

# "Flying Saucers" Not Space Visitors

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (A.A.P.).

— Temperature phenomenon — not visitors from space — was responsible for many "flying saucer" reports, the Civil Aeronautics Administration said today.

But it did not claim that this was the entire answer, and urged additional study of the matter "through observations with more versatile equipment."

The agency said its technical development and evaluation centre at Indianapolis undertook a study of "flying saucers" after a flood of reports from Civil Aeronautics Administration airplane traffic control towers.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration said it had investigated scores of reports.

It said that in checking back the reports against weather bureau records it found

"that a temperature inversion almost always existed when such targets appeared on the

radar."

## Air Cooling

Temperature inversion, it was stated, resulted when air that had been cooling with increased altitude suddenly started becoming warmer, creating a layer of warm air on top of a mass of cool air.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration said this produced a refracting surface causing reflections which travelled with the wind at, or near, the temperature inversion levels and ultimately ran into Civil Aeronautics Administration radar screens.

"These areas, possibly atmospheric eddies created by the shearing

ated by the shearing  
action of dissimilar air  
strata, were not of  
sufficient density to  
produce direct returns  
(on the radar),  
could bend the radar  
beam downward to give  
a ground return."