

Something

BUT THEY DON'T
KNOW WHAT

lies under mystery crater

THE mystery of a saucer-shaped crater in a Dorset potato and barley field may soon be solved.

For yesterday Army bomb disposal experts, who earlier said they were "baffled," obtained positive metallic readings with detectors.

They believe a large metal object is buried beneath the 8ft-diameter crater found in a field belonging to farmer Roy Blanchard, of Charlton, near Shaftesbury.

During the week-end Captain John Rogers, aged



ROY BLANCHARD

Crops vanished

82, who leads the unit, will seek permission from Army chiefs at Horsham to sink a shaft.

He said: "Our readings so far are rather unusual and indicate an object of some size. It seems deeply embedded.

"We have never encountered anything like this before."

Radiating from the crater were four marks of the sort which would be made by a rocket stood on its end. A small hole was in the crater centre.

Yesterday Mr. Blanchard said: "I think some craft from outer space landed in my field. When it took off it sucked out the barley and potatoes, leaving the area where the four marks are denuded of crops."