

IND.

APRIL 25c

What does Lady Ashley see in Mito?  
**SIR!**

A MAGAZINE FOR MALES



THE GIRL WHO  
PROPAGATED  
THE RACE

(See page 44)

**FLYING SAUCER FAKERS**

*Mark Schneider*



Major Donald E. Keyhoe contends saucers come from outer space.

# FLYING SAUCER FAKERS

By A. SMITH-HENDERSON, Ph.D., D.Sc.

According to the Air Force, the theory that saucers come from outer space is the biggest myth of the 20th century



Frank Scully, shown with wife, authored a best-seller on "space visitors in discs."

**N**OW that President Eisenhower has personally assured the nation that "little men" are not invading the earth from the planetary system, it looks as though many so-called flying saucer "experts" are eligible for membership in the "Association of Hot Air Artists."

Several widely-read books by these "experts" (who flatly announced the saucers were piloted by strange creatures from Mars, Venus and other planets) can now be classified among the greatest fairy tales of history. Scientists agree that there has never been the slightest proof that saucers are whirling down to earth from other planets.

Perhaps the most notable of these "weird-little-men" books was by Frank Scully, who claimed two flying saucers from the planet Venus had crashed in Southwestern United States. In his volume entitled, *Behind the Flying Saucer*, Scully quoted two geophysicists who "discovered" the bodies of several "little men" in the saucer wreckage. Scully, by innuendo, suggested that the Air Force had

quickly removed both the wreckage and the bodies to a secret location for analysis.

Book reviewers and magazine articles tore into Scully's book and concluded the "saucers from Venus" report was a pipe-dream which belonged on the science fiction shelf. The book was further discredited when Scully's informants, the two geophysicists, became involved in an oil well exploration scandal in Colorado.

**A**NOTHER book which claimed saucers were invading the earth from the planets was written by Donald E. Keyhoe, a retired major of the U. S. Marines. Keyhoe's volume, *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*, was also branded in many quarters as being written in a cloud of fantasy without ample evidence to support the conclusions. Keyhoe asserted that the world must prepare for saucer landings, and "we must accept the possibility that the saucer creatures may differ from us in form. . . Those first meetings with beings from another world could be the greatest adventure of all time. But we must

guard against fear, panic and violence by our own people, so that no tragic blunder will change peaceful visitors from space into deadly enemies."

Keyhoe backed up his "saucers from outer space" theory by quoting an official Air Force letter, dated January 26, 1953, which stated in part: "The Air Force and its investigative agency, Project Bluebook, are aware of Major Keyhoe's conclusion that 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 controlled maneuvers reported by many competent observers are correct, then the only remaining explanation is the interplanetary answer."

The letter was signed by the Air Force Press Desk in Washington, and Keyhoe insisted this was an official Department of Defense admission that the saucers came from outer space. He based this on the assumption that saucer maneuvers were controlled.

**I**N his recent press conference statement, however, President Eisenhower said the Air Force has assured him that saucers are not coming from the planets. The President added that 90 per cent of flying saucers sightings are known and identifiable objects such as balloons, aircraft, atmospheric reflections or even migratory birds.

Other "saucers" may be merely pieces of paper wafted high through the air on a windy day; advertising blimps hanging listlessly in the sky, sighted from a distance by people afflicted with "sauceritis"; or box-kites flown to great heights from twines of cord in the hands of small boys.

Renewed emphasis on the study of flying saucer phenomena was touched off recently by photographs from Sicily showing local denizens gazing at two disk-shaped objects in the sky. Many books have also published "pictures" of saucers, but the Air Force says still photographs in general are "worthless as evidence."

Books that claimed the disks were swarming to earth from planets caused a wave of "little-men" hysteria in the rural areas of France and Italy.

Housewives told of saucers swooping low over clotheslines, and the mayor of Neuf-du-Pape, France, a village of 16,000 population, issued a decree forbidding flying saucers



The Air Force admits that images like these seen in Sicily are real, but officials say that such phenomena are now explainable.

to land. He ordered the village constable, to impound any saucers which disobeyed."

Jean Darcy, a highway worker of the Haute-Marne section of France, told newsmen he was riding his bicycle to work when he saw a be-whiskered man only four feet tall standing in a wheat field. Darcy said "good morning," and the little man replied, "I'll be seeing you," then jumped into a small flying saucer that made a buzzing sound as it whirled away into the clouds.

From all over France other fantastic reports came rolling in. Some of the "little men" even came in ships resembling "flying chamber pots."

The mayor of another French village solemnly told newspaper re-

porters that he had entertained two visitors from Mars at his home for one entire week!

In Italy, Signora Rosa Dainelli said two dwarfs wearing capes stopped her in the woods near the Tuscan village of Bucine, snatched a silk stocking and several carnations from her arms, then escaped in a spool-shaped flying machine. And the social columns of an Austrian newspaper reported: "Mustached Martian spends weekend at Vienna."

The stories were too fantastic to be taken seriously, but they did prove that human imagination knows no bounds after "experts" write books on saucer "invasions" of the Earth.

(Continued on page 69)

Eddie stared at the boy, who was just finishing a plate of ham and eggs. He tried to read the answer to his question in the boy's manner, but he seemed to be eating normally, casually, like anyone else who had been travelling all night.

What had happened during the trip? Had they stopped? Where? How long? Had the girls . . . ?

He wanted to ask, but what would he say? How could he put the question so that he wouldn't sound like a darn fool?

At the counter, the blonde kid had finished his. He fumbled in his pocket and brought out some coins, then he got up and went to the cashier's desk.

**E**DDIE couldn't stand it any longer. He slid out of the booth and crossed the restaurant. The boy saw him, frowned, and remembered.

"Hi. I thought you said you weren't going any farther."

Eddie stuttered, "I changed my mind."

"Well, I'm glad you got a ride." The kid was turning toward the door.

Eddie blurted it out, "What happened?"

The boy looked puzzled. "What do you mean, what happened?"

"I mean, on the trip. How did everything go?"

"Oh, that. Okay. Why?"

Eddie sighed. He felt his shoulders drooping. "Nothing. I just wondered."

The big blonde kid stared at him for a moment. He reached into his pocket, drew something out, and snapped it at the floor. He winked at Eddie and walked out of the restaurant.

Eddie looked down.

The pearl-handled knife quivered in the floor at his feet.

THE END

## FLYING SAUCER FAKERS

(Continued from page 15)

**T**HE "sauceritis" craze began shortly after the end of World War II when atomic bomb explosions caused people to look into the sky for answers to everything strange.

As one Air Force official put it: "If you look up at the sky long enough, you can almost always make out something that appears strange. Kids don't count freight cars anymore, they count airplanes. Everybody is looking up at the sky these days, and many people trained in aerial observation during the war haven't stopped looking for strange aircraft."

People have seen flying dish-pans, flying ice cream cones, flying hub-caps and even flying street-lights. This is understandable in view of the fact that the sky is full of many different types of things these days.

In addition to commercial and military aircraft whose numbers are greater than ever before, more than 500 organizations send test balloons up into the air from time to time. These balloons are of all sizes, ranging from that of a basketball to a box-car, and from a distance appear as strange "disks in the sky" to many people.

A new U. S. Navy experimental plane, which is actually shaped like a pancake, is often mistaken for a flying disk. Around the edge

of its saucer-like fuselage is a series of jet openings which frame blinding lights from the exhaust. At night, the flat, round-shaped plane looks like a series of flaming windows, flying ghostly through the darkness.

As reports of flying saucer sightings poured in by the hundreds, special clubs were organized and members spent their spare time sweeping the skies with binoculars, looking for weird aircraft. A flood of books, magazine articles and newspaper stories about flying disks rolled off the nation's presses.

**E**VER since the saucer uproar began on June 24, 1947, when a private pilot reported seeing nine disks flying near Mount Ranier, Washington, a gullible nation has been fed an unending stream of cock-and-bull stories about weird aircraft menacing the earth.

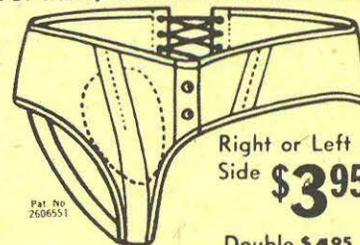
Astronomers, have repeatedly pointed out that aircraft, going at even a speed of 2,000 miles per hour, would have to travel through space one million years to reach the earth from the nearest planet (the sun excepted).

This certainly would tend to prove that reports of flying saucer arrivals from outer space are something for the birds.

THE END

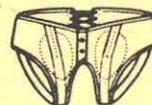
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