

Expert Hints A-Tests; Nonsense, Says Urey

Los Angeles, July 5 (AP).—An unnamed “scientist in nuclear physics” at California Institute of Technology was quoted today as suggesting the flying saucers might be the result of “transmutation of atomic energy” experiments. But Dr. C. C. Lauritsen, head of Caltech’s Nuclear Physics Department, denied the source was a member of his staff.

The Evening Herald and Express described its informant as a researcher on the Manhattan atomic project and said he asked his name be withheld.

Statement Ridiculed.

Dr. Lauritsen said he was certain nobody in his department, which, with himself, includes four former Manhattan project researchers, made “such a statement.” He expressed the opinion the discs “have nothing to do with nuclear physics.”

The paper said such experiments are being conducted at Muroc Dry Lake, Calif., White Sands, N. M., Portland, Ore., and elsewhere. It further quoted the scientist:

“People are not ‘seeing things.’ Such flying discs actually are in experimental existence.”

In Chicago, Dr. Harold Urey, atom scientist at the University

of Chicago, commented: “Transmutation of atomic energy sounds like gibberish. You can transmute metals, not energy.”

Other Explanations Of Aerial Enigma

Other “solutions” of the saucers mystery so far include:

1. Breakage of a tiny meteor, the silica crystals of which caught reflection from the sun.
1. Solar reflections producing spectral flashes.
3. Icing conditions on high clouds, flattened out and perhaps gliding.
4. Jet planes.
5. The Navy’s new Flying Pancake plane.
6. Aluminum centers from beer-bottle caps blown through smokestacks during melting operations.

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