

CALL FOR U.N. STUDY

Astronaut 'saw UFOs'

UNITED NATIONS, Tuesday (AAP-Reuter). — Former US astronaut Mr Gordon Cooper believes flying saucers are visiting the earth and in 1951 saw many of them flying in formation over Europe, a UN committee was told yesterday.

The Grenada Minister for Education, Mr Friday, read a letter from Mr Cooper when the General Assembly's special political committee discussed the question of unidentified flying objects.

Mr Friday quoted from the letter: "I believe that these extra-terrestrial vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets, which are obviously a little more advanced than we are on earth".

Mr Cooper, who flew lengthy orbiting missions in 1963 and 1965, said he was not an experienced professional researcher into UFOs but he felt "somewhat qualified" since he had been into the fringes of the vast areas in which they travelled.

"Also, I did have occasion in 1951 to have two days of observation of many flights of them, of different

sizes, flying in fighter formation, generally from east to west Europe", his letter said.

If the UN pursued the project, more well-qualified people would provide help and information

Earlier the Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy, asked the UN to add UFOs to its list of concerns.

He referred to the October 21 disappearance of a single-engined Cessna aircraft after its pilot, Mr Frederick Valentich, 20, told Melbourne air controllers a large UFO was playing games with him.

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Professor Allen Hynek, of the US, told the committee that UFO reports had been obtained from 133 countries and a significant number had come from astronauts, radar experts, military and commercial pilots, officials of governments and scientists, including astronomers.
