

Pilot Killed In Pursuit of 'Flying Disc'

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 8 (AP)—Several areas of Kentucky and adjoining States were excited today over reports of "flying saucers" which led to the death of one National Guard flyer.

The National Guard headquarters at Louisville said Captain Thomas F. Mantell Jr., 25, was killed late Wednesday while chasing what was reported as a "flying saucer" near Franklin, Ky.

Two other members of the Kentucky National Guard, also assigned to a flying investigation of reported "flying discs" in the area near Fort Knox, returned to their Louisville base.

Astronomers at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., reported they saw some object in the sky Wednesday afternoon which they believed to be a balloon but the Nashville Weather Bureau said it knew of no balloons in that vicinity.

In Southern Ohio, meanwhile a phenomenon of the skies, a flaming red cone trailing a green mist, appeared near the Clinton County Army Airbase at Wilmington and mystery for the thousands of people who saw it.

The Army airbase late today issued a formal statement on the matter, but, a spokesman said, officials there still had no idea what it was or what it might mean.

"The sky phenomenon, described by observers at the Clinton County Airbase as having the appearance of a flaming red cone trailing a gaseous mist, appeared in the southwest skies of Wilmington Wednesday night between 7:20 and 7:55 p. m. (Eastern Standard Time)," the Army statement said.

"The sky phenomenon hung suspended in the air at intervals and then gained and lost altitude at what appeared to be terrific bursts of speed."