

# Couple tell of 'deep dish' in the sky

LISBON, Tuesday (AAP).— A Portuguese couple yesterday described an unidentified flying object they saw flying overhead like "a deep dish turned upside down."

Manuel Fernandes, 53, and his 49-year-old wife, Laura, saw the cylindrical-shaped object from their village of Paico, not far from Oporto, Portugal's second largest city.

The sighting followed sightings on Friday of a similarly described object over the Santa Maria airport in the Azores Islands, about 800 miles to the west.

The Azores "saucer" was said to have hovered over the airport for about 45 minutes before moving off and out of sight, pursued by a Portuguese Airlines plane which had taken off to investigate.

## Intermittently luminous

### INTERMITTENTLY

"It appeared at my right going slowly," said Mrs Fernandes, who was the first to see the object.

"I had the impression that it was gyrating, and was shaped like a somewhat flattened sphere."

"Then it stopped. From

that position it appeared different. It was like a big deep dish turned upside down, and it was intermittently luminous," she said.

Her husband said "The device came from the north-east, according to my wife. But when I saw it it had already stopped. It flew on to the north."

"It was at an altitude of about 6,500 ft. It remained stationary for three minutes. It had a reddish colour with

It had a reddish colour with a blinking ray of light coming out of one of the sides. It left at a fantastically giddy speed."

In Washington, the US Air Force has refused to get alarmed about the flying saucer sightings over Portugal, the South Pole, Japan and Latin America.

On the other hand a spokesman for the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena — a non-Government research organisation — said that UFO sightings have recently shown their biggest increase since 1957.