

ASTRONOMER SAYS "SAUCER" MAY HAVE BEEN A METEOR

SYDNEY.—The director of the Riverview Observatory, Father D. O'Connell, said that the "flying saucer" which people reported they had seen early on a recent morning was probably a bright meteor.

Seven men—one in Parkes' and six in the Sydney area—said that they saw the "saucer" about 6 a.m.

They said it was a cigar-shaped object, well lit, which flew silently and fast.

Reports of "flying saucers" also came from north-eastern Victoria and from Adelaide.

Father O'Connell said: "The accounts given by people when they see something unusual are normally a little confused.

NOT INCONSISTENT WITH METEOR

"The descriptions which were given, however had nothing that would be inconsistent with the theory that the men had seen a meteor.

"Of course, a meteor would be travelling at a speed closer to 100,000 miles an hour than to 450

100,000 miles an hour than to 450, and would be far, far higher than these people estimated.

"But to the untrained eye, under certain conditions, it might well appear to be quite close and moving more slowly."

Father O'Connell said the meteor would not have been seen at any observatory, because nobody would be watching at 6 a.m.