

# FLYING SAUCER REPORTS

## R.A.A.F. Reveals Interest

MELBOURNE, Jan. 8.—  
The R.A.A.F. to-day made its first official statement ever on flying saucers—and revealed that it has been investigating saucer reports since 1947. A spokesman said that in the past few years hundreds of reports had been received.

All were treated confidentially, he added. "We are anxious to get to the bottom of the reports. We have an open mind, but who are we to say the public is just seeing things," he said. "We do not know if we are the only planet with life on it or if there are better brains in the Universe than ours. We should be flying into space ourselves within a 100 years.

Our investigations show that 10 per cent of the people reporting to us have definitely seen something. Many of the reports correspond and many of the people making the reports should know what they are talking about—especially pilots."

"Each report is investigated by an R.A.A.F. intelligence of-

by an R.A.A.F. intelligence officer and 24 questions put to the person making the report are tabulated in a two-page report of aerial object observed form.

"The R.A.A.F. then investigates the report itself. A check is made with the Department of Civil Aviation and meteorological and astronomical experts. Details of any plane or object definitely established to be in the area at the same time are then added to the form. The form is then placed in a confidential file.

"The reports are not published to prevent people from making faked sightings and so that a true and accurate check can be made on similar observations."

### TWO MORE SIGHTED

Meanwhile Melbourne's spate of flying saucer reports continued to-day when two more were reported. The first was from Mr. W. Allen, manager of a Malvern shoe store. He said that he saw a shining circular object passing over Malvern at 1.8 p.m.

Giving out a red vapor, the object headed toward the bay at about 2000 ft. It seemed to be between 20 and 30 feet in diameter.

A Department of Civil Aviation officer said that only one aircraft was in the area at the time. It was a D.C.3, which would have passed over St. Kilda on its way to Tasmania. The radar at Essendon picked up nothing.

The second report was not received.

The second report—~~not received~~ until late to-day—was from a North Kew woman. The woman who asked that her name should not be published, said she arrived home about 3 a.m. to-day and went outside to cool off before going to bed.

"I saw what I thought at first was a large yellow star," she said. "I also thought I heard a whirring noise, but I could have imagined that.

"The 'saucer' was low in the sky and stayed in the same position for some time. It was like a star with lights radiating out from underneath it."

The woman woke her 17-year-old daughter, who produced a telescope which she focussed on the object. The girl described the "saucer" as being like a balloon or a big electric light globe. Something like a lighted platform appeared to be let down from it as she watched. Then the "saucer" faded away over Heidelberg.

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