

Interviewed Marjorie Porter at Busselton on 9th January, 1992.

She states she was living at "The Swamps" in 1941 (which is about 8 - 9 miles from the Coast. They had been to a Social at the Yallabatharra School, arriving home after midnight. By the time she had put the children to bed it would have been after 1 a.m.....she then went to bed herself but couldn't sleep as it was a hot night. After laying there for sometime she heard explosions and went outside to see what was going on. She saw flashes in the Western sky and with each flash, she heard an explosion.... the flashes and explosions were at regular intervals. Although she couldn't see the ocean, she believed a Ship was responsible for the action and that the War was getting a bit too close for comfort and that they may see German soldiers coming over the hill any day. She can't remember how long she stood watching the action, but was insistent that it finished about 3 a.m., but is not sure of the date.

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I first read of Mrs. Porter's experience in the Brisbane Paper. After my interview with her, I believe she saw and heard just what she states. There has been suggestions that these people are getting confused with events that happened 12 months or so later. The fact that Mrs. Porter thought there would be a chance of German Soldiers coming over the hill any day, indicates this was before Japan came into the War.

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