

Air Force Keeps Check on 'Saucers'

Every report of "flying saucers" received by the R.A.A.F. is investigated by an intelligence officer, and then checked with the Civil Aviation department meteorological and astronomical experts.

This was disclosed by a high R.A.A.F. officer yesterday.

The officer said the R.A.A.F. had been compiling and studying reports of "unidentified aerial objects" for the past seven years.

During that time hundreds of reports had been received and studied by intelligence officers.

He said that since the R.A.A.F. was charged with the air defence of Australia, it was its duty to investigate reports of flying objects.

No one in the department could say definitely what the objects were.

"We want people who are sure they have seen an unidentifiable object in the sky to report to us," he said. "But we do not want reports from people who only think

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they may have seen something."

Saw Something

Features of the R.A.A.F. data were:—

- Ten per cent. of the reports showed the person making it had definitely seen something.
- Details in many of the reports corresponded.
- Seventy-five per cent. of the reports had come from country districts. This eliminated the possibility that those reporting them had seen concentrations of aircraft, cloud reflections of city lights, aircraft landing lights or weather balloons.
- The number of reports of sightings from aircraft in flight had increased in recent months.

The officer said no sighting had been made

sighting had been made from an R.A.A.F. machine. The aerial reports had all come from civil aircraft.

The R.A.A.F. regarded all reports as confidential, and did not publish them, so that people would not make faked sightings, and to enable a true check of the details observed to be made.