

# Quirks of Eyesight May Explain Disc Mystery

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NEW YORK, July 6—(AP)—Certain laws of human eyesight will explain much of what has been described about the flying saucers reported from nearly all parts of the United States.

At any distance which is close to the limit of how far a person can see, all objects appear round or nearly so. This law of sight covers both small things seen nearby and large ones at great distances.

Regardless of shape, the object near the limit of sight looks round. If the thing is silhouetted against a bright sky, as some of the flying saucers have been reported, then it is more likely to reveal its true shape.

## HAVE 'NO STRUCTURE'

If the thing is seen by reflected light, as in most cases reported, it is almost certain to be round, and if the reflections are sunlight, then the sizes reported are those which would be expected from distant light reflections.

The one outstanding fact about virtually all the saucers is that they had no structure—they seemed merely round and flat. That description fits exactly with the tricks that eyes play. This trickiness varies with differences in weather and lighting.

This writer has seen flying saucers over Long Island Sound near his home, not only this year but in previous years. They were round, bright and moving fast.

## NOT A MYSTERY

But they were no mystery because they were light reflected from the bodies of airplanes that soon identified themselves by changing course and coming near enough to be seen distinctly.

Last week this writer also saw one oval flying form which for a moment looked exactly like the

photograph of the oval object taken by Yeoman Frank Ryman north of Seattle, Wash. The Long Island oval came closer and turned into an airplane.

Planes at great distances tend to look round when light is reflected from their sides. Many descriptions of movements of the flying saucers fit with the common maneuvers of airplanes, singly or in groups.

They fit also with what birds look like, flying at a considerable distance. However the bird illusion is not very common. Some of the maneuvering reported, which took saucers out of sight and back into sight again resembles what can be seen while watching distance airplanes.

## SPEED MYSTERY

There is no explanation for reported speeds of 1,000 or more miles an hour. Meteors, although they go much faster than that, do not explain it because the saucers mostly appear in daytime and there are not enough daylight meteors.

Ice crystals forming little round clouds have been suggested. But these fail to fit in most cases because the ice crystals form at altitudes which are higher than most of the saucers reported.

Nothing published in science or atomic studies gives the slightest clue to flying saucers unless the objects are aircraft.

One scientist today said that at least a lot of saucers are explained by the force of suggestion which causes a person to say to himself:

"Oh, gee, I see it too."

ENCLOSURE

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