

"Flying Saucer" to fight jet attack ROCKET AS LINK

From Our Own Staff

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—Latest rocket test at Woomera had a great significance in Western defence against a jet bomber attack, an American aviation expert said.

They proved the practicability of revolutionary jet and rocket-powered fighters which roared to 50,000ft altitudes in seconds.

Ansel Talbert, aviation expert of the New York Herald-Tribune linked the Woomera tests with the new 1500-mph "Flying Saucer" being built in Canada.

Talbert said that every major nation in the world was pushing development on supersonic fighters capable of taking off from carrier decks and short runways to intercept high altitude enemy jet bombers.

North America's greatest defence problem probably was detecting the enemy in time to get conventional interceptor planes up high enough to do any good.

The Woomera tests, seen by Australia's Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies) and high-ranking British and American observers, had shown that rocket-boosted fighters could take off al-

most vertically like German V-2 rockets.

Talbert said the Canadian "Saucer" had a ramp-like undercarriage for take-offs, almost exactly like the one used in the Woomera launchings.