

FLYING PLATFORM

BARUCH-Fitzgerald

32

*USN*

*magic carpets*

The  ~~Navy~~ reveals the closest thing yet to a flying saucer. It's called the "flying platform" Safety lines keep it close to the ground as the pilot demonstrates how he steers -- merely by shifting his weight in the direction he wants to go..

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*let*

*As in seven of the air*

Still in research, it may become a jumping jeep for short hops.

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Two small engines drive two propellers rotating in opposite directions underneath the "flying platform." Taking off in untethered flight, it rises on the blast of air sucked in through holes in the top of the platform, and driven down by the propeller thrust.

*on*

At ~~Palo Alto~~, Calif., where it was built, the "flying platform"

*only*

*American authorities*

hovers a few feet from the earth. But the Navy says extensive testing at low altitudes is necessary before altitude of long distance flights in any form are tried on the flying platform.