

FLYING SAUCERS "CAPTURED" BY RADAR SCREEN

WASHINGTON.—Though American scientists yesterday debated on the plausibility of optical mirages to explain a new crop of "flying saucer" observations over Washington D.C., a convincing explanation of sightings made by radarscope had still to be found, according to the American press.

Radar showed that the air over Washington was full of objects early on Tuesday, but an airliner directed to one of the sightings could find no trace.

The altitude of the sightings could not be determined because the radar screen at National Airport did not give an altitude indication.

But at one time there were as many as 12 unidentified objects on the screen at one time, said American Associated Press.

They appeared to be travelling from 90 to 120 m.p.h. in a 15-mile long area.

Air Force officials thought that devices dropped from planes to jam radar might have floated in from the Canadian border where air exercises were in progress.

Meanwhile, "flying saucers" have again captured

cers" have again captured the American headlines. These reports drew a smile:

● Mr. James Mangram, who in 1949 filed a legal claim to all "outer space" with the Cook County recorder, said on Tuesday that he regarded "saucers" as trespassers on his property. "My deed permits only natural phenomena to pass through space."

● Mr. Robert Farnsworth, president of the U.S. Rocket Society, has appealed to the American armed forces to hold their fire when they spot any of the mysterious objects. In a telegram to President Truman, he said: "Should they be extra-terrestrial, such action might result in the gravest consequences."

● A man wrote to Professor Einstein to ask his opinion on flying saucers. Professor Einstein replied: "These people have seen something. What it is

I do not know and I am not curious to know."

● An Oklahoma salesman on Tuesday told police that his car had been almost swept from the road by a huge "flying saucer" which had swooped low at high speed. Mr. Sid Eubanks (50) was still trembling when he walked into the police station. He said, "The tremendous pressure nearly threw my car off the road." The police said Mr. Eubanks was not drunk.

The increasing number of alarming rumors of saucers has brought forth an official statement from the U.S. Air Force that the United States was confident there was no danger from "flying saucers" or other mystery aerial objects.