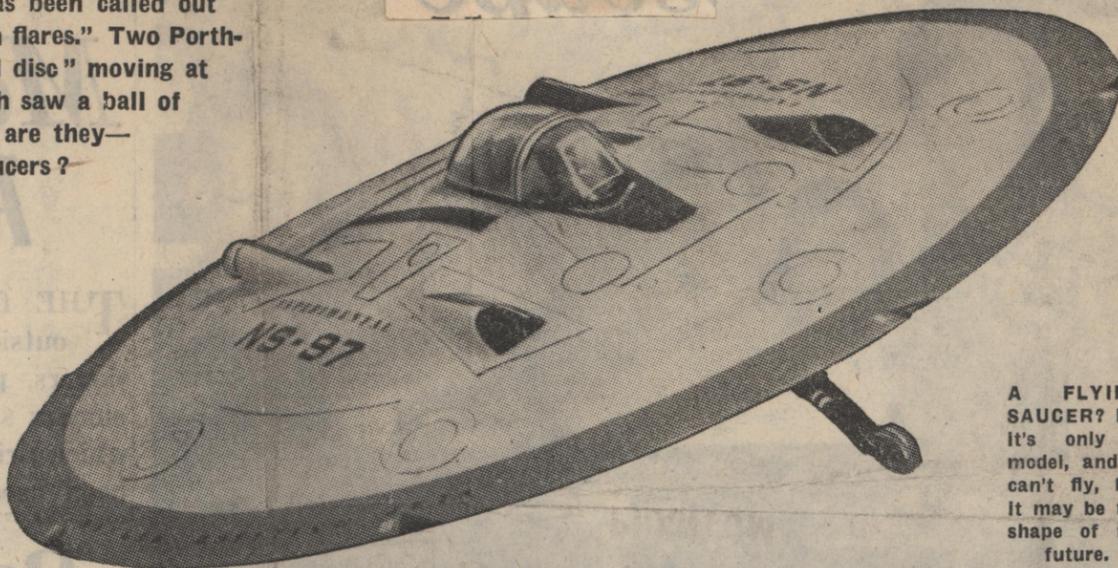


From all parts of Wales recently have come reports of strange objects in the sky. Tenby lifeboat has been called out several times to investigate "phantom flares." Two Porthcawl policemen saw a "mysterious red disc" moving at a fantastic speed. People at Barmouth saw a ball of light flash over Cardigan Bay. What are they—Russian satellites, meteors or flying saucers? This article may help to provide an answer.



A FLYING SAUCER? No, it's only a model, and it can't fly, but it may be the shape of the future.

OFFICIALS TURN A BLIND EYE TO 'SAUCERS'

By Donald Mudie

Observer Corps, who investigated, the police officers' report was read by top officials.

Back came an Air Ministry explanation that at that time of the year the planet Venus sometimes played optical tricks in its course through the night sky. But at that time, the planet Venus set about 7.30 p.m. and could hardly have been seen by two Welsh policemen and their inspector after midnight.

BAFFLED

In the United States the Saucer situation is even more contradictory. The American Air Force denied that there was "any such animal"—but only after they had admitted being baffled as early as 1947. Tragedy struck in the United States the following year.

Captain Frank Mantell, an Air Force jet pilot, was seen by hundreds to chase a giant "disc" reported by Kentucky State Police over Fort Knox.

He was heard to say over radio that he was going to try to close in for a better look. Those were his last words.

Shortly after his mysterious crash the authorities contradicted their story and claimed he was chasing either a weather balloon or the planet Venus.

They announced the disbandment of "Project Sign," the Air Force Saucer research project, and for years prevented Captain Edward J. Ruppelt publishing his convincing summary of evidence on the subject.

But when Albert M. Chop was promoted to chief of the Press section at the Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Field, he was amazed to find "Project Sign" had not been closed but merely renamed "Project Grudge" to confuse the public. Later it was altered again to "Blue-book."

Chop, who has since resigned, believes flying saucers exist. He was present in July, 1952, when U.F.O.s are said to have moved in force over Washington. For six hours he and a Major Fournet tracked the discs on radar.

INCREDIBLE

He was also present when, with the Press demanding an explanation, Gen. Samford, the Chief of Staff, told a conference, "We were credible observers of relatively incredible things."

It is said that Chop later resigned simply because he found it impossible to deal with the cleft stick in which the American Air Force found itself.

The British Air Ministry, according to saucer enthusiasts, simply sticks to its explanations, satisfactory or not, and further inquiries are not answered.

Certainly it has not answered the recent "revelation" of a Sunday newspaper that a top secret Room 901 is the Air Ministry's saucer research headquarters!

PHANTOM

Since the satellites were launched, saucer headlines have been appearing in newspapers all over the world.

Typical of those in America are: "Ghostly sky light seen in five States"—in the "Oakland Tribune"; "200ft. flying phantom puzzles Texans"—in the "Los Angeles Times"; "Mystery suns at H-test site"—in the "San Francisco Examiner."

In Britain a Sunday newspaper reported on November 10 that Edinburgh C.I.D. were baffled by a bright green unidentified object flying over the area the previous night.

The Royal Air Force, said the newspaper, deepened the mystery by stating definitely that none of its aircraft was flying in the vicinity.

FAINTED

In Australia astronomers were reported on November 8 to be puzzled by a vivid pink object moving across the sky.

In Levelland, Texas, on November 3 a driver was said to have fainted when an egg-shaped object, some 200ft. long shut off the engine of his car with its power.

Throughout the world saucer sightings are being stepped up.

Objects have been reported over London, Europe, and Japan.

Studying the reports in his Knightsbridge flat is the Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench, who heads the British section of the U.F.O. Observer Corps and who edits the British magazine "Flying Saucer Review."

This is how he sees the picture:

"If you imagine that it is possible to see with the naked eye the first Soviet satellite 400 miles in space then you may just as well imagine that you can see a thimble on the top of St. Paul's from Big Ben."

"But there is not the slightest reason to doubt that the many reputable people who reported seeing it saw SOMETHING. If it was not the satellite then what was it?"

Trench—whose subscription list numbers more than 2,000 in Britain alone and includes the Air Ministry—infers that the objects are the scoutships of people from outer space who have been studying the satellites.

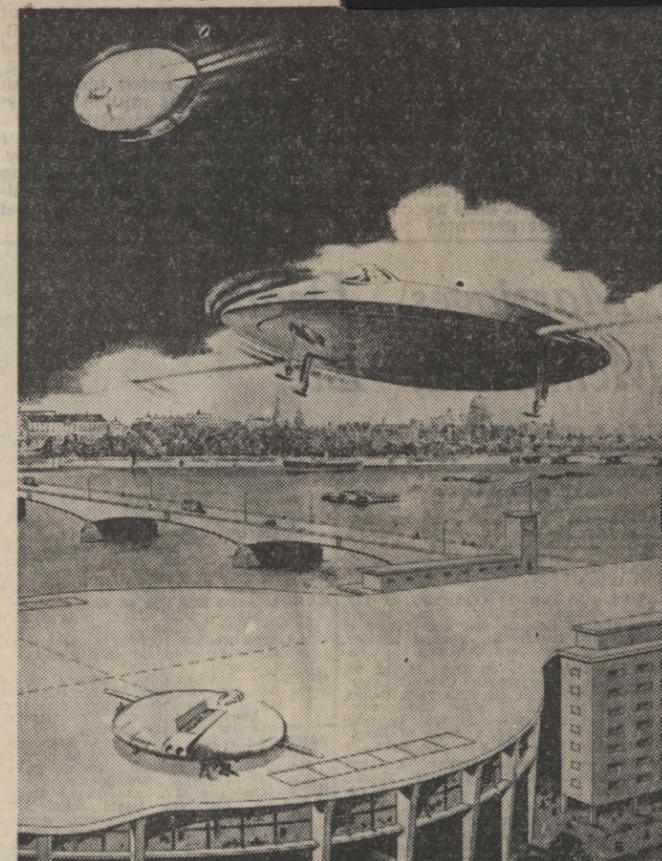
FRIGHTENING

To back his argument he quotes observatories in Norway and at The Hague seeing the satellites on track—two hours ahead of their scheduled appearance and to be followed by the true satellites at the correct times.

With virtually all other believers—though some experts have their doubts—Trench believes the saucers are friendly.

With his many colleagues his big mission is to destroy the frightening concept of flying saucers the public has received as a result of masses of weird science fiction stories.

It is this fear, he believes, which deters Governments from releasing the true facts which they already possess about Unidentified Flying Objects.



"SUFFICIENT people are convinced for flying-saucer magazines to be printed in almost every language."

BELIEVERS in flying saucers—and there are enough of them to support a lucrative, world-wide organisation—are today having their most enjoyable time for 10 years.

Since Russia sent up her Sputniks thousands of people have been scanning the sky in an attempt to catch a glimpse of man's latest marvel. One result of this has been a sharp increase in reports of Unidentified Flying Objects.

Are these objects watching the earth? Many books have been written on the subject, and sufficient people are convinced for saucer magazines to be printed regularly in almost every language.

Both saucer enthusiasts and various official air authorities agree that there must be some truth in the claim by many thousands of people that they have seen something. The only disagreement is over what.

ILLUSIONS

The British Air Ministry says that 99.9 per cent. of the "unidentified objects" are found to have perfectly natural causes on investigation—the other fraction being known but not proved.

But while official explanations satisfy the average man in the street they do not convince the saucer enthusiasts.

Authority, they say, has attributed a saucer report from Australia as being caused by jet planes when confirmed sighting reports, checked for accurate times over a particular State, proved that the objects were moving at speeds of many thousands of miles an hour.

Authority has also put them down to optical illusions when

Air Force radar screens have confirmed the passing at phenomenal speeds of definite and unaccountable bodies through the earth's atmosphere.

At other times, authority has put them down to weather balloons when objects have been seen speeding AGAINST the wind, and when another branch of that same authority has stated categorically that there was no balloon activity on that day.

Another explanation has been that the objects were meteors, when State-wide sightings showed them to be moving parallel to the earth's surface.

Only a few weeks ago two policemen and a police inspector reported seeing a glowing red object rise from the sea off Cardiganshire, to hover for a few seconds "in pulsating form" and then streak off into the night sky.

According to the British section of the International U.F.O.