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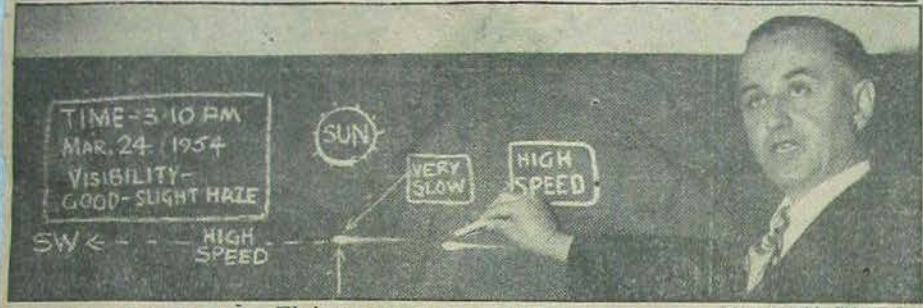
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Men from Mars!



Flying saucer specialists are scanning the skies this week in an intensive search for UFO's — unidentified flying objects — which they believe may come to Sydney from Mars.

The flying-saucer boys are not alone in their search.

Qualified scientists all over the world will keep their lenses trained on Mars this week.

Tomorrow is D-day for students of Mars. On that day Mars, the earth's closest planetary neighbor, will be paying its nearest visit for 32 years.

● MEN FROM MARS

The direct line position of earth, sun and Mars will give scientists their greatest opportunity to study the planet, which will be "only" 35,160,000 miles away.

With modern equipment and international co-operation not previously available, Mars will be in constant observation during the period it is in this favorable viewing position.

The Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (AFSR) will have its telescopes trained on the planet.

Many members of the society, which has branches in every State, believe that unusual objects seen in the skies recently come from Mars and are piloted by Martians.

● CHECKING ON SAUCERS

The Martians could have conquered us in the 14th century BC or the time of Julius Caesar, if they had wanted to, says society president Andrew Tomas (pictured).

Planet comes nearer earth!

Tomas, who lives in Bay St., Brighton-le-Sands, is official observer in Sydney for the AFSR.

He returned this week from a trip to the Himalayas to investigate flying saucers there.

Tomas said the society has had two conferences with the RAAF.

"There is a special UFO section attached to the RAAF," he said.

"Though the question of flying-saucers is becoming a top secret, the Australian Government was democratic enough to invite the director of the AFSR for two con-

ferences with RAAF Intelligence.

"The discussion was centred not on the existence of the flying-saucer but on the occupants of the unknown craft."

● VISITORS WORRIED

"There's been a great deal of misunderstanding of our beliefs, due to a lot of silly science fiction," explained Tomas.

"We're fighting all these ridiculous stories of Martians attacking us.

"We claim that if not friendly they are at least neutral.

"But why these mass visitations of earth by strange craft over the last years?"

"We think they are worried about our experiments with atomic energy and H-bombs."

Tomas admits that many would regard his ideas as "crackpot".

"At my lectures, many have asked why don't the Martians land and make an appeal to the governments?" he said.

"I had no witnesses or camera, so we do not claim the sighting among our official records."

*Index in Register:
(The Australian Flying Saucer Research Society*

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