

Jet pilots alerted to chase "flying saucers"

Australian Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Monday.—Jet fighter pilots were alerted by the US air Defence Command today to take off instantly in pursuit of any flying saucers sighted anywhere in the country.

The order was issued after jets had unsuccessfully chased "glowing white lights" seen over Washington on Saturday night.

Mysterious objects were also spotted (by radar) the previous Saturday.

A new batch of saucer reports included unexplained appearances on radar screens, but the Air Force remained sceptical.

It said the reports had shown "no pattern which would indicate that the objects are being controlled by a reasoning body."

Statements by "eye-witnesses," including Air Force and commercial pilots, are being studied.

A spokesman said, "The Air Defence Command's mission is air defence of the United States and it is vitally interested in anything unidentified that flies in the air."

The Air Force said it had received more than 1000 saucer reports in the past few years, but "only a small percentage of those received from reliable sources remain unexplained."

It said the unexplained ones could be "misinterpretations of various conventional objects, a mild form of hysteria, meteorological phenomena or hoaxes"