

HAIR SINGED BY FLYING SAUCER

WEST PALM BEACH (Florida), August 24. — The United States Air Force said last night that it had received a report from the only man in the world to claim he had had his hair singed by a flying saucer.

The story, told by Mr S. J. Desvergers, a Scoutmaster, was receiving "further study from a scientific viewpoint," said an Air Force intelligence officer.

Mr Desvergers, an ex-Marine, said he was riding in a car on Tuesday night with three Scouts on the edge of the Florida Everglades, when he saw flashing lights. He walked through the brush leaving the Scouts in the car.

He said he saw an object "large enough for six or eight men to stand in. It was about 10 ft high in the centre, about 30 ft in diameter and shaped like a half-rubber ball, tapering down to a 3 ft thickness on the side. There was a phosphorous effect around the side.

"I believe I was under and

I saw it was under and near it for about three minutes," he said. "It was only 10 ft from the ground. It made a hissing sound like a tyre going down."

Mr Desvergers said "they" (apparently meaning those in the object) shot a ball of fire at him that seemed to "float slowly at my face."

He said the hair on his arm was singed and three holes, about one eighth of an inch in diameter, were burnt in his Scout cap.

"BLACKED OUT"

The Scoutmaster said he then blacked out and when he awoke had "no sense of feeling, and even now I have a tingling as when your foot loses circulation and goes to sleep."

By the time he came to, Deputy Sheriff Partin, summoned by the three Scouts, had arrived.

Mr Partin said Mr Desvergers "looked like a wild man" when he came out of the brush.

Mr Partin said that when he went into the woods the grass "seemed to be scorched or blistered" in the small clearing. No trace of the object has been found.

seen, found.

Some investigators thought that it either had exploded or disappeared rapidly, said the American Associated Press.

The West Palm Beach Weather Bureau said that at the time when the alleged encounter occurred, the night sky was almost clear. There had been rain during the day and lightning was seen about two hours earlier.