

FLYING SAUCER (IMAGINARY)

Hoax picture was "taken" in boarding-house room

A young man yesterday brought the picture reproduced above and another similar one to the Daily Telegraph.

He said the pictures were two views of a flying saucer.

The man is Alfred Tauber, a 24-year-old German, who arrived in Australia two years ago.

He said the pictures were taken at 7 p.m. on Monday when he was with a friend on the Mt. Kembla Road.

Only yesterday morning the Daily Telegraph had reported the experience of Messrs. K. A. Smith and K. McKinnon of the Weather Bureau.

They reported having seen strange lights over Sydney on Monday night.

The Telegraph throws away many more stories of flying saucers than it publishes.

But this was more than usually impressive evidence from two trained weather observers.

In addition we had no

In addition we had received that night other reports of "lights" from widely separated areas.

So Mr. Tauber found us most receptive—but not un-sceptical.

It took eight hours of the time of two of our representatives and a trip to the South Coast to prove his picture was a hoax.

Mr. Tauber eventually told us, at his home in Wollongong, that he had drawn two views of the

saucer, painted parts of them, and then pasted the drawings on a black carton.

He had then photographed the drawings in his room, moving the camera slightly to get a blurring effect.

Since the war Australia (like most other countries) has had scores of reports of people having seen what, for want of a better title, are called flying saucers.

From Maryborough (Queensland), from Melbourne, Sydney, and even Canberra, sane, normal people have reported see-

people have reported seeing strange objects in the air.

Easily faked

Mr. Tauber doesn't believe in them.

That is why he set out yesterday to show how easily "evidence" of saucers could be faked.

But whatever Mr. Tauber thinks about them, and whatever you—and we—think about them, flying saucers are news and will continue to be news until they are satisfactorily explained.

The Nuclear Physics Division of the United States Navy, after months of earnest checking, tried unsuccessfully to kill the saucer story.

While people kept on "seeing saucers" in New

Delhi, Rio de Janeiro, and heaven alone knows where else, the Division gave as its opinion that they were nothing more phenomenal than plastic balloons.

You would be a brave man to bet against the opinion of the United

opinion of the United States Navy or any part of it.

But opposing the well-respected finding of the Division we have the recent declaration of the Chief-of-Staff of the United States Air Force (General Twining).

General Twining believes that 10 per cent. of saucer sighting cannot

be discarded and says "the best brains in the United States are working on them."

General Twining is supported, too, by the celebrated American pioneer aviator and airlines operator, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker.

'Hallucinations'

Captain Rickenbacker is on record as saying:

"Too many good men have seen them (saucers) who don't have hallucinations."

Well, yesterday's was not a hallucination but a fake.

And tomorrow's, to get into the Telegraph, will have to be good.

But, if it is good—we will publish it.

FOOTNOTE: This message came in the envelope in which the Bureau sent round the weather report last night:

“About the ‘Flying Saucer’ seen by officials of the Weather Bureau . . . the enclosed cartoon was done by John Daley, of the Weather Bureau staff.

“Perhaps you could use it with your story. We would all like to see it published.”



