

"FLYING SAUCERS" REPORTED IN AMERICAN SKIES

From J. B. DAVIES and A.A.P.

NEW YORK, Sunday. — Hundreds of people in 28 States of America in the past few days have reported seeing unidentified objects, described as "flying saucers," moving at great speed through the air.

Reports of the "flying saucers," at first treated sceptically, have gained credence because so many people claim to have seen them.

The U.S. Army announced yesterday that it had a fighter plane, equipped with a telescopic camera, standing by at Muroc Airbase (California) to chase the "saucers" if they appeared.

A coastguard at Seattle (Washington) claims to have photographed one of the "flying saucers."

The coastguard, Frank Ryman, said that about 20 people were present when he photographed the object, which was speeding directly overhead at about 6000 feet.

He said an enlarged print showed an unidentifiable light spot against the dark evening sky.

The first report of "flying saucers" came from an airways pilot on June 24.

He said he had seen them "flashing through Washington skies at an estimated speed of 1200 miles an hour."

Descriptions of the objects agree on shape, but differ on size from "10 to 12 inches" to "larger than any known aircraft."

Many Theories Held

"Explanations" of the objects include:

- Signals from Mars.
- Hysteria by people emotionally upset by fear of an atomic war.
- New experimental Navy planes known as "flying pancakes."
- Weather kites released by meteorological bureaus.
- Something to do with atomic experiments.
- Reflections from motor car spotlights
- Meteors.

The Navy denies that "pancake" planes have been flown in areas where the saucers have been seen.

Military and scientific authorities

Military and scientific authorities generally reject the other explanations.

The crew of a United Airlines plane reported having seen nine "flying saucers" last night over Idaho.

The pilot (Captain E. J. Smith) said he first saw silvery discs eight minutes after he took off from Boise (Idaho).

"We had reached 7000 feet, and I told the co-pilot to blink our landing lights because I thought the objects were other aircraft," he added.

"We got no response, then I saw the objects were flat and circular, like pancakes.

"We called the stewardess to the cockpit and she also saw them.

"We followed the objects for about 15 miles before they outdistanced us, or disintegrated."

Captain Smith called a ground station 50 miles away, and asked the operator to look up at the sky, but the operator reported that he could see nothing unusual.

"Flat, Gleaming"

When he landed at Seattle, Smith told reporters: "I can say definitely that what we saw were not smoke clouds or other aircraft.

"They were flat and gleaming and

CIRCLES OF LIGHT DISCOVERED.

"They were flat and gleaming, and travelling very fast."

The United Press correspondent at Boise (John Corlett) and his wife report having seen a white disc flying high over the town last night.

He said it disappeared in three or four seconds

At Portland (Oregon) yesterday two police cars three miles apart radioed headquarters that they had seen "strange objects streaking across the sky at about 10,000 feet."

Sixty picnickers at Twin Falls (Idaho) claimed that they saw "10 platter-like objects circling and climbing high overhead."

A doctor at Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, called police last night and told them he had seen "a luminous object, propelled by whirring wings, speeding toward Canada."

U.S. Army and Navy headquarters at Washington will not comment on the "flying saucers" mystery.

They have refused to confirm or deny rumors that the discs might be radically new-type missiles undergoing secret tests.