

AUSTRALIA: ON THE UFO TRAIL: V

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More UFO sightings and cornfield circles in Victoria

ON April 15, 1981, a motorist was travelling towards Maffra, Eastern Victoria, when he saw what he thought at first were the lights of a car that had run off the road near a bridge. When, however, he came alongside of the lights *he saw a silver object lit up by a yellow light on its dome*. He panicked and fled.

Three circles found. And superphosphate

The following day, three 17-foot circles were found precisely where the man had seen the object. Samples taken by our field investigator Pat Gildea were analyzed, and it was established that "nothing natural" had caused the physical traces. Grains of superphosphate were found scattered around and inside the three circles. But no superphosphate had been spread in that particular paddock!*

The same type of superphosphate had also been found in another paddock a few kilometres distant. It is suspected that the superphosphate found in the case near Maffra had come there from that other paddock (or from yet another, unknown, elsewhere), and that *the carrier, the UFO*, might have landed at one of those other places before coming to this field near Maffra where the three circles were now found.

Animals panicked

There had been sheep in the field where the silver object with a dome and yellow light had been seen, and they had panicked wildly and broken out. There was also a horse there — a normally very quiet animal — but it too was so disturbed that it was impossible to catch it for some time afterwards.

Other UFO sightings

UFOs had been active for some time previously in that same area. On April 4, 1981 (eleven days earlier) a man had been filling his petrol tank when he noticed a flashing red light about 800 metres or so from his house. The object was flying about over the area at fence-height! He watched it for a few minutes and then turned his car headlights towards it. The red light instantly changed to white, and the UFO sped off in a northerly direction.

The empty water-tank

This incident had taken place only about 15 kms. from the farm where, on September 30, 1980, an object (itself described as "*tank-shaped*") had hovered above a 10,000-gallon concrete water-tank. The day previously, this water-tank had been full. Now, after the visit of the UFO, only 1 ft. of water remained in it. Algae normally found only on the bottom of the tank were now found adhering to the inside wall, showing that the water had been drawn out through the uncovered top of the tank.

The displaced rocks

Moreover, rocks, which the farmer had thrown against the foot of the tank in order to remove them from proximity to his mowers, had now been pulled *away* from the tank, and were lying strung out along a line from the tank to the 30-ft. circle left at the spot where the UFO had landed. Obviously this was the result of the gravitational or other, similar, force produced by the UFO.

[NOTE BY EDITOR FSR. It is possible, though not certain, that this is one of the Victorian farm cases already given by Mr Paul Norman on pages 2 and 3 of FSR 35/1 in his previous Report "*On The UFO Trail: IV*". If identical, the two reports show a discrepancy over the width of the circle — described here as "30 ft." and in the earlier Report "4 metres". So maybe two different cases *are* here involved.]

Atomic element 85 (AT: Astatine)

By studying these and other cases from around the world, do we perhaps have a clue that helps us to explain the dust left on the Knowles family's car during their encounter? (See my Reports on the celebrated NULLARBOR or MUNDRABILLA case in FSR 33/2, 33/4, 34/2).

It is interesting to note that samples, vacuumed from the Knowles car, which Dr Richard Haines of the USA presented to the Philips Laboratory in America — (the "state-of-the art" high-tech. experts in such fields) — were found by them to contain fibres indicating the possibility that atomic element 85 (AT, ASTATINE) had been present soon after the Knowles family's encounter.

The possibility that a health hazard did exist at that time was also indicated when it transpired that the four Knowles family occupants of the car, along with their two dogs (plus another man who had handled that dust about one hour later) all became ill and were treated by doctors. One of them was admitted to hospital.

Dedicated sceptics like to ignore these clues. However, VUFORS have pursued their investigations and have found that similar fibres were discovered in samples taken from the area of Maralinga in Australia, where, in the past, atomic tests have been carried out. Maralinga is only 300 kms. (180 miles), as the crow (or UFO) flies, from the spot on the Nullarbor Plain where the Knowles Family's encounter took place.

Follow-up on this interesting and important case is still continuing, as time and funds permit.

NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR

We in Britain use the word "paddock" to indicate a rather small, fenced enclosure, like the Spanish-American and U.S. term "*corral*", but I think I remember correctly that the Australians use it for much bigger pieces of terrain such as we would call "*fields*" or "*meadows*".