

Jung's Letter to Major Donald E. Keyhoe

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Abstract: In 1958, C. G. Jung clarified his views on UFOs in a letter to prominent investigator Donald E. Keyhoe. The present essay analyzes the letter and the two men's main writings on UFOs in the context of Keyhoe's life, 1950s ufology, and historical revelations since his death in 1988. Like Donald H. Menzel's meteorological explanation, the conservative opinions of Edward J. Ruppelt in Project Blue Book, and the unfair distortions by Edward Condon in his report for the Air Force, Jung's psychological perspective on UFOs sits uneasily with Keyhoe's absolute insistence that they are extraterrestrial. Despite receiving criticism from his peers for championing this view, Keyhoe was arguably the greatest contemporary influence on Jung's thinking about UFOs. Charles A. Lindbergh's 1959 meeting with Jung, in which they discussed Keyhoe's work, shows that Jung's interest in the subject waned as he neared the end of his life. Nevertheless, he had unknowingly borne witness to a shadowy cover-up that violated the freedom of information, stymied even well-connected investigators like Keyhoe, and continues today despite scholars' efforts to disclose the truth.

Keywords: C. G. Jung, Donald E. Keyhoe, UFOs, flying saucers, Edward J. Ruppelt, Project Blue Book, Donald H. Menzel, Charles A. Lindbergh, Steven M. Greer.

Introduction

C. G. Jung's position on UFOs was misrepresented in the media. In 1958, the year in which he published *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies*, he wrote a letter to Major Donald E. Keyhoe to clarify his stand on the issue. As the letter makes clear, Jung remained noncommittal, but the overwhelming evidence presented in Keyhoe's books enables a more nuanced and critical understanding of Jung's reluctance. The case that Keyhoe advances for UFOs, which is often based on official United States Air Force reports, deserves both more credence and more criticism than Jung affords it in his comments in *Flying Saucers*, elsewhere in *The Collected Works*, in the *Letters* (vol. 2), and in *C. G. Jung Speaking*. This essay analyzes Jung's letter to Keyhoe in its biographical and historical contexts, comments on Jung's impediments as a reader of controversial information, and relates Keyhoe's work to advancements in ufology during the past thirty years. What emerges is a portrait of Keyhoe as a conscientious but single-minded investigator whose decades-long fight for the freedom of information about UFOs may ironically have played into a shadowy disinformation campaign that obscures a deeper level

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of secrecy and violates our liberty to learn about one of the most controversial and important subjects in human history.

According to Jerome Clark, in the 1950s and early 1960s Major Donald Edward Keyhoe, United States Marine Corps, retired, was “the world’s most famous UFO proponent . . . widely regarded as the leader of the field” (558). As Brenda Denzler notes more pointedly, “in the mid-1950s the role of thorn in the government’s side belonged first and foremost to Keyhoe’s NICAP,” the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (17).¹ His pursuit of disclosure, however, was not without its critics. Of his first publication on UFOs, an article in *True Magazine* entitled “The Flying Saucers Are Real,” David M. Jacobs states that Keyhoe uses “his imagination liberally,” treats surmises as facts, and is weak on scholarship and reliable information (qtd. in Clark 559). Similarly, Curtis Peebles maintains that Keyhoe’s first UFO book, *The Flying Saucers Are Real*, like the article it was based on, “was not marked by either scholarship or logical thought” and that his “writing style was to make an assumption, then write as if it were a fact” (45, 91); conflating assumption and conclusion is the fallacy known as begging the question. Criticizing the lack of scholarship and logical thought in Keyhoe’s second book, *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*, Peebles writes, “All the information was filtered through Keyhoe’s absolute belief that flying saucers were real and [that] the Air Force knew it” (90). Similarly, Renato Vesco and David Hatcher Childress accuse Keyhoe of promulgating his “antigravitational energy hypothesis” in his books despite lack of “hard scientific data,” of claiming that the flying saucers were from Mars, and then of shifting to an “unspecified interstellar origin” when attacked by astronomers (34). Despite criticisms such as these, Keyhoe’s books are heavily laden with information. For example, *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* cites dozens of case files cleared by the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC). Even if he did sometimes turn guesses into facts, his use of the military’s own documentation makes Jung’s lack of a committed stand seem insufficient. Keyhoe’s work is loaded with interesting data that support at least the notion that UFOs are machines of some sort, though not necessarily that they are from outer space.

From a contemporary perspective, some adjustment of Keyhoe’s extraterrestrial thesis is required. On the one hand, thanks to the work of researchers such as Steven M. Greer, whose compendium *Disclosure* presents a compelling case based on reliable witnesses’ testimony and government documents, there is no doubt that some of the things seen in the skies are extraterrestrial spacecraft.² On the other hand, though, historical studies that postdate Keyhoe’s work show that human development of antigravity technology (flying disks) probably began in Nazi Germany during World War II, continued after the war in a variety of locations (including the United States), and went “black” in the late 1950s.³ Perhaps too, as Nick Cook points out, Thomas Townsend Brown “had developed a concept for an air vehicle, shaped in the form of a disk, years before anyone had coined the term flying saucer” (24). Excellent studies in the manmade UFO camp include Linda Hunt’s *Secret Agenda* (1991), Vesco and Childress’s *Man-Made UFOs 1944–1994* (1994), Cook’s *The Hunt for Zero Point* (2001), Joseph P. Farrell’s *Reich of the Black Sun* (2005), Jim Marrs’s *The Rise of the Fourth Reich* (2008), and Henry Stevens’s *Hitler’s Flying Saucers* (2012). As these studies suggest, humanity’s foremost technological advances are classified and kept secret from the public. For example, Vesco and Childress write, “Human technology, especially when directed by the military . . . has advanced much more than seems apparent or than is publicly known” (45–46; emphasis in

the original). Unfortunately, the government and the military still deny or distort the UFO phenomenon much as they did in the 1950s, a particularly active decade for UFO sightings. Keyhoe did his best to bring light to the shadows, but the possibility that the United States had built upon Nazi technology remained for him what a former Secretary of Defense would call an “unknown unknown.”

Military Officer, Writer, Investigator

During the early part of his career, Keyhoe forged solid connections in the military and the aeronautical industry that would serve him well later on as a UFO investigator.⁴ He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1919, was trained as a balloon and airplane pilot, and served in the Marine Corps. In 1922, Lieutenant Keyhoe was injured in a crash on Guam, took up writing during his convalescence, and left the Marines in 1923 but returned to active duty in World War II in the Naval Aviation Training Division, retiring at the rank of major. Between 1924 and 1926, he did editing work for the Coast and Geodetic Survey, becoming in 1926 chief of information at the Civil Aeronautics Branch of the United States Department of Commerce. After Floyd Bennet and future admiral Richard E. Byrd flew over the North Pole on May 9, 1926, Keyhoe helped with the national tour of their plane; similarly, in 1927, he served as aide to Charles A. Lindbergh on the 48-state tour that celebrated his solo flight to Paris and promoted aviation. A year later Keyhoe published *Flying with Lindbergh*, an account of that 95-day trip.

By 1928, Keyhoe was a successful freelance writer of fiction and nonfiction. In particular, “[d]uring the late 1940s and early 1950s, he personally test-flew a wide variety of aircraft and evaluated their performance and features for True Magazine [sic]” (“Donald Edward Keyhoe”). When *True* approached him and asked for a manuscript on flying saucers, he was initially skeptical; but his piece, “The Flying Saucers Are Real,” published in the January 1950 issue, argued that flying saucers are machines from outer space. According to Peebles, the article “was later described as the most widely read and discussed magazine article up to that time” (41). Later that year, Keyhoe parlayed the article into his first UFO book, *The Flying Saucers Are Real*.

The 1950s saw an increase in UFO activity, including two flyovers of Washington, DC, in July of 1952. According to Keyhoe, “In 1952 more than a thousand sightings were reported as spacecraft maneuvered over cities, airports, military bases and atomic energy centers” (*Aliens* 68). In the words of USAF Captain Edward J. Ruppelt, aeronautical engineer, specialist in technical intelligence, and head of Project Blue Book (the UFO-investigation wing of the Air Force, formerly called Project Sign and Project Grudge), “During a six-month period in 1952 alone 148 of the nation’s leading newspapers carried a total of over 16,000 items about flying saucers” (13). These incidents were part of what historian Richard Dolan calls “the crescendo of UFO sightings” in that year (“UFO Invasion”). Fifty-one cases released by ATIC, which kept “track of all foreign aircraft and guided missiles” and oversaw Project Blue Book (Ruppelt 7), formed the backbone for Keyhoe’s 1953 book, *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*, one of two Keyhoe books to which Jung specifically refers in *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies*; the second is Keyhoe’s 1955 book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* (Jung, *Flying Saucers*, CW 10, par. 591, n. 4).⁵ In 1957, Keyhoe replaced Thomas Townsend Brown, the father of antigravity research in the United States, as director of NICAP, whose purpose under Keyhoe’s leadership, according to Peebles, was to lobby Congress for hearings and to

investigate UFO sightings (116). The year 1958 saw several significant events: Jung published *Flying Saucers* (CW 10); on March 8th Keyhoe was interviewed on television by Mike Wallace (the interview, “Major Donald Keyhoe Part 1 of 3,” is available on YouTube); and on August 16th Jung wrote his letter to Keyhoe. Finally, in 1960, Keyhoe published *Flying Saucers: Top Secret*, the last of his books that may have received Jung’s attention, though there is no evidence that it did.

Keyhoe’s fifth and final UFO book, *Aliens from Space: The Real Story of Unidentified Flying Objects*, published in 1973, has been criticized as his weakest because of chapter 16, “Operation Lure” (290–302), which proposes a way of attracting UFOs to a specific location. The plan was not an original idea but rather was based on the Canadian Defense Research Board’s unsuccessful landing field in Suffield, Alberta (52, 291). Keyhoe believed that Operation Lure would improve on the Canadian model. Although his proposal, a sort of duck-decoy strategy for attracting extraterrestrials, seems naïve today, other aspects of *Aliens* should be taken more seriously. Keyhoe provides information on UFO events over missile silos, attempts to shoot down UFOs, CIA and Air Force cover-ups, attempts to create zero-gravity machines, giant spaceships in orbit around Earth, and corruption in the Air Force’s commissioned investigation of UFOs (directed by nuclear physicist Edward Condon at the University of Colorado at Boulder).

Jung comes up twice in Keyhoe’s *Flying Saucers: Top Secret*. The first reference is to NICAP members. He lists people who “ignored possible ridicule—members like Dr. Carl Jung, Senator [Barry] Goldwater, [American actress and producer] Gloria Swanson and cartoonist Ted Key” (48). One wonders how Jung would have felt about being mentioned in the same sentence as an actress and a cartoonist, but Goldwater emerges as a man of great integrity and as a strong proponent of UFO disclosure. Over a decade later, Keyhoe writes, “Senator Barry Goldwater, a major general in the AF Reserve, told me he tried repeatedly to get the truth about UFOs” but was stonewalled because UFOs received a classification higher than Top Secret (*Aliens* 89, 188). With Goldwater, a sitting senator, pilot, and Air Force Reserve officer, Jung is in good company. The second reference is to the *APRO Bulletin*’s inaccurate attribution to Jung of belief in the physical reality of UFOs (APRO stands for Aerial Phenomena Research Organization). The article, entitled “Dr. Carl Jung On Unconventional Aerial Objects” and reprinted from the *Flying Saucer Review*, is cast as a first-person statement by Jung that resulted from an interview. In the text, Jung affirms that “something has been seen” and that the phenomenon is not “purely psychological” but is likely natural and physical (1). Later in the piece he states, “*That the construction of these machines proves a scientific technique, and one immensely superior to ours, admits of no two opinions*” (5), but the emphasis is probably the editors’ insertion. Evidently, what Jung considered healthy speculation came across as an endorsement of the *Bulletin*’s pro-UFO position, and he may also have objected to being called “our most recent consultant” for having sent a copy of *Flying Saucers* to the editors (“An Editorial” 2, 5). In “On Flying Saucers,” Jung bluntly says of the *Bulletin*’s coverage of his position, “This report is altogether false” (CW 18, par. 1445); he was not the UFO proponent that he had been made to appear. “On Flying Saucers” ends with his letter, in which he attempts to set the record straight. Keyhoe quotes the letter in its entirety in *Flying Saucers: Top Secret* (235–36).

Jung released corrective statements to United Press International and NICAP. The editors of *The Collected Works* state that Jung’s letter to Keyhoe “was published by NICAP

in the *UFO Investigator* [sic], I:5 (Aug.–Sept. 1958)” (*CW* 18, par. 1431, n. 1). “Dr. Jung Sets Record Straight” begins by quoting this statement by Jung:

My special preoccupation does neither preclude the physical reality of the UFOs nor their extraterrestrial origin, nor the purposefulness of their behaviour, etc. But I do not possess *sufficient* evidence, which would enable me to draw definite conclusions. The evidence available to me, however, is convincing enough to arouse a continuous and fervent interest. I follow with my greatest sympathy your exploits and your endeavours to establish the truth about UFOs. (1; emphasis in the original)

The article then refers to “the unfortunate misunderstanding which resulted from inexact quotation of his views by a British magazine” and states that the erroneous view of Jung’s position “had remained undenied for several years due to Doctor Jung’s ignorance of its existence” (1). What follows is a numbered list of steps that led to the misrepresentation and the attempts to correct it. In the interview, Jung “examined several possibilities” but did not state an “absolute conclusion” (1). Through editing for length and errors in translation, the impression that Jung endorsed UFOs “as interplanetary spaceships” was given. The distortion, which “was generally accepted as factual” in the absence of a denial by Jung (3), was repeated in the media. “Sections which Doctor Jung had discussed hypothetically in the original interview were released as his exact views, with the headlines generally announcing Doctor Jung’s opinion that the UFOs are real and possibly controlled by beings from another world” (3). On August 13, 1958, Jung released a correction, stating his views and calling APRO’s “re-publication . . . to have been a regretful accident” (3). The promulgation of misinformation occurred because he had simply never seen the English version of the original interview. The article concludes with the full text of his letter to Keyhoe, dated August 16, 1958.

Jung’s Letter to Keyhoe

Since Keyhoe’s work has largely faded from public memory despite his books’ continuing availability on the used-book market and in libraries, it is little wonder that the importance of the Jung-Keyhoe relationship has not been recognized. Fortunately, Jung’s letter provides a suitable entry point for gaining a better understanding. Jung opens the letter by stating that he has read “all that [Keyhoe had] written concerning Ufos,” that he subscribes to the NICAP Bulletin, and that he is grateful to Keyhoe for his work “in elucidating the thorny problem of Ufo-reality” (*CW* 18, par. 1447). After mentioning the APRO Bulletin’s inaccurate reporting, Jung states his true position: “‘Things are seen, but one does not know what.’ I neither affirm, nor deny.” He denies neither “the physical reality of the Ufos nor their extraterrestrial origin, nor the purposefulness of their behaviour, etc.” because he lacks “sufficient evidence that would enable [him] to draw definite conclusions.” As a psychologist he focuses instead on UFOs’ “universal significance,” meaning what they say about the psyche of human observers (par. 1448). But if, says Jung, the Air Force or the government is withholding facts about UFOs in order to prevent panic, it is “the most unpsychological and stupid policy one could invent” (par. 1449). Indeed, “[t]here can be hardly any greater shock than the H-bomb and yet everyone knows of it without fainting” (par. 1449). The public handled the threat of nuclear annihilation; therefore, it can handle the truth about a less-threatening reality. Jung closes the letter by declining Keyhoe’s offer to send him clippings.

Jung's comment about the stupidity of a cover-up directly opposes a conclusion that was published two years later in the Brookings Institution Report (Michael et al.). Its conclusion that public disclosure of an alien presence would lead to widespread chaos among the religious and scientific communities was used to justify the continuation of the cover-up. As Nick Redfern notes, NICAP's newsletter, *The U.F.O. Investigator* (Dec. 1960 / Jan. 1961), published an article called "Space-Life Report Could be Shock" (sic), which references NASA's release of the report. Therefore, Keyhoe would have been aware of the Brookings Report; but since he does not directly mention it in *Flying Saucers: Top Secret* (1960), a book that Jung may not have read anyway, it is likely that Jung never heard about it. There is no mention of the report, for example, in the index to *The Collected Works*.

Despite initial praise, the letter actually undercuts Keyhoe's position on UFOs. Jung claims to have read all of Keyhoe's work, and in "On Flying Saucers" he states that he has "read all the available books" but cannot "determine even approximately the nature of these observations" (CW 18, par. 1431). Here is an even more tentative claim from later in the same text: "Despite a fairly thorough knowledge of the available literature (six books and countless reports and articles, including two eyewitness reports), I still do not know what kind of reality the Flying Saucers may have. So I am not in a position to draw conclusions and to form any reliable judgment. I just don't know what one should make of this phenomenon" (CW 18, par. 1444). A combination of scientific skepticism and his own psychological theory renders Jung incapable of saying for sure that 1950s-era UFOs even have objective reality: he does not affirm Keyhoe's basic claim that they are actual machines, preferring to remain in a state of belief perseverance governed by his own psychological point of view and conceptual system. For Jung, flying saucers are mere projections, a natural phenomenon that provides a hook for projections to hang on, synchronicities, archetypal symbols of the Self, or compensation for modern spiritual penury. Regarding the latter, he claims in *C. G. Jung Speaking* that the absence of miracles in modern times leads us to project our "expectation of a savior" onto the observed objects (390).⁶ As for the archetypes, Marcia Jedd accurately states, "Jung thought of flying saucers or UFOs as a profound archetype, underlying both psychic images and physical shapes" (55). Although not Jungian, Peebles aptly sums up the Jungian position: "The *idea* of disk-shaped alien spaceships becomes the symbol for hopes and fears about the world. We watch the skies seeking meaning. In the end, what we find is ourselves" (291; emphasis in the original).

In a 1967 address to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, atmospheric physicist James E. McDonald gently debunks the notion of UFOs as archetypal projection in a brief discussion of "panic reactions among *animals* in the vicinity of a close-range UFO" (20; emphasis in the original). After referencing Jung's suggestion about archetypal projection, McDonald states:

If cows, horses, dogs, pigs, cats, and birds share our archetypal images and psychically project them, then perhaps I'm wrong in suggesting these cases rule out purely psychological explanations of the UFO phenomena. To date, however, I have found no psychologists who are willing to go so far as to suggest that bovine, canine, and equine archetypal images are identical with ours. (21)

In other words, McDonald suggests that if animals lack human archetypes, then the UFOs that scare them are likely not human psychological projections but actual physical objects. Keyhoe would agree. He writes highly favorably of McDonald in *Aliens from Space*, noting that he “co-operated with NICAP in several hundred investigations” (29); his unimpeachable scientific and military credentials are an important part of Keyhoe’s argument (175). There is, of course, a counterpoint: Peebles undermines McDonald’s credentials with an *ad hominem* attack, describing him as a “‘believer’ in UFOs” and as “an angry, aggressive, driven, manipulative and ambitious individual” (172).

In order for the psychological explanation to hold, though, Jung has to address actual evidence of UFOs’ physicality. In *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies*, he says that “either psychic projections throw back a radar echo, or else the appearance of real objects affords an opportunity for mythological projections” (*CW* 10, par. 782). One supposes that he means *natural* objects here. He even sounds like a UFO debunker in a letter written to Charles B. Harnett on December 12, 1957: “I am informed by experts on radar that such observations are not beyond reasonable doubt” (*Letters* 403). In that letter, he is not sure that UFOs are machines: “they could be anything, even animals,” meaning presumably birds (403). But in a letter written on May 24, 1958, to J. E. Schulte, he says that they may be mere psychological projections (440–01). If UFOs are psychological rather than physical, then they are subjective vision or hallucination, either individual or collective (*CW* 18, par. 1431). So Jung reads Keyhoe’s books, appreciates his work, does not believe that the flying saucers are physical objects, but notes that they resemble natural phenomena like “ball lightning, or strange, stationary will-o’-the-wisps (not to be confused with St. Elmo’s fire)” (*CW* 18, par. 1437).⁷ Insofar as Jung does not align with the conclusion that UFOs have physical reality, much less that they are alien machines from outer space, his letter to Keyhoe damns with faint praise and shows how firmly Jung remained on the fence.

Such extreme ambivalence in light of Keyhoe’s meticulous research is problematic. Let us consider, first, a passage from his 1955 book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, which Jung claims to have read.

Hundreds of saucers had been reported in Ceylon, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, and all parts of Europe. In many of these countries the witnesses were expert observers: pilots, meteorologists, astronomers, and weather-bureau observers. In one typical French case it was the government weather station that had reported sighting an oval-shaped craft moving with tremendous speed. (203–04)

If Jung read Keyhoe’s 1960 book, *Flying Saucers: Top Secret*, he would have encountered Keyhoe’s similar statement to one of his interlocutors:

You’ll find officers and technicians in all the armed forces, captains of United Airlines, Eastern, TWA, National—all major United States lines and several foreign. Also CAA [Civil Aviation Authority] tower and radar operators, White Sands rocket experts, scientists, astronomers; and besides all the technically trained people there are hundreds smart enough to be successful lawyers, doctors, businessmen—[.] (85)

How could Jung—how could *anyone*—read summary statements such as these and not believe at least that the things seen in the skies were physical objects? Did Jung not wonder,

if UFOs were a purely psychological phenomenon, why Air Force jets chased them or why pilots and air traffic controllers were not fired for reporting them? Moreover, how is it, as prominent UFO researcher Steven M. Greer likes to ask, that we can send a person to his death based on the testimony of one witness yet not believe in a phenomenon seen by thousands of credible witnesses around the world?⁸ With respect to UFOs, the answer is that the perseverance of belief powerfully inhibits change. Conceptual systems are resilient, as the United States government knows well and as Jung's skepticism illustrates.

Keyhoe's main conclusions present a radical challenge to the status quo and to Jung's position in his letter. Keyhoe asserts that UFOs are real physical machines that come from outer space—perhaps Mars or Venus or some planet in another solar system within the Milky Way. Earth has been observed for at least 200 years, and astronomical journals printed reports of saucer- and cigar-shaped objects in the 19th century (“The Flying Saucers Are Real”). If there were sightings before the Wright brothers flew, UFOs cannot be of Earth origin, for antigravity disks were obviously not invented before airplanes. As Keyhoe tells Mike Wallace, the extraterrestrials' purpose is “probably a long-range survey” (“Major Donald Keyhoe Part 1 of 3”). Another main point is that UFO sightings increased in the nuclear age, suggesting the visitors' concern with our weaponry. If our rockets and nuclear bombs were perceived as a threat by extraterrestrial civilizations, it makes sense that UFOs were seen especially over “air bases, cities, [and] key industries” (*Flying Saucers from Outer Space* 59).

According to Keyhoe, the objects themselves are of three types. There are small remotely controlled disks, large presumably crewed disks, and really large cylindrical mother ships. The UFOs could be secret devices from the United States or Russia or merely natural phenomena, but Keyhoe rules out all but the interplanetary interpretation. He is especially critical of the idea that common phenomena—for example, birds, fireflies in the cockpit, reflections, Venus, and weather balloons—account for the sightings. In particular, the sightings cannot be chalked up to the temperature inversions proposed as an explanation by Donald H. Menzel, an astrophysicist who directed the Harvard Observatory, whom Peebles calls “the leading independent skeptic in the 1950s and 1960s” (113). One of Menzel's arguments was that a temperature-inversion layer causes a radar beam to bend downward and pick up an object on the ground, making it appear on the screen as if it were in the air. With respect to the UFO controversy, then, Keyhoe is to alien machines as Menzel is to temperature inversions and other natural phenomena.

Menzel's temperature inversion theory plays a role in Keyhoe's 1953 book, *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*. This possibility and other natural explanations appear in Menzel's own 1953 book, *Flying Saucers*, where he asserts that “the different types of optical tricks that the atmosphere and its contents can play upon our eyes” account for flying saucers (6).⁹ According to Keyhoe's *NICAP Special Bulletin*, however, Menzel cast a shadow on his own work: “Dr. Donald H. Menzel, harshest skeptic of UFO reports, has admitted that he failed to get all the factual evidence before debunking important sightings.” The article also states that “the chief AF consultant on UFOs, noted astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek, had labeled Menzel's UFO explanations as ‘not a serious treatise’” (“Menzel Admits”). Similarly, McDonald levels harsh criticism at Menzel's body of work, stating that “he seems to calmly cast aside well-known scientific principles almost with abandon, in an all-out effort to be sure that no UFO report survives his attack. . . . I simply do not regard them as substantial scientific analyses of the UFO phenomena. I believe they

should be ignored” (8, 10). Jung is in agreement, referring to “[s]o-called ‘scientific’ explanations, such as Menzel’s reflection theory” and stating that Menzel “has not succeeded . . . in offering a satisfying scientific explanation of even one authentic Ufo report” (*CW* 18, par. 1435; 10, par. 781). And again: “So-called ‘scientific’ explanations, such as Menzel’s reflection theory, are possible only if all the reports that fail to fit the theory are conveniently overlooked” (*CW* 18, par. 1435).

Whereas Menzel was a mere annoyance, Keyhoe’s major beef was that the facts were being covered up by the Air Force, the CIA, and the United States government in order to prevent panic and hysteria. His response in *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* is to craft a statement that expresses what he wishes the Air Force would admit:

Evidence shows that the saucers are real, that they are some kind of revolutionary machines. There is no sign that they are dangerous or hostile. We don’t know where they come from, but we are certain they do not come from Russia or any other nation on earth. It seems likely they come from another planet and are making a friendly survey of the earth before attempting contact. (88)

As Keyhoe states in his Foreword to Leonard H. Stringfield’s *Situation Red, The UFO Siege!*, “If an advanced alien race is observing our world, we should be told the truth—even if the Air Force does not have all the answers. The cover-up must be ended. The public should be sensibly prepared—for whatever may develop” (xiii).

Criticism of Keyhoe

From a contemporary standpoint, further criticism of Keyhoe’s work for its missing historical cruxes is possible, and it is here that the shadow of secrecy and injustice begins to emerge. Neither in his books nor in the *NICAP Bulletin* does Keyhoe express an awareness of major developments that are standard fare in today’s ufology.¹⁰ The following brief survey of significant historical events reveals both the limitations of Keyhoe the investigator and of Jung the reader: Keyhoe’s silence on these matters almost certainly indicates that Jung remained uninformed.

To begin with, Keyhoe seems unaware that the real purpose of Project Blue Book (1952–69) was to reveal less-sensitive information in order to conceal even greater secrets. As Michael Salla, a leader in the field of expolitics, writes in *Antarctica’s Hidden History*, only the least significant UFO files “were made available to the public through Project Blue Book” (199). Worse than that, according to McDonald, “[a]t Bluebook [sic] the most outrageously unscientific ‘explanations’ were assigned to important sightings,” and he believes that Blue Book “patterned” its meteorological explanations after Menzel’s work (3, 10). Thus, as Stevens writes,

This agency would have then been in a position to “explain” or spin the data so as not to alarm the populace while still maintaining secrecy concerning its own projects. . . . The Air Force experimented on flying saucers on [the] one hand while gathering reported sightings from civilians on the other hand, spinning and manipulating the information according to the dictates of their agenda. (179)

Although Keyhoe was regularly critical of the Air Force’s obfuscations and evasions, he was unaware that Project Blue Book itself, as these statements suggest, was part of a larger

attempt to cover up the truth. But what truth lay at the heart of the cover-up? The likely answer involves a German connection and enables a surprising gloss on one of Jung's statements about UFOs.

The first piece of the argument is Project Paperclip whose existence and implications Keyhoe never mentions. By the mid-1950s, Paperclip had brought more than sixteen hundred ex-Nazi scientists to America in order "to assist the United States in continued covert development and research on a whole host of black projects" (Farrell 239). According to Hunt, "In direct defiance of President Truman's policy, the Paperclip masterminds brazenly had the German scientists' records changed to expunge evidence of war crimes and ardent nazism [sic] and secure permanent immigration status for them in the United States" (265). Among those seeded into the aerospace industry, Wernher von Braun, a former member of the SS and the father of the Saturn V rocket, was the most prominent. According to Stevens, von Braun had been involved in the German saucer program, and "in the 1950s the United States Air Force was busy developing and testing flying saucers derived from captured German technology" (65, 179). One may safely assume the participation of at least the less-prominent German scientists in U.S. flying saucer research, which remained secret beneath NASA's public advances in rocketry. As Farrell writes, "there are indeed two space programs inside the U.S. government, the public NASA one, and a quasi-independent one based deep within covert and black projects" (317; cf. 346). What Keyhoe was aware of and kept quiet about is an open question, but his writings do not mention the possibility that UFO sightings might have had connections to covert U.S.-German collaboration on disk development.

The 1947 crash in Roswell, New Mexico, and the subsequent cover-up—other noteworthy omissions from Keyhoe's work—illustrate the kind of subsequent incidents that Project Blue Book was designed to conceal and may also have a German connection. A newspaper story based on the Air Force's initial press release is entitled "RAAF Captures Flying Saucer On Ranch in Roswell Region" (RAAF stands for Roswell Army Air Field). Then the Army did a 180-degree turn, promoting instead the weather balloon story that commenced the cover-up. Unfortunately for the Army, the officer who posed in an official photograph with weather balloon material was holding a memo whose visible text has been digitally enhanced. It clearly concerns a UFO crash: "AND THE VICTIMS OF THE WRECK IN THE 'DISC' THEY WILL SHIP" (Roswell weather balloon image). The text probably refers to the fact that the Army would ship the materials and alien corpses retrieved from the crash site to what is now Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio.

There is no consensus on the provenance of the bodies and technology involved in the Roswell cover-up, but the alternatives can at least be adumbrated. There are three possible origins of the advanced technology: extraterrestrial, terrestrial, and a combination of both. Colonel Philip J. Corso, in his controversial book *The Day after Roswell*, reports seeing the alien corpses, and he describes his distribution of alien artifacts to research facilities in the United States, a move that aided technologies whose development was already under way such as computer chips, fiber optics, lasers, and Kevlar®. Corso's findings diverge markedly from Ruppelt's claim that "[w]e had never picked up any 'hardware'—any whole saucers, pieces, or parts—that couldn't be readily identified as being something very earthly" (213). A more recent eyewitness is Richard Doty whose 2018 interview with Greer testifies to the Roswell craft's extraterrestrial nature

(“Unacknowledged”). Farrell presents a more balanced analysis, stating that “the biological information [about crash victims and those who touched them and soon died] certainly tends to favor the ET origins hypothesis, and the technological information a terrestrial—and German—one” (302). The latter possibility is strengthened by the fact that German scientists from Project Paperclip were called upon for assistance with the wreckage because the ship looked like their designs (302); however, Farrell also suggests the alternative possibility that the Nazis had back-engineered an ET space craft (309). It could be, then, that the ET myth was a cover story for advanced terrestrial or hybrid technology—possibilities that Keyhoe’s books never acknowledge.

On a side note, the year 1947 resonates in ufology for reasons other than the Roswell crash. In that year Kenneth Arnold’s description of UFOs sighted over Washington state on June 24th led to the popularization by the media of the terms “flying disk” and “flying saucer.” That year also saw the creation of Majestic Twelve. The National Security Act of 1947 established the CIA, the Air Force as a separate branch of the military, and the National Security Council. As Marrs describes, within the NSC was a subcommittee that had “control over rocketry, space, alternative energy sources, and even UFOs. And it is here that researchers have tracked the mysterious group known as Majic Twelve, later known as Majestic Twelve or simply MJ-12” (164). In MJ-12 the shadow of injustice receives a local habitation and a name, for it was one of the great original violators of the freedom of information about UFOs. Yet Keyhoe was probably unaware of it: the entity that is calling the shots when he attributes agency to “somebody upstairs” is probably the CIA (*Flying Saucers: Top Secret* 107).¹¹ Ironically, Keyhoe did not know that Menzel was not just the Director of the Harvard College Observatory but also a member of MJ-12. As Marrs writes, “In Menzel we find a man who, while publically known simply as a notable astronomer, had intriguing and high-level intelligence connections” (172). Menzel’s public UFO denunciations masked his secret oversight of the UFO issue, and 1950s ufology’s striving for disclosure would have been much more accurate and effective if Keyhoe had been able to publicize the great detractor’s membership in the agency that was created to deal with aliens’ visitation of Earth.¹²

But we must return to the Germans. Keyhoe does mention the Nazis at two points in *The Flying Saucers Are Real* but stops short of suggesting that the sightings over American soil had anything to do with Nazi anti-gravity disks (119, 171). This possibility is the most difficult to believe but also potentially the most significant for twentieth-century history and for Jung as a reader of UFO literature. Thanks to various sources, we now know that some of the flying saucers Keyhoe writes about were probably of German rather than extraterrestrial origin. For example, Marrs notes that “[t]he Germans were defeated in World War II . . . but not the Nazis” and that “flying saucers” were among the Nazis’ technological developments (4, 52; ellipsis in the original).¹³ Stevens mentions additional theories about Nazi expatriates’ relocation to South America, Greenland, Canada, the United States, the Canary Islands, and Switzerland (5, 186, 189–91, 193). Similarly, Farrell discusses the Antarctic theory (238–62) and considers the possibility of German bases in the high northern latitudes (255–62). Regarding Antarctica, his list of facts versus allegations confirms the presence of both German and American expeditionary forces (260–61).

A fuller version of the Antarctica theory, as described by Salla, states that the Nazis, although they lost the final battles of World War II, survived the war because, starting in

1939, they moved their research into antigravity propulsion to caves beneath the Antarctic ice (43). Operation Highjump was Admiral Richard E. Byrd's Antarctic expedition in 1946–47 to ferret out the Nazis whose presence in Antarctica violated the Monroe Doctrine, the 1823 policy against European colonialism. There is no doubt that the expedition's purpose was a military offensive, for it included, as Farrell notes, an aircraft carrier, two seaplane carriers, two destroyers, two escort ships, two fueling ships, a submarine, helicopters, DC-3s, an armored tracked vehicle, and four thousand troops (246–47). In the ensuing conflict over Antarctica, Nazi UFOs destroyed U.S. Navy aircraft. According to Erich J. Choron, "On 5 March, 1947 the 'El Mercurio' newspaper of Santiago, Chile, had a headline article entitled 'On Board the Mount Olympus [sic] on the High Seas,' which quotes Byrd in an interview with Lee van Atta." (The *USS Mount Olympus* was the flagship of Operation Highjump.)

Adm. Byrd declared today that it was imperative for the United States to initiate immediate defense measures against hostile regions. Furthermore, Byrd stated that he "didn't want to frighten anyone unduly" but that it was "a bitter reality that in case of a new war the continental United States would be attacked by flying objects which could fly from pole to pole at incredible speeds."

It is possible that the UFOs seen over Washington, DC, in 1952 and many others spotted during the 1950s were actually Nazi saucers developed at bases in Antarctica or elsewhere and that the Nazis' purpose was to use their superior technology to intimidate the U.S. government into providing industrial support.

It may also be, then, that Nazi flying saucers are an unrecognized part of Keyhoe's investigation. Playing chicken with military and civilian aircraft and scaring civilians on the ground—things that Keyhoe reports—sound more like Nazi intimidation than benign observation by extraterrestrial anthropologists. Although shrouded by time and secrecy, an additional set of Nazi-related events is probable and may eventually enter the mainstream history of the 1950s. According to Salla, in perhaps the greatest historical irony of the twentieth century, President Eisenhower, who had led the Allies to victory in World War II, capitulated to the Nazis in a meeting at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico on February 11, 1955, clearing the way for the Germans to infiltrate the U.S. military-industrial complex even more openly than Project Paperclip had allowed (*Antarctica's* 115–16).¹⁴ Indeed, "[t]he secret agreement reached at the Holloman AFB meeting led to full cooperation between the Eisenhower administration and the German breakaway group in Antarctica"; the German space program was actually "a joint venture with the U.S. military-industrial complex," even part of "a negotiated surrender" (133, 361, 369).

This discussion of events related to German post-war technological developments is not without relevance to Jung's interest in UFOs. The possibility that Nazis continued their research and infiltrated the U.S. military-industrial complex sheds light on a footnote in Jung's "On Flying Saucers." He states: "George Adamski's book (with Desmond Leslie), [*The Flying Saucers Have Landed*] appeared in 1953 (London). In it he tells the story of how he met a saucer-man in the California desert" (*CW* 18, par. 1433, n. 2). Adamski claims that the man was from Venus, but Salla argues that the possibility that the man spoke German and the similarity between the photographs of the craft and diagrams and photographs of the Nazi Haunebu II anti-gravity machine support the notion that

Adamski had contact with a German, not an extraterrestrial (*Antarctica's* 165–70). As Stevens emphasizes in *Hitler's Flying Saucers*, “The Haunebu pictures strongly resemble the Adamski saucer pictures of the early 1950s,” and he cites authorities who “maintain that these ‘Adamski saucers’ are really the German-designed Haunebu type saucers” (121). How was Adamski’s claim received by Keyhoe’s followers? According to an article in the *NICAP Bulletin*, “Approximately 85% of NICAP members who voted in the recent ballot on claims made by George Adamski are convinced that his claims are false” (“Final Adamski Vote”). Adamski might have received a more favorable vote if NICAP members had known about the possible German connection.

Although Keyhoe and NICAP sought to force the Air Force to acknowledge that UFOs were machines rather than natural phenomena, the possibility that they were terrestrial (perhaps of Nazi origin) was well beyond his system of thought and never occurred to Jung either. In addition to being apparently unaware that Project Blue Book’s true purpose was to mask the truth, Keyhoe, the top private UFO investigator of the 1950s, shows no awareness in his books of the Brookings Institution Report, Project Paperclip, or key facts of 1947—the Roswell crash, the creation of MJ-12, Menzel’s double role, and Operation Highjump. By not factoring in the role of the military-industrial complex, Keyhoe played into the hands of the Air Force. Its obstruction of his quest for the freedom of information on the UFO subject obscured the greater secret that many of the craft may have been Nazi in origin and that the U.S. military-industrial complex, via Project Paperclip, was in league with a remnant of its former enemy—a secret much more sinister than extraterrestrial visitation.

Unbeknownst to Keyhoe there was more in play than the disclosure/nondisclosure binary suggests, and his struggle to disclose lesser information helped to preserve the secrecy of greater information. For example, he never mentions the Roswell incident, which probably involved extraterrestrials, while insisting on the extraterrestrial nature of flying saucers that may have actually been, either partly or fully, of terrestrial design and construction. As General Nathan Twining wrote on September 23, 1947, “It is possible within the present U. S. [sic] knowledge—provided extensive detailed development is undertaken—to construct a piloted aircraft which has the general description of the object [a flying disk] . . . which would be capable of an approximate range of 7000 miles at subsonic speeds. . . . The phenomenon is something real and not visionary or fictitious” (qtd. in Cook 37). In other words, Keyhoe’s struggle with the Air Force to reveal the existence of flying saucers from outer space, which he considered a binary tug of war, was actually more like a shell game whose third option escaped his awareness. Thus, Keyhoe appears to have fallen for the red herring that Stevens describes: “The [U.S.] government has used ‘flying saucers’ to cover its own testing of secret aircraft. It uses the UFO-extraterrestrial ploy superbly. When a UFO is seen by civilians, a controlled procedure is enacted. This procedure plants or encourages witnesses who expound an extraterrestrial origin in a given sighting” (ii). Unfortunately, the intent to distract and conceal continues to the present day, as Salla describes: “In 2015, Edward Snowden leaked National Security Agency documents that showed how all classified programs have cover programs, along with contrived cover stories to maintain secrecy” (263). With respect to the official secrecy surrounding UFOs, not much has changed in sixty years. The implication is that if Keyhoe and even Ruppelt, the foremost civilian and military UFO investigators of the 1950s, were

kept in the dark despite their best efforts, then Jung, who relied on them for much of his information but did not believe a good deal of it, was even further removed from the truth.

Ruppelt, Lindbergh, Greer

Despite Jung's skepticism about flying saucers and Keyhoe's many deficiencies and omissions as an investigator, his work had a substantive impact. Jung calls him "a reliable man" and states that his books "are based on official material and studiously avoid the wild speculation, naïveté, or prejudice of other publications" (*CW* 10, par. 603, 591). He notes Keyhoe's detailed account in *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* of the "struggle with the Pentagon for recognition of the interplanetary origin of the Ufos" (*CW* 18, par. 1434, n. 4). In addition, Jung, as a writer, borrowed various details from Keyhoe, as the following significant echoes suggest. UFOs are saucer- and cigar-shaped and appear to have "interest in airfields and in industrial installations connected with nuclear fission" (*CW* 10, par. 602). Regarding photographic evidence and radar traces, Jung, despite his denials elsewhere, contrasts "the comprehensive reports by Ruppelt and Keyhoe, which leave no room for doubt," with Menzel's insufficiencies (*CW* 10, par. 782). Finally, in his letter, Jung's previously quoted statement about the H-bomb seems to echo Keyhoe's reason for advocating disclosure. Here is Keyhoe in *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*: "It [disclosure of the saucers' extraterrestrial origins] would have caused some alarm. But gradually Americans would have accepted the facts, even the possibility of a saucer attack—just as we now have accepted the dangers of A-bomb attack" (88). Jung's statement about the H-bomb repackages Keyhoe's point about the A-bomb.

Jung's comment on Ruppelt indicates that he had read Ruppelt's 1956 publication, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*. But equating Ruppelt and Keyhoe means that Jung did not read either very well. In the book, Ruppelt calls Keyhoe's *True* magazine article a "potboiler" (65), declares that *The Flying Saucers Are Real* parlays correct facts into incorrect conjectures" (83), states that Keyhoe "needles the Air Force" over its conclusions on a UFO incident in North Dakota (42–43), reaches different conclusions than Keyhoe on an array of UFO sightings, and sarcastically indicts him for his account in *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* of the mental state of General Samford prior to his controversial press conference. "This bit of reporting makes Major Keyhoe the greatest journalist in history. This beats wiretapping. He reads minds. And not only that, he can read them right through the walls of the Pentagon" (168). Ruppelt also criticizes Keyhoe's *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* for its use of cases cleared by the Air Force Press Desk: "The book was based on a few of our good UFO reports that were released to the press. To say that the book is factual depends entirely upon how one uses the word. The details of the specific UFO sightings that he credits to the Air Force are factual, but in his interpretations of the incidents he blasts way out into the wild blue yonder" (236). Keyhoe cites fifty one cases, but Ruppelt's point seems to be that not all of them are "good," which means that a case is rich with details that are worthy of careful investigation and therefore unlikely to be a hoax.

Ruppelt's skeptical scientific approach in *The Report* aligns with Jung's own view, and one becomes a bit impatient with both men's conclusions. On the one hand, Ruppelt presents himself as an honest investigator who makes a good-faith effort to evaluate data and reach scientifically justifiable conclusions, and sometimes what Keyhoe considers a space craft does turn out to have a natural explanation. On the other hand, the trouble is

that the three standard conclusions—knowns, unknowns, and insufficient information—preclude the conclusion that UFOs might be declared actual machines. Regarding *The Report*, Jung states: “I came to the same conclusion as Edward J. Ruppelt, one-time chief of the American Air Force’s project for investigating Ufo reports. The conclusion is: *something is seen, but one does not know what*” (*CW* 10, par. 591; emphasis in the original; cf. *CW* 18, par. 1448). But this interpretation of the data seems out of sync with the obvious reality of what is described in some of the case files. For example, when a UFO over Michigan goes fourteen hundred miles per hour; changes speed; does a 180-degree turn; is chased by an F-94 whose pilot and radar operator both see “a large bluish-white light, ‘many times larger than a star’”; is radar locked, which proves that it is some kind of machine; and is tracked by radar operators on the ground—the reader becomes a bit impatient and begins to side with Keyhoe’s more affirmative position (171–72). A bit later a Rand Corporation scientist confronts Ruppelt with words that articulate the reader’s view: “‘What do you want? . . . Does a UFO have to come in and land on your desk at ATIC?’” (186). It is clear to today’s reader, if not to Ruppelt himself or to Jung, that some of the elusive lights and objects described in *The Report* cannot possibly be airplanes, balloons, or natural phenomena but must be unconventional machines made on Earth or somewhere else. Although Ruppelt, to his credit, acknowledges that high-level officials in the Pentagon secretly discussed the extraterrestrial possibility, *The Report* ends disappointingly: “Maybe the earth is being visited by interplanetary spaceships. Only time will tell” (243). In his view, as of 1956 the jury on UFOs was still out despite Project Blue Book’s exhaustive investigation. In light of Ruppelt’s less-than-definitive take on UFOs, it is little wonder that Jung himself chose to withhold judgment. It is perhaps understandable that he was unable or unwilling to take the intellectual leap required to affirm UFOs’ mechanical nature: neither did Ruppelt.

Jung’s affirmative statement about the reliability of the two men means that he did not distinguish Keyhoe the journalist from Ruppelt the scientist, and Keyhoe was the greater influence on Jung’s thinking. Still, as Jung’s conversation with Lindbergh reveals, Keyhoe may ultimately not have had much influence on Jung at all, or perhaps “the ‘Old Wizard,’” as Lindbergh calls him, just lost interest in UFOs at the end of his life (*C. G. Jung Speaking* 409). Lindbergh, who visited Jung in 1959, the year after he published *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies*, finds him somewhat intellectually disengaged. Here is Lindbergh’s account, which appears in *C. G. Jung Speaking*: “To my astonishment, I found that Jung accepted the saucers as factual. On the one hand, he didn’t seem in the least interested in psychological aspects. On the other, he didn’t seem at all interested in factual information relating to the investigation of flying-saucer reports.” This is a sad statement because it suggests that Jung, who was now in his mid-eighties and would pass away two years later, was disengaging from one of the interests that had fired his intellect. He certainly *had* been interested in UFOs’ psychological aspects; *had* doubted their physical reality; but, as his subscription to the *NICAP Bulletin* suggests, *had* been intrigued by their physical properties. Lindbergh continues: “When I told Jung that the U. S. [sic] Air Force had investigated hundreds of reported flying saucer sightings without finding the slightest evidence of supernatural phenomena, it was obvious that he did not wish to pursue the subject farther. . . . He referenced Donald Keyhoe’s book about flying saucers.” When Jung seems largely disinterested in the important point that Lindbergh is making, Lindbergh tries again by

stating that he had spent a lot of time with Keyhoe, meaning on their 48-state tour, and tells Jung about “the high-level Pentagon conference cited by Keyhoe, again in the early chapters of his book, to substantiate his claims about the reality of flying saucers. . . . So far as I could judge, Jung showed not the slightest interest in these facts” (407–08). Lindbergh may be referring here to the opening chapters of *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* where Keyhoe states that officials at the Pentagon read proofs of *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* and tried to discredit him and his work. In any case, it appears that Jung, once an avid consumer of UFO material, had ironically lost interest in one of the most important issues of the modern period. In fact, if UFOs are really from outer space, then the aliens’ visitation of Earth is “the biggest story since the birth of Christ,” as one of Keyhoe’s interlocutors calls it (*The Flying Saucers Are Real* 54). In that case, it would also be, as Ruppelt speculates, “the biggest story since the Creation” (57).

As the Lindbergh conversation and the letter to Keyhoe indicate, Jung would not have agreed with the implication of a probably unintentional pun that appears in *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*. Keyhoe says to his Air Force press contact, a civilian named Albert Chop, that “these secret briefings are the *key* to the *whole deal*” (126; emphases added). The phrase’s punning on Keyhoe’s name suggests that, in the 1950s, his investigative work on UFOs did provide a key to the whole issue, in his own opinion at least. Though Keyhoe is largely unknown today, Jung’s references fortunately provide a suitable reminder of Keyhoe’s important disclosure work. The continued delay in official governmental disclosure, however, remains problematic because the clean energy systems reverse-engineered from captured extraterrestrial craft remain classified. Keyhoe was aware of this link between the UFOs’ antigravity propulsion and the future of energy production on Earth. He quotes William P. Lear, the founder of the Lear Jet Corporation, as stating, “Unlimited power, freedom from gravitational attraction, [and] an infinitely short travel time are now becoming feasible” (*The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* 251). In fact, according to Lear (in Keyhoe’s paraphrase), “an American aviation company . . . was already conducting gravitational-field research” (258).¹⁵ Keyhoe published Lear’s claims more than six decades ago, yet the military-industrial complex that Keyhoe fought to expose and that President Dwight Eisenhower warned us about retains a stranglehold on the UFO issue and related technologies. In a famous statement that points to the shadow hanging over a system that limits justice and liberty, Eisenhower states, “In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex” (“Eisenhower”). In Salla’s interpretation, “Eisenhower’s speech was a veiled warning about the sinister influence the Fourth Reich had achieved through its infiltration of the U.S. military-industrial complex, and the danger this posed to American liberties and the incoming Kennedy administration” (*Antarctica’s* 179–80). The point, as Farrell states, is that “in importing ex-Nazi scientists and their unusual methods and insights and experimental results (often achieved at the cost of enormous human suffering), we inadvertently imported an underlying ideology at variance with traditional morality” (195). Keyhoe would not have been entirely surprised to learn how deeply the shadow of secrecy actually ran.

In addition, he would agree with the following psychological statement: “Power that is exercised without abiding by the archetypes of ‘Truth and Justice’ will always be perceived as a form of tyranny by its citizens, thereby weakening the political system from within” (Salla 377). Even the victories that Keyhoe did achieve were ironically undermined

by the injustice of a cover-up involving a deeper layer of the military-industrial complex related to German research in far-flung regions of the planet and Project Paperclip in the United States. He was also the victim of his own assumption: insisting that UFOs were extraterrestrial led him to overlook the possibility that many of them had actually been built on Earth. Unfortunately, the Air Force and the federal government are today no more forthcoming than they were in the 1950s despite Greer's Disclosure event on May 9, 2001 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Realizing the futility of attempting to get the government to disclose its greatest secret, Greer now emphasizes the importance of making free energy available to the world and the possibility of direct contact with extraterrestrials via his CE-5 (close encounters of the fifth kind) initiative, which involves training ordinary people to make contact with the sort of extraterrestrial surveyors whom Keyhoe supposes to be watching us.¹⁶ Although it is impossible to know what Keyhoe said in reply to Jung's letter, or if he replied at all,¹⁷ it is reasonably certain that Keyhoe would be pleased to know that a tenacious spiritual warrior like Greer is leading the movement for Truth and Justice in our own era; that the CE-5 initiative enables people to bypass the national security state to establish their own contact with extraterrestrials; and that recent historical research, though it qualifies an aliens-only interpretation of UFOs, does enable a nuanced reply to the kind of skepticism that Jung expresses in his letter. Human technology accounts for some UFO sightings but not all.

Conclusion

Keyhoe's final reference to Jung's letter comes in excerpts at the very end of *Aliens from Space* (305), but his use of Jung's words is problematic. "More and more," writes Keyhoe, "members of Congress, the press and the public have come to realize the serious situation of which the late Dr. Carl Jung, the famous Swiss analyst, warned some years ago. A member of NICAP, he wrote me from Zurich."

Dear Major Keyhoe:

I am grateful for all the courageous things you have done in elucidating the thorny problem of UFO-reality [Jung: Ufo-reality] . . . [Keyhoe's ellipsis here and below]

If it is true that the AFF (American Air Force) [Keyhoe's insertion] or the government [Jung: Government] withholds tell-telling facts [Jung: telltale facts], then one can only say that this is the most unpsychological and stupid policy one could invent. Nothing helps rumors and panics more than ignorance. It is self-evident that the public ought to be told the truth . . .

I remain, dear Major,

Yours,

C. G. Jung

That withholding information is a "stupid policy" is true enough, but Keyhoe shears away Jung's heavy reservations about the UFO phenomenon itself. In fact, he edits the letter to create the exact impression—of Jung as a UFO proponent—that Jung wrote the letter to counteract. Now the person he contacted to help him correct having been quoted out of context *is quoting him out of context*. Thus, Keyhoe is guilty of the kind of intentional omission that he criticizes in the Condon Report (1969).

Vesco and Childress point out damningly that Condon's staff of fourteen people did not include anyone "skilled in the fundamental technical disciplines that concern aviation" (323), which means that amateurs' assumptions were passed off as experts' conclusions. Keyhoe, of course, was critical of the report's findings. First, he states: "In the opening sections, Dr. Condon denied that UFOs were anything but illusions, ordinary objects, and fabricated reports. Many witnesses, he declared, were inept, unduly excited or otherwise unreliable." Second, Keyhoe points out the misuse of information: "The fact that the jet did not catch fire until it crashed is left out. . . . Scores of other serious UFO cases were left out, and thousands of other reports were omitted because of this decision by Dr. Condon. . . . As a result, over 98 per cent [sic] of the UFO evidence was ignored, including many unexplained top-witness reports" (*Aliens* 268). As Colin Bennett notes, "The Condon Report was an exercise in cultural vanishing" (iv). Similarly, Jung's skepticism and hesitation in his letter—"I do not possess sufficient evidence which would enable me to draw definite conclusions" (*CW* 18, par. 1448)—is left out by Keyhoe, the great critic of intellectually suspicious omissions. In other words, Keyhoe himself was not above a bit of rhetorical legerdemain to promote his own position. Although the manipulation of Jung's words is a tiny violation of fair-mindedness compared with the huge cover-up present in the Condon report, cherry picking the letter points to the intellectually divisive nature of the UFO issue and suggests, at a minimum, that Keyhoe was guilty of confirmation bias. In his final book, then, he extracts points from Jung's letter that are compatible with his political agenda and omits Jung's deep ambivalence "concerning the physical nature of the Ufo-phenomenon" (*CW* 18, par. 1448). If Jung had lived another twelve years and had read *Aliens from Space*, he would certainly have taken umbrage with Keyhoe's dubious use of his words.

It would be an unfair exaggeration, however, to claim that efforts in the 1950s resulted in no genuine progress toward Disclosure and totally frustrated Keyhoe's efforts. For example, in 1956 the publication of Ruppelt's *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, despite the author's own skepticism, "jarred the censors with its massive verified evidence and disclosures about secrecy" (Keyhoe, *Aliens* 90). Although by 1959 "Ruppelt reversed all he had disclosed, rejecting all his strong evidence and ridiculing expert witnesses" (90), *The Original 1956 Edition* is still in print today, and the reversal itself may be positive evidence of UFO truths that the second edition denies.¹⁸ As Ruppelt's *Report* and Keyhoe's five books attest, the human desire to reveal the truth is stronger than the political and economic need to conceal it. When Official Disclosure eventually occurs (likely in the present century), we should remember that Keyhoe's work played no small role in keeping the issue above ground.

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Notes

¹ For a detailed description of Keyhoe's organization, see "The NICAP Story."

² For full details on this source and others, see the works-cited list.

³ Note that the essay uses "disk" to refer to flying saucer, though some authors (problematically) prefer "disc."

⁴ Sources for the biographical information in this section are Clark's entry on Keyhoe in *The UFO Encyclopedia* and two Web sites: "Donald Edward Keyhoe" and "Donald Keyhoe."

⁵ Jung's note also mentions *The Truth about Flying Saucers* (1956) by Aimé Michel who, in reviewing the primary and secondary texts on UFOs available in the mid-1950s, remains open to the extraterrestrial hypothesis. He states, for example, "If these objects [saucers] were haunting the sky not only in 1942, but as far back as 1936, it is long odds that they come—or at any rate some of them come—from *elsewhere*" (108–09; emphasis in the original). In using Keyhoe's work as a source, Michel offers the following kindly evaluation: "He is sometimes rather enthusiastic in his comments, but in recording facts he is scrupulously honest and conscientious" (11). Jung must have appreciated Michel's inclusion of UFO cases from Europe and Africa, as well as the author's scientific and mathematical explanations of observed phenomena. Like Keyhoe and Jung himself, however, Michel is dubious of Donald H. Menzel's meteorological explanations.

⁶ Peebles makes a similar statement about so-called "contactees": "The contactee myth can be thought of as a messiah-based religion for an age when traditional religion had lost its meaning" (105).

⁷ In the following statement, Keyhoe relies on information from Marcel Minnaert's *The Nature of Light and Colour in Open Air*: "The methane marsh gas, according to Minnaert, can produce lights known as 'will-o'-the-wisp.' They resemble tiny flames, from one half an inch to five inches high, not over two inches across" (*Aliens* 119). It was J. Allen Hynek who first linked marsh gas and UFOs. Keyhoe considers swamp gas, as it is popularly called, a risible explanation for UFOs and an insult to the public's intelligence. Whereas the skeptical Peebles analyzes Hynek's finding more affirmatively (169–72), *The U.F.O. Investigator* published an article entitled "Swamp Gas Answer Disproved" in the March–April 1966 issue.

⁸ Greer has made this statement in various contexts, but its source appears to be Lieutenant Colonel Charles Brown who states: "It is sort of strange but we send people to prison, we send people to their death because of eyewitness accounts of crimes. Our legal system is based on that to a large degree. Yet in my following of unusual aerial phenomena for the past 50 years, there seems to be some reason to discredit very viable and very reputable witnesses when they say something is unidentified" (qtd. in *Disclosure* 34).

⁹ Menzel published two other books on the subject with co-authors: *The UFO Enigma* and *The World of Flying Saucers: A Scientific Examination of a Major Myth of the Space Age*.

¹⁰ See www.cufos.org/UFOI_and_Selected_Documents/Special%20Bulletins.pdf for some issues of the *Bulletin*. The following publications were scanned by The University of Ottawa and sent to the author: the *NICAP Bulletin* for February 1954, January 1959, April 1959, November 1959, and June 1961, as well as the *NICAP Special Bulletin* for August 1957, November 1958, May 1960, October 1960, and September 1965. These issues likely may not include the *Bulletin*'s entire run, but they are representative of its main purpose: to discuss UFO sightings and to push back against the Air Force. There is no mention of larger historical developments such as those that the following paragraphs describe. NICAP also published *The U.F.O. Investigator*, which focused on UFO facts, the Air Force's cover-up, and attempts to get Congress to hold hearings. For an example, see www.cufos.org/UFOI_and_Selected_Documents/UFOI/014%20OCT%201961.pdf. Bound volumes of *The U.F.O. Investigator* are available at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. The author surveyed the volume that includes 1958–67, which concludes with some issues of the *NICAP Bulletin* and *Special Bulletin*.

¹¹ In *Aliens* Keyhoe states: "The Central Intelligence Agency is the power behind the UFO secrecy. . . . The CIA take-over of the Air Force investigation occurred in 1953" (77–78). Chapter 5 is entitled "The CIA Takes Over" (79–91). In a March 1954 letter, Keyhoe states: "Actually the Air Force is not the only agency involved [in the conspiracy]; the CIA, National Security Council, FBI, Civil Defense, all are tied in at top levels. The White House, of course, will have the final word as to what people are to be told, and when" (qtd. in Peebles 111).

¹² The skeptical Peebles states that Menzel's participation in MJ-12 was a fiction: "Clearly, Menzel had been included as an act of revenge for his past activities" (267). However, Stanton T. Friedman devotes a whole chapter in *Top Secret/Majic* to Menzel's participation classified programs (26–40). Also, his Appendix A provides a presidential "Briefing Document" dated November 18, 1952, in which Menzel is listed as an original member of MJ-12 (233). Friedman states, "What I have been able to do is to demonstrate that Menzel could very well have been part of such a high-level group despite his public persona [as a UFO debunker], and that his inclusion on the Majestic-12 briefing document is thus no deterrent to that document's validity" (39). Friedman's list of Menzel's high-level connections in Appendix C bolsters the credibility of his participation in MJ-12 (243–44).

¹³ Marris's chapter 7, "Project Paperclip and the Space Race" (149–77), is particularly relevant. He references two important sources: Stevens's *Hitler's Flying Saucers*, which includes a chapter on electro-magnetic propulsion (85–153); and Hunt's *Secret Agenda*. More recently, Salla's YouTube lecture, "Antarctica's Hidden History," provides a concise summary of what he unpacks at greater length in his book *Antarctica's Hidden History*. All citations to Salla below refer to the latter work.

¹⁴ The hidden history of the United States in the twentieth century includes the possibility of other meetings. Eisenhower may have met in February of 1954 at Edwards Air Force

Base with “Nordic” extraterrestrials and later that year with the Greys. An article by Peter Carlson in *The Washington Post* reports Salla’s conclusions as well as the cover story (that the president went to the dentist’s office). Carlson writes, “The ‘Nordics’ offered to share their superior technology and their spiritual wisdom with Ike if he would agree to eliminate America’s nuclear weapons.” According to the story, the president declined but later struck a deal with the Greys for technology in exchange for human experimentation and cattle mutilations. Paul Blake Smith, in *President Eisenhower’s Close Encounters*, the best overall source on the Edwards AFB encounter, suggests that the meeting spanned February 19–20, that the aliens looked like us (with small differences), and that they were about 5’6” tall. He does not identify them as Nordics, and he affirms that Eisenhower actually did receive emergency dental work. The case that Smith makes, though somewhat inferential, is solid and convincing.

¹⁵ Keyhoe’s article “Saucers Secret: Antigravity” is relevant here: “Our government, hoping for a technical breakthrough, has set up 46 different research projects on various aspects of gravity control. The Air Force is running 33 of these projects and the others are divided among five other agencies” (2). Cook confirms that Lear was part of discussions on antigravity ships (3–4). There are also clean energy machines not related to UFOs. For example, as of 2017, 5,784 applications for U.S. patents had never seen the light of day (Dilawar). Some of these are for patents on free-energy machines that have been sequestered in the interest of national security and the stability of our oil-based energy infrastructure.

¹⁶ See Greer’s Web site, siriusdisclosure.com, for information on his films, including *Close Encounters of the Fifth Kind: Contact Has Begun*, directed by Michael Mazzola.

¹⁷For example, the Donald Keyhoe archive page at www.cohenufo.org/DONALDKEYHOE/kyhoufmd.htm does not include his correspondence.

¹⁸ Keyhoe expresses his concerns in “Capt. Ruppelt Revising His UFO Book: Air Force Rumored to be Pressuring Former project chief” in the March 1960 issue of *The U.F.O. Investigator*. The article includes Keyhoe’s lengthy letter to Ruppelt. In the same issue there is a shorter article that criticizes him: “Ruppelt Reverses Stand on UFOs.” Whereas Keyhoe believes that Ruppelt was coerced, Peebles simply states that “years later his widow . . . said his switch was caused by the continuing lack of any physical evidence, as well as by the contactees” (140). Jung himself dismisses the account of a contactee named Orfeo Angelucci. For a more affirmative reading of Angelucci’s *The Secret of the Saucers* (1955), see the author’s book *The One Mind*, chapter 5.

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