

HE BELIEVES THE THING WILL FLY SO —

He's building a flying saucer

MICHAEL NUGENT, 18, of Engadine, is building Australia's first flying saucer.

He has invested all his savings to produce a model of the saucer.

Parts for the model have already cost him £200.

Michael gave up his job as a clerk to devote his time to the flying saucer.

He said yesterday that he had applied for a patent under the heading of "Improvements to flying machines and the like"

like."

And he had offered his invention to the Defence Department and a commercial firm.

"The chap at the Defence Department said it was against Newton's laws of motion," he said.

"I took the model along to the commercial firm, but the damn thing played up."

Michael said a full-scale flying saucer would cost

about £1,000,000 to build and would fly at 20,000 miles an hour.

"It would be capable of inter-planetary and, according to my theories, inter-stellar travel," he said.

"I think I would ask about £1,000,000 for it, but a condition of the sale would be that I would be the pilot.

"We would have to try it out with a couple of trips to the moon and back, then I would go to Venus.

"I want to be the first man to do space travel and find out what goes on up there.

"After all, Columbus dis-

“After all, Columbus discovered America.”

Michael said his flying saucer would be petrol driven, probably with an internal combustion engine.

It would lift itself, and would be able to fly in a vacuum as well as air.

Once outside the field of gravity, the motor could be switched off, but the saucer would continue flying.

Michael said other details of the saucer were secret.

“If you can establish an artificial satellite you can be cock-of-the-world,” he said.

“Because of this invention I have been labelled a crank, but in my own mind I know that I’m not.

“There’s always the possibility that I’m wrong.

“If nothing comes of the invention, I’ll join the Air Force and try to fly someone else’s machine instead of my own.”

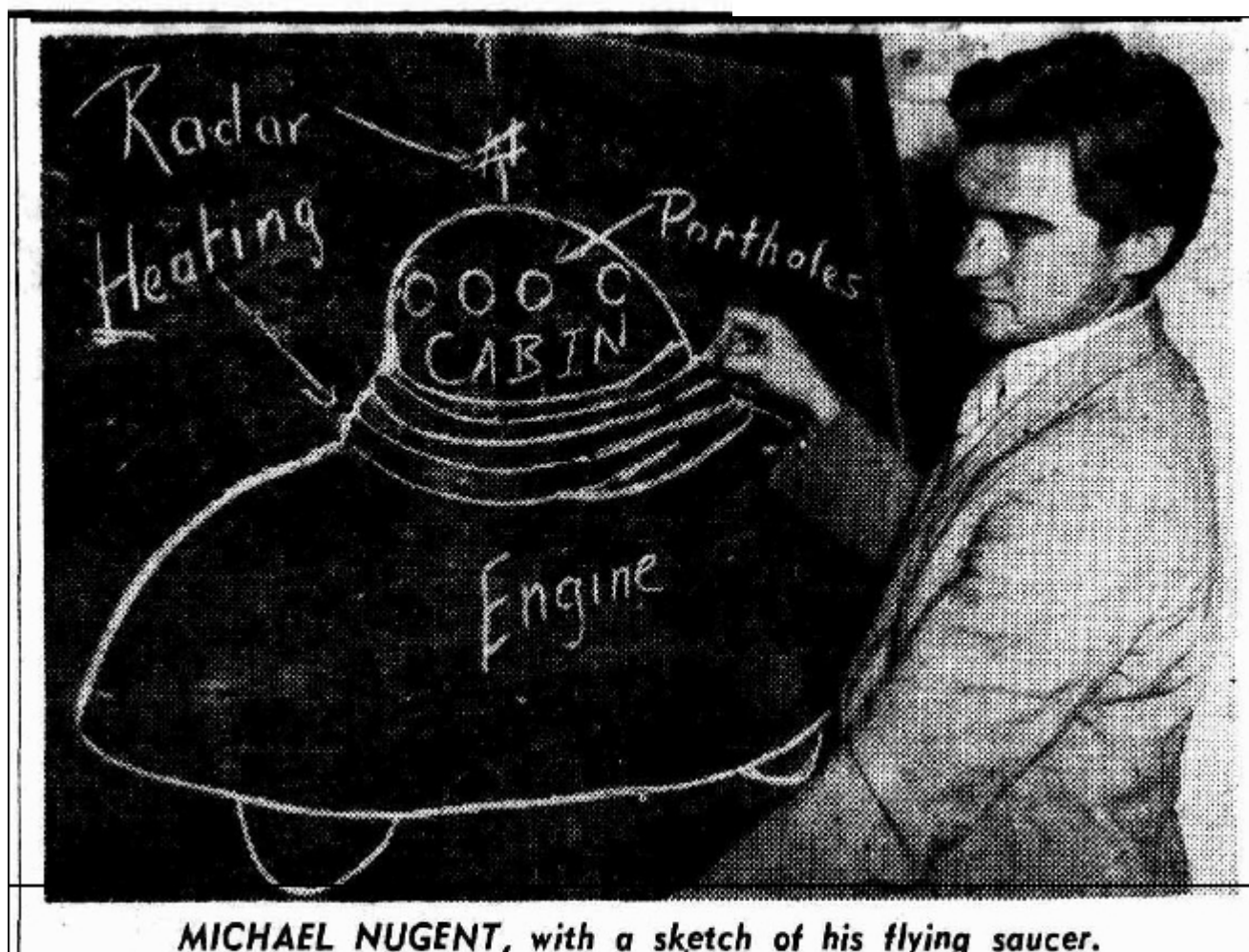
FOOTNOTE: Late last night Michael telephoned the Sunday Telegraph with

the Sunday Telegraph with this message:

"When you interviewed me I was cautious about the saucer's prospects.

"But now I've reassessed my facts—and I'm sure that it will fly."

—Frank O'Neill



MICHAEL NUGENT, with a sketch of his flying saucer.