

NOTES D'ENQUÊTE

CHALMAZEL (42) 31.08.2013

1 – CONTEXTE

Le 31 août 2013 entre 22h40 et 23h00, un astronome amateur observant le ciel avec deux amis depuis CHALMAZEL (42) remarque des sursauts de lumières dans la constellation de Pégase.

Il fait part de son observation sur Facebook le 2 septembre.

Le témoin a envoyé un Questionnaire Electronique (QE) le 10 septembre 2013.

2- DESCRIPTION DU CAS

Extrait du QE page 3 :

« Bonjour à tous

Samedi 31 Aout j'étais à Chalmazel chez mon ami xx dans sa cabane sur les hauteurs du Forez .

Le ciel était très clair et je faisais une observation visuel (mon 300 est en cour de reconstruction)et je n'avais rien sous la main (même pas mes jumelles).

J'ai remarqué des sursauts de lumieres près de M15 entre 22H40 et 23H .J'ai bien fait remarqué ces clignotements espacés de 2 minutes à mes amis avec mon pointeur laser et essayer de voir si ce n'était pas un Satellite ou un avion mais tout trois n'avons pas constatés de déplacements de ces signaux là où les étoiles formaient un V tout près de M15 .

Si vous aussi avez observé ceci ,avez vous une explication à ce sujet ??? »

Deux autres personnes ont été témoin du PAN, mais n'ont pu être interrogées.

La durée de l'observation est estimée d'après le témoin à 30 minutes (QE, page 4), mais cette durée est très certainement surestimée : dans un message posté sur Facebook le 2 septembre, le témoin écrit qu'il « n'y a eu que 3 ou 4 sursauts de lumiere ».

L'intervalle entre ces sursauts étant estimé entre une et deux minutes, la durée de l'observation est donc comprise entre 3 et 8 minutes (Figures 1 et 2).



Figure 1 : témoignage posté sur Facebook



Figure 2 : témoignage posté sur Facebook

Les flashes avaient la luminosité de l'étoile Vega, c'est-à-dire une magnitude d'environ 0.

En page 7 du QE, le témoin précise le secteur où étaient visibles le PAN : « *C'était dans le V entre Enif et Biham* ». Ces deux étoiles appartiennent à la constellation de Pégase.

3- ANALYSE

3.1 SITUATION GEOGRAPHIQUE

L'observation a eu lieu sur la commune de Chalmazel (42)



Figure 3 : Géoportail – reconstitution du lieu d'observation

3.2 SITUATION METEO

La plus proche station aux données accessibles pour la date considérée est celle de Bard (42), située à 20 Km au Sud-Est du lieu d'observation (Figure 4).

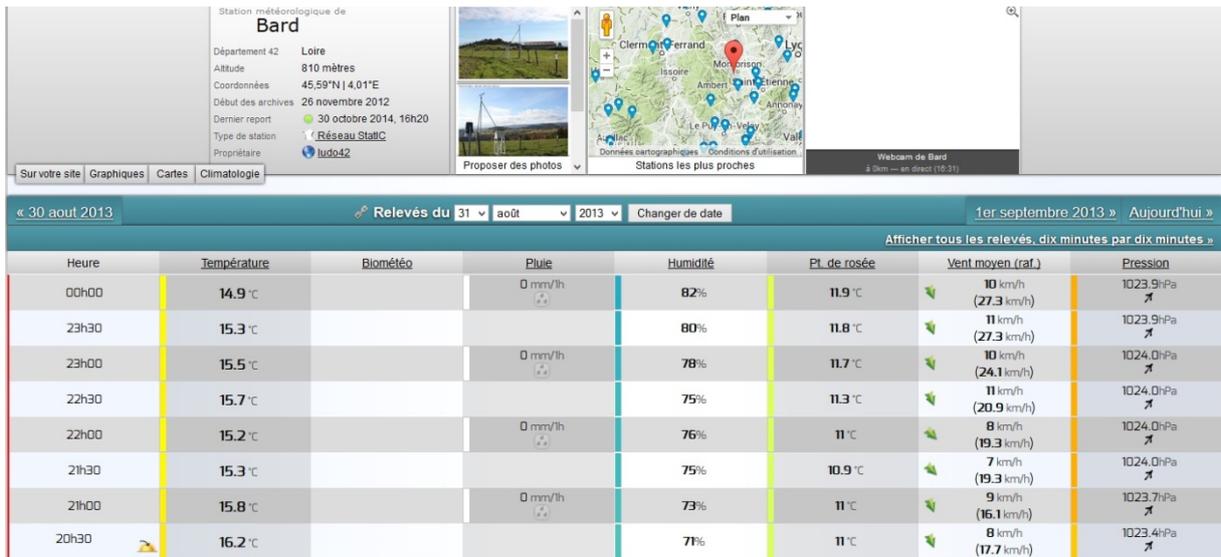


Figure 4 : Infoclimat – relevé des données météorologiques

Ces données, bien que partielles, montrent l'absence de pluie et une pression atmosphérique de 1023 hPa, en augmentation.

Un vent faible de 10 à 11 km/h soufflait du Nord.

Les données enregistrées par la station météo de Saint-Etienne (42), à 43 km au Sud-Est du lieu d'observation, montrent que le ciel était partiellement couvert : 6/8 octas de nébulosité à 22h30 et 23h00. Les archives de nébulosités sur Meteociel confirment ces mesures (Figures 5 et 6).

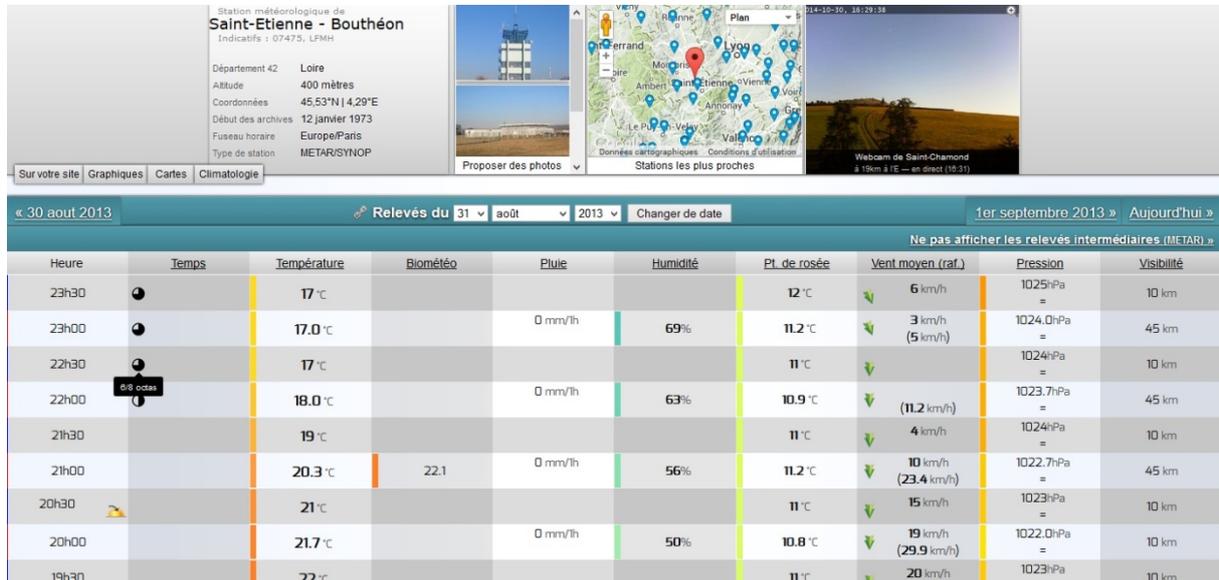


Figure 5 : Infoclimat – relevé des données météorologiques

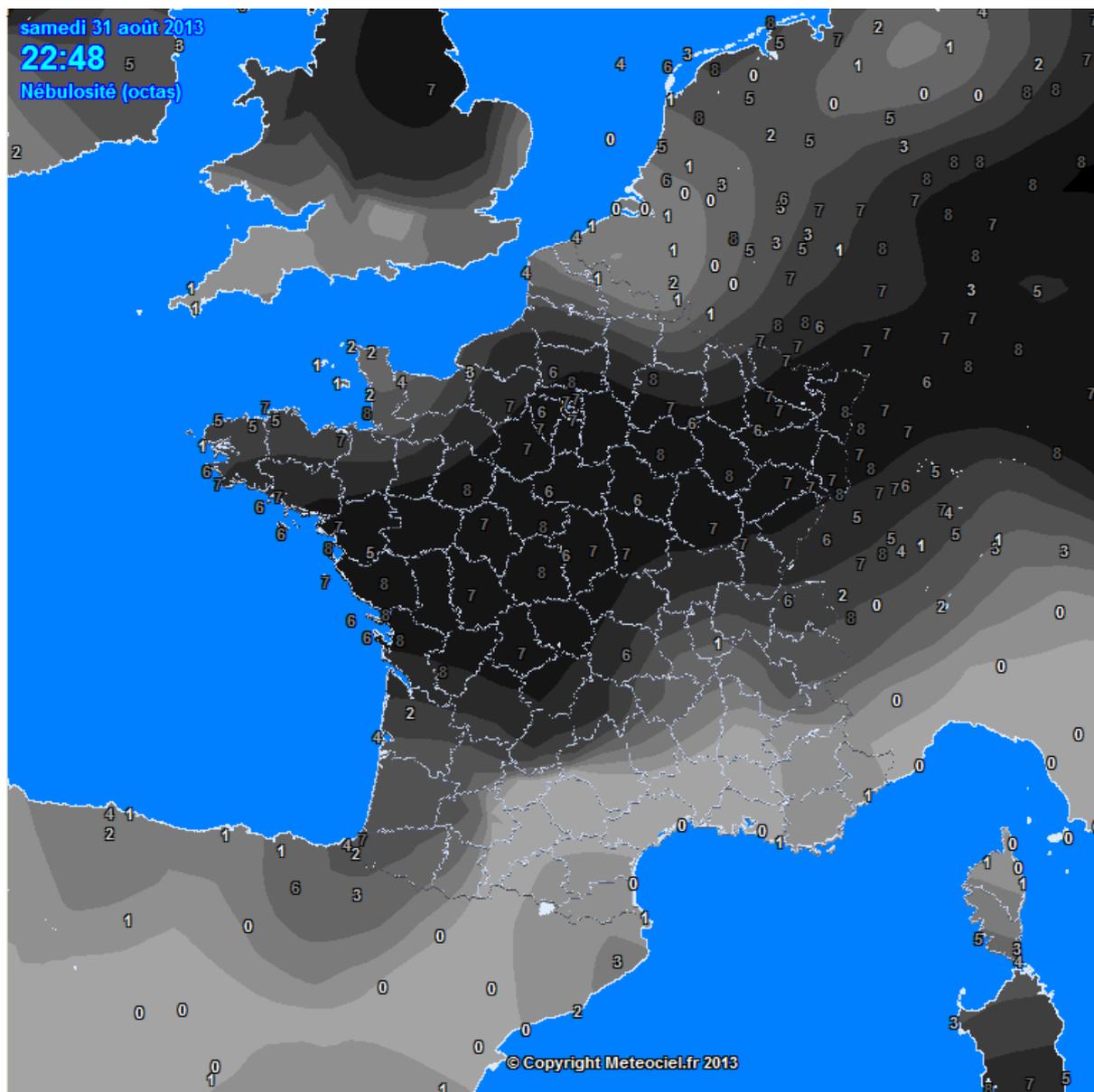


Figure 6 : Meteociel – relevé des nébulosités à 22h48

On peut toutefois noter que le regard du témoin était tourné vers le Sud-Est (direction de la constellation de Pégase au moment de l'observation), c'est-à-dire vers une zone où les nébulosités étaient faibles, ce qui indique la présence de belles éclaircies.

Ces données sont cohérentes avec celles fournies par le témoin, qui indique que le ciel était très clair. Le fait qu'il ait pu prendre des étoiles comme repères montre que le ciel était dégagé dans la zone d'observation.

3.3 SITUATION ASTRONOMIQUE

Une reconstitution sur Stellarium pour Chalmazel (42) pour le 31 août 2013 à 22h40 montre que les astres servant de repères (M15, Enif et Biham) se situaient au Sud-Est, entre 35 et 50° de hauteur angulaire (Figures 7 et 8).

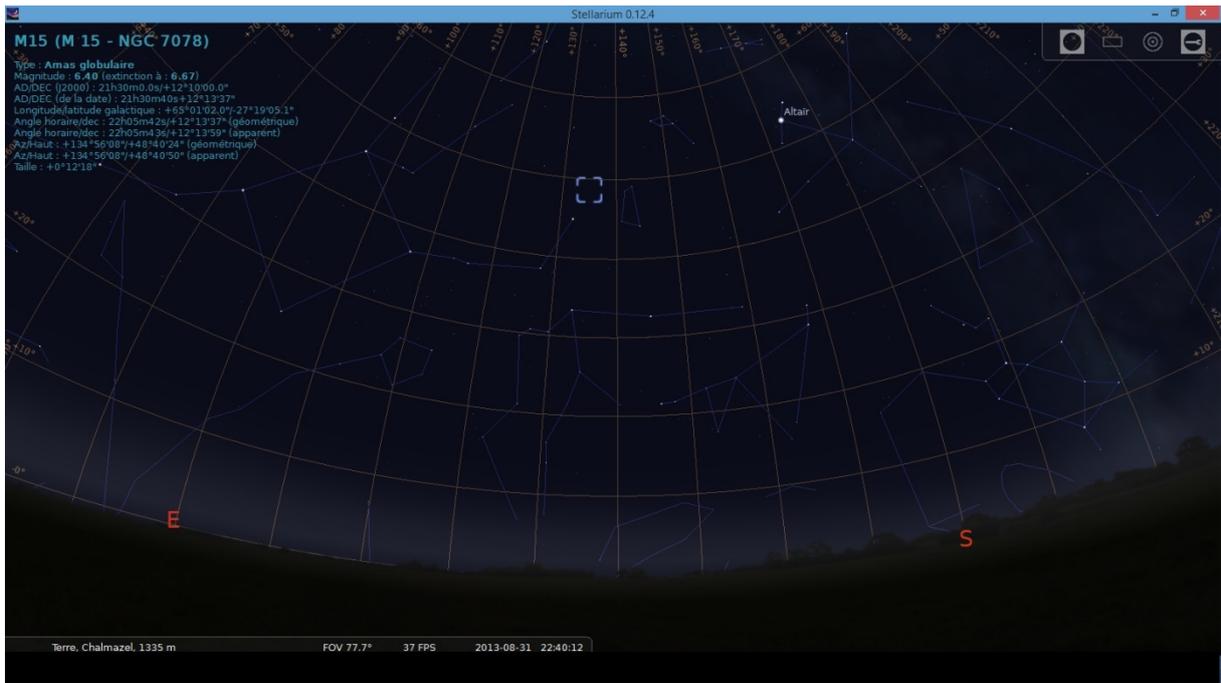


Figure 7 : Stellarium – reconstitution du ciel de l'observation

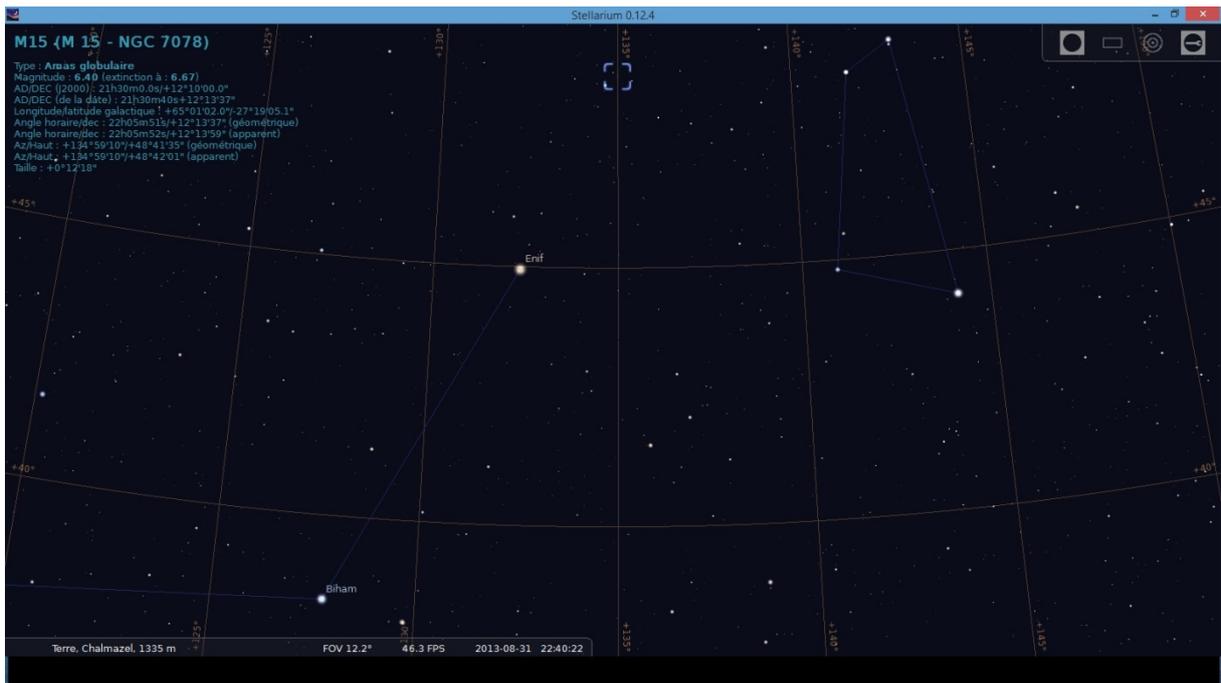


Figure 8 : Stellarium – reconstitution du ciel de l'observation

Il est à noter qu'aucun astre particulièrement remarquable n'est visible dans le secteur d'observation.

Les données fournies par le témoin permettent d'estimer la localisation du PAN : « *c'était dans le V entre Enif et Biham* ». Il s'agit certainement de la figure marquant la tête de Pégase, formée par les étoiles Enif, Biham et Homan, ce qui situerait le PAN à une hauteur angulaire proche de 40° et un azimut proche de 125° (Figure 9).

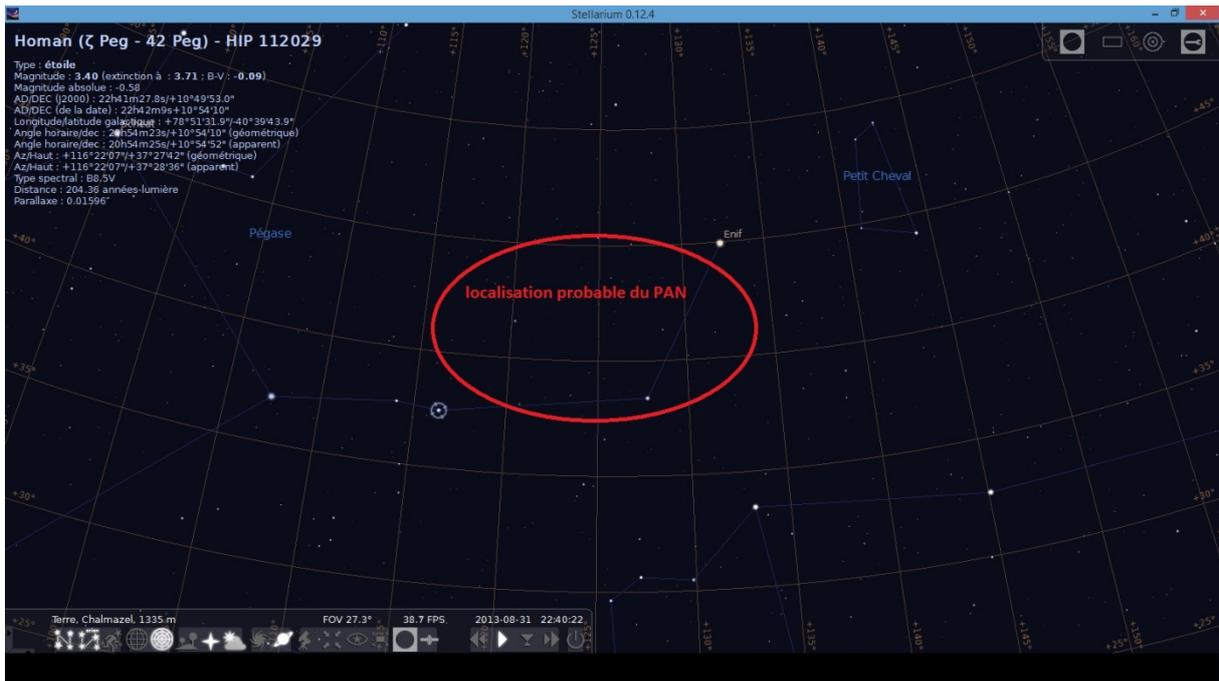


Figure 9 : Stellarium – reconstitution du ciel de l’observation

3.4 SITUATION AERO ET ASTRONAUTIQUE

Sur Facebook, le témoin mentionne avoir vu 3 avions passer tout près de Pégase, ce qui lui a permis de les comparer avec le PAN et ainsi d’exclure l’hypothèse aéronautique (« *ce n’était pas ça* »).

Au niveau astronautique, on peut signaler l’absence de visibilité de la Station Spatiale Internationale (ISS) durant la nuit du 31 août au 1^{er} septembre 2013. De nombreux passages de satellites artificiels ont eu lieu durant l’intervalle donné par le témoin (Figure 10).

Saturday 31 August 2013		
Time (24-hour clock)	Object (Link)	Event
	Observer Site	Chalmazel, France France Zone 2 Etendu; Map: 717820/2078870m Alt: 945m asl Geographic: Lon: +3d51m00.00s Lat: +45d42m00.00s Alt: 945m WGS84: Lon: +3d50m57.75s Lat: +45d41m59.90s Alt: 988m All times in CET or CEST (during summer)
22h30m00s	Cosmos 2263 Rocket (22803 1993-059-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h26m29s 4.3mag az: 73.7° ENE h:20.1° Disappears 22h31m53s 6.2mag az: 37.3° NE horizon
22h30m00s	ALOS (28931 2006-002-A) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h28m45s 3.2mag az:105.8° ESE h:43.6° Culmination 22h29m37s 3.2mag az: 70.9° ENE h:49.7° distance: 882.8km height above Earth: 697.5km elevation of Sun: -21° angular velocity: 0.49°/s at Meridian 22h33m19s 6.0mag az: 0.0° N h:15.1° Disappears 22h36m28s 7.7mag az:352.1° N horizon
22h30m15s	HOSS 3-1 Rocket (26906 2001-040-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h30m15s 4.2mag az: 88.3° E h:26.2° Disappears 22h37m24s 6.4mag az: 45.0° NE horizon
22h33m02s	Astro F (28939 2006-005-A) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h31m59s 4.4mag az:137.1° SE h:50.7° Culmination 22h33m02s 4.3mag az: 73.4° ENE h:70.6° distance: 702.5km height above Earth: 667.4km elevation of Sun: -21° angular velocity: 0.62°/s at Meridian 22h34m48s 5.9mag az: 0.0° N h:36.6° Disappears 22h39m53s 9.3mag az:349.0° N horizon
22h33m17s	Yaogan 9A (36413 2010-009-A) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h23m31s 10.0mag az:321.2° NW horizon at Meridian 22h32m02s 5.1mag az: 0.0° N h:57.3° Culmination 22h33m17s 4.6mag az: 47.4° NE h:66.7° distance: 1231.4km height above Earth: 1147.8km elevation of Sun: -21° angular velocity: 0.34°/s Disappears 22h36m31s 5.0mag az:118.3° ESE h:35.4°
22h33m25s	Yaogan 9B (36414 2010-009-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h23m39s 10.0mag az:321.2° NW horizon at Meridian 22h32m17s 5.0mag az: 0.0° N h:60.0° Culmination 22h33m25s 4.6mag az: 48.0° NE h:69.0° distance: 1215.6km height above Earth: 1148.5km elevation of Sun: -21° angular velocity: 0.34°/s

Figure 10 : Calsky – relevé des passages satellitaires

Plusieurs flashes Iridium ont eu lieu durant la soirée du 31 août 2013, mais aucun à un horaire ni un secteur proche de celui de l'observation (Figure 11).

Saturday 31 August 2013		
Time (24-hour clock)	Object (Link)	Event
	Observer Site	Chalmazel, France France Zone 2 Etendu; Map: 717820/2078870m Alt: 945m asl Geographic: Lon: +3d51m00.00s Lat: +45d42m00.00s Alt: 945m WGS84: Lon: +3d50m57.75s Lat: +45d41m59.90s Alt: 988m All times in CET or CEST (during summer)
21h22m18s	 Iridium 49	Flare from solar panels Magnitude=-1.6mag Azimuth=120.9° ESE altitude= 13.6° in constellation Aquarius Flare angle=0.74° Flare center line, closest point →MapIt: Longitude=4.412°E Latitude=+45.950° (WGS84) Distance=51.6 km Azimuth=57.3° ENE Peak Magnitude=-2.4mag Satellite above: longitude=21.2°E latitude=+36.2° height above Earth=781.6 km distance to satellite=2083.3 km Altitude of Sun=-10.4°
21h31m16s	 Iridium 11	Flare from solar panels Magnitude=-1.1mag Azimuth=123.4° ESE altitude= 16.7° in constellation Aquarius Flare angle=1.46° Flare center line, closest point →MapIt: Longitude=2.855°E Latitude=+45.231° (WGS84) Distance=93.4 km Azimuth=236.4° WSW Peak Magnitude=-2.5mag Satellite above: longitude=19.1°E latitude=+35.7° height above Earth=781.5 km distance to satellite=1900.0 km Altitude of Sun=-11.9°
23h05m37s	 Metop B	Flare from fixed mounted left looking ASCAT Magnitude=-0.2mag Azimuth=341.5° NNW altitude= 6.0° in constellation Ursa Major Flare angle=2.37° Flare center line, closest point →MapIt: Longitude=0.802°E Latitude=+49.742° (WGS84) Distance=503.5 km Azimuth=334.2° NNW Peak Magnitude=-3.2mag Satellite above: longitude=11.9°W latitude=+64.5° height above Earth=831.2 km distance to satellite=2767.5 km Altitude of Sun=-25.2° This is an experimental flare prediction. Brightness estimate may be unreliable. Please report a successful observation (Object/site coordinates/date/measured time/accuracy/magnitude).
23h21m17s	 Iridium 55	Flare from MM11 (Right antenna) Magnitude=-2.7mag Azimuth= 52.6° NE altitude= 20.5° in constellation Perseus Flare angle=0.65° Flare center line, closest point →MapIt: Longitude=3.305°E Latitude=+45.754° (WGS84) Distance=42.7 km Azimuth=278.2° W Peak Magnitude=-6.0mag Satellite above: longitude=20.9°E latitude=+52.7° height above Earth=785.1 km distance to satellite=1720.8 km Altitude of Sun= 27.1°

Figure 11 : Calsky – flashes Iridium pour la soirée du 31 août 2013

4- HYPOTHESES

Une hypothèse envisagée : l'observation astronautique.

L'observation présente en effet de nombreuses caractéristiques d'une observation satellitaire, en particulier d'un satellite hors-contrôle, en rotation rapide sur lui-même (tumbling satellite). Cette hypothèse a d'ailleurs été avancée par les témoins lors de leur observation : « *Au début j'ai cru à un Iridium mais ensuite normalement on voit se déplacer le satellite (...). Mon ami pensa aussi à un satellite rotatif mais il n'y avait pas ou très peu de déplacement* ».

L'absence de déplacement apparent impliquerait alors un satellite à très haute altitude (géostationnaire ou GPS).

Les clignotements du PAN peuvent également faire penser à une observation d'avion, mais l'absence de déplacement pendant plusieurs minutes permet d'exclure cette hypothèse.

Une reconstitution sur Calsky pour Chalmazel (42) montre l'absence de satellite géostationnaire dans la constellation de Pégase (Figure 12).

 (25626 1999-005-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Azimuth=124.5° SE Altitude= 20.9° Distance=39477.2km Tilt of LNB/receiver: -35.7° RA=22h59.5m Dec= -6°32'
 (24957 1997-053-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Orbital Position=50.5° East Magnitude=10.2mag Aquarii Azimuth=124.7° SE Altitude= 19.6° Distance=39602.3km Tilt of LNB/receiver: -35.7° RA=23h01.7m Dec= -7°42'
 (24916 1997-046-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Orbital Position=50.1° East Magnitude=12.6mag Aquarii Azimuth=124.8° SE Altitude= 20.1° Distance=39557.0km Tilt of LNB/receiver: -35.6° RA=23h00.1m Dec= -7°22'
 (24732 1997-007-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Magnitude=10.3mag Aquarii Azimuth=124.8° SE Altitude= 14.7° Distance=40063.2km Tilt of LNB/receiver: -35.3° RA=23h13.0m Dec=-11°43'
 (32375 2007-058-C) -Ground track -Star chart	Magnitude=14.2mag Aquarii Azimuth=124.9° SE Altitude= 15.1° Distance=39861.8km RA=23h11.5m Dec=-11°29'
 (10159 1977-071-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Orbital Position=48.3° East Magnitude=15.1mag Aquarii Azimuth=125.1° SE Altitude= 23.3° Distance=39287.5km Tilt of LNB/receiver: -35.3° RA=22h52.0m Dec= -4°54'
 (28089 2003-053-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Orbital Position=49.0° East Magnitude=10.4mag Aquarii Azimuth=125.5° SE Altitude= 21.5° Distance=39421.2km Tilt of LNB/receiver: -35.2° RA=22h55.0m Dec= -6°36'
 (21038 1998-116-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Magnitude=14.3mag Aquarii Azimuth=125.6° SE Altitude= 10.7° Distance=40813.2km RA=23h20.2m Dec=-15°26'
 (23331 1994-070-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Magnitude=10.3mag Aquarii Azimuth=125.7° SE Altitude= 15.2° Distance=40051.4km RA=23h08.9m Dec=-11°52'
 (SIRIUS 3)	Magnitude=10.3mag Aquarii

Figure 12 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position des satellites géostationnaires

Cette reconstitution montre néanmoins la présence plusieurs satellites à très haute altitude dans la tête de Pégase et dans l'intervalle horaire indiqué par le témoin : PRC 15 rocket (1984-035-B), USA 232/GPS 2F-2 (2011-036-A) et Cosmos 1247 rocket (1981-016-E) (Figures 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 et 18).

 (21011 1998-110-F) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 18h15m20s 11.8mag az:190.7° S horizon Culmination 20h59m43s 10.8mag az:297.2° WNW h:84.3° distance: 19158.3km height above Earth: 19135.4km elevation of Sun: -7° angular velocity: 0.74°/s at Meridian 21h16m40s 10.7mag az: 0.0° N h:78.9° Disappears 0h23m53s 11.1mag az: 83.8° E horizon	
 (36112 2009-070-B) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 18h31m36s 13.6mag az:194.4° SSW horizon Culmination 21h18m26s 12.6mag az:301.7° WNW h:80.0° distance: 19207.0km height above Earth: 19147.3km elevation of Sun: -10° angular velocity: 0.74°/s at Meridian 21h40m43s 12.5mag az: 0.0° N h:74.9° Disappears 0h47m41s 12.9mag az: 89.7° E horizon	
 (27834 1989-006-P) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 15h05m21s 14.7mag az:180.3° S horizon at Meridian 15h05m27s 14.7mag az:180.0° S h:0.6° Culmination 22h24m06s 16.5mag az:144.9° SE h:37.0° distance: 32300.1km height above Earth: 30280.0km elevation of Sun: -20° angular velocity: 0.24°/s Disappears 0h54m39s 14.5mag az:123.4° ESE horizon	
 (14900 1984-035-B) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 15h17m06s 8.8mag az:170.9° S horizon Culmination 21h57m28s 10.8mag az:113.3° ESE h:46.9° distance: 32667.5km height above Earth: 31202.3km elevation of Sun: -16° angular velocity: 0.23°/s Disappears 0h38m34s 8.9mag az:122.6° ESE horizon	
 (26794 1991-015-L) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 17h05m02s 14.8mag az:189.2° S horizon at Meridian 17h08m03s 14.7mag az:180.0° S h:5.1° Culmination 21h59m41s 16.6mag az:123.4° ESE h:26.3° distance: 30103.8km height above Earth: 27842.9km elevation of Sun: -16° angular velocity: 0.28°/s Disappears 0h20m06s 15.3mag az:112.3° ESE horizon	
 (33546 1988-109-V) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 13h40m56s 22.1mag az:190.8° S horizon at Meridian 13h43m45s 22.4mag az:180.0° S h:5.4° Culmination 20h52m32s 24.3mag az:145.8° SE h:33.0° distance: 34021.0km height above Earth: 31501.7km elevation of Sun: -6° angular velocity: 0.21°/s Disappears 22h57m40s 22.9mag az:146.0° SE h:21.6°	
 (26612 2000-072-E) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 13h27m44s 9.9mag az:166.2° SSE horizon Culmination 21h56m14s 11.9mag az:148.3° SSE h:34.3° distance: 34700.2km height above Earth: 32286.2km elevation of Sun: -16° angular velocity: 0.21°/s Disappears 23h35m35s 10.9mag az:152.2° SSE h:28.1°	
 (29022 1989-006-AW) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 14h04m00s 18.8mag az:188.1° S horizon at Meridian 14h07m59s 19.1mag az:180.0° S h:4.4° Culmination 21h34m02s 20.0mag az:172.1° S h:43.4°	

Figure 13 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage de PRC 15 rocket

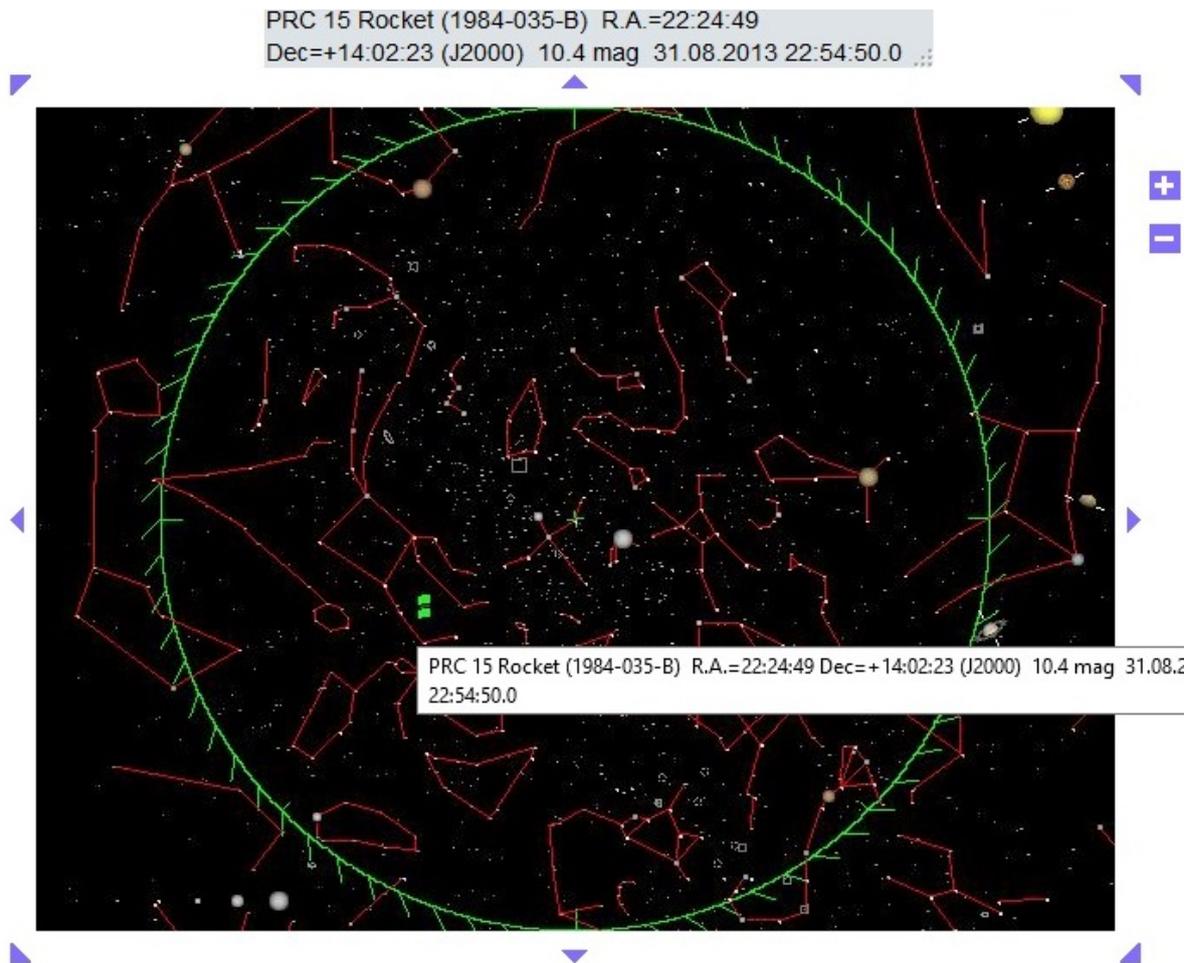
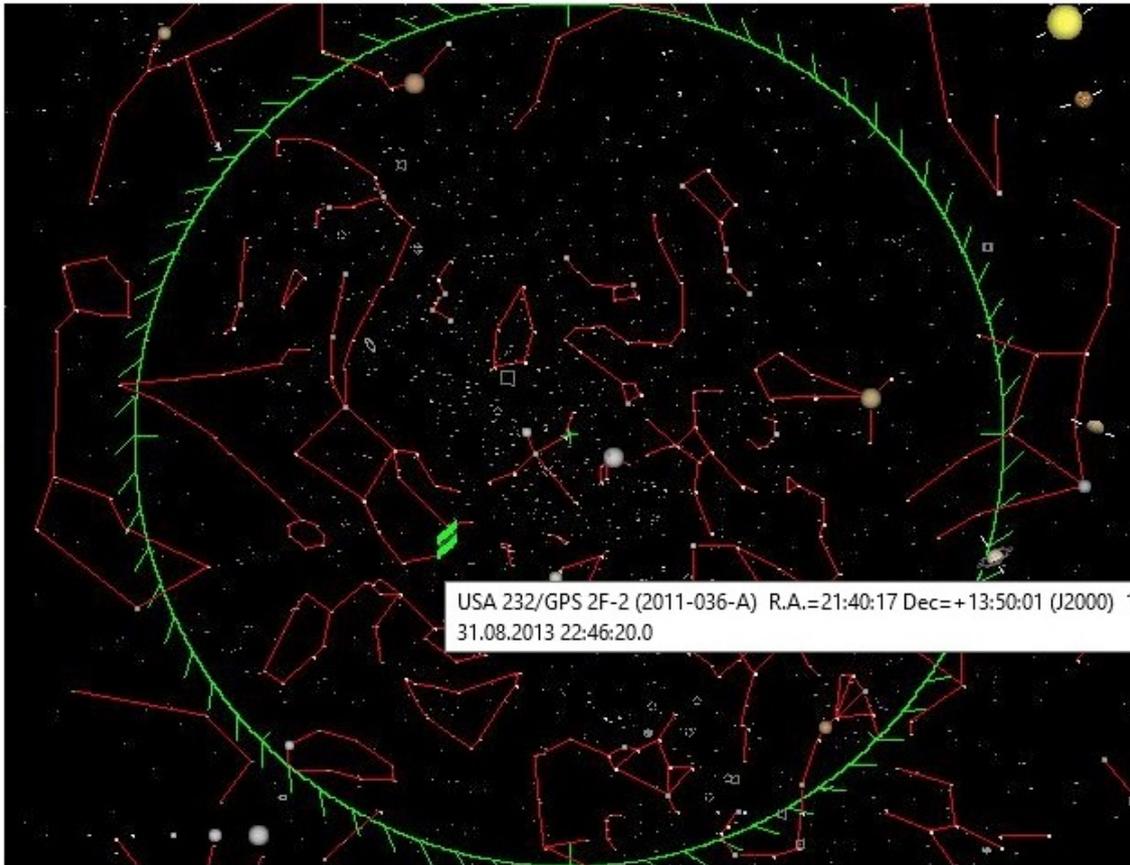


Figure 14 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position de PRC 15 rocket

PAS 5 Pro Rocket (24919 1997-046-D) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 15h45m43s 11.6mag az:227.5° SW horizon at Meridian 16h56m27s 12.0mag az:180.0° S h:36.7° Culmination 21h55m47s 11.8mag az:171.1° S h:51.2° distance: 37292.8km height above Earth: 36679.4km elevation of Sun: -16° angular velocity: 0.22°/s Disappears 4h02m50s 10.3mag az:133.0° SE horizon	
Astra 2A PRK (25465 1998-050-D) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 16h23m47s 11.3mag az:230.0° SW horizon Culmination 21h32m32s 11.3mag az:175.0° S h:52.6° distance: 36616.5km height above Earth: 35490.5km elevation of Sun: -12° angular velocity: 0.21°/s at Meridian 3h23m04s 9.7mag az:180.0° S h:30.1° Disappears 4h27m27s 9.6mag az:139.7° SE horizon	
USA 145/GPS 2R-03 (25933 1999-055-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 16h41m22s 15.6mag az:251.0° WSW horizon at Meridian 20h22m39s 13.4mag az: 0.0° N h:88.8° Culmination 20h24m10s 13.4mag az: 35.3° NE h:89.0° distance: 19908.4km height above Earth: 19908.6km elevation of Sun: 0° angular velocity: 0.64°/s Disappears 23h48m06s 13.3mag az:152.1° SSE horizon	
USA 232/GPS 2F-2 (37753 2011-036-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 17h26m55s 14.1mag az:246.0° WSW horizon at Meridian 21h09m39s 11.2mag az: 0.0° N h:81.3° Culmination 21h19m51s 11.1mag az: 34.0° NE h:82.6° distance: 20234.3km height above Earth: 20194.7km elevation of Sun: -10° angular velocity: 0.65°/s Disappears 0h41m50s 11.2mag az:151.7° SSE horizon	
ARIANE 44LP DEB (33542 1988-109-R) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 17h28m03s 17.1mag az:227.0° SW horizon Culmination 21h42m27s 18.4mag az:171.2° S h:37.3° distance: 37383.3km height above Earth: 35189.6km elevation of Sun: -14° angular velocity: 9.97°/s Disappears 3h26m54s 15.5mag az:153.0° SSE horizon	
NSS 10 Brz Rocket (28527 2005-003-B) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 18h41m12s 13.3mag az:248.2° WSW horizon Culmination 21h16m13s 11.9mag az:191.7° SSW h:56.2° distance: 28536.0km height above Earth: 27644.5km elevation of Sun: -9° angular velocity: 0.31°/s at Meridian 5h37m44s 10.5mag az:180.0° S h:8.7° Disappears 5h57m10s 10.5mag az:162.4° SSE horizon	
Instst 5135ylda (27593 1988-040-C) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 18h51m34s 11.4mag az:220.6° SW horizon Culmination 21h41m51s 12.2mag az:187.4° S h:28.4° distance: 34019.3km height above Earth: 31109.5km elevation of Sun: -14° angular velocity: 11.6°/s at Meridian 4h29m18s 9.0mag az:180.0° S h:11.2° Disappears 4h39m13s 8.8mag az:153.7° SSE horizon	
ARIANE 44L DEB	Appears 19h25m26s 17.5mag az:242.5° WSW horizon Culmination 21h45m28s 17.4mag az:201.6° SSW h:40.5°	

Figure 15 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage d'USA 232/GPS 2F-2

USA 232/GPS 2F-2 (2011-036-A) R.A.=21:40:17
 Dec=+13:50:01 (J2000) 10.8 mag 31.08.2013 22:46:20.0



USA 232/GPS 2F-2 (2011-036-A) R.A.=21:40:17 Dec=+13:50:01 (J2000) 10.8 r
 31.08.2013 22:46:20.0

Figure 16 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position d’USA 232/GPS 2F-2

 RSP B (38753 2012-046-B) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 21h09m31s 13.7mag az:262.8° W horizon Culmination 22h48m30s 13.2mag az:250.9° WSW h:17.3° distance: 29523.4km height above Earth: 25623.9km elevation of Sun: -23° angular velocity: 0.26°/s Disappears 3h11m51s 12.2mag az:256.8° WSW horizon	
 TITAN 3C TRANSTA (05998 1965-108-T) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 20h13m43s 24.2mag az:272.2° W horizon Culmination 22h49m35s 21.3mag az:278.3° W h:18.0° distance: 31337.2km height above Earth: 27467.4km elevation of Sun: -23° angular velocity: 0.20°/s Disappears 2h28m55s 17.1mag az:233.4° SW h:8.2°	
 SATCOM 3 DEB (38689 1979-101-Y) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 14h35m42s 23.9mag az:228.5° SW horizon at Meridian 15h46m50s 25.3mag az:180.0° S h:25.0° Culmination 22h50m16s 24.3mag az:185.2° S h:45.1° distance: 34246.3km height above Earth: 32652.6km elevation of Sun: -23° angular velocity: 0.26°/s Disappears 2h56m09s 22.9mag az:110.4° ESE horizon	
 Cosmos 1247 Rocket (12311 1981-016-E) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 21h30m16s 12.3mag az:158.3° SSE horizon Culmination 22h51m02s 9.7mag az: 95.9° E h:46.0° distance: 7829.2km height above Earth: 6804.6km elevation of Sun: -23° angular velocity: 2.92°/s Disappears 23h17m53s 11.3mag az: 23.7° NNE horizon	
 MOLNIYA 2-17 (09829 1977-010-A) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 15h03m38s 11.4mag az:285.8° WNW horizon Culmination 22h51m45s 12.8mag az:330.9° NNW h:20.5° distance: 30706.0km height above Earth: 27095.7km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 11.0°/s Disappears 0h39m09s 10.5mag az:287.0° WNW horizon	
 ARIANE 3 DEB (24712 1986-026-G) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 20h12m38s 16.3mag az:234.0° SW horizon Culmination 22h52m01s 17.0mag az:186.2° S h:44.7° distance: 28949.2km height above Earth: 27370.4km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 0.27°/s at Meridian 3h29m42s 15.2mag az:180.0° S h:24.5° Disappears 3h56m24s 14.7mag az:149.3° SSE horizon Time uncertainty of about 6 seconds	
 COSMOS 2362 (GLO) (25595 1998-077-C) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 19h45m52s 15.7mag az:214.6° SW horizon Culmination 22h52m13s 14.4mag az:334.2° NNW h:69.0° distance: 19463.8km height above Earth: 19143.6km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 0.75°/s at Meridian 23h09m33s 14.3mag az: 0.0° N h:67.6° Disappears 2h29m01s 14.7mag az:119.2° ESE horizon	
 ARIANE 2 DEB (27045 1989-006-AA) →Ground track →Star chart	Appears 18h27m48s 21.4mag az:222.5° SW horizon Culmination 22h53m05s 22.7mag az:175.0° S h:44.9° distance: 37003.3km height above Earth: 35300.1km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 10.8°/s at Meridian 4h02m14s 20.4mag az:180.0° S h:20.3°	

Figure 17 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage de Cosmos 1247 rocket

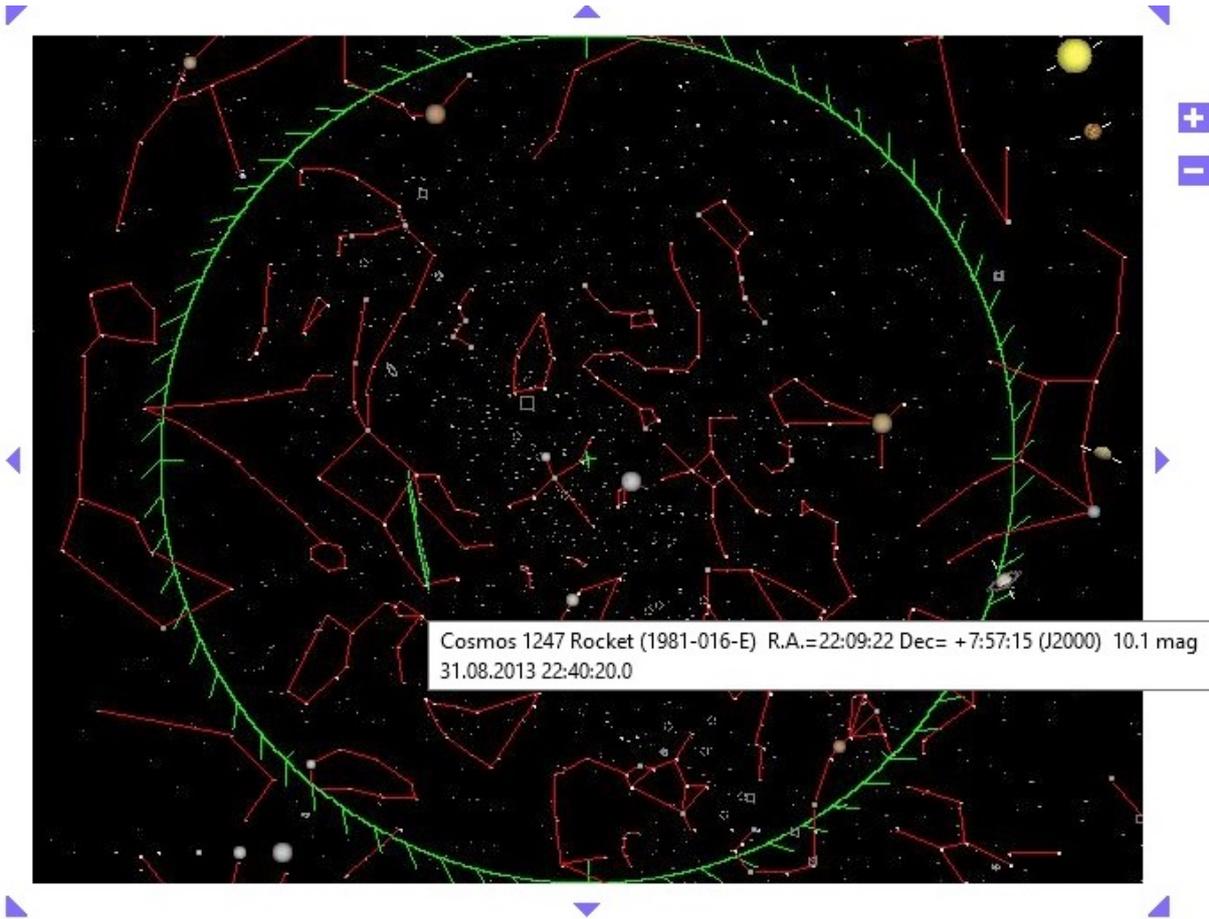


Figure 18 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position de Cosmos 1247 rocket

Plusieurs autres satellites à très haute altitude sont à proximité immédiate de la tête de Pégase dans l'intervalle de temps considéré : AMOS 2 Frgt rocket (2003-059-B), ETS 6 deb (1994-056-C), Cosmos 1806 rocket (1986-098-D) et Gorizont 1 (1978-118-A) (Figures 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 et 26).

(39023 2012-070-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Culmination 22h54m52s 8.0mag az:174.1° S h:34.2° distance: 4356.1km height above Earth: 3157.7km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 6.68"/s Disappears 22h58m40s 7.9mag az:147.0° SSE h:30.4°	
PAS 1R Sylda (26613 2000-072-F) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 16h38m17s 10.8mag az:211.4° SSW horizon at Meridian 16h48m39s 10.7mag az:180.0° S h:18.9° Culmination 22h56m02s 12.8mag az:170.6° S h:38.3° distance: 41111.3km height above Earth: 38969.7km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 9.19"/s Disappears 3h47m35s 9.9mag az:151.0° SSE horizon	
COSMOS 1124 (11509 1979-077-A) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 22h33m29s 10.5mag az:332.4° NNW horizon Culmination 22h57m44s 9.5mag az:274.6° W h:21.9° distance: 10177.1km height above Earth: 7496.7km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 2.00"/s Disappears 0h01m50s 10.4mag az:228.2° SW horizon	
COSMOS 1188 DEB (27895 1980-050-J) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 21h58m30s 20.7mag az: 62.4° ENE horizon Culmination 22h58m25s 22.5mag az: 17.6° NNE h:18.5° distance: 22308.0km height above Earth: 18685.9km elevation of Sun: -24° angular velocity: 0.47"/s at Meridian 0h11m02s 24.0mag az: 0.0° N h:11.2° Disappears 1h24m45s 25.1mag az:359.2° N horizon	
AMOS 2 Frgt Rocket (28133 2003-059-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 14h42m05s 12.1mag az:153.7° SSE horizon Culmination 22h59m33s 11.9mag az:137.3° SE h:53.5° distance: 27324.5km height above Earth: 26298.0km elevation of Sun: -25° angular velocity: 0.37"/s Disappears 1h07m13s 10.7mag az: 96.8° E horizon	
COSMOS 2324 (GLO) (23735 1995-068-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 21h29m52s 12.6mag az: 81.0° E horizon Culmination 22h59m35s 13.0mag az: 40.4° NE h:19.8° distance: 22665.0km height above Earth: 19154.2km elevation of Sun: -25° angular velocity: 0.59"/s Disappears 0h26m22s 14.7mag az: 5.4° N horizon	
BLOCK DM-SL R/B (38750 2012-045-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 20h01m05s 9.0mag az:227.6° SW horizon Culmination 22h00m17s 10.1mag az:192.2° SSW h:35.3° distance: 34154.5km height above Earth: 31827.6km elevation of Sun: -25° angular velocity: 0.21"/s at Meridian 5h31m54s 7.1mag az:180.0° S h:10.4° Disappears 5h39m03s 7.0mag az:160.5° SSE horizon	
IntSat12 A44RK (26591 2000-068-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 20h10m22s 11.3mag az:231.6° SW horizon Culmination 22h00m17s 11.6mag az:210.5° SW h:28.1° distance: 31717.0km height above Earth: 28981.3km elevation of Sun: -25° angular velocity: 0.23"/s Disappears 3h47m21s 8.0mag az:149.8° SSE horizon	
ARIANE 44L DEB	Appears 17h50m50s 16.2mag az:213.9° SW horizon at Meridian 18h01m48s 15.8mag az:180.0° S h:19.3°	

Figure 19 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage d'AMOS 2 Frgt rocket

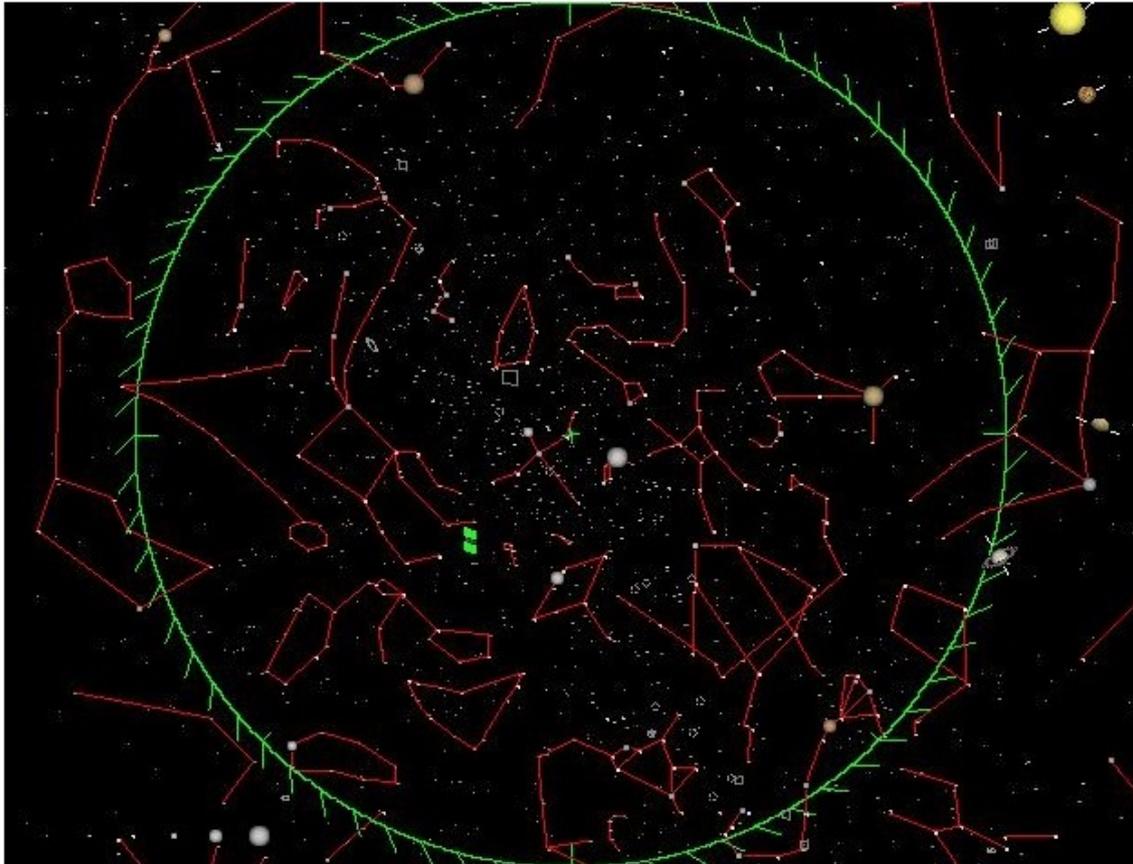


Figure 20 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position d’AMOS 2 Frgt rocket à 22h40

-Ground track -Star chart	distance: 30779.7km height above Earth: 27566.9km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 0.27°/s Disappears 1h20m50s 12.9mag az:123.4° ESE horizon	
Cosmos 862 (09495 1976-105-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 23h07m46s 9.7mag az:108.0° ESE h:22.5° Culmination 23h19m04s 10.5mag az: 66.8° ENE h:32.5° distance: 7884.8km height above Earth: 6145.0km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 2.59°/s Disappears 0h59m08s 15.0mag az: 19.4° NNE horizon	
Molniya 1-88 (23420 1994-081-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 22h41m08s 9.9mag az:113.1° ESE h:21.4° Culmination 23h19m25s 11.5mag az: 62.9° ENE h:39.2° distance: 15475.4km height above Earth: 13742.1km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 0.66°/s Disappears 4h02m08s 14.9mag az: 54.8° NE horizon Time uncertainty of about 11 seconds	
IURS 5 IUS (21640 1991-054-C) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 18h29m51s 11.1mag az:208.9° SSW horizon at Meridian 18h59m18s 11.2mag az:180.0° S h:37.9° Culmination 23h20m37s 12.1mag az:169.0° S h:66.2° distance: 29102.2km height above Earth: 28656.6km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 0.26°/s Disappears 2h19m52s 9.9mag az:126.8° SE horizon Time uncertainty of about 1 seconds	
ETS 6 DEB (23248 1994-056-C) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 14h03m07s 12.4mag az:212.8° SSW horizon at Meridian 14h27m04s 13.1mag az:180.0° S h:13.7° Culmination 23h21m57s 13.1mag az:139.7° SE h:41.5° distance: 36909.3km height above Earth: 35038.4km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 0.24°/s Disappears 3h09m26s 12.1mag az:122.4° ESE horizon	
BEIDOU IG50 5 (37948 2011-073-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 19h30m01s 12.3mag az: 86.4° E horizon Culmination 23h22m01s 12.5mag az: 55.7° NE h:32.4° distance: 38468.0km height above Earth: 35848.0km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 0.28°/s Disappears 4h49m17s 15.4mag az: 65.0° ENE horizon	
TITAN 3C TRANSTA (02770 1967-040-F) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 19h17m07s 16.9mag az:126.1° SE horizon Culmination 23h22m37s 16.8mag az:175.4° S h:16.3° distance: 112724.0km height above Earth: 108319.4km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 2.17°/s at Meridian 23h43m58s 16.8mag az:180.0° S h:16.2° Disappears 3h30m28s 16.7mag az:223.0° SW horizon	
BLOCK DM-SL R/B (39021 2012-069-B) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 20h23m38s 9.5mag az:232.3° SW horizon Culmination 23h23m16s 10.4mag az:194.0° SSW h:35.0° distance: 34040.8km height above Earth: 31685.2km elevation of Sun: -27° angular velocity: 0.22°/s at Meridian 6h15m02s 7.7mag az:180.0° S h:13.9° Disappears 6h26m27s 7.8mag az:151.4° SSE horizon	

Figure 21 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage d’ETS 6 deb

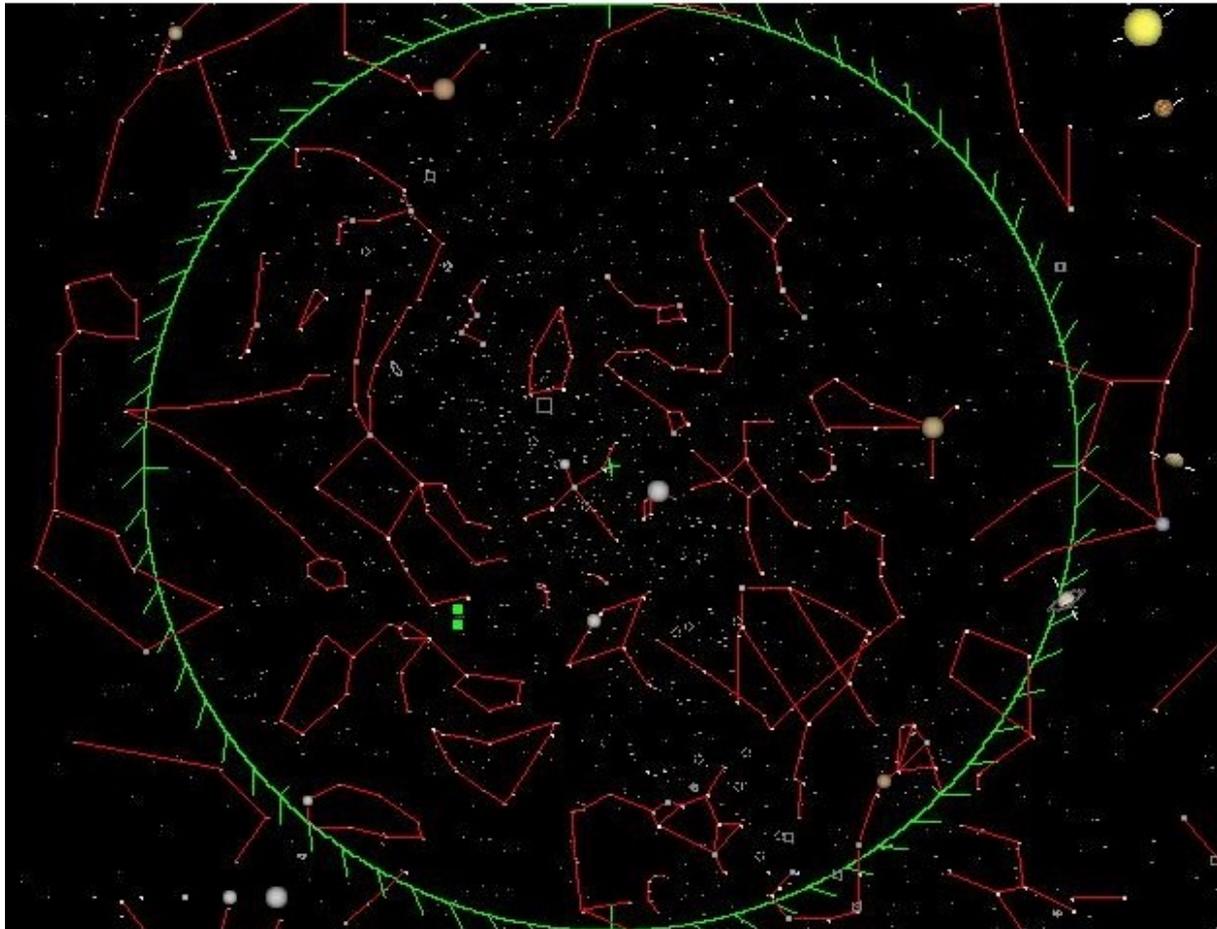


Figure 22 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position d’ETS 6 deb à 22h40

	Time uncertainty of about 2 seconds	
 ARIANE 2 DEB (27042 1989-006-X) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 17h01m35s 14.8mag az:204.2° SSW horizon at Meridian 17h09m50s 14.7mag az:180.0° S h:15.4° Culmination 23h30m54s 16.6mag az:159.6° SSE h:40.2° distance: 35000.4km height above Earth: 33644.5km elevation of Sun: -28° angular velocity: 0.20°/s Disappears 2h54m55s 14.5mag az:137.0° SE horizon	
 SL-12 R/B(2) (33471 2008-067-F) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 20h21m14s 12.3mag az:217.6° SW horizon Culmination 23h31m02s 11.0mag az:340.2° NNW h:67.1° distance: 19516.2km height above Earth: 19133.7km elevation of Sun: -28° angular velocity: 0.75°/s at Meridian 23h45m13s 11.0mag az: 0.0° N h:66.2° Disappears 3h06m02s 11.5mag az:123.3° ESE horizon	
 Cosmos 1806 Rocket (17216 1986-098-D) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 19h39m22s 12.8mag az:132.1° SE horizon Culmination 23h31m20s 10.6mag az: 93.2° E h:67.6° distance: 14373.8km height above Earth: 14038.5km elevation of Sun: -28° angular velocity: 1.04°/s Disappears 0h22m53s 11.4mag az: 26.4° NNE horizon	
 Holniya 1-52Rk (13016 1981-123-D) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 17h34m20s 13.8mag az:293.2° WNW horizon Culmination 23h34m33s 13.9mag az:316.0° NW h:37.0° distance: 30315.3km height above Earth: 28152.9km elevation of Sun: -29° angular velocity: 0.21°/s Disappears 1h54m55s 11.1mag az:251.7° WSW horizon	
 VEP (22979 1994-007-B) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 14h18m39s 12.5mag az:190.5° S horizon at Meridian 14h57m12s 13.7mag az:180.0° S h:15.8° Culmination 23h35m16s 9.2mag az:202.5° SSW h:56.2° distance: 7364.8km height above Earth: 6776.1km elevation of Sun: -29° angular velocity: 2.48°/s Disappears 23h46m53s 8.1mag az:149.8° SSE h:39.3°	
 Aslaster ASRK (26110 2000-016-D) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 19h02m26s 10.9mag az:215.0° SW horizon Culmination 23h37m53s 12.2mag az:191.2° S h:32.5° distance: 37961.2km height above Earth: 35364.1km elevation of Sun: -29° angular velocity: 10.7°/s at Meridian 4h34m17s 9.2mag az:180.0° S h:24.5° Disappears 4h52m16s 9.1mag az:136.7° SE horizon	
 CRRES DEB (CANIS) (20811 1990-065-C) +Ground track +Star chart	Appears 18h08m52s 17.9mag az:105.5° ESE horizon Culmination 23h38m32s 19.4mag az: 97.5° E h:22.4° distance: 31051.2km height above Earth: 27611.5km elevation of Sun: -29° angular velocity: 0.26°/s Disappears 1h35m04s 18.6mag az: 93.3° E horizon Time uncertainty of about 4 seconds	
 Holn 3-20 Rocket	Appears 20h11m30s 14.3mag az:338.3° NNW horizon	

Figure 23 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage de Cosmos 1806 rocket

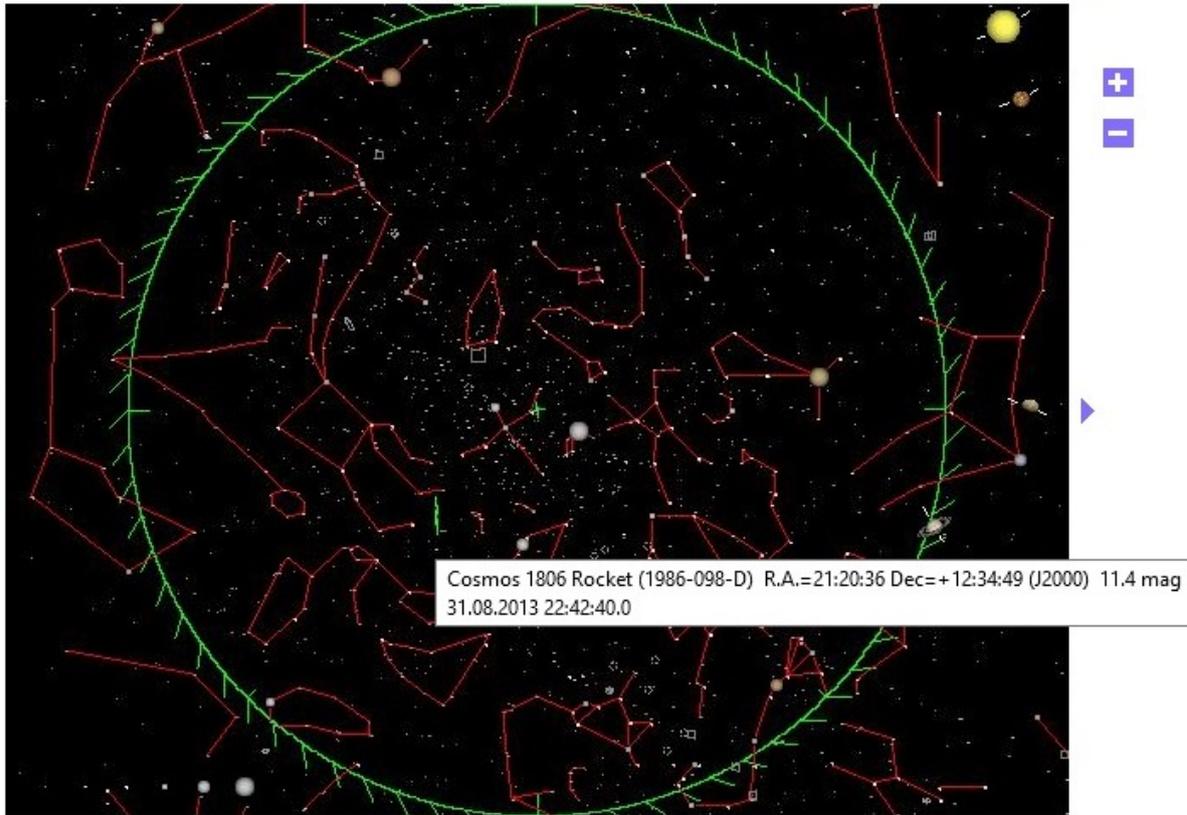


Figure 24 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position de Cosmos 1806 rocket

ARIANE 5 R/B (38993 2012-062-C) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 17h49m09s 8.0mag az:202.4° SSW horizon at Meridian 17h57m20s 7.9mag az:180.0° S h:11.5° Culmination 0h21m08s 10.0mag az:169.2° S h:33.1° distance: 34712.0km height above Earth: 32198.4km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 0.21'/s Disappears 3h26m10s 7.7mag az:133.9° SE horizon Time uncertainty of about 3 seconds	
COSMOS 2023 (GLO (20025 1989-039-B) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 22h23m11s 17.8mag az:336.4° NNW horizon Culmination 0h23m42s 15.8mag az:293.7° NNW h:38.4° distance: 21048.4km height above Earth: 19120.4km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 0.64'/s Disappears 2h27m57s 15.4mag az:236.0° SW horizon	
SL-12 R/B(2) (23048 1994-021-F) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 22h33m13s 17.0mag az:339.0° NNW horizon Culmination 0h24m37s 15.3mag az:298.9° NNW h:32.1° distance: 21542.2km height above Earth: 19124.1km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 0.62'/s Disappears 2h20m45s 14.8mag az:245.8° WSW horizon	
GORIZONT 1 (11158 1978-118-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 15h37m53s 15.5mag az:115.0° ESE horizon Culmination 0h24m55s 13.8mag az:132.5° SE h:44.8° distance: 31282.2km height above Earth: 29683.7km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 0.40'/s Disappears 4h16m34s 15.1mag az: 94.1° E horizon	
Molniya 3-50 (25847 1999-036-A) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 19h00m57s 14.1mag az:316.0° NW horizon Culmination 0h26m04s 14.5mag az:338.6° NNW h:17.1° distance: 40342.9km height above Earth: 36271.2km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 7.32'/s Disappears 3h18m29s 12.5mag az:317.8° NW horizon	
XH 5 Br Rocket (37186 2010-053-B) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 23h01m10s 12.1mag az:200.3° W horizon Culmination 0h26m13s 11.7mag az:259.4° W h:16.2° distance: 28270.8km height above Earth: 24285.9km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 0.36'/s Disappears 3h43m18s 11.9mag az:258.4° WSW horizon	
ARIANE 5 R/B (39036 2012-075-C) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 21h37m30s 10.3mag az:100.2° ESE h:6.1° Culmination 0h28m44s 9.9mag az:123.1° ESE h:15.1° distance: 32320.3km height above Earth: 28157.7km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 0.24'/s Disappears 2h12m37s 9.0mag az:115.6° ESE horizon Time uncertainty of about 2 seconds	
COSMOS 1285 DEB (25838 1981-071-G) -Ground track -Star chart	Appears 23h26m10s 17.1mag az:118.9° ESE horizon Culmination 0h29m27s 15.8mag az: 77.3° ENE h:18.9° distance: 11446.5km height above Earth: 8411.7km elevation of Sun: -33° angular velocity: 1.69'/s Disappears 0h55m04s 16.8mag az: 24.1° NNE horizon	
COSMOS 1348 DEB	Appears 22h46m01s 21.6mag az:109.5° ESE horizon	

Figure 25 : Calsky – reconstitution du passage de Gorizont 1

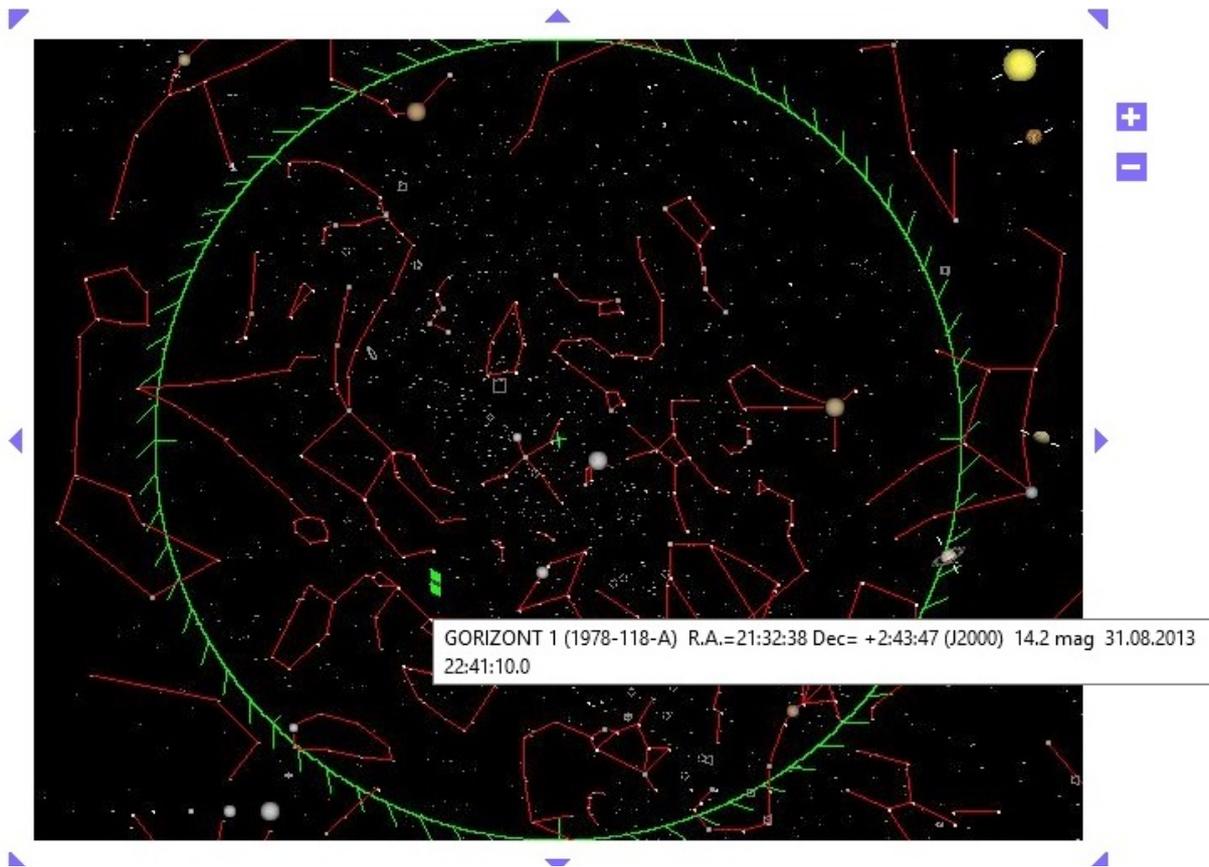


Figure 26 : Calsky – reconstitution de la position de Gorizont 1

Tous ces satellites, hormis USA 232/GPS 2F-2 (en service au moment de l’observation), sont susceptibles de tourner rapidement sur eux-mêmes et de présenter des flashes réguliers, car ils sont hors-contrôles : les étages de fusées (signalés par la désignation « rocket ») et le débris (signalé par la désignation « deb ») d’ETS 6 sont abandonnés sur leurs orbites, et Gorizont 1 est une épave depuis son lancement en 1978 (<http://www.kosmonavtika.com/satellites/gorizont/gorizont.html>).

Néanmoins, la zone d’observation du PAN manquant de précision et l’horaire donné par le témoin étant relativement imprécis (entre 22h40 et 23h00) ne permettent pas d’identifier formellement l’un des satellites cités comme responsable des flashes observés.

L’hypothèse de l’observation d’un satellite en rotation rapide à très haute altitude reste toutefois probable.

5- CONCLUSION

D'étrangeté faible et de consistance moyenne (plusieurs témoins, mais un seul témoignage), ce cas s'avère être une méprise probable avec un satellite à très haute altitude en rotation rapide.

De plus, au moins 7 satellites à très haute altitude sont présents dans le secteur d'observation, dans l'intervalle de temps donné par le témoin.

Ce n'est pas la perception visuelle du témoin qui est en cause, mais l'interprétation que le témoin fait de son observation à travers son ressenti (étonnement, observation de seulement 4 flashes de courte durée).

Ce cas est classé B, méprise probable avec un satellite à très haute altitude en rotation rapide.