

# Officials To Examine Flying Saucer Report

MELBOURNE, Jan. 1.

The Civil Aviation Department is seriously considering a report today of a flying saucer near Melbourne.

The Regional Civil Aviation Director (Mr. A. R. McComb) said in Melbourne tonight:—

"We give serious consideration to all reports of this nature, and our instructions are to forward them to our head office, where they are studied."

The flying saucer was reported by Capt. D. Barker, an Australian National Airways pilot.

Capt. Barker reported seeing a "metallic, mushroom-shaped object" flying low above the Yarra Valley towards Templestow at 10.15 a.m.

Airline officials said that a Convair airliner had been over the Yarra Valley about that time, but Capt. Barker said he had never seen anything less like a Convair.

"First of all it was traveling at about 700 miles an hour at 2,000 ft.—well below the minimum altitude for the safety of normal aircraft," he said.

aircraft," he said.

"It was also very big, about four times the size of a DC4.

"I see Convairs every day, but this resembled no aircraft I know."

Capt. Barker said he saw the object from his home in East Doncaster, an outer Melbourne suburb.