

SECRET OF TATTOO SAUCER OUT

The Army today released details of the flying saucer that landed on Wayville Showgrounds during this week's Army Tattoo.

There were two saucers—one airborne, the other grounded.

They were built by engineers of the 23rd Construction Squadron at Keswick.

The airborne one, 10 ft. in circumference, was made of muslin over light wood.

The other, about 60 ft. in circumference, was hessian stretched over wood.

It was balanced centrally on a jeep and rotated by hand from inside.

When the spotlight was switched from the airborne saucer, the other was driven on to the oval.

The first idea to get one saucer into the air was to erect a flying fox arrangement from the mound near the secretary's office to the centre of the ground.

But the lights around the trotting track would have interfered with the wires.

So the Fire Brigade was called in, and two 90-ft. mobile extension ladders were placed 140 yards apart with wires between them.

The first test was successful, but in the second the wind caught the saucer.

Fell to ground

The wires came adrift, and the saucer crashed to

and the saucer crashed to the ground and broke.

The Chief Fire Officer (Mr. J. J. Whyte), fearing the ladders might be damaged, took them away, and the engineers started working on another saucer.

Then the Electricity Trust agreed to erect two 60-ft. high-tension concrete poles in the same positions as the ladders.

Wire was strung between them, and the new saucer, towed from below by a jeep, did all that saucers are supposed to do.

The wires were painted black to make them invisible in the spotlight, and everybody from the GOC Central Command (Major-Gen. Roy King) down, breathed again.