

## **TEMPERATURE BLAMED FOR FLYING SAUCERS**

**WASHINGTON, Thursday.**

**A temperature phenomenon—not visitors from space—was responsible for many flying saucer reports, the Civil Aeronautics Administration said to-day. 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 it has investigated scores of reports made by airplane traffic control towers in seven major cities and in checking back against weather bureau records it found "that a temperature inversion almost always existed when such targets appeared on the radar."

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

The report said that the study showed no evidence of the objects hovering or putting on any sudden burst of speed, as some reports said. It attributed reports of sudden bursts of speed on the part of "saucers" to the action

part of "saucers" to the action of radar operators in switching from a fading reflection to one which was just appearing on the radar screen.

The report said that such reflections, travelling horizontally with the air inversion mass would "produce a movement twice as great in the image being received on the radar scope."