

'Sky Devil-Ship' Scares Pilots; Air Chief Wishes He Had One



EAL FLIERS DESCRIBE WINGLESS AIRCRAFT
Copilot John Whitted and Capt. C. S. Chiles (right).

Plane Makers Dubious About Alabama 'Thing'

By WILLIAM KEY

What was that Thing that scared the daylights out of two Atlanta Eastern Air Line pilots in the spooky hours Saturday morning?

Is there some stratospheric Loch Ness fire-breathing monster on the Milky Way run between Atlanta and New Orleans?

The pilots, Capt. C. S. Chiles, of Atlanta, and Co-Pilot J. B. Whitted, of Hapeville, would like to know. The Army Strategic Air Command would like to know. Big airplane manufacturers also are curious, but slightly dubious.

Pilots Chiles and Whitted told their thrilling story upon arriving at municipal airport here Saturday on the Houston-Atlanta, Boston run. Here is what they say they saw, near Montgomery:

A gigantic plane without wings, black against the night sky, streaking through the heavens at 5,000 feet altitude with a fiery comet's tail 25 to 50 feet in length. It had a 100-foot fuselage about four times the circumference of a B-29's, and two rows of brilliantly lighted square windows. Creepiest of all, it was a veritable Flying Dutchman of the Skies. Nary a living soul was seen aboard!