

# Ex-Army Air Force Fliers Invent Novel, New Game

## 'Flying Saucers' Catch Fancy of Day on Beach Visitors and Residents

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DAYTONA BEACH, Feb. 14—The ingenuity of two former Army Air Force fliers from California is "paying off" at this Florida Beach resort where, nowadays, the air is full of "flying saucers."

When Major Warren Francioni and Lieut. Fred Morrison of San Louis Obispo completed their war experiences in the China-Burma-India and the Italian theatres of operation, they returned home and joined forces in a novel industry.

Morrison had always been intrigued by the idea of sailing pie pans on the beach, and so he and Francioni put their heads and talents together and came up with a plastic version with fins. They then had invented a new game, a novel way of playing catch with flying saucers, a gyroscopic airfoil aerodynamically correct, precisely engineered and a pleasant way to take exercise.

### Grid Coach Uses It

The football coach at Hemet, Calif. High School was intrigued with the idea of using the saucers to condition his players, teach them balance and to reach out to make catches of the discs which, by certain methods of spinning, boomerang and also sail away from the intended receiver. A player has to be on his toes to catch them, especially if the wind is blowing.

It may be just coincidence, Francioni and Morrison said today, but the Hemet coach last season turned out his first championship team. The boys were on their toes.

Although they had their discs made in Glendale and had planned on extensive West Coast promotion, snow flakes unexpectedly fell and so they headed for Daytona Beach, where, according to the tourists, "summer spends the winter."

No snow flakes fall here; only flying saucers, which are so durable that they are not injured by cars passing over them.

Morrison was shot down in his fifty-eighth mission in Italy but escaped serious injury. The two ex-Army officers refer to themselves as the world's champion Flying Saucer pilots, and certainly their novel invention—conceived in California and promoted in Florida—has caught on with beach lovers.

They were smart enough, of course, to patent the Flying Saucer idea in order to capitalize on ready-made publicity born of repeated Saucer scares around the country.

In throwing the old pie or cake tins there always was the danger of cutting one's hands. But with the new plastic fin saucers, the only danger is getting bopped in the nose. And only the less agile allow that to happen once in a while.

### Promotion Main Problem

Francioni and Morris feel that coaches might find their sailing gadgets just as handy in training a squad as did the coach of Hemet. And they are hopeful that they may, in time to come, expand their wares from coast to coast.

At the present time Daytona Beach is the only resort that has seen the saucers. The boys are contemplating attending a few fairs and getting their product before larger masses of the public.

"Promotion is our only problem," Morrison declared. "Production is no item. All who've tried our interesting little gadget seem to have fun sailing it, and they also find that they are using muscles long neglected."