

*Broufeyan*

# SAUCERS HELD SPACE SHIPS BY EX-MARINE

## Hits AF Stand On Flying Disks

(This is the last of three articles on the controversial subject of "flying saucers" and their investigation by the Air Force.)

BY RICHARD REILLY

Are the flying saucers real—and if they are, what are they?

That, in essence, is the question that faces the Air Force—and the American public as well. Altho it remains unanswered, it has stirred no end of opinions and theories.

One theory advanced from time to time is that the saucers are some revolutionary type of weapon perfected either by this country or some other nation.

The Air Force, however, deprecates this possibility. In a recent statement, it said:

"The Air Force has stated in the past, and reaffirms at the present time, that unexplained aerial phenomena are not a secret weapon, missile or aircraft developed by the United States. None of the three military departments nor any other agency in the government is conducting experiments, classified or otherwise, with flying objects which could be a basis for the reported phenomena."

### Weapon Theory Discounted

In addition, a high-ranking Air Force officer indicated to the Times-Herald that it is believed impossible the saucers could be a foreign weapon.

Regarding the question as to whether flying saucers exist, Lt. Robert White, public information officer, said the Air Force believes reliable observers such as veteran airline pilots are sincere when they report sighting unidentified objects.

The Air Force was tossed a hot potato recently by Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, U.S.M.C. (ret.), who claimed in his recent book, "Flying Saucers from Outer Space," that the saucers not only are real but that they are of inter-planetary origin.

Furthermore, Keyhoe contends that the so-called "Utah film" possessed by the Air Force proves this.

### Theory Bolstered

Keyhoe's inter-planetary theory was bolstered by a letter published on the jacket of his book from Albert M. Chop, former Air Force civilian expert on the saucer project, who now is with the Douglas Aircraft company in California.

In the letter, Chop stated: "The Air Force, and its investigative agency, 'Project Bluebook,' are aware of Maj. Keyhoe's conclusion that the flying saucers are from another planet. The Air Force has never denied that this possibility exists. Some of the personnel believe that there may be some strange natural phenomena completely unknown to us, but that if the apparently controled maneuvers reported by many competent observers are correct, then the only remaining explanation is the inter-planetary answer."

Upon publication of the letter—written on Defense department stationery—the Air Force challenged Chop's claim and said he was merely expressing his personal opinion.

Chop subsequently admitted that he was not speaking for the Air Force, but maintained that some of the investigative personnel had subscribed to the interplanetary theory. He said this was based on "personal contacts with these various individuals" and insisted that it was "a true statement."

### Charges Cover-Up

Amplifying his theory that the saucers come from another planet, Keyhoe claims they could originate from some other body in the earth's solar system—such as Mars or Venus—or from some other system or universe.

Keyhoe charges that the Air Force is convinced that the saucers are space ships from another world, but that it is covering up because of a fear that such a disclosure would result in widespread panic.

The Air Force, however, insists that this is not so—that it is holding back no important facts from the public.

Lt. White said the names of persons involved in the sightings

are withheld, and reports which divulge the capabilities of our aircraft, radar and electronic equipment are classified. All other information with respect to sightings is a matter of public record, he said.

Keyhoe maintains, tho, that the Air Force has refused to release many analyses of sighting reports. He points out that the names and locations connected with the incidents could be deleted, if necessary.

### Wants Film Released

Keyhoe also claims that the Air Force should release the final intelligence analysis on the Utah film.

In connection with this, Keyhoe recently sent a telegram to high Air Force officials charging that since the Air Force had implied that he had misrepresented the analysis of the Utah film, either he or the Air Force was lying.

The Times-Herald asked a top Air Force spokesman if Keyhoe had, in fact, misrepresented the Utah film analysis. He declined to comment.

In his telegram—as in his book—Keyhoe stated:

"The final analysis proved that the saucer formation could not be explained as any known aircraft or other conventional objects."

### Cites Conclusions

The spokesman was asked if this statement were true or false. He said that, to date, the Air Force has neither affirmed nor denied it.

Keyhoe also contends the analysis concluded the objects were not birds and were not caused by weather conditions.

Specifically, Keyhoe claims the

- Times Herald P9
- Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_
- N. Y. Times \_\_\_\_\_
- N. Y. Compass \_\_\_\_\_

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