

UNITED STATES

UFOs 'swoop' military bases

WASHINGTON, Friday (Reuter). — Unidentified flying objects have been swooping over US military bases, causing concern in the Defence Department, according to government documents published yesterday by a group of UFO researchers.

Mr Dale Goudie, president of the Seattle-based UFO Information Service, told reporters at a news briefing that the Defence Department documents, published on the eve of a three-day conference on UFOs at American University, were provided to him under the Freedom of Information Act.

One US Air Force document, dated September 9, 1980, describes the sighting of UFOs by security guards at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico, the month before.

It said three guards, interviewed separately, each described an "unidentified light in the air" that swooped over a weapons storage area just before midnight on August 8, 1980.

It "travelled with great speed and stopped suddenly in the sky.

"The three first thought the object was a helicopter, however, after observing the strange aerial manoeuvres [stop and go], they felt a helicopter couldn't have per-

formed such skills . . . they witnessed the light take off and leave proceeding straight up at a high rate of speed," the

straight up at a high rate of speed, the document said.

Thirty minutes later, it said, another guard reported seeing a similar craft at a nearby military research station.

"After driving closer, he observed a round disc-shaped object . . . as he approached on foot armed with a shotgun, the object took off in a vertical direction at a high rate of speed. The guard was a former helicopter mechanic in the US Army and stated the object . . . was not a helicopter."
