

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1947

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

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This is written just prior to my departure for Oregon. It will probably be printed after I am home. The special session is ending, but the next regular session will begin immediately after the first of the year. Any unfinished business will be delayed only a couple of weeks by the adjournment.

The president called this special session to consider and act on interim emergency aid for Europe. The aid bill was passed and the appropriation made. He also asked that something be done to curb rising prices and inflation. Most of us think that portion of the special session call was pure politics. He lifted the weight from the shoulders of the administration and tossed it to the Republican controlled Congress, knowing full well, I am sure, that Congress could not complete action on two such important problems in the few short weeks of the special session. In the House, we (the Republicans) did make an effort to adopt the first four points of his ten point program with a promise that consideration would be given the remainder later. The effort was defeated. Not one single member of the Democratic side of the House voted for the bill.

'Flying Saucer' Theory

I have lately picked up some seemingly reliable information regarding Russian development of high velocity rocket missiles. Strangely enough, this development might be the solution of the now almost forgotten mystery of the "flying saucers."

The Russians are reported to have developed a rocket having amazing speed and almost limitless distance. It is propelled by a series of explosions occurring several seconds apart. Each successive explosion shoots the missile forward at increased speed. Apparently the charges are packed separately and are held apart by metal discs. As each charge is fired, the metal disc is discharged as an empty cartridge shell is ejected from an automatic rifle. The discs are made of thin metal and possibly disintegrate in the air not long after they are ejected.

Could it be possible that the mysterious flying saucers were in fact metal discs from the tail of one of these super-speed rockets? If so, were the rockets experimental ones fired by our own scientists—or if you want to really stretch your imagination, were the discs from non-explosive rockets fired from Russian proving grounds?

This weekly letter from Washington will be resumed in January. Meanwhile, my best wishes to all for a very happy Christmas and holiday season—and a cheerful New Year.

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