

Flying Saucers Descend On Europe

By A STAFF CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON

The flood of reports about flying saucers which came out of Europe last week has no precedent. Every country has seen them—from Asia Minor around through the Mediterranean as far up as Scandinavia.

THE reports vary from the circumstantial—with thousands of observers seeing exactly the same thing, to the ludicrous — with reputable scientists analysing mysterious substances left floating in the air.

The saucers came in

The saucers came in enough different shapes, sizes and models to rival recent London motor shows.

Europeans, normally tired of this recurring subject, have swung to a fresh demand for some clear and acceptable scientific explanation. French newspapers are already offering large prizes for acceptable "evidence."

In every colour of the rainbow, ranging in size from 4ft to 50ft diameter, speeds from nearly stationary to more than 1,000 miles an hour, these mystery objects have been puzzling or frightening some 200 million people.

There have been "flying cigars" seen in Belgium, a 3ft high "cylinder" in Italy, the "flying cauldron" in France, another slenderer "cigar" in Jordan, flying "alarm clocks" in Greece

and "shining discs" in Austria, Germany, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Turkey and just about anywhere else near to Europe you would like to

Europe you would like to pinpoint on the map.

No reputable scientific body seriously believes in the popular theory that these objects contain inquisitive little men from Mars or Venus who have been dropped over Europe from their homelands some millions of light years away just to have a look around.

Nine Theories

Nine other explanations have been given by organisations and individuals in the past fortnight—liver indigestion, sexual frustration, mass hysteria, the work of practical jokers, a new secret weapon being tested by a major Power (either the U.S.A., Russia or Britain), meteors, mirages caused by lenses of air (familiar to people who know the optics of earth's atmosphere) or ice crystals acting as distorting mirrors.

It could be a combination of several of these.

The saucer reports have been more frequent in Italy over the past week, where there have been something

there have been something like 15 sightings. Significant-

More Models Than At A Motor Show

ly they followed a film on flying saucers shown on the nation's television service.

Rome newspapers printed a picture of a flying saucer seen over the city by several witnesses and photographed by a student, Turi Mattarella, flying 1,300ft above Montemario observatory.

Others were seen over Pescara, Aquila Lanciano on the Adriatic, throughout Bologna and in Venice and Florence.

In Florence a football game was held up for half an hour while 15,000 spectators watched a flight of "flying saucers"

ing saucers."

Mrs. Rosa Lotti, 40-year-old Italian peasant of Poggia Ambria, told police that two Martians three feet high (Martians come in as many different models as their saucers) met her in a lonely field, snatched a bunch of carnations from her and made off in a cylindrical machine.

"Spoke" To One

France, never to be outdone when it comes to autumn tourist attractions, has also had its crop of saucer-seers in the past week or so.

A Czech woman in France claimed to have seen a Martian which spoke to her in Russian.

Two Norwegian sisters spoke to one who was "tall, dark and longhaired" in Mosjoen, central Norway. They could not understand what he said, though.

First reports from over

the Iron Curtain occurred when people saw a flying

when people saw a flying disc with a "flaming tail" but a local observatory dismissed it as a meteor.

In Duisberg, Germany, this week much excitement was caused by flying saucers until one crashed.

Investigation proved it to be twelve feet in diameter, made of red and blue glazed paper filled with gas, and fitted with electric torches. In Lille, northern France, a miner confessed to police that he had built a thousand "flying saucers" as a joke.





This is the part of the front page of a recent issue of the French newspaper "Radar" giving prominence to a railway worker's story of a meeting with

little creatures from
a "flying saucer."
"Radar" has since
offered big rewards
for pictures of a
"saucer."