

## Flying saucers and the people who see them

One of today's most fashionable, mysterious and menacing phenomenon is the Flying Saucer — the Unidentified Flying Object. In "Flying Saucers and the People who see them" on ABC-TV next Wednesday at 9.10p.m., Doctor Stephen Black looks at the UFO, presenting some fascinating material, advancing several reasonable explanations and posing numerous unsolved questions. 44

Undoubtedly, many sightings are hallucinatory — or deliberately fabricated. Doctor Black investigates various flying saucers during the programme and in doing so shows how realistically film or photographs can be faked; and how easily a weather balloon can sometimes be mistaken for an UFO.

Other experiments with flashing lights demonstrate the brain's ability to misinterpret information gathered by the eye and the power of auto-suggestion on a small audience.

But many sightings remain mysteries. Dr. Black interviews BOAC Captain James Howard who, in 1954, was flying fifty-

who, in 1957, was flying two passengers to London via Labrador when he sighted UFO's to port at 19,000 feet.

Closer inspection revealed

one large black-grey object 'like an inverted telephone receiver' with six smaller objects flying around it. The sighting was maintained for twenty minutes by passengers and crew until the arrival of a USAF fighter.

Partial corroboration was forthcoming from a party of Scandinavian astronomers and cameramen who, on that same day were engaged in filming a solar eclipse. They observed two large UFO's at 15,000 ft. successfully filming them for about ten seconds, before the saucers disappeared at 'high speed.

Mass hallucination? Maybe. But the party was in three aircraft, consisted of over fifty people on Captain's Howard's flight were hallucinated? Or perhaps they were just 'seeing things'?