

Digest Articles Present Case for Flying Saucers

Since June 24, 1947, when an airman over the State of Washington, saw nine "saucerlike things, flying in a diagonal chainlike line," the flying saucers have provided for the public one of the biggest riddles of history.

Within a month after the Washington phenomenon, flying discs were supposedly seen in 40 states, and ever since then strange objects in the sky have been reported by pilots, pilots and civilian observers all over North America and elsewhere.

Rounding up the data, in an August reader's Digest article condensed from LIFE, H. B. Darrach Jr. and Robert Gimna cite "some sobering cases" buried in a heap of hysterical reports. The U.S. Air Force takes the flying saucers seriously, the Digest authors state. U.S. Air Force Intel. once maintains constant investigation and study of unidentified aerial objects; military air staff are alerted to attempt identification; radar and photographic equipment are used in an effort to obtain factual data. Since 1947, dozens of incidents defying simple explanation have occurred.

Five are cited in the Digest article. "They are not psychological phenomena," the authors say. "They are not products of U.S. research. American science has no source of power that could put a flying machine through such paces as the saucers perform. Neither are they distortions of atmosphere resulting from atomic activity. The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and

Atomic Energy Commission and every other government agency deny responsibility for them."