



Acme Telephoto

Can This Be the Secret?

Under discussion as a possible solution to the "saucer" mystery is the Navy's "Flying Flapjack," shown above. Zipping along with its landing gear retracted, this plane would seem to be a supper plate spinning through the sky.

saw in the sky. She is the first known observer to claim what she saw was stationary. All the rest have spoken of tremendous speeds. Mrs. Kole said all she could think of was a blazing disc. Alexandria police looked in the direction she indicated but the disc had gone.

Jack Labous, an artist, 3500 block East Capitol St., reported seeing one of the "things" flying over Bethesda. He described it as "a flat disc with a cone shape under it and a stick like a radio antenna projecting from the bottom."

The scientist who claimed to know something about the "saucers" was described by a Los Angeles newspaper as a member of the California Institute of Technology staff.

May Be Real, He Says

He was quoted as saying "transmutation of atomic energy" experiments might be responsible. He was said to have been a researcher on the Manhattan project that made the atom bomb, and was quoted as saying:

"These so-called saucers are capable of high speed but can be controlled from the ground. They are 20 feet wide in the center and are partially rocket propelled on the take off. People are not seeing things. Such flying discs actually are in experimental existence."

Experiments with these "discs" were reported as being in progress at Muroc Dry Lake, Calif.; White Sands, N. M.; Portland, Oreg., and other places.

Dr. Harold Urey, atom scientist at the University of Chicago, commented: "Transmutation of atomic energy sounds like gibberish. You can transmute metals, not energy."

Col. F. J. Clarke, in command of the Hanford Engineering works of the atomic energy project, said he knew of no experiments involving "flying saucers."

"I have been waiting several days for someone to get the idea the so-called flying saucers were tied up in some way with what we are doing," Clarke said. "But as far as I know, there is no connection."

The "piece" found in Ohio was discovered near Circleville. It was a six-pointed star covered with tinfoil and attached to part of a balloon. It was reported to be a device used by the Army air forces in radar research to check on high wind speeds. There was no comment from the air forces.

A War Department spokesman revealed Army intelligence has been working for a year on reports

of strange objects seen in the sky and had reached the conclusion that some sort of meteorites were responsible.

Astronomers at the Naval observatory and Georgetown university, who admitted they have been on the alert for flying saucers as they swept the skies with their powerful telescopes, insisted they not only had not seen any but knew of no astronomical theory that might account for the reports.

Kenneth Arnold, the private pilot who was first to announce seeing the saucers, expressed gratification at the support he was getting but insisted he still didn't believe he had seen nine discs whizzing by at 1,200 miles an hour, although he had seen them.

Arnold started yesterday on a flying fishing trip over the Pacific northwest armed with a new camera in the hope of getting pictures if he encountered any more saucers. He took along Col. Paul W. Weiland, World War II artillery officer, just in case he sees some more and needs a witness.

Arnold announced he has been getting tons of letters commenting on his report of the saucers. Many of them predict they are the forerunner of an atom bomb attack. One correspondent blamed them on survivors of the lost continent of Atlantis who are preparing for an atomic war in 1960.

Army, Navy and civil aeronautics officials agreed none of them had any reliable information about the discs and would refrain from commenting until they saw one, or at least a picture.

JUL 6 1947

WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD

Page 1 & 8 Sec. I