

# Now they've put a 'gag' on 'Flying Saucer' stories

**The Civil Aviation Department has banned the release to the public of "flying saucer" reports it receives.**

The Department hopes the ban will encourage people who see "flying saucers" to make confidential, detailed reports.

The Department yesterday received a report from an Australian National Airways pilot, Captain B. L. Jones, who saw a strange flying object circle his plane south of Mackay, Queensland.

The object appeared to have an illuminated glass dome.

It manoeuvred around his plane and disappeared at high speed.

Dr. Shaw, Civil Aviation supervising aeronautical engineer, said the Department would not release Captain Jones' report or comment on it.

"We have decided that people will discuss 'sightings' more freely if they know their reports will not expose

them to ridicule," he said.

"The Department has examined every responsible re-

ported every responsible report but has not yet reached any conclusions."

Officers of the weather section at Connor Park airport, Rockhampton, sighted a shining silvery object in the sky about 8.35 a.m. yesterday.

It appeared to be moving in a southerly direction.

An airline pilot, Captain G. Hitchcock, of Brisbane, viewed the object through the weather section's theodolite and was able to see it

clearly with the unaided eye until 8.55 a.m.

The object gave observers the impression it was suspended in space, but when seen through the theodolite's graduated scales it was seen to be moving.

It was glittering as if reflecting early morning sunlight.

To a message from Rockhampton states that a bright crescent object seen in the sky this morning by a meteorological officer was later identified as the planet Venus.