

# They're seeing "The Thing" now in Britain's heavens

**"FLYING SAUCERS" IN U.S.**

*From HAROLD DVORETSKY*

**LONDON, Sat.—The great "flying saucer" muddle has caused a general tightening-up of Britain's radar defences.**

## ***Many 'strange sightings'***

And divisional radar commanders have received a sharp rap on the knuckles.

The Army admitted today that radar sightings of a strange object on November 3 were not known at top level until this week.

A reporter happened to hear the story from an ordinary anti - aircraft unit soldier and asked the War Office for confirmation.

The anti-aircraft command immediately requested all units for log sheets and reports on strange objects.

A flood of "strange sightings" came in which

sightings" came in which had not been referred higher than unit level.

## **"Top brass is on edge"**

Top brass, already on edge about the unusual sightings, are obviously worried.

The Air Ministry tried putting out a report that a "possible theory" for the November 3 sighting was a meteorological balloon with radar sound equipment, released from the Crawley Meteorological Station about the same time.

The muddle was confirmed when the Air Ministry asked if the strange object sighted was definitely a balloon or not.

The reply was, "We are not saying definitely—we are just advancing a plausible theory and leaving the public to draw its own conclusions."

The Army was annoyed because the Air Ministry was more or less insinuating that the Army radar

ing that the Army radar trackings were incorrect.

The fact is that the "flying saucer mystery," which for years has centred on

---

the United States, has now switched dramatically to staid old England.

In America it's "flying saucers," in Britain they call it "the thing."

## **Mystery given**

### **new twist**

Radar sightings, as well as visual, have given the mystery a new twist.

The November 3 sighting was first reported by two R.A.F. flying officers who spotted the "thing" from their Vampire, flying at 20,000 feet.

The "thing" was high above them and whizzed off at high speed.

It tallied perfectly with a sighting made by Radar Sergeant Harry Waller who admits: "It was pure chance I first picked it up.

"There was a strong echo

There was a strong echo on the screen during a test, so I looked through the telescope, and there it was just like a tennis ball," Waller said.

"It was dead white and completely circular.

"The object was stationary for 15 minutes, then started to move.

"We plotted it in all for 25 minutes.

"The signal was very intense and far greater than those obtained from normal aircraft.

"It definitely could not have been a balloon."

Four other technicians whom Waller called confirmed his observations and his explanations.

## **He's now not** **so cynical**

Waller claims that this is not the first time he has made contact with "things."

He says he once tracked five objects, flying in perfect formation, but that by the time he had called someone over, the objects

someone over, the objects had disappeared.

Waller was once cynical about the "things."

Now he is not so sure.

But following the disclosure of Waller's sighting, came reports of three strange objects plotted in daylight between September 14 and September 22.

The first object was tracked at 27,000 feet, the second at 50,000 feet, and the third at 60,000 feet.

In each case the radar echo was equal to that given by a big bomber with width between 100 and 200 feet.

All these reports tie up with other sightings.

On September 7, the day

Neville Duke broke the world's speed record from Tangmere (Sussex) several R.A.F. men saw a "thing" over the airfield.

One finds R.A.F. officers, once sceptical about American spottings of so-called flying saucers, wearing frowns when asked: "Do you believe there are flying saucers?"

**D A F officers**

## **R.A.F. officers**

### **"not so sure"**

Officially, the R.A.F. says: "There is insufficient evidence as yet."

Unofficially, officers obviously are not so sure.

Here is the reason why.

They are positive the "things" cannot be aeroplanes, because they have been sighted motionless and

far above the maximum height reachable by helicopter.

No meteorite could produce such strongly defined records on a radar screen.

Plastic balloons up to 200 feet in width have been released by scientists investigating cosmic rays at heights up to 20 miles.

Some are coated with aluminium paint, which would give radar reflection, although a comparatively weak one.

But no cosmic balloon has been sent up in Britain for three months, although 132 small weather balloons including 32

balloons, including 32  
radar sound balloons, have  
been released daily in Bri-  
tain.

So if the sightings are  
not balloons, what are  
they?

Flying saucers?