

# Saucer 'shot ball of fire' at man

**NEW YORK, Sun. — A Florida scoutmaster said yesterday that a "flying saucer" had shot at him a ball of fire which had knocked him out and singed his hair.**

The United States Air Force said it was studying the report "from a scientific viewpoint."

The incident occurred last Tuesday, but the Air Force released the report only yesterday.

The scoutmaster, Mr. S. J. D. Desvergers, said that he and high-ranking officers from Washington, whom he refused to identify, were "substantially in agreement" on what the object was.

"I know what it is, and it's of vital importance," he told a reporter. "But it's better for me not to

**it's better for me not to go any further for the public good, because it might cause panic."**

Mr. Desvergers, an ex-Marine, said that, with three Scouts, he was riding in a car on Tuesday night on the edge of the Florida Everglades (swamps) when

he saw flashing lights.

He walked through the brush, leaving the Scouts in the car and telling them to call the police if he was not back in 10 minutes.

He said that he saw an object hovering 10 feet from the ground and "large enough for six or eight men to stand in."

## **"Hissing sound"**

It was about 10 feet high in the centre, about 30 feet in diameter, and shaped like half a rubber ball, tapering down to a 3ft. thickness on the side.

"I believe I was under and near it for about three minutes," he said. "It made a hissing sound like a tyre going down."

**Mr. Desvergers said "they" shot a ball of fire at him which seemed to "float slowly at my face."**

The hair on his arm was singed, and three holes about one-eighth of an inch in diameter were burned in his Scout cap.

Desvergers claimed that "they" were as afraid of him as he was of them, because "they" fired the ball of fire "directly for my head."

He blacked out, and when he awoke had no sense of feeling.

"Even now I have a tingling as when your foot loses circulation and goes to sleep," he added.

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

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

He said that the grass "seemed to be scorched or blistered" in the small clearing where Desvergers said he saw the object.

(From A.A.P.)