

THE MONTREAL DAILY STAR

The points to which investigating troops were sent today were those where actual explosions were reported. One witness told of fragments raining down after a great blast in the air above him.

The resurgence of rocket activity stirred up a new wave of talk which had been going on in varying degrees since the missiles since appeared May 24. Since then appearances have been reported from most of Scandinavia.

At that time a staff of experts was assigned. They examined the clinker-like material left after explosions, and plotted as best they could the course of the missiles on huge maps.

The movement of the rockets varied. Some followed a straight course. Others veered.

In most cases the course was from southeast to northwest. But there were stories of missiles coming straight from the north.

The missiles seemed to be flying soundlessly, giving rise to stories that they were launched or powered by some new means. The speeds were estimated in some cases as high as 600 miles an hour.

In one of the few public comments by officials, Capt. G.E. Stangenberg, acting chief of the air defense department, said in reply to a question about whether the rockets were instruments of Russian experiments:

"I can't confirm that, but I can't deny it either".

Rockets were reported to have crashed at three points or more in central Sweden last night. In dispatching investigators, military authorities stated that they were seeking information upon which to base protests against firing of the missiles over this country. They refused to go into details.

The rockets streaked in over Sweden beginning about 9 o'clock last night. Newspapers in south and central Sweden were besieged with calls from alarmed and curious citizens. Hundreds of callers reported the passage of the clinker-like objects within an hour's time.

The army was maintaining a blackout over exactly what happened. But statements by officials to the unidentified made it plain that high authorities were coming around to the view that a showdown might as well be sought in the rocket firing which has been going on for weeks.

Witnesses said that one of last night's rockets passed directly over Stockholm and alighted north of the city. An editor of the newspaper Aftonbladet, one of the many persons who reported seeing it related:

"A brilliant light suddenly appeared on the southern horizon, on a straight course at an altitude of some 800 feet. Although it could be seen through the very night sky, a determination of its exact altitude was impossible because of its blinding brightness and rapid fire".

Is Fast in Length

Swedish Air Force lieutenant, after seeing one of the rockets in central Sweden, described the length of the body at some 50 feet. He said it was shaped like a cigar, with the forepart green and the sides white. It moved "terribly fast" at a low altitude, he said.

Many reports claim the things which crashed in Sweden were not bombs, but the accumulation of what is left of propulsion material, with the rockets themselves being radio-directed back to base after a hour or so.