a viable project, due to this year's catastrophic increases in the cost of paper and printing, and frequent increases in postage.

Readers with unexpired portions of subscriptions remaining after No. 18 has appeared may like to indicate whether the balance should be transferred to their FSR accounts, or whether they would like the equivalent in available back issues (see back cover).

For us to remit small amounts of money would be difficult, and expensive (particularly overseas), so we trust readers will avail themselves of one of the alternatives detailed above.

—EDITOR (June 1974).

UFOs over the Manic

First, according to a report received at the offices of the Société de Recherches sur les Phénomènes Mystérieux de Québec at that time, UFOs were sighted over the Manic, at Manicouagan, (Note area 6 on Map.) where the largest and most powerful hydro-electric power station of the Province is situated. It is from that station that most of the current is distributed in the Province, and, thanks to the five dams of the Manicouagan, the supply of electricity covers many important areas of the Province. It is also over this important station that UFOs were sighted on Friday, July 23, 1971, as well as in some other areas, corresponding with a general power failure in a large sector of the Province.

Next, if you look at the maps showing the sighting areas, you will note that most of the sightings occurred in localities very close to the Saint-Lawrence River, and all along its course. This may be of no particular significance, but it is remarkable that many of the important observations were made over cities along its course, and this will remind us that one of the theories put forward to explain the movements of UFOs is that of "corridors" or passages which are followed by UFOs — particularly along the main watercourses or rivers of some countries, including France, South American countries, U.S.A. and Canada. Hence, it is possible

that during this period, the Saint-Lawrence River and many populated areas have been analysed and recorded on files by extra-terrestrial devices, and that we are now among the other "lists" of records made over a long time.

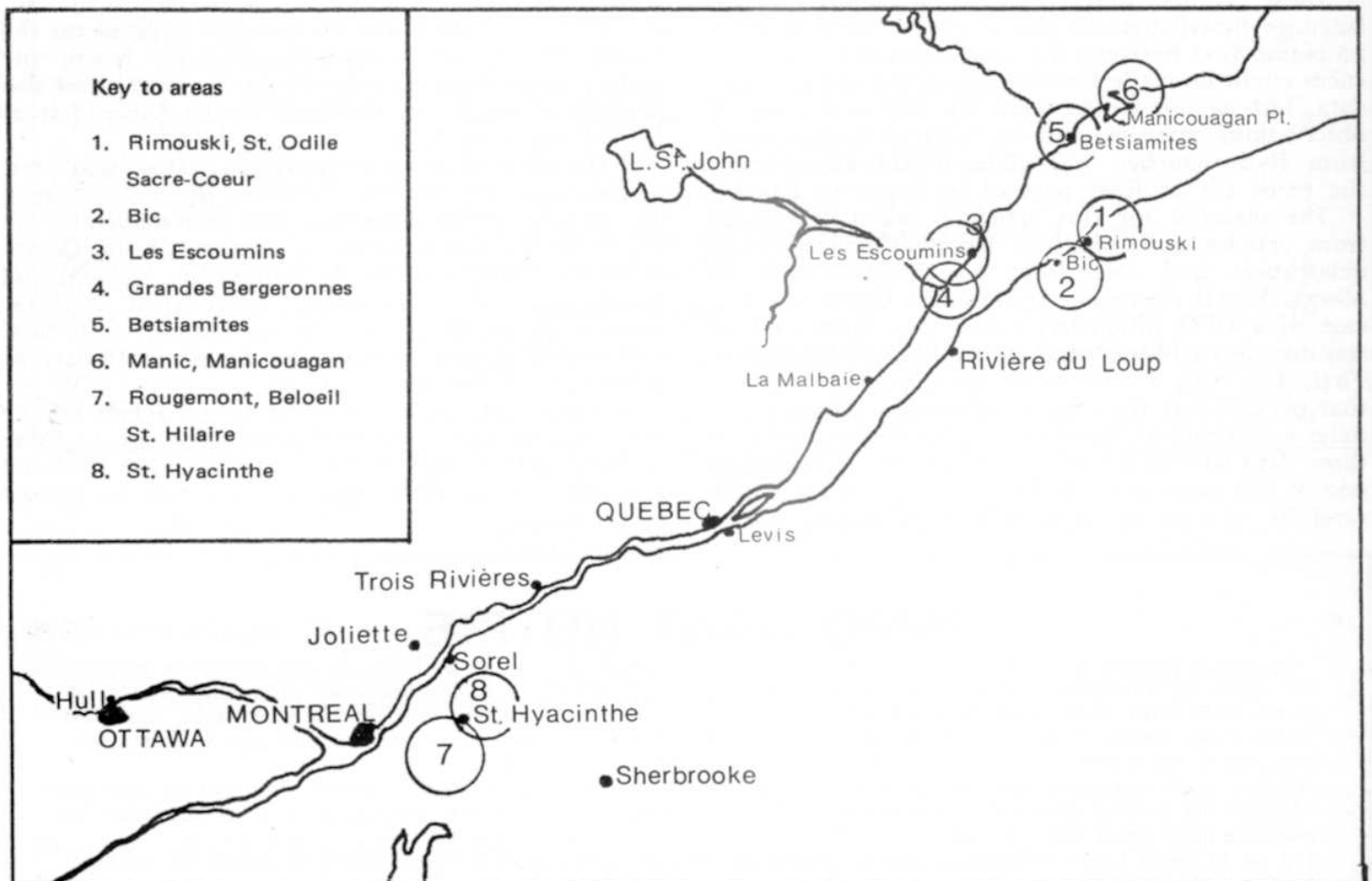
Note that principal observations were made starting from approximately extreme north-east of the river, at Rimouski and Manicouagan, and proceeding up towards its source we pass by Riviere-du-Loup, La Malbaie, Quebec and Levis, Trois-Rivieres, Sorel, Montreal, Ottawa and Hull, where the observations made during that period apparently cease.

Note also that all along the river there are many sub-stations of Hydro-Quebec, and that the main blackout of three occurred on Friday, July 23, 1971. On July 20, many sightings were made, including a near-landing in an area close to Montreal, and at Rougemont, Beloeil, Saint-Hilaire and Saint-Hyacinthe, where the UFO which evidently left traces was seen. (Note areas 7 and 8 on Map.)

As the weeks passed by, we noticed that the Province of Quebec was very much "visited" during that month, sightings reaching a peak during July 18 to 24, and extending to the 30th.

The cause of the blackouts

Let us now learn what was the "cause" of these three power failures in the Province during that period. As many residents of the Province were



Map of St. Lawrence River Area. (Scale: 1 inch to 79 miles.)

waiting for an explanation, they suddenly had the pleasure to read in their regional newspaper a short article, thanks to an official spokesman of Hydro-Quebec to whom we are very grateful for explaining so briefly, without any other details, the reason for the black-out of the Province. Here is the account given in the French-Canadian newspaper, *Montreal Matin* of 29 July, 1971:

"The blackout which has paralysed a large sector of the Province of Quebec, July 23, 1971, *might have been caused* (my italics—C. MacD) by lightning damage to a 750 K.V. power line. After careful investigation on the causes of relay functions, Hydro-Quebec came to the conclusion that an arc drop at the precise moment of the lightning must have caused a false telesignal of the same frequency which normally operates the relays in case of malfunction. The simultaneous cut-out of service from three lines of 735,000 volts caused the general black-out."

If this black-out had occurred only once, or if it had occurred in the very stormy winter that we had during 1971-72, this explanation could have been accepted very well. But imagine — three times in a period of ten days, if we extend it some days more, and three times that the same "cause" repeats itself! No, I personally do not agree with the "probable" cause, and neither do other Canadian ufologists. When someone asked the spokesman for additional details, the reply was "There is nothing else to say; any explanation other than that of lightning damage cannot be seriously considered."

I personally wonder which part of the Province the official was in during the week of July 18 to 24 because, during that period, no regional storm nor thunderstorm was registered in the areas where the main electric power stations, or even the substations, are situated. It was a period of very nice weather without any disturbance. As far as I can remember, the weather was sunny and clear, and we must note that no precise indication was given of the exact electric power station that was damaged by the lightning. In view of the very large sector of the Province which was paralysed by the power failure, the only important station where this could have occurred was the main Hydro-Quebec station at Manic and, as I said, there was no local or meteorological disturbance powerful enough to damage the station or cause a "false telesignal of the same frequency." Finally, remember that sightings of UFOs were made in and above the area of Manic, and we can now perfectly well admit that there is a connection between these happenings.

With all respect to the official, his explanation does not fit the facts. (Remember the time it took the Canadian and American experts in 1965 to explain "officially" the general black-out that struck Canada and the U.S.A. simultaneously!)

Let us try to consider these happenings in the right light, that is, as a relationship between UFO sightings and black-outs, and let us consider now the case of the UFO which left marks on the ground on July 20.

UFO leaves landing traces at Saint-Hyacinthe?

The case was reported in the French newspaper *Le Petit Journal* on November 24, 1971. The information was given to the newspaper by a newly-formed group of UFO researchers, in which I participated largely at that time. All of us were very well informed on all aspects of the UFO problem, and we aimed to be well organised for observation and investigation of UFO sightings. Shortly after we got together, we were informed that an important event had occurred in the Sainte-Hyacinthe area (*area 8 on Map*) and fortunately we were able to go to the site very shortly after the event. A report of the case was made by the group and later sent to the newspaper. Here is a complete account of the sighting:

On the Saint-Dominic road, at Saint-Hyacinthe, there is a large field of potatoes and a farm held by the farmer and his wife. Both these people are modern in outlook, knowing perfectly well the characteristics of motorised vehicles, like cars, tractors, etc. They have a serious disposition and are not given to playing tricks or courting publicity. The following is the testimony of the farmer's wife:

"It was mid-July; I would say probably the 20th according to other events that occurred before. It was a cloudy evening and there was no moon in the sky. I was in the living room, near the window, looking to the west. Suddenly, as I looked out, I saw at about 2,000 feet from the house, above two trees, five huge red lights that seemed to rotate around a solid dark body. I never saw anything like it in my life. They were not lights from a tractor or other vehicle used on a farm, because I am familiar with them. I tried to call my husband, but he was taking a shower at that moment and did not hear me. I came back to the window and the objects were still there. Then the lights separated. They were lights of a bright clear red colour which stood at a height of about 15 feet above the trees. There was no motor noise or other sound. Then the lights went off and that was all. Later on, I reported what I had seen to my husband, but he did not believe me and said that I had probably had a kind of hallucination."

The next day, the farmer was going through his field to inspect it when to his surprise he found unusual markings which would correspond to the details given by his wife the day before regarding the place and movements of the object. Shortly after, the case became known to a member of our newly-formed group and we went to the site. There we found the markings still present. The following is my account which was given to the newspaper which published the case:

"After we (the investigators) interviewed the farmer's wife on her sighting, we went to the potato field with the farmer. We saw, at about 1,800 feet from the house (not by the trees as said by the woman; this could be understood if we consider that, according to her angle of vision through the window in a westerly direction, she first thought that the object had hovered over the trees, but in fact it is more probable it hovered

some yards further) a perfect circle, 11 feet in diameter where the crops and potatoes had been completely crushed and burned in the centre, and less burned around the circumference. This was probably caused by an intense heat source. At about 450 feet east of the circle there was another circle of the same proportions and having the same characteristics.

"In conclusion, the traces left, the perfect geometrical form of the circles, the burnt vegetation and crops, and the farmer's wife's description of her sighting of the 20th of what she saw the evening before her husband discovered the tracks, together constitute strong evidence of a UFO event. The investigators surmised that the object halted at a height of about 15 feet, and burnt a circular area with some type of energy or radiation. From the house, the two circles would seem next to each other by the visual angle, but they are in fact separated by a distance of about 450 feet. The distance of 1,800 feet between the house and the circle No. 1 would in all probability explain why the farmer's wife said that the five red lights were rotating around the dark body *over the trees*; these lights were certainly rotating around that body, but the object probably stood still twice, in two different fields, for there were two distinctive circles in each field."

Police investigators

And now I would like to bring the reader's attention to three important points. First, a car of the Provincial Police of Quebec was seen in the

area, going here and there in the vicinity of Saint-Dominique's road and of the other farmers' land. It should be noted that apparently no one else saw the object and the farmer did not want the case publicised because he did not want his fields disturbed and devastated by a curious crowd. This "visit" by the Provincial Police was very unusual, for Police agents were never seen in the area. Suddenly, some days after this important sighting and in the period of July 18 to 30, more agents were seen looking around in many areas. Note that in Quebec Province, the Provincial Police and the R.C.M.P. (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) investigated the cases at *government level!* Need I say more?

Other local UFO reports

Secondly, it should be said that there are other regions close to Saint-Hyacinthe where there have been cases of sightings, some at very close range. The main ones were at Rougemont, Saint-Hilaire and Beloeil (included in the circled area No. 7 on the Map. Again, these regions were visited in 1971, and it seems that they are favoured, because in the summer of 1972, residents of these towns sighted many unusual lighted objects, principally over fields, electric power lines and marshlands. I know personally one of the active investigators in this area and he has sent some interesting reports of observations made there.

Finally, we also have to consider that in 1971 there were many similar cases where the ground was

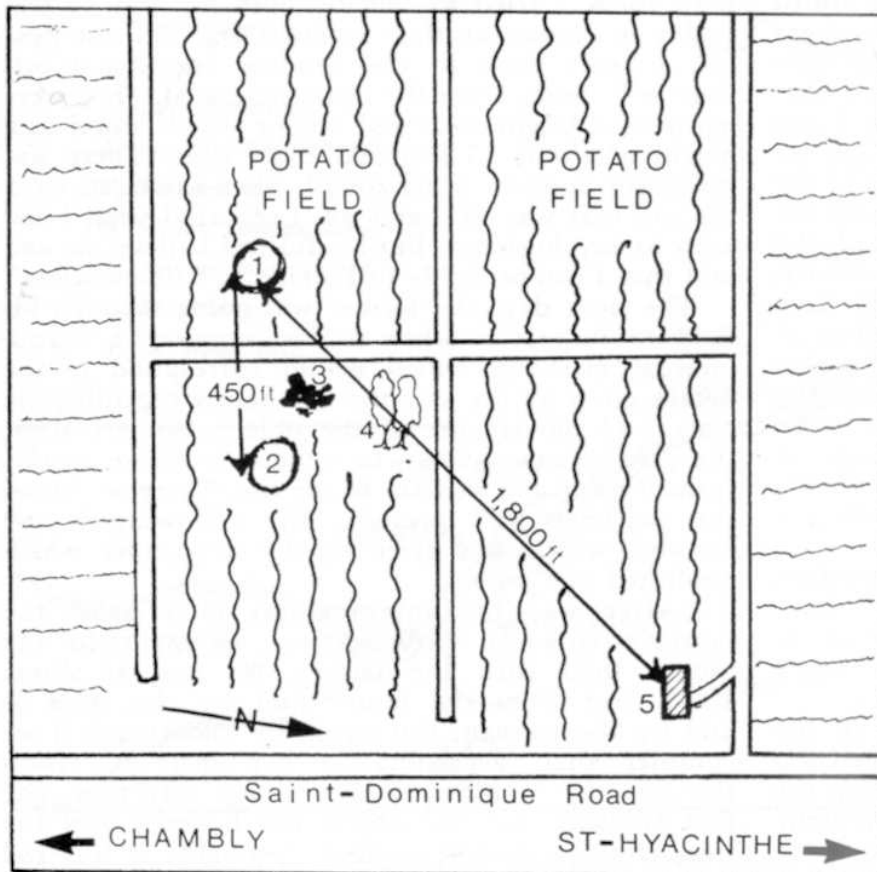
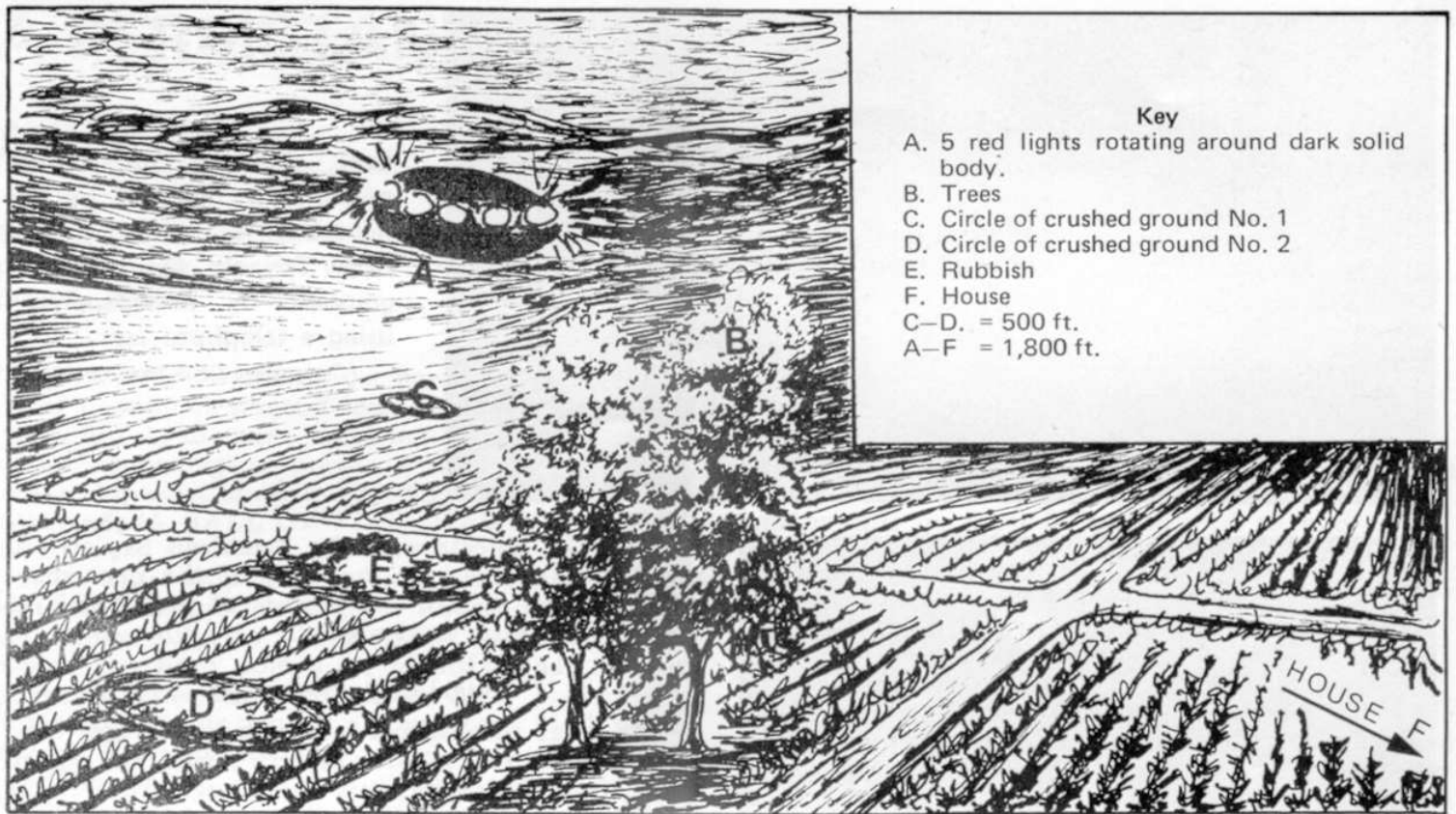


Diagram of UFO sighting near ground, Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec. (Not to scale)

Key:

1. Circle No. 1, 11 feet
2. Circle No. 2, 11 feet in diameter
3. Rubbish
4. Trees
5. House



Near landing, St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, July 20, 1971.

impressed by a UFO which either hovered or landed, not only in Canada but in many countries of the world.

I was able to write this article thanks to the help of some of my close collaborators in the

subject, and I am very grateful to them. Principally I must thank them for providing reports without which much factual material and important evidence would be lacking.

UFOs PICTURED OVER JAPAN

Press and Police photographs snap strange objects over Toyama City and Nagai City

Yusuke J. Matsumura

Our contributor is Director of CBA International, Naka P.O. Box 12, Yokohama, Japan

BETWEEN 5 and 10 pale white objects, almost translucent, appeared over Toyama City — which is in the central western part of Honshu, facing the Sea of Japan — for nearly three hours from 8.30 p.m., on August 24, 1973. At first the objects were seen to be circling slowly, flying side by side in a long and slender stick-shaped form which, at other times, widened, but later watchers saw them flying in a round formation. Suddenly they got up speed and disappeared in a straight line. These manoeuvres were repeated, then suddenly they stopped in mid-air, and this caused a sensation among the many observers, reported the local newspaper *Kita Nihon Shimbun*.

The formation was estimated to be at an altitude of between 1,000 to 2,000 metres, and something like 300 people were watching, baffled. Even passing taxi drivers stopped their vehicles to look up at the spectacle.

Next day the *Kita Nihon Shimbun* published a photograph of one of the mysterious objects caught in the 250 mm tele-photo lens of the newspaper's cameraman, M. Omokata. The time the photograph was taken was about 10.30 p.m. (Camera: Nikon F, using Tri-x film.)

Meanwhile the Toyama Astronomical Observatory was flooded with reports of the incident for several days. According to the newspaper the question as to