

The "saucer" mystery

— One of the most important announcements since the "flying saucer" affair began some years ago was the one yesterday that the British War Office had decided to "recognise" them.

With typical British caution, the Air Ministry, also referring to the phenomenon, says: "There is no conclusive evidence for saying that flying saucers do or do not exist."

This latter agnostic attitude is one of the most enlightening of all. It is in contrast to the American state of mind, where the saucers are everything from spots before the eyes and mass illusion to secret Russian weapons or little men from Venus.

The British agnosticism is by far the more logical attitude. The saucers may exist or they may not, as the announcement says. So far, on the evidence, nothing more can be said.

At least this statement, coming from such a conservative organisation, should do much to maintain excitement of the world upon the mystery, which some years ago was actually "explained" away as being American Navy balloons sent up for meteorological purposes; and from which explanation the world was supposed to meekly end the spate of conjecture and push the "saucers" out of mind as mere observation balloons.

At last we may feel confident that, while there is a chance that the saucers exist, there is also a chance that they don't.

Eventually, perhaps, the War Office will make a definite decision, but at present its statement seems to be of the purest logic.