

# Canada Has A Flying Saucer Mystery

*From MARSHALL YARROW in Ottawa.*

**IS CANADA** really working on a flying saucer?

**Defence Production department officials say yes. Defence Production Department officials no.**

**T**HOSE who are inclined to believe the affirmative feel they have a lot to back up their line of thinking.

In recent weeks it has been a well publicised story that C. D. Howe, Minister of Defence Production, has been stoutly resisting the efforts of the Royal Canadian Air Force to launch the Government on the development of a successor to the Canadian-designed CF-100, a long-range jet fighter now in production at Avro Canada at Malton, Ontario.

**Heavy Cost**

## Heavy Cost

Mr. Howe is represented as being impressed with the heavy cost incurred by Canada in the development of the CF-100 into which was built the extreme range needed for the defence of Canada's northern approaches.

He is now quoted as feeling that this country would be better off to leave to the United States and Britain the expense of designing any new planes of this type. Canada could then manufacture them on licence.

Those who believe Cana-

Those who believe Canadian aircraft scientists may be tinkering with a flying saucer argue that Mr. Howe is a hardy realist who has never flinched at expense before when it was required for the country's security.

It is also noted that nearly half of Canada's 2,225 million dollar defence budget for 1953 has been labelled for the air force.

The feeling of the saucer believers is that Canada may be robbing the orthodox jet Peter to pay for saucer Paul.

## Confusion

Statements of Defence Production Department officials do little more than throw a mantle of confusion over the whole question.

One has been quoted in Canadian papers as saying, "Never heard a thing about it." Others are reported as having confirmed that Avro Canada is doing experimental work on a "highly unconventional type of flying saucer supersonic aircraft."

Those who have seen

Those who have confirmed these newspaper reports say the exposure has caused a good deal of concern at defence headquarters and one went as far as to charge that the publication of the news might constitute a grave security risk.

Defence production officials who admit Avro is working on a saucer are careful to add that any application of the theories being explored is still "many years away."

One said many large companies in Canada are doing experimental work on radical defence projects which are in the same stage of planning as the flying saucer aircraft.