

U.S. AIR FORCE SCOFFS AT FLYING SAUCERS

"May Have Been Hoaxes"

WASHINGTON (A.A.P.).—The United States Air Force said that two years of investigation had convinced it that flying saucers were just jokes, mass hysteria or a misunderstanding of natural phenomena.

IT has ended a special "flying saucer" project established to investigate the multitude of reports about alleged sightings of saucers. The project was set up in January, 1948.

The announcement, its final report, served as a denial of a story published by "True" Magazine at the week-end which said the saucers were real and were from other planets.

The air force announcement said all evidence and analyses indicated that the reports of unidentified flying saucers were the result of firstly, misinterpretation of various conventional objects; secondly, a mild form of mass hysteria; or thirdly, hoaxes.

Professor's View

ADELAIDE. — Professor Sir Kerr Grant said yesterday that the general idea of scientists about the existence of "living intelligent observers" on another

intelligent observers on another planet was one of extreme scepticism.

Sir Kerr added that the most probable cause of flying saucers in the majority of instances was that they were purely optical illusions.

In some cases there may have been something floating in the air, such as balloons sent up for meteorological exploration of the upper air, he said.

Sir Kerr gave no support to an American claim that so-called flying saucers were space vehicles from another planet whose inhabitants were said to have been observing the earth for 175 years.
