

'FLYING SAUCER' REPORTS

Hamper Aircraft Operations

MELBOURNE, Jan. 6.—
The smooth running of aircraft has been threatened by a flood of telephone reports from people who believe they have seen "flying saucers."

The normally busy telephone channels of the Civil Aviation Department's traffic control branch in Melbourne became so busy to-day that the Department had to ask the public for a "let up."

The reports have come from many parts of Victoria, but mostly from, in or near the metropolitan area. They followed an appeal by the department to people to forget their fear of ridicule and report unusual sights in the sky.

Over the past two days the reports became so numerous that the Department had to-day to qualify its appeal for "saucer" reports. It asked that all reports should be made in writing to its Public Relations section.

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The Royal Australian Air Force is "definitely interested" in the flying saucer sightings. A spokesman said to-night: "We would be fools if we were not. People are definitely seeing something, and we hope to find out what it is. There is a high ranking opinion that the saucers do exist and you cannot shake it."
