

Former Airmen Reveal . . .

# U.S. Fighter Pilots Have Chased Scores of UFOs

. . . Even Though Air Force Won't Admit They Exist

The U.S. Air Force won't even discuss the existence of UFOs — officially. But two former airmen tracked "hundreds" of them on radar and know that Air Force fighters were sent up after them, as the story below reveals. A current officer in the Air National Guard also reveals how he chased one. If you are a serviceman or ex-serviceman and have similar information about UFOs seen, detected on radar, pursued or reported, The ENQUIRER will be glad to learn of your story. Merely send a letter with details to UFO Editor, NATIONAL ENQUIRER, Lantana, Fla. 33462.

By JOHN M. CATHCART

Air Force fighters have been repeatedly sent up to intercept UFOs — despite the refusal of the U.S. Air Force to admit that UFOs even exist.

Former airmen — now free to talk — revealed to The ENQUIRER that UFOs have been sighted and officially reported, tracked on radar "by the hundreds" and chased by Air Force planes sent after them.

"I'm well aware of UFOs — we used to track them on radar and run up interceptors against them," stated Ed Simpson, a former Air Force radarman who is now a policeman in Phillips, Wis.

"I tracked hundreds of UFOs on radar," said Francis C. Sullivan, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant now living in Tucson, Ariz.

And Kenneth Leland, an elementary school principal in Superior, Wis., who is still a Lieutenant Colonel in the Minnesota Air National Guard, told us: "My plane was 'scrambled' after a UFO that was actually over a radar site northeast of Duluth, Minn."

"Scrambling" is an Air Force term for rapid or emergency takeoff in response to an alert.

Patrolman Simpson spent 20 years in the Air Force, 12 of them in radar operation. He told The ENQUIRER:

"When I was stationed in the upper peninsula of Michigan, we had whole groups of UFOs. We tracked them on radar and scrambled jets after them that chased them around the sky. Over a period of 12 years, I'd say I tracked at least 50 UFOs."

Did the jets ever catch up with them? "No," Simpson replied. "Our planes would go up to around 52,000 feet, their normal limit, and the pilots would report the UFOs were 30,000 to 40,000 feet still higher."

Former Master Sgt. Sullivan spent 28 years in the Air Force. For 18 of them he was a radar operator at air bases in Japan and the U.S.

"I couldn't give you the exact number of UFOs I tracked on radar, but it must have been in the hundreds," he told us. "A lot of times we'd scramble jets after them." But only once did a pilot succeed in getting close to



**WITNESSES** Patrolman Ed Simpson (left), ex-Air Force radarman, and Air Force vet Francis Sullivan between them tracked hundreds of UFOs on radar.

one — at an Air Force base near Masawa, Japan, in 1951.

"An officer pilot named Brigham was in the air and I was in radio contact with him when he sighted something and went after it," Sullivan said. "He radioed, 'I've never seen such a thing! It's round — I don't know what it is — when I started closing in on it, it must have — it's gone, Sully, it's gone! Just gone!' When he landed he reported the incident. The

the switchboard named around the clock.

"The UFO Study Center came into existence because a growing number of qualified scientists, engineers and other professionals have long believed the UFO phenomenon to be worthy of investigation and decided that positive action should be taken to end a quarter-century of misunderstanding and misrepresentation," he said.

"More than 15 million Americans believe that they have sighted UFO phenomena, and these essentially similar reports persist year after year.

"With the cooperation of the police, the FBI and the Civil Defence Agency, the center now provides the organization and personnel to study the problem" of so-called "flying saucers."

very next day they shipped him out of there.

"But in 1968 I made a telephone call to Peterson Field, Colo., and recognized the voice at the other end as Brigham's.

"I asked him what had happened after the incident in Japan.

"He said, 'I can't talk about it. They took me to Washington and that's all I can tell you. I still can't discuss it and I'm told not to.'"

Leland, the school principal who is still in the Air National Guard, was flying as a radar observer in a 2-man jet based at Duluth Air Force Base in 1959 when his plane was scrambled after a UFO.

"At that time there were quite a few UFO sightings," he said. "In this particular case, the UFO we were involved with was definitely on the radar in our plane. The UFO was actually over a radar station at Finland, Minn., northeast of Duluth.

"We heard on the radio that some of the fellows at the radar site had gone outside and looked at it, hover