



TO: DIRECTOR, Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: : Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: : Unidentified Flying Objects

DATE: : 11/11/54
: Division of Research and Intelligence in
: Operation, 2 November 1954 (100-50)

1. After consideration of the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects at the 11/11/54 meeting of the Intelligence Review Committee, the following action was agreed:

"The Director of Central Intelligence will:

- a. Request the services of selected scientists to review and evaluate the available evidence in the light of pertinent scientific theories...."

Following the completion of this action to the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, an advisory panel of selected scientists was established. In accordance with the 11/11/54 Intelligence Review Committee, special interest of reported sightings and related material were made available for their study and consideration.

2. The advisory panel met initially at 6000 Ambassador, 11/16/54 and continued to meet during working hours daily through 11/22/54. A list of pertinent material and list of the panel was submitted to the panel and attached as tabs A and B. A copy of the findings of the panel, submitted in a report to the 11/23/54, is attached as tab C.

3. In summary, the advisory panel concludes:

- a. That the evidence presented required further official study in order to determine whether objects did not conform to known objects to national security, were not flying in nature and were not phenomena known to current principles other than those being used in current scientific research.



Approved for Release

2/20/10

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- b. The following is a list of those officials to advise, for example, in the case of military concerns of security and a possible leak of information, in addition to the fact that the information is being used for the purpose of the study, and in the case of a possible leak of the results to the military, the military should be informed.

With regard to (1) above, the local military finds that continued official requests for reporting of these phenomena increase these dangers.

4. Based upon these conclusions, the Advisory Panel recommended that appropriate authorities take immediate steps to strip the subject of "unclassified status" of official status and to institute policies of intelligence, security, and public education designed:

- To remove the public of total lack of evidence of any direct danger from the objects sighted.
- To train appropriate personnel so that they will avoid misidentifications.
- To strengthen security channels for the evaluation of and prompt reaction to such danger.

5. This office concurs with the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Panel. Accordingly, the following recommendations are submitted:

- That the report of the Advisory Panel be submitted to the Intelligence and Security Committee for information and appropriate action. (Sub B)
- That the JCI forward the report to the Secretary of Defense, the Director, Federal Civil Defense Administration, and the Chairman, National Security Resources Board, requesting their attention to pertinent conclusions and recommendations. (Subs C, F, and G)

6. At the 17th meeting of the JCI, it was noted also that an effort should be made to clarify the danger in the subject, but only if the results achieved by the scientists' studies so warranted. It is the opinion of this office that the results do not so warrant. Therefore, all appropriate steps related to this

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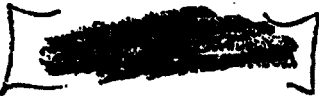
TAB A

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

14 - 17 January 1953

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>FIELD OF COMPETENCY</u>
Dr. H. P. Robertson (Chairman)	California Institute of Technology	Physics, weapons systems
Dr. Luis W. Alvarez	University of California	Physics, radar
Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner	Associated Universities, Inc.	Geophysics
Dr. Samuel Goudsmit	Brookhaven National Laboratories	Atomic structure, statistical problems
Dr. Thornton Page	Office of Research Operations, Johns Hopkins University	Astronomy, Astrophysics
<u>ASSOCIATE MEMBERS</u>		
Dr. J. Allen Hynak	Ohio State University	Astronomy
Mr. Frederick C. Durant	Arthur D. Little, Inc.	Rockets, guided missiles
<u>INTERVIEWEES</u>		
Brig. Gen. William M. Garland	Commanding General, AFIC	Scientific and technical intelligence
(Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell)	Assistant Director, O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence
(Mr. Ralph L. Clark)	Deputy Assistant Director, O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence

<u>INTERVIEWEE (name)</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>FIELD OF COMPETENCY</u>
Mr. Philip G. Strong	Chief, Operations Staff; O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence
Mr. Stephen T. Phoenix	Acting Chief, Special Study Group, D/I USAF	Scientific and technical intelligence
Capt. Edward J. Rapp	Chief, Aerial Photography Branch, AFM, USAF	Scientific and technical intelligence
Mr. T. Dewey Fournet, Jr.	The Ethyl Corporation	Acro Eng.
Lt. R. S. Henschel, USN	USN Photo Interpretation Laboratory, Annapolis	Photo interpretation
Mr. Harry Neo	USN Photo Interpretation Laboratory, Annapolis	Photo interpretation



TAB B

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

14 - 17 January 1953

EVIDENCE PRESENTED

1. Seventy-five case histories of sightings 1951 - 1952 (selected by ATIC as those best documented).
2. ATIC Status and Progress Reports of Project GRUDGE and Project BLUE BOOK (code names for ATIC study of subject).
3. Progress Reports of Project STORK (code name for Battelle Memorial Institute contract work supporting ATIC). B-3
4. Summary Report of Sightings at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.
5. Report of USAF Research Center, Cambridge, Mass., Investigation of "Green Fireball" Phenomena (Project WINKLE).
6. Outline of Investigation of U.F.O.'s Proposed by Kirtland Air Force Base (Project FOUNCE).
7. Motion Picture Films of sightings at Tremonton, Utah, 2 July 1952 and Great Falls, Montana, August 1950.
8. Summary Report of 89 selected cases of sightings of various categories (Formations, Blinking Lights, Hovering, etc.).
9. Draft of manual: "How to Make a FLYOVER", prepared at ATIC.
10. Chart Showing Plot of Geographic Location of Unexplained Sightings in the United States during 1952.
11. Chart Showing Balloon Launching Sites in the United States.
12. Charts Showing Selected Actual Balloon Flight Paths and Relation to Reported Sightings.
13. Charts Showing Frequency of Reports of Sightings, 1948 - 1952.
14. Charts Showing Categories of Explanations of Sightings.
15. Kodachrome Transparencies of Polyethylene Film Balloons in Bright Sunlight Showing High Reflectivity.

TAB B

16. Motion picture of seagulls in bright sunlight showing high reflectivity.
17. Intelligence Reports Relating to U.S.S.R. Interest in U. S. Sightings.
18. Samples of Official USAF Reporting Forms and Copies of Pertinent Air Force, Army and Navy Orders Relating to Subject.
19. Sample Polyethylene "Filler" Balloon (54 inches square).
20. "Variations in Radar Coverage", JAMP 101 (Manual illustrating unusual operating characteristics of Service radar).
21. Miscellaneous official letters and foreign intelligence reports dealing with subject.
22. Copies of popular published works dealing with subject (articles in periodicals, newspaper clippings and books).

JAN 17 1952

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL
ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

1. Pursuant to the request of the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, the undersigned Panel of Scientific Consultants has met to evaluate any possible threat to national security posed by Unidentified Flying Objects ("Flying Saucers"), and to make recommendations thereon. The Panel has received the evidence as presented by cognizant intelligence agencies, primarily the Air Technical Intelligence Center, and has reviewed a selection of the best documented incidents.

2. As a result of its considerations, the Panel concludes:

- a. That the evidence presented on Unidentified Flying Objects shows no indication that these phenomena constitute a direct physical threat to national security.

We firmly believe that there is no residuum of cases which indicate phenomena which are attributable to foreign artifacts capable of hostile acts, and that there is no evidence that the phenomena indicate a need for the revision of current scientific concepts.

3. The Panel further concludes:

- a. That the continued emphasis on the reporting of these phenomena does, in these perilous times, result in a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic.

We cite as examples the clogging of channels of communication by irrelevant reports, the danger of being led by continued false alarms to ignore real

indications of hostile action, and the cultivation of a morbid national psychology in which skillful hostile propaganda could induce hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority.

4. In order most effectively to strengthen the national facilities for the timely recognition and the appropriate handling of true indications of hostile action, and to minimize the concomitant dangers alluded to above, the Panel recommends:

a. That the national security agencies take immediate steps to strip the Unidentified Flying Objects of the special status they have been given and the aura of mystery they have unfortunately acquired;

b. That the national security agencies institute policies on intelligence, training, and public education designed to prepare the national defenses and the morale of the country to recognize most promptly and to react most effectively to true indications of hostile intent or action.

We suggest that these aims may be achieved by an integrated program designed to reassure the public of the total lack of evidence of imminent forces behind the phenomena, to train personnel to recognize and reject false indications quickly and effectively, and to strengthen regular channels for the evaluation of and prompt reaction to true indications of hostile measures.

/s/ H. P. Robertson, Chairman
California Institute of Technology

/s/ Luis W. Alvarez
University of California

/s/ Lloyd V. Berkner
Associated Universities, Inc.

/s/ S. A. Jouhadit
Brookhaven National Laboratories

/s/ Thornton H. ...
Johns Hopkins University

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Transmitted to the President of the United States
on 12/12/50

Transmitted to the President of the United States
on 12/12/50

1. Transmitted herewith for your information and appropriate action is a copy of the report of the scientific panel composed of a group of the scientists who are the staff of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), paragraph 3 d. on this subject. Also as to the report are a list of persons participating and a summary of evidence presented.

2. It is proposed to consider this report at an early meeting of the NSC staff, if desired at that time appropriate, to transmit it to the members of the staff, the Director, Federal Civil Control Administration; and the Chairman, National Security Council, and, for their information and such action as they may feel necessary.

3. The results of the panel's studies have shown that the evidence that no NSC on this project is warranted.

(HAROLD D. BROWN)
Working Secretary

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1. Summary of evidence presented

1. Summary of evidence presented
2. List of personnel
3. Summary of evidence presented

SECRET OF STATE 204

The Honorable
The Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am forwarding you herewith a copy of a report prepared by a panel of scientists on the subject of "unidentified flying objects." This panel was convened at (the direction of General Smith.) (my direction) following the recommendation of the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

It seems to me that the conclusions and recommendations may be of interest to you, in that they point out certain potential dangers to national security which are related to the subject and suggest ways of their elimination.

Although this Agency does not consider problems arising from sightings of "flying saucers" (as such) its concern, as shall be placed to reflect in any appropriate action that you deem advisable.

I am also sending a copy of this report to the Administrator, FBI and to the Chairman, NSAS.

Sincerely,

Director

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