



2: AUG 1967 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COD WAY USS

ELPORT NO.

00-3-121/23490-67

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Report on Conversations With Soviet Scientists on Subject of Unidentified Flying Objects in the USER DATE DISTR.

18 AUG 67

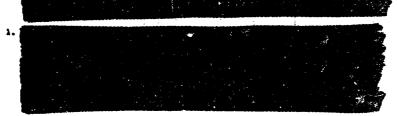
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE



- 2. He wasted who was neacounittel on the subject of UTO's. The ectantist who served as translator, a radio astronomer, emphasically utsted that he knew of no sightings of UTO's in the USSR and added with a lough that if they were only seen in the US, they must be of Seviet origin.
- 3. At the that beard of some sightings of unidentified objects near the Caucseur. She was unewere of any study being made of them but was open-minded on the subject.
- ested in the problem. He had read Mentel's book (which has been translated into Russian) but did not accept his conclusions. Where of some sightings in the northern pert of the USSR, but seld that reports of such sightings are not printed in Soviet newspapers because they are not regarded as scientific observations. (Comment: this is interesting in view of the readinass of Soviet newspapers to print rather fundatic reports of hypotheses and "observations" suggested by the more imministive members of the scientific community. Apparently some official sanction is needed.) These been interested in US reports of UTO's and readily accepts their reality. In fact, it is his personal opinion that the UTO's may originate on Venus. He is well aware of the segative effect of "enlightened" scientific opinion on the interpretation of questionable observations as he has had personal

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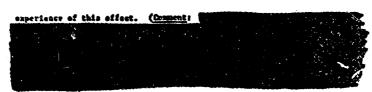
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- 3. At the trop question, the trop of t
- 6. At the second of the astronousts, it is again little interest was shown. One of the astronousts, it is a way with the group mentioned by the second property of a peculiar object. Be did not discuss the experience in detail but clearly had been extrack by the possibility that the object might have been a "ensect."
- The institute includes the presided ever by the presided ever by the institute includes the presided ever by the institute. However, the initial discussion of the problem was with the director of the institute, the problem was with the director of the institute, the problem was with the consequently felt was closed. He indicated that no observations of 170's had been made by his staff and that they had received no reports of such observations. However, when the proceeded to indicate the results of McDonaid's critical study of the problem, the presidity concaded that there might be sore to it and concluded by stating that it was "clearly still me open question,"
- 8. Another estronomer wardened that in the morthers part of Estabhetan there had been repeated wightings of hall lightning.

 The had make the most be investigate and discovered that that can being seen were reflections of autombile headlights from an inversion layer.
- Later, a discussion was held with present with the significance of with Henrel's book, but was also not impresent with the significance of the phenomenon. It is possible that some interest was kindled that might lead to additional investigations.
- 10. A steller spectroscopist, was also interested in this problem.

 She was also dissetisfied with Menzel's book and felt that there was definitely an appropriate for additional research.
- 11. The general feeling one gets is that no official treatment of the UFO problem has been given in the USSR. Instead people refer to the US work, principall Hensel's book, to demonstrate the channes of real scientific problem. At the same time, there is an almost universal exarcecess of the history and characteristics of the phenomenon often associated with considerable interest. The result is that a semi-extration of the inadequacy of UB Official explanations coupled with some proof of the reality of the characterism might excite enthusiasm more repulsy among Soviet astronomers than among their US counterparts who are more arroughy influenced by the official ridicule associated with UFO's in

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