F17

[No. 55]

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

HEARING

BY

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

APRIL 5, 1966

[Pages of all documents printed in behalf of the activities of the House Committee on Armed Services are numbered cumulatively to permit a comprehensive index at the end of the Congress. Page numbers lower than those in this document refer to other subjects.]

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[No. 55]

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, D.C., Tuesday, April 5, 1966.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:35 a.m., the Honorable L. Mendel Rivers (chairman of the committee), presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. Let the committee come to order.

Members of the committee, Secretary Brown and General McConnell are back this morning for the purpose of responding to questions.

At the end of our last hearing I asked that Secretary Brown give us some information with respect to unidentified flying objects. I understand that he is prepared to do that this morning and I also understand that he has with him Dr. J. Allen Hynek, consultant to Project Blue Book, which is the group charged with responsibility with respect to UFO's. Also present this morning is Maj. Hector Quintanilla, Jr., UFO project officer.

I think it would be well to get the UFO business out of the way first. So I will ask Dr. Brown to give us his report at this time.

Mr. Secretary, see if you can shed some light on these highly illuminated objects.

We can't just write them off. There are too many responsible people who are concerned.

Mr. Ford has come out, he has a pretty good size stature in the Congress, and so tell me what you know, Mr. Secretary, and let's see if we can have some answers.

Go ahead, Mr. Secretary.

Secretary BROWN. Mr. Chairman, I have a letter here which is addressed to you, and I signed it. Let me run through it quickly, because it summarizes pretty well what our views are on unidentified flying objects.

Following that, if there are some questions, I can try to answer them, or the Chief, or Dr. Hynek, or Major Quintanilla.

The CHAIRMAN. Why don't we have the doctor come up to the table now, because when we start asking questions we will have him there, and we will just go all over the board.

Sit at the end of the table, Doctor.

Go ahead, sir.

STATEMENT OF HON. HAROLD BROWN, SECRETARY OF AIR FORCE

Secretary BROWN. This is in response of your recent request for information concerning Air Force activities in the area of reported unidentified flying objects.

Within the Department of Defense the Air Force has the responsibility of investigating reports on unidentified flying objects and of

evaluating any possible threat to our national security that such objects might pose. In carrying out this responsibility let me assure you that the Air Force is both objective and thorough in its treatment of all reports of unusual aerial objects over the United States.

Under the name "Project Blue Book," the Air Force carries out a three-phase program. We (1) make an initial investigation of each report received; (2) make a more detailed analysis of reports not explained; and (3) disseminate information on sightings, findings, and statistics.

In order to evaluate this subject as thoroughly as possible, the capabilities of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board have recently been focused upon the subject of UFO's. This Board has just completed a detailed review of this subject and concluded that the UFO phenomena presents no threat to the security of the United States, and that the present Air Force program dealing with UFO sightings has been well organized. Recommendations by the Board are presently under study and are expected to lead to even stronger emphasis on the scientific aspects of investigating the sightings that warrant extensive analysis.

Based upon 10,147 reported sightings from 1947 through 1965, a summary of which is attached, I believe it significant that the Air Force has succeeded in identifying 9,501 of these objects. Virtually all of these sightings were derived from subjective human observations and interpretations. The most common of these were astronomical sightings that included such things as bright stars and planets, comets and meteors, and fireballs and auroral streamers.

Other major sources of reported sightings include such objects as satellites, mirages, and spurious radar indications. The remaining 646 reported sightings are those in which the information available does not provide an adequate basis for analysis, or for which the information suggests an hypothesis but the object or phenomenon explaining it cannot be proven to have been here or taken place at that time.

In evaluating these sightings, the Air Force has used carefully selected and highly qualified scientists, engineers, technicians, and consultants. These personnel have utilized the finest Air Force laboratories, test centers, scientific instrumentation, and technical equipment for this purpose.

Although the past 18 years of investigating unidentified flying objects have not identified any threat to our national security, or evidence that the unidentified objects represent developments or principles beyond present-day scientific knowledge, or any evidence of extraterrestrial vehicles, the Air Force will continue to investigate such phenomena with an open mind and with the finest technical equipment available.

I am attaching a special report of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee To Review Project "Blue Book," the latest edition of Project Blue Book, dated February 1, 1966, and an Air Force statement regarding the UFO sightings at Dexter, Mich., on March 20, 1966, and at Hillsdale, Mich., on March 21, 1966.

I trust that the above information will be of assistance to you. If I can help you further in any way, please do not hesitate to let me know.

(The information referred to is as follows:)

Sightings of unidentified flying objects

Year	Total sightings	Unidentified	Year	Total sightings	Unidentified
1947	122	12	1958	627	10
1948	156	7	1959	390	12
1949	186	22	1960	557	14
1950	210	27	1961	591	13
1951	169	22	1962	474	15
1952	1,501	303	1963	399	14
1953	509	42	1964	562	19
1954	487	46	1965	886	16
1955	545	24			
1956	670	14	Total	10,147	646
1957	1,006	14			

AIR FORCE STATEMENT REGARDING THE UFO SIGHTINGS AT DEXTER, MICH., ON MARCH 20, 1966, AND HILLSDALE, MICH., ON MARCH 21, 1966

The investigation of these two sightings was conducted by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, scientific consultant to Project Blue Book; personnel from Selfridge Air Force Base, Mich.; and personnel from the Project Blue Book office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

In addition to these two specific cases, there has been a flood of reports from this area both before and after March 20 and 21. The investigating personnel have not had the time to investigate all of these. It has been determined, however, that in Hillsdale, over and above the sincere and honest reporting by the young ladies at Hillsdale College, certain young men have played pranks with flares. It has also been determined that the photographs released yesterday through the press was taken on March 17 just before sunrise near Milan, Mich., and have nothing to do with the cases in question. The photograph clearly shows trails made as a result of a time exposure of the rising crescent moon and the planet Venus.

The majority of observers in both the Dexter and Hillsdale cases have reported only silent glowing lights near the ground—red, yellow, and blue-green. They have not described an object. The only two observers who did describe an object have stated that they were no closer than 500 yards—better than a quarter of a mile away—a distance which does not allow details to be determined.

Witnesses have described glowing lights—lights that seem to move but never far from a definite place or lights which suddenly disappeared and popped up at another place. The locale in both cases was a swamp. In both cases, the location of the glow was pinpointed—in Dexter it was seen between two distant groups of people and at Hillsdale it was seen in a swampy depression between the girls and the distant trees. It was in both cases a very localized phenomena. The swampy location is most significant.

A swamp is a place of rotting vegetation and decomposition. Swamps are not a province of astronomers. Yet, the famous Dutch astronomer, Minnaert, in his book, "Light and Colour in the Open Air," describes lights that have been seen in swamps by the astronomer, Bessel, and other excellent observers. The lights resemble tiny flames sometimes seen right on the ground and sometimes rising and floating above it. The flames go out in one place and suddenly appear in another, giving the illusion of motion. The colors are sometimes yellow, sometimes red, and sometimes blue-green. No heat is felt, and the lights do not burn or char the ground. They can appear for hours at a stretch and sometimes for a whole night. Generally, there is no smell and no sound except for the popping sound of little explosions such as when a gas burner ignites.

The rotting vegetation produces marsh gas which can be trapped during the winter by ice. When the spring thaw occurs, the gas may be released in some quantity. The flame, Minnaert says, is a form of chemical luminescence, and its low temperature is one of its peculiar features. Exactly how it occurs is not known and could well be the subject of further investigation.

The glowing lights over the swamps near Dexter and Hillsdale were observed for 2 or 3 hours, and they were red, green, and yellow. They appeared to move sideways and to rise a short distance. No sound was heard except a popping sound.

It seems entirely likely that as the present spring thaw came, the trapped gases, CH_4, H_2S, and PH_3, resulting from decomposition of organic material, were released. The chemistry book by Sienko and Plane has this to say: "In air, Phosphine PH_3 usually bursts into flame apparently because it is ignited by a spontaneous oxidation of the impure P_2H_4. The will-of-the-wisp, sometimes observed in marshes, may be due to spontaneous ignition of impure PH_3 which might be formed by reduction of naturally occurring phosporus compound."

It has been pointed out to the investigating personnel by other scientists in this area that in swamps the formation of H_2S and CH_4 from rotting vegetation is common. These could be ignited by the spontaneous burning of PH_3.

The association of the sightings with swamps in this particular instance is more than coincidence. No group of witnesses observed any craft coming to or going away from the swamp. The glow was localized, and Deputy Fitzpatrick described the glow from beyond a rise adjacent to the swamp as visible through the trees. He stated that the light brightened and dimmed such as stage do—smoothly and slowly—and this description exactly fits the Hillsdale sighting also. The brightening and dimming could have been due to the release of variable quantities of marsh gas.

The disappearance of the lights when people got close with flashlights or carlights would indicate that the glow seemed bright to dark-adapted eyes. The night was dark and there was no moon. The Hillsdale girls kept their rooms dark in order to see the swamp lights.

It appears very likely that the combination of the conditions of this particular winter (an unusually mild one in that area) and the particular weather conditions of that night—it was clear and there was little wind at either location—were such as to have produced this unusual and puzzling display.

Special Report of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee To Review Project Blue Book

I. INTRODUCTION

As requested in a memorandum from Maj. Gen. E. B. LeBailly, Secretary of the Air Force Officer of Information, dated September 28, 1965 (tab A), a Scientific Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee met on February 3, 1966, to review Project Blue Book. The objectives of the committee are to review the resources and methods of investigation prescribed by Project Blue Book and to advise the Air Force of any improvements that can be made in the program to enhance the Air Force's capability in carrying out its responsibility.

In order to bring themselves up to date, the members of the committee initially reviewed the findings of previous scientific panels charged with looking into the UFO problem. Particular attention was given to the report of the Robertson panel which was rendered in January 1953. The committee next heard briefings from the AFSC Foreign Technology Division, which is the cognizant Air Force agency that collates information on UFO sightings and monitors investigations of individual cases. Finally, the committee reviewed selected case histories of UFO sightings with particular emphasis on those that have not been identified.

II. DISCUSSION

Although about 6 percent (646) of all sightings (10,147) in the years 1947 through 1965 are listed by the Air Force as "Unidentified," it appears to the committee that most of the cases so listed are simply those in which the information available does not provide an adequate basis for analysis. In this connection it is important also to note that no unidentified objects other than those of an astronomical nature have ever been observed during routine astronomical studies, in spite of the large number of observing hours which have been devoted to the sky. As examples of this the Palomar Observatory Sky Atlas contains some 5,000 plates made with large instruments with wide field of view; the Harvard meteor project of 1954–58 provided some 3,300 hours of observation; the Smithsonian visual 'prairie network' provided 2,500 observing hours. Not a single unidentified object has been reported as appearing on any of these plates or been sighted visually in all these observations.

The committee concluded that in the 19 years since the first UFO was sighted there has been no evidence that unidentified flying objects are a threat to our national security. Having arrived at this conclusion the committee then turned its attention to considering how the Air Force should handle the scientific aspects

of the UFO problem. Unavoidably these are also related to Air Force public relations, a subject on which the committee is not expert. Thus the recommendations which follow are made simply from the scientific point of view.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the opinion of the committee that the present Air Force program dealing with UFO sightings has been well organized, although the resources assigned to it (only one officer, a sergeant, and secretary) have been quite limited. In 19 years and more than 10,000 sightings recorded and classified, there appears to be no verified and fully satisfactory evidence of any case that is clearly outside the framework of presently known science and technology. Nevertheless, there is always the possibility that analysis of new sightings may provide some additions to scientific knowledge of value to the Air Force. Moreover, some of the case records which the committee looked that were listed as "identified" were sightings where the evidence collected was too meager or too indefinite to permit positive listing in the identified category. Because of this the committee recommends that the present program be strengthened to provide opportunity for scientific investigation of selected sightings in more detail and depth than has been possible to date.

To accomplish this it is recommended that—

(a) Contracts be negotiated with a few selected universities to provide scientific teams to investigate promptly and in depth certain selected sightings of UFO's. Each team should include at least one psychologist, preferably one interested in clinical psychology, and at least one physical scientist, preferably an astronomer or geophysicist familiar with atmospheric physics. The universities should be chosen to provide good geographical distribution, and should be within convenient distance of a base of the Air Force Systems Command (AFSC).

(b) At each AFSC base an officer skilled in investigation (but not necessarily with scientific training) should be designated to work with the corresponding university team for that geographical section. The local representative of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI) might be a logical choice for this.

(c) One university or one not-for-profit organization should be selected to coordinate the work of the teams mentioned under (a) above, and also to make certain of very close communication and coordination with the Office of Project Blue Book.

It is thought that perhaps 100 sightings a year might be subjected to this close study, and that possibly an average of 10 man-days might be required per sighting so studied. The information provided by such a program might bring to light new facts of scientific value, and would almost certainly provide a far better basis than we have today for decision on a long-term UFO program.

The scientific reports on these selected sightings, supplementing the present program of the Project Blue Book office, should strengthen the public position of the Air Force on UFO's. It is, therefore, recommended that—

(*a*) These reports be printed in full and be available on request.

(*b*) Suitable abstracts or condensed versions be printed and included in, or as supplements to, the published reports of Project Blue Book.

(*c*) The form of report (as typified by Project Blue Book dated February 1, 1966) be expanded, and anything which might suggest that information is being withheld (such as the wording on page 5 of the above cited reference) be deleted. The form of this report can be of great importance in securing public understanding and should be given detailed study by an appropriate Air Force office.

(*d*) The reports Project Blue Book should be given wide unsolicited circulation among prominent Members of the Congress and other public persons as a further aid to public understanding of the scientific approach being taken by the Air Force in attacking the UFO problem.

Department of the Air Force,
Office of the Secretary,
Washington, D.C., September 28, 1965.

Memorandum for military director, scientific advisory board
Subject: Unidentified flying objects (UFO's)

In keeping with its air defense role, the Air Force has the responsibility for the investigation of unidentified flying objects reported over the United States.

The name of this project is Blue Book (attachment 1). Procedures for conducting this program are established by Air Force regulation 200–2 (attachment 2).

The Air Force has conducted Project Blue Book since 1948. As of June 30, 1965, a total of 9,267 reports had been investigated by the Air Force. Of these 9,267 reports, 663 cannot be explained.

It has been determined by the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff/Plans and Operations that Project Blue Book is a worthwhile program which deserves the support of all staff agencies and major commands and that the Air Force should continue to investigate and analyze all UFO reports in order to assure that such objects do not present a threat to our national security. The Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff/Plans and Operations has determined also that the Foreign Technology Division (FTD) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base should continue to exercise its presently assigned responsibilities concerning UFO's.

To date, the Air Force has found no evidence that any of the UFO reports reflects a threat to our national security. However, many of the reports that cannot be explained have come from intelligent and technically well qualified individuals whose integrity cannot be doubted. In addition, the reports received officially by the Air Force include only a fraction of the spectacular reports which are publicized by any private UFO organizations.

Accordingly, it is requested that a working scientific panel composed of both physical and social scientists be organized to review Project Blue Book—its resources, methods, and findings—and to advise the Air Force as to any improvements that should be made in the program in order to carry out the Air Force's assigned responsibiltiy.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek who is the chairman of the Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University is the scientific consultant to Project Blue Book. He has indicated a willingness to work with such a panel in order to place this problem in its proper perspective.

Dr. Hynek has discussed this problem with Dr. Winston R. Markey, the former Air Force Chief Scientist.

E. B. LeBailly,
Major General, USAF, Director of Information.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFO's)

AGENDA

Thursday, 3 February 1966

0800 Welcoming remarks: Commander or vice commander, FTD.
0805 Introduction: Dr. O'Brien, SAB.
0810 The Air Force problem: Lieutenant Colonel Spaulding, SAFOI.
0830 Briefing on Project Blue Book: Major Quintanilla, FTD.
1000 Break.
1015 Review of selected case histories: FTD Staff.
1145 Lunch.
1315 Executive and writing session.

SPECIAL REPORT OF THE USAF SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW PROJECT BLUE BOOK

Distribution

	Symbol	Copies
Secretary of the Air Force Office of Information	SAFOI	25
Military Director, DCS/R. & D	AFRDC	1
Committee members (1 each): Dr. Brian O'Brien (chairman), Dr. Launor F. Carter, Mr. Jesse Orlansky, Dr. Richard Porter, Dr. Carl Sagan, Dr. Willis H. Ware		6
Commander, Foreign Technology Division		5
DCS/Foreign Technology (AFSC)	SCF	2
Chairman, SAB	AFBSA	1
SAB secretariat	AFBSA	1

Meeting statistics bearing on this report including all times, dates, places, a listing of persons in attendance and purposes therefor, together with their affiliations and material reviewed and discussed, are available in the SAB secretariat offices for review by authorized persons or agencies.

Approved by:

HAROLD A. STEINER,
Lieutenant Colonel, USAF,
Assistant Secretary, USAF Scientific Advisory Board.

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

The U.S. Air Force has the responsibility under the Department of Defense for the investigation of unidentified flying objects (UFO's). The name of this program, which has been in operation since 1948, is Project Blue Book. It has been identified in the past as Project Sign and Project Grudge.

Air Force interest in unidentified flying objects is related directly to the Air Force responsibility for the air defense of the United States. Procedures for conducting this program are established by Air Force Regulation 200–2.

The objectives of the Project Blue Book are twofold: first, to determine whether UFO's pose a threat to the security of the United States; and, second, to determine whether UFO's exhibit any unique scientific information or advanced technology which could contribute to scientific or technical research. In the course of accomplishing these objectives, Project Blue Book strives to identify and explain all UFO sightings reported to the Air Force.

HOW THE PROGRAM IS CONDUCTED

The program is conducted in three phases. The first phase includes receipt of UFO reports and initial investigation of the reports. The Air Force base nearest the location of a reported sighting is charged with the responsibility of investigating the sighting and forwarding the information to the Project Blue Book Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

If the initial investigation does not reveal a positive identification or explanation, a second phase of more intensive analysis is conducted by the Project Blue Book Office. Each case is objectively and scientifically analyzed and, if necessary, all of the scientific facilities available to the Air Force can be used to assist in arriving at an identification or explanation. All personnel associated with the investigation, analysis, and evaluation efforts of the project view each report with a scientific approach and an open mind.

The third phase of the program is dissemination of information concerning UFO sightings, evaluations, and statistics. This is accomplished by the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Information.

The Air Force defines an unidentified flying object as any aerial object which the observer is unable to identify.

Reports of unfamiliar objects in the sky are submitted to the Air Force from many sources. These sources include military and civilian pilots, weather observers, amateur astronomers, business and professional men and women, and housewives, etc.

Frequently such objects as missiles, balloons, birds, kites, searchlights, aircraft navigation and anticollision beacons, jet engine exhaust, condensation trails, astronomical bodies and meteorological phenomena are mistakenly reported as unidentified flying objects.

The Air Force groups its evaluations of UFO reports under three general headings: (1) identified, (2) insufficient data, and (3) unidentified.

Identified reports are those for which sufficient specific information has been accumulated and evaluated to permit a positive identification or explanation of the object.

Reports categorized as "Insufficient Data" are those for which one or more elements of information essential for evaluation are missing. Some examples are the omission of the duration of the sighting, date, time, location, position in the sky, weather conditions, and the manner of appearance or disappearance. If the element is missing and there is an indication that the sighting may be of a security, scientific, technical, or public interest value, the Project Blue Book Office conducts an additional investigation and every attempt is made to obtain the information necessary for identification. However, in some instances, essential information cannot be obtained, and no further action can be taken.

The third and by far the smallest group of evaluations is categorized as "Unidentified." A sighting is considered unidentified when a report apparently contains all pertinent data necessary to suggest a valid hypothesis concerning the cause or explanation of the report but the description of the object or its motion cannot be correlated with any known object or phenomena.

TYPES OF UFO IDENTIFICATIONS AND EVALUATIONS

There are various types of UFO sightings. Most common are reports of astronomical sightings, which include bright stars, planets, comets, fireballs, meteors, auroral streamers, and other celestial bodies. When observed through haze, light fog, moving clouds, or other obscurations or unusual conditions, the planets, including Venus, Jupiter, and Mars have been reported as unidentified flying objects. Stellar mirages are also a source of reports.

Satellites are another major source of UFO reports. An increase in satellites reported as UFO's has come about because of two factors. The first is the increase of interest on the part of the public; the second is the increasing number of satellites in the skies. Positive knowledge of the location of all satellites at all times enables rapid identification of satellite sightings. Keeping track of manmade objects in orbit about the earth is the responsibility of the North American Air Defense Command space detection and tracking system. This sophisticated electronic system gathers complex space traffic data instantly from tracking stations all over the world.

Other space surveillance activities include the use of ballistic tracking and large telescopic cameras. ECHO schedules are prepared by the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center at Greenbelt, Md., and schedules of the south-north Equator crossings are prepared by the Smithsonian Institution at Cambridge, Mass. From the data produced by these agencies, satellites mistakenly reported as UFO's can be quickly identified. Some of these are visible to the naked eye.

Aircraft account for another major source of UFO reports, particularly during adverse weather conditions. When observed at high altitudes and at some distance, aircraft can have appearances ranging from disc to rocket shapes due to the reflection of the sun on their bright surfaces. Vapor or condensation trails from jet aircraft will sometimes appear to glow fiery red or orange when reflecting sunlight. Afterburners from jet aircraft are often reported as UFO's since they can be seen from great distances when the aircraft cannot be seen.

The Project Blue Book Office has direct contact with all elements of the Air Force and the Federal Aviation Agency civil air control centers. All aerial refueling operations and special training flights can be checked immediately. Air traffic of commercial airlines and flights of military aircraft are checked with the nearest control center, enabling an immediate evaluation of aircraft mistakenly reported as UFO's. However, since many local flights are not carried, these flights are probable causes of some reports.

Balloons continue to be reported as UFO's. Several thousand balloons are released each day from military and civilian airports, weather stations, and research activities. There are several types of balloons—weather balloons, rawinsondes, radiosondes, and the large research balloons which have diameters up to 300 feet. At night, balloons carry running lights which cause an unusual appearance when observed. Reflection of the sun on balloons at dawn and sunset sometimes produce strange effects. This usually occurs when the balloon, because of its altitudes, is exposed to the sun. Large balloons can move at speeds of over 100 miles per hour when moving in high altitude jet windstreams. These balloons sometimes appear to be flattened on top. At other times, they appear to be saucer-shaped and to have lights mounted inside the bag itself due to the sun's rays reflecting through the material of the balloon. The Balloon Control Center at Holloman Air Force Base, N. Mex., maintains a plot on all military upper air research balloons.

Another category of UFO evaluations labeled "Other" includes missiles, reflections, mirages, searchlights, birds, kites, spurious radar indications, hoaxes, fireworks, and flares.

Aircraft, satellites, balloons, and the like should not be reported since they do not fall within the definition of an unidentified flying object.

CONCLUSIONS

To date, the firm conclusions of Project Blue Book are: (1) no unidentified flying object reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security; (2) there has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings categorized as unidentified represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present-day scientific knowledge; and (3) there has been no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as unidentified are extra terrestrial vehicles.

The Air Force will continue to investigate all reports of unusual aerial phenomena over the United States. The services of qualified scientists and technicians will continue to be used to investigate and analyze these reports, and periodic reports on the subject will be made.

The former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Mr. Carl Vinson, recently commented on the conduct of the UFO program by the Air Force and stated that congressional hearings on this subject are unnecessary.

The Air Force does not deny the possibility that some form of life may exist on other planets in the universe. However, to date, the Air Force has neither received nor discovered any evidence which proves the existence and intraspace mobility of extra terrestrial life. The Air Force continues to extend an open invitation to anyone who feels that he possesses any evidence of extra terrestrial vehicles operating within the earth's near space envelope to submit his evidence for analysis. Initial contact for this purpose is through the following address: Project Blue Book Information Office, SAFOI, Washington, D.C.

Anyone observing what he considers to be an unidentified flying object should report it to the nearest Air Force base. Persons submitting a UFO report to the Air Force are free to discuss any aspect of the report with anyone. The Air Force does not seek to limit discussion on such reports and does not withhold or censor any information pertaining to this unclassified program.

NONAVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS

The following items are for internal use only and are not available for distribution to the public. These concern internal management and procedures for forwarding UFO reports to the appropriate agency:

1. Air Force Regulation 200–2.
2. JANAP 146.

The Air Force has no films, photographs, maps, charts, or graphs of unidentified flying objects. Photographs that have been submitted for evaluation in conjunction with UFO reports have been determined to be a misinterpretation of natural or conventional objects. These objects have a positive identification.

The Air Force no longer possesses, and thus does not have for distribution, outdated reports on Project Sign, Project Grudge, Blue Book Special Report No. 14, and outdated Project Blue Book press releases. Nonmilitary UFO publications should be requested from the publisher, not the Air Force.

SUGGESTED READING MATERIAL

Books listed below deal with facts and theories about our solar universe, the sun, planets, comets, meteorites, the universe, stars, constellations, and galaxies; telescopes, the computation of time as it relates to astronomy, star maps and charts, and the history of astronomy.

"Sky and Telescope," by Sky Publishing Corp., Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass. Monthly magazine, 60 cents per copy.

"Weather Elements," by Blair, published Prentice Hall. Has an excellent chapter on often misidentified weather phenomena.

"Planets, Stars, and Space," by Chamberlain, Joseph M., and Nicholson, Thomas D. An illustrated, untechnical explanation of the earth, planets, stars, and the universe. Prepared in cooperation with the American Museum of Natural History.

"Junior Science Book of Stars," by Crosby, Phoebe. An easy to read, exciting story of what scientists know about the stars, planets, the Moon, and the Milky Way.

"Challenge of the Universe," by Hynek, J. Allen and Anderson, Norman. Discusses the nature of the universe; astronomy and cosmology, published by Scholastic Press.

"The Story of the Stars," by Maloney, Terry. An introduction to the universe; our solar system, our galaxy, and other galaxies. Many interesting illustrated analogies help build concepts of size and distance. Includes reference to the Van Allen radiation belts and zodiacal light observation of 1960.

"The World of Flying Saucers," by Menzel and Roy. A scientific examination of the classic UFO reports.

"Tht Moon. Meteorites, and Comets," Dated 1963, by Middlehurst and Kuiper, Continuous analysis of Soviet moon photos. Chapter on Siberian meteorite and photos or comets computation of various comet orbital photos.

"The Nature of Light and color in the Open Air," by Minnaert, Dover Publications. This is an excellent paperback written in understandable lay language.

"Meteors," by Oliver. Standard text by foremost authority on meteors.

"Photographic History of Mars," 1905–61, by Slipher, E. C., published by Lowell Observatory.

"Anatomy of a Phenomenon," by Valle, Jacques.

"First Man to the Moon," by Von Braun, Wernher.

Total UFO (object) sightings [1]

Year	Total sightings	Unidentified	Source
1947	122	12	Case files.
1948	156	7	Do.
1949	186	22	Blue book, page 108.
1950	210	27	Case files.
1951	169	22	Do.
1952	1,501	303	Blue book, page 108.
1953	509	42	Case files.
1954	487	46	Do.
1955	545	24	Do.
1956	670	14	Do.
1957	1,006	14	Do.
1958	627	10	Do.
1959	390	12	Do.
1960	557	14	Do.
1961	591	13	Do.
1962	474	15	Do.
1963	399	14	Do.
1964	562	19	Do.
1965	886	16	Do.
Total	10,147	646	

[1] Compiled Jan. 17, 1966.

Statistical data for years 1953–64 [1]

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Total
TOTAL CASES BY CATEGORY													
Astronomical	175	137	135	222	341	221	144	235	203	136	85	123	2,167
Aircraft	73	80	124	148	210	104	63	66	77	68	73	71	1,167
Balloon	78	69	102	93	114	50	31	22	37	19	23	20	665
Insufficient data	79	102	95	132	191	111	65	106	115	94	69	99	1,240
Other	83	68	65	61	120	93	75	94	77	65	50	88	916
Satellite	0	0	0	0	6	13	0	21	69	77	82	143	417
Unidentified	42	46	24	14	14	10	12	14	13	15	14	19	237
Total	505	437	545	670	1,006	827	390	557	591	474	399	562	6,817
ASTRONOMICAL SIGHTINGS													
Meteors	70	92	79	88	179	168	100	187	119	96	57	61	1,295
Stars and planets	101	44	52	131	144	56	40	45	78	36	23	55	805
Other	4	1	4	3	18	7	4	3	6	5	5	7	67
Total	175	137	135	222	341	231	144	235	203	136	85	123	2,167
OTHER CASES													
Hoaxes, hallucinations, unreliable reports and psychological causes	15	6	18	16	37	29	14	13	17	11	16	34	226
Missiles and rockets	2	1	1	3	2	6	14	12	13	9	13	7	83
Reflections	4	6	4	3	2	7	11	9	3	3	0	2	51
Flares and fireworks	1	4	8	6	8	3	5	7	4	3	3	7	59
Mirages and inversions	3	3	4	1	5	2	4	5	6	3	0	2	37
Search and groundlights	8	6	14	9	12	8	5	6	1	4	2	6	81
Clouds and contrails	6	3	2	1	9	5	3	4	5	5	5	0	47
Chaff	0	3	0	1	2	6	1	4	3	5	2	1	27
Birds	4	7	3	6	1	1	0	3	2	2	2	4	34
Radar analysis	15	7	1	3	27	3	8	6	9	0	1	2	87
Photo analysis	1	1	2	4	1	7	4	6	3	2	3	6	40
Physical specimens	1	6	5	3	5	10	3	7	4	15	3	3	70
Satellite decay	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	4	3	23
Other	1	7	4	0	9	5	3	3	4	2	4	6	48
Total	62	59	65	61	120	93	75	94	77	65	58	83	916

[1] Compiled Nov. 1, 1965.

Statistics for 1965 [1]

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Astronomical	10	8	11	4	2	10	27	82	30	27	22	12	246
Aircraft	11	8	14	11	14	7	32	61	20	12	14	5	210
Balloon	3	2	1	3	0	3	7	6	2	7	0	2	33
Insufficient data	5	4	2	4	4	2	16	24	15	5	3	1	66
Other	11	8	7	8	5	6	9	42	7	9	11	3	122
Satellite	4	5	5	5	15	5	42	41	24	3	0	3	152
Unidentified	1	0	2	1	1	0	2	4	4	0	1	0	16
Pending	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	6	4	2	17
Total	45	35	43	36	41	33	135	282	104	70	55	28	667
ASTRONOMICAL CASES													
Meteors	6	6	8	2	2	4	14	26	13	6	9	5	101
Stars and planets	3	1	3	2	0	5	10	55	16	20	13	7	135
Other	2 1	3 1	0	0	0	4 1	5 3	6 1	1	7 1	0	0	9
Total	10	8	11	4	2	10	27	82	30	27	22	12	245
OTHER CATEGORY													
Hoaxes, hallucinations, unreliable reports, and psychological causes	5	3	4	1	2	1	2	12	1	3	0	0	34
Missiles and rockets					1			3	1	1	3	1	10
Reflections						1	1	2	1	1	1		7
Flares and fireworks					1		1	1			1		4
Mirages and inversions							2	3					5
Search and ground lights	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	0	9
Clouds and contrails	1							1	1				3
Chaff												1	1
Birds	1	2		2					3	1	1		11
Physical specimens		6 1						9 1	10 1				3
Radar analysis				11 1		13 1	17 18 2	12 13 14 3	17 8	13 1			6
Photo analysis			13 16 2		13 1	17 1		17 8	17 1				12
Satellite decay	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	8
Miscellaneous	19 20 2			20 21 2		22 1		20 23 4		22 1	24 25 26 3		13
Total	11	8	7	8	5	6	9	42	7	9	11	3	126

[1] Compiled Jan. 18, 1966.
[2] Solar image.
[3] Moon.
[4] Sun.
[5] Reflected moonlight, parhelia, moon.
[6] Reflected moonlight.
[7] Comet Ibeya-Seki.
[8] Metal ball.
[9] Plastic bags.
[10] Gourd.
[11] Anomalous propagation.
[12] Electronic countermeasures.
[13] False targets.
[14] Weather returns.
[15] Developer smear.
[16] Free falling object.
[17] Poor photo process.
[18] No image on film.
[19] Tracer bullets.
[20] Misinterpretation of conventional objects (3).
[21] Kites.
[22] Debris in wind.
[23] Man on ground.
[24] Lighting.
[25] Chemical trails from research rocket.
[26] Missile launch.

FIREBALL REPORT

Persons observing a fireball or meteor should report the information to the American Meteor Society. The information desired is contained below.

A very brilliant meteor or fireball is reported to have passed in your vicinity on ____ at the hour of _____. Will you please answer as fully as possible the following questions, which are asked on behalf of the American Meteor Society in order that permanent records of such phenomena may be obtained. When these reports are published each contributor whose report is fairly complete will be mentioned, if possible, and due credit given. It is only by the help of those who can give personal information that data can be secured for the computation of the orbits of meteors. These data are of great scientific value and all reasonable efforts should be made to obtain them. You will be unable probably to answer all questions below, but answer those you can, as they may be of the greatest importance.

(1) Give your name and address.

(2) Where were you when you saw the meteor? (If the town is small please give county as well.)

(3) Give the date, hour, and minute when the meteor appeared; also kind of time used.

(4) In what direction did it appear (or in what direction was it first seen)? This is not asking in what direction it was going.

(5) In what direction did it disappear (or in what direction was it last seen)? For questions (4) and (5), simply N, E, S, or W is not accurate enough, unless those were the exact directions. If compass is used, state it; also if magnetic correction has been applied to compass reading.

(6) At what height did it appear? (Use degrees in answering.)

(7) At what height did it disappear? (Use degrees in answering.)

(8) Did it pass directly overhead (i.e., through the zenith)?

(9) If not, to which side of the zenith did it go, and how far from it? (Use degrees in answering.)

(10) Did it appear to reach the horizon? What sort of a horizon have you?

(11) What angle did the path of the meteor make with the horizon and in which direction was it then going?

(12) If you are familiar with constellations describe the path of the meteor through the sky with reference to stars.

(13) Did the meteor appear to explode?

(14) What was the duration of its flight in seconds?

(15) Describe the train if one was left. If it lasted long enough to show drift, most carefully tell in what direction train drifted. Give sketch, if possible, showing this with regard to horizon.

(16) What was the duration of the train in seconds?

(17) Did you hear any sound?
How long after seeing the meteor was it before you heard this sound?
Did you hear an actual explosion?
How long after seeing the explosion was it before you heard it?

(18) Of what color was the meteor?

(19) What was the size of the meteor? (Compare it with the moon or with a planet or star.)

(20) Was more than one body seen before the explosion (if any)?

(21) What was condition of sky at time?

(22) Give names and addresses of others who saw the meteor.

(23) Please mail this reply to: Charles P. Oliver, American Meteor Society, 521 North Wynnewood Avenue, Narberth, Pa., 19072.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, let me ask you this. Should this be an executive session?

Secretary BROWN. No, nothing I have said so far has been classified, and nothing I will say.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any reason to keep this executive? I think we have a lot of people outside of the door. Let them come in.

Mr. PRICE. In view of the reason you are having it, I see no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. I don't either. Why not open the door?

Mr. BRAY. I would like to make this observation off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

The CHAIRMAN. We are going to decide what the future is going to be. I am talking about this testimony now. If there is no reason for them not being here, let them in here.

Secretary BROWN. This letter is unclassified. Some of the questions you ask may lead to classified material.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Are all the files unclassified?

The CHAIRMAN. Let them come in and listen to the testimony. When we get into the questions we will decide.

Open the doors.

Mr. Secretary, we will let you start.

You gentlemen who have come in, the Secretary is explaining a letter he is sending to the committee.

You gentlemen of the press, TV, and radio, whatever you represent, listen. That is the best way to find out.

Go ahead.

(Secretary Brown repeats his statement previously read to the committee.)

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, I have before me some pages from Life magazine. I don't know what the date is, but it is recent.

Mr. KELLEHER. Two weeks ago, I think.

The CHAIRMAN. Two weeks ago.

It mentioned 10,000-odd sightings of these mysterious objects. I note it has a picture.

Have you seen this? I will pass it on to you.

Secretary BROWN. Yes, I have seen the picture.

The CHAIRMAN. Here are two pictures. One taken in Oregon in 1950 and the other taken 4 years later in France. They both look very much alike. Actually it looks something like a battleship.

Then here is something on another page here that is alleged to have been seen in Michigan, and it is even sketched here with an antenna and all that goes with it.

Here is my question: Responsible, well-trained people, like pilots—I think some B–52 people, Mr. Kelleher?

Mr. KELLEHER. I don't recall that. I do remember sightings by commercial pilots.

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly commercial pilots have reported all kinds of things.

How do you explain away these clearly defined mysterious things that these responsible people allege having seen.

How do your experts reconcile this?

Secretary BROWN. I will turn this over to my experts in a moment, Mr. Chairman.

However, I should like to say this: We haven't explained all of the reported sightings which we have investigated. We have explained 95 percent of them, but are not sure about the other 5 percent. There are possible explanations for the other 5 percent in most cases. However, since we can't prove that our findings are the correct explanations they are regarded as sightings which have not been completely accounted for.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, now, does anybody, in authority or of stature, allege that these things, whatever they may be, have come from other planets or from somewhere outside of this universe?

Secretary BROWN. To the best of my knowledge, no one in the Air Force, and no one in the executive branch has expressed such a belief. Nor have I ever heard a Member of Congress make such a statement. I know of no one of scientific standing or executive standing, or with a detailed knowledge of this, in our organization who believes that they come from extraterrestrial sources.

The CHAIRMAN. But you have found parts of meteors and things of this character that have been continuing to hit the earth forever?

Secretary BROWN. Meteors, of course, are of extraterrestrial origin. I am talking about extraterrestrial flying craft.

The CHAIRMAN. Objects that are made for the purpose of coming to earth?

Secretary BROWN. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. That is what I have in mind.

Secretary BROWN. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. So then your testimony, or your answer in response to my letter in effect is that there are things caused by various phenomena, reflection of radar waves, the northern lights, somebody has said marsh gases.

Secretary BROWN. Yes; that is another explanation of some of the phenomena.

The CHAIRMAN. As well as meteors?

Secretary BROWN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What else?

Secretary BROWN. Some of them turn out to be balloons. Some of them turn out to be aircraft seen under peculiar circumstances, and so on.

And we can explain 95 percent of them this way. This does not imply that a large part of the remaining 5 percent, the unexplained ones, are not also of this character, but we simply have not been able to confirm this because we don't have enough information about these sightings.

It may also be that there are phenomena, the details of which we don't understand, which are natural phenomena, and which account for some of the sightings we have not identified. In certain instances, I think a further scientific explanation is a possibility. Therefore, we will continue to develop this approach.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, we have here Dr. Hynek, and Major Quintanilla.

We have these two gentlemen who are authorities on the Blue Book. One is a scientist, the other is the UFO project officer.

Now, we have asked that you gentlemen come. Dr. Hynek, is there anything you would like to say to us?

Dr. HYNEK. Mr. Chairman, the press has recently treated me rather unkindly.

The CHAIRMAN. You ought to be chairman of this committee.

Dr. HYNEK. The press has described me as "a puppet of the Air Force," and has stated that I say only what the Air Force tells me to say. I would like to do something which may be a little daring, and read to the committee a statement I have prepared which has certainly not been dictated by the Air Force.

The CHAIRMAN. At this point, I want you to turn the loud speaker up.

50–066 O—66—No. 55——3

Now, Doctor, before you give us this, would you give your background for the record?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir. This information is included in my statement.

STATEMENT OF DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK, SCIENTIFIC CONSULTANT TO THE AIR FORCE

Dr. HYNEK. My name is J. Allen Hynek, and I reside at 2623 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Ill. I am director of the Dearborn Observatory and of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center, and Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University. Since 1948 I have acted as a frequent scientific consultant to the Air Force on the problem of the UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) phenomenon.

The UFO phenomenon might be defined as (1) the persistent reporting by a wide cross section of the public, in this and in other countries, of alleged aerial objects which, to the observer, seem to defy explanation because of their appearance and behavior, and (2) the widespread and growing interest in these matters by segments of the public which, in some cases, has led to the formation of civilian organizations dedicated to the investigation of the said reports, often accompanied by vilification of the Air Force for their handling of the problem, a matter not beneficial to the Air Force image. Such people generally charge either (a) that UFO's are in reality secret devices of the Air Force, whose existence is kept from the public, or (b) that the Air Force knows all about visitors from space and is deliberately withholding information to prevent panic.

A third aspect of the UFO phenomenon has been the association of the terms UFO or "flying saucer" with the idea of visitation of intelligences from outer space, an association which is not warranted either by the data on hand, or by logical inference. It is entirely conceivable that there might be unidentified aerial phenomena about us which have no connection with extraterrestrial visitation.

Thus, the phenomenon should essentially be viewed in its entirety: The fact that the recent sightings in Michigan caused a reaction far out of proportion to the original sightings, the fact that my press conference in Detroit the week before last was the largest in the history of the Detroit Press Club, the fact that I receive many letters from schoolchildren who are writing class reports on UFO's and indeed the fact that I am speaking here before you, are all parts of the UFO phenomenon.

In this context, the kind of activity that the press has reported in Michigan is not unusual. It only happened that the Dexter and Hillsdale incidents, although of little sicentific significance, have attracted national interest. Now, similar incidents, and some considerably more intriguing, have been occurring for many years, without such treatment on the part of the news media. While such glamorous attention is quick to wane, the underlying concern about UFO's, fed by a continuous trickle of reports, is indeed growing in the mind and sight of the public.

During this entire period of nearly 20 years I have attempted to remain as openminded on this subject as circumstances permitted, this despite the fact that the whole subject seemed utterly ridiculous, and

many of us firmly believed that, like some fad or craze, it would subside in a matter of months. Yet in the last 5 years, more reports were submitted to the Air Force than in the first 5 years.

Despite the seeming inanity of the subject, I felt that I would be derelict in my scientific responsibility to the Air Force if I did not point out that the whole UFO phenomenon might have aspects to it worthy of scientific attention. What we have here is a signal-to-noise ratio problem: There is indeed a fantastic amount of noise, represented by the many misidentifications of familiar objects seen under unusual or surprising circumstances—balloons, birds, satellites, meteors, aircraft, stars—yet, in all scientific honesty, one is led to ask whether there might not indeed be a signal somewhere in the noise.

As a scientist, I must be mindful of the lessons of the past; all too often it has happened that matters of great value to science were overlooked because the new phenomenon simply did not fit the accepted scientific outlook of the time. Thus, the evidence of fossiles for biological evolution was overlooked; X-rays were overlooked, meteorites were overlooked as astronomers steadfastly refused to accept stories of stones which fell from the sky.

Therefore, I have set aside for further study some 20 particularly well-reported UFO cases which, despite the character, technical competence and number of the witnesses, I have not been able to explain. I have done this to illustrate that neither I nor the Air Force hide the fact there are unexplained reports, and to illustrate also that the Air Force does not maintain, contrary to some public opinion, that reporters of UFO's are lacking in intelligence or are objects fit only for ridicule.

For of these reports, 10 are from scientists and highly trained individuals, 5 are from members of the Armed Forces, and members of the police force, and 5 are reports made by reliable American civilians. In my view, the reliability of the observers was above average in all 20 cases. The recent cases in Michigan have not been included in this particular collection since I feel that they are subject to simple, albeit somewhat unusual, explanation.

I cannot prove beyond doubt that this is the case, but these two now famous reports illustrate the method the Air Force has used with great success in finding logical explanations for the great majority of the reports.

We have used as a working hypothesis, when first confronted with a report, that a conventional explanation existed, either as a misidentification or an otherwise well-known object or phenomenon, a hallucination, or a hoax. This has been a very successful and productive hypothetsis. One must be aware, however, that complete adherence to one hypothesis may turn out to be a roadblock in the pursuit of research endeavors.

As the saying goes, "If one digs too intently for coal he is apt to miss diamonds." Scientists should never be guilty of poverty of hypotheses. And in dealing with the truly puzzling cases, we have tended either to say that, if an investigation had been pursued long enough, the misidentified object would have been recognized, or that the sighting had no validity to begin with.

The UFO public, on the other hand, is equally prone to poverty of hypotheses: Either UFO's mean utter bilge and nonsense, or they

jump to the far-out conclusion that the earth is host to space visitors. Surely, in scientific fairness, we must examine other hypotheses.

As early as 1952, in a paper written for the journal of the Optical Society of America, I called for scientific attention to the problem, pointing out that "ridicule is not a part of the scientific method and the public should not be taught that it is."

In 1953, I had further recommendations to make, when I wrote in a report to the Air Force:

> It occurs to me that the public interest in "flying saucers" may be dormant, but can be excited with small provocation. I would recommend that: (1) selected "unknowns" continue to be worked upon and due publicity be given them when a satisfactory solution is reached; (2) an announcement be made that the Air Force is interested in the phenomena which cause reports on a scientific basis; (3) use of a small civilian scientific panel to examine a few selected "unknowns."

And this, I repeat, was my recommendation in 1953. In 1965, in my capacity as scientific consultant, I again advised that the reports be studied by a civilian scientific group, in a letter to the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force:

> If there be any potential scientific value in the fragmentary UFO reports, as scientific consultant it is clearly my duty to point this out. I have done so, in the past on a less formal basis, in private conservation with, and informal reports to, Air Force officials—I feel it is my responsibility to point out that enough puzzling sightings have been reported by intelligent and often technically competent people, to warrant closer attention than Project Blue Book can possibly encompass at the present time. * * * If the preliminary survey of the problem should bear me out; namely, that there exists the possibility of new scientific information in the UFO phenomenon, then definitely let the recommendation be made to have the National Academy of Sciences, or some other civilian group of recognized stature, undertake a longer study of the reported phenomena.

I am happy that my appearance before this committee affords me a chance to once again reiterate my recommendations.

Specifically, it is my opinion that the body of data accumulated since 1948 through the Air Force investigations deserves close scrutiny by a civilian panel of physical and social scientists, and that this panel should be asked to examine the UFO problem critically for the express purpose of determining whether a major problem really exists.

I would, of course, be willing to assist such a panel in whatever way I might and would even be willing to take a short leave of absence from my university if it would help place this problem in its proper perspective.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. You say you can't write these reports off. You can't ridicule those who have made them. They are highly responsible people, in various walks of life, that have reported them. And that sometime in the past you recommended that a panel be set up to clear these things, a civilian panel, to obviate the accusation that the Air Force is or has been hiding their reports.

Now, are you saying to us this morning that there should be a panel set up of scientists authorized by the Air Force before whom these things may be brought, and from whom a report could come?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir. I am saying that. This would be the gist of my statement.

However, I have been scooped by Secretary Brown who has mentioned that the Scientific Advisory Board has recommended the same thing.

The CHAIRMAN. What you have recommended is being done now?

Dr. HYNEK. It is about to be done, I believe.

The CHAIRMAN. Is about to be done?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes. I should like to make one comment:

The puzzling thing is that one would think many more people would see these flying objects than do. There should be many more witnesses. We should see a craft, if it actually exists as a tangible thing, and we should see it go from point to point. This doesn't seem to happen. Also, there should be far more radar sightings. During the international geophysical year, I was in charge of the optical satellite tracking program, and you would think with the surveillance that the astronomers placed on the sky, if these objects existed as tangible objects, surely these astronomers would have seen more than they did. It is a dilemma. It is a puzzle, as you say, as to how responsible people can report such objects, and that they are not obvious to scientists.

The CHAIRMAN. And then they see them and they disappear and they don't know where they go, and they land in these remote places where there is no intelligence to procure?

Dr. HYNEK. I would say so, yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. We don't know where they go, who they have on board, we see them a few moments, and then they are gone. This is the end of that.

This is what puzzles me. I am not going to ask further questions, because I am not knowledgeable with respect to the varying reports that have been made.

So I will turn it over to some of the experts, and I will start with Mr. Bates.

Mr. BATES. Mr. Chairman, I don't know—if I have to qualitfy on that basis.

But, Secretary Brown, you indicated no one of scientific knowledge in your organization has concluded these phenomena come from extraterrestrial sources?

Secretary BROWN. That is correct. We know of no phenomena or vehicles, intelligently guided, which have come from extraterrestrial sources. I excluded meteors, which do come from extraterrestrial sources.

Mr. BATES. Is this your conclusion, Doctor?

Dr. HYNEK. This is also my conclusion. I know of no competent scientist today who would argue the sightings which do puzzle intelligent people. Puzzling cases exist, but I know of no competent scientist who would say that there objects come from outer space.

Mr. BATES. Then what you are looking for is an explanation in natural phenomena, thus far you have not determined the factors involved in it?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes.

Mr. BATES. But the interesting thing, of course, is we have so many prominent people in the scientific world here who have taken a position, a rather strong position—I have here a letter from a constituent of mine. He is a project administrator or engineer in the MINUTEMAN program. That is a responsible position, would we say?

General MCCONNELL. Yes.

Mr. BATES. On the basis of scientific ability he has been given a rather important position toward the security of this country; is that correct?

Secretary BROWN. I would like to know who he is and what his responsibilities are before I comment on this, Mr. Bates. Certainly, from the information contained in the letter that you quote, he appears to occupy a position of some responsibility.

Mr. BATES. It does seem to be. And as I read the letter which he has written to me, it is certainly written by a well-educated person. And of course, we here all kinds of comments on the other side of the issue now, with this Lunar II excursion around the moon, people say I suppose the people up there are making the same kind of reports as the doctor has just made to us. They are making these kinds of statements.

Doctor, to be more specific, the paper which I have—Mr. Chairman, I would like to get unanimous consent to insert in the record the information which has been provided to me.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection.

(The letter to Congressman Bates is as follows:)

WENHAM, MASS., *April 1, 1966.*

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.
(Attention, Speaker John W. McCormack).

DEAR SIR: My name is Raymond E. Fowler. I am employed as a project administrative engineer in the Minuteman Program Office for Sylvania Electric Products, Waltham, Mass. I am presently serving as chairman of a Technical Investigating Subcommittee for the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Wash., D.C.

The reasons for my writing are twofold, firstly—I have been asked by NICAP to submit to you our subcommittee's complete file covering our investigation of the Exeter, New Hampshire UFO sighting witnessed at close range by local citizens and police officers on September 3, 1965. I am sure that you are aware of this sighting as it gained nationwide publicity recently through NICAP-backed articles in the Saturday Review and Look magazines. Secondly, I do want to put myself on record as supporting the claims and views of NICAP and others which indicate that congressional hearings on the matter of UFO's are long overdue.

I feel that the American people are capable of understanding the problems and implications that will arise if the true facts about UFO's are made known offically. The USAF public information program and policy, as directed by the Pentagon, of underrating the significance of UFO's and not releasing true, pertinent facts about UFO's, is not only a disservice to the American people now but in the long run could prove to have been a foolish policy to follow. After years of study, I am certain that there is more than ample high-quality observational evidence from highly trained and reliable witnesses to indicate that there are machinelike solid objects under intelligent control operating in our atmosphere. The aerodynamic performance and characteristics of the true UFO rule out manmade or natural phenomena. Such observational evidence has been well supported in many instances by reliable instruments such as cameras, radar, geiger-counters, variometers, electrical interference, physical indentations in soil and scorched areas at landing sites, etc.

I am reasonably sure that if qualified civilian scientists and investigators are able to come to this conclusion, that the USAF, supported by the tremendous facilities at its disposal, have come to the same conclusion long ago. However, present official policy deliberately attempts to discredit the validity of UFO's and a wealth of data and facts are not being released to the public.

I trust that you will examine the attached UFO report and related correspondence in detail. Sightings such as the Exeter, N.H., sighting have and are occurring throughout the world at night and in the daytime. It is high time that the real facts about UFO's are released. A public information program should

be inaugurated that presents facts. I am urging you to support a full congressional open inquiry on the UFO problem.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND E. FOWLER,
Chairman NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee.

(The attachments to the previous letter are as follows:)

[Excerpt from Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader, Sept. 6, 1965]

POLICE, CIVILIANS SIGHT UFO IN EXETER AREA

EXETER.—At least five people here, including two police officers, have reported seeing a flying saucer in this area.

The incidents occurred early Friday morning. According to those who saw the unidentified flying object, it was about the size of a house and had a red glow around it, and moved silently through the night.

When Exeter police investigated a parked car on the Exeter-Hampton bypass at about 12:30 investigating officer Eugene Bertrand. who approach the car and found two women in a state of near shock. They told that they had been chased along Route 101 all the way from Epping, about 12 miles, by flying object which glowed with a brilliant halo of red. According to the women, the "thing" followed their car until they stopped.

As the one woman told their story one of them sighted the object once more, about 2 miles away, which Bertrand thought was a star low on the horizon.

REPORTS CHASE

At 12 a.m., Norman J. Muscarello, 18, of 205½ Front Street, Exeter, came into the police station with a hair-raising report of having been chased by a flying object as he was hitchhiking toward Exeter on Route 150 in Kensington.

Muscarello told Desk Officer Reginald Toland that as he walked along the highway, a large, brilliant object began making passes on an adjacent field and house and along the highway. Not knowing what it was and being understandably shaken, he crouched in a ditch along the road as the object, so brilliantly red that its shape could not be determined in the glow, made what seemed to him to be searching passes at him.

Shortly thereafter the "thing" disappeared silently, as quickly as it had appeared. Muscarello then hitched a ride to the police station and related what he had seen.

Athlough Muscarello's story was extraordinary, Patrolman Bertrand drove him back to the scene of the incident in the police cruiser. When they arrived, nothing was there.

POLICE SEE UFO

Officer Bertrand suggested that they walk into the field where the flying object was last seen, and they were joined there by Exeter Patrolman David Hunt, who also drove to the scene. Bertrand was talking reassuringly when Muscarello shouted "Look, there it is, rising up from behind those trees." The officers spun around and looked.

From behind a stand of trees in the black of the night, a huge blinding glow of brilliant red light surrounding it, the object rose, not fast but waveringly.

It traveled slowly and yawed slightly from side to side. They were stunned by the blinding red light as it moved toward them across the field. The object seemed to be coming toward them and Bertrand made a move toward his police service revolver but thought better of it. Then the three men ran to the police cruisers. When questioned on the size of the object, Officer Bertrand estimated it to be "about the size of a house."

Usually, when incidents such as this are reported, the sightings take place over a period of a few seconds, but in this instance, the men observed the object for 15 or 20 minutes at what appeared to be a relatively short distance.

One of the most amazing points which Officer Bertrand made while being interviewed was the complete absence of sound as the flying object hovered over

a nearby farm building, casting a brilliant glow over the dwelling, while the farm animals in the barn caused a tremendous commotion. Horses whinnied and kicked the walls of their stalls. Then the object disappeared rapidly in the distance.

ANOTHER SIGHTING

Officer Eugene Bertrand's report on the trio's sighting of the strange object was made to Officer Toland, desk man at the Exeter police station, at 2:55 a.m.

Then at 3:30 p.m. Officer Hunt reported from his cruiser that he had again sighted the UFO, while he was at the intersection of the Route 101 bypass in Exeter and Route 87 to Newfields from Exeter.

Topping the strange activities, Exeter police reported that a telephone call from an unidentified pay station in Hampton had been made by a hysterical man, but that the line had gone dead before the call could be completed or the pay phone station identified. The man had dialed the operator and cried "Get me the police" and said he had been chased by a flying saucer.

Hampton police were notified, but nothing was determined about the point from which the call was made, what had frightened the man—or why the call was so abruptly broken off.

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA,
Washington, D.C., September 15, 1965.

RAYMOND FOWLER,
Wenham, Mass.

DEAR RAY: Your excellent report on the September 3 New Hampshire sightings has been received. You certainly are to be commended for a prompt and thorough investigation. The information is most interesting and will be of great value. We are very fortunate to have people of your ability donating their services to us.

Mr. John Fuller of Saturday Review may be getting in touch with you about these sightings. He is doing a straightforward column (he writes "Trade Winds") on the recent wave of sightings, and has long had a sincere interest in the subject. We are cooperating fully, and I have given him a lot of specific information.

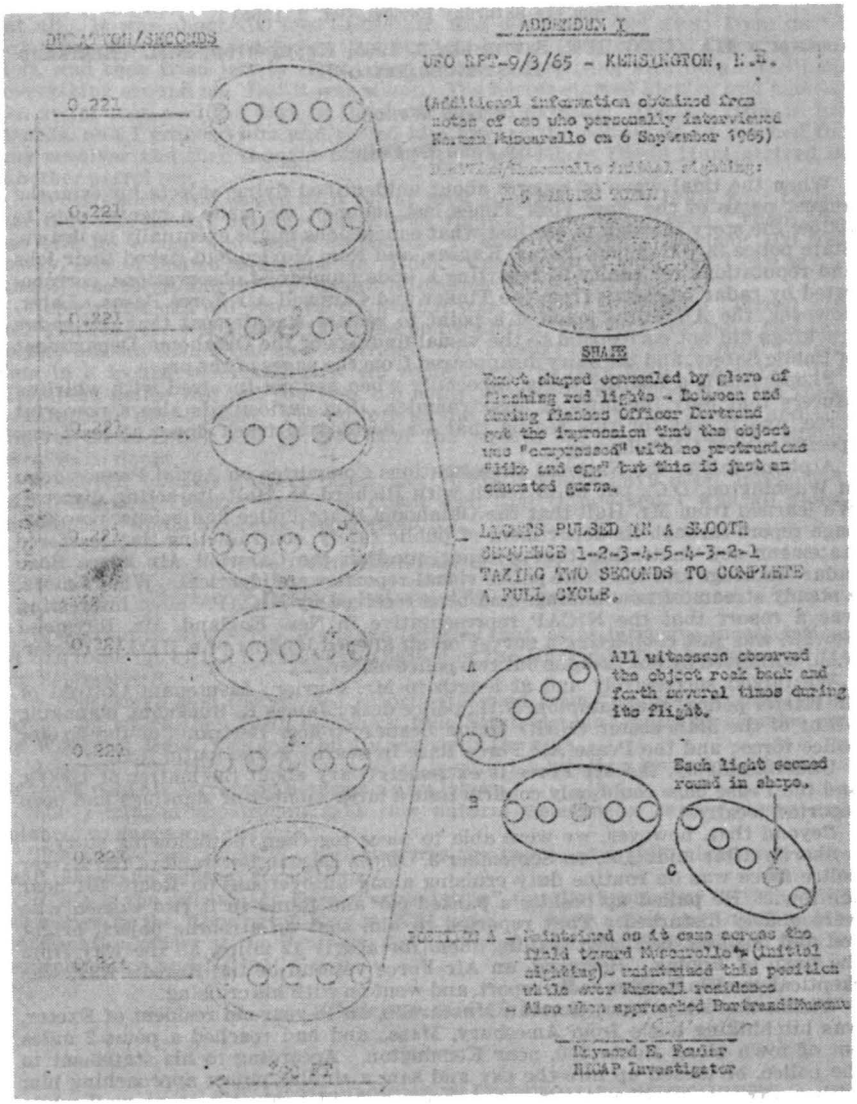
Our New York No. 2 Subcommittee in Chautauqua County (western New York.) and an intelligent young member have been investigating a landing report near Buffalo (Cherry Creek) August 19. It appears to be a solid case, and caused several E–M effects.

On the same night as the New Hampshire sightings, two police officers near Angleton, Tex. (Between Houston and gulf coast) saw a reddish UFO on the ground in a field, started to investigate until the object moved toward them—whereupon they fled in panic. Sounds very similar to New Hampshire, but we may not be able to get much details.

Thanks again for your hard work on our behalf.

Sincerely,

DICK HALL.



ADDENDUM II

(UFO Report, September 3, 1965, Kensington, N.H. (Bertrand-Hunt-Muscarello))

Subject: Weather, September 3, 1965, a.m.
To: NICAP, Washington, D.C.
From: Raymond E. Fowler, chairman: NICAP Massachusetts Investigating Subcommittee.

U.S. Weather Forecast: Skies: Clear. Wind direction: Northwest, Wind velocity: 5 miles per hour. Temperature: Lower fifties.

Respectfully submitted.

RAYMOND E. FOWLER,
NICAP Investigator.

[From the Saturday Review, Oct. 2, 1965]

ADDENDUM IIA (UFO RPT, SEPTEMBER 3, 1965, KENSINGTON, N.H. (BERTRAND-HUNT-MUSCARELLO))

TRADE WINDS

(By John G. Fuller)

When the tidal wave of reports about unidentified flying objects hit even the august pages of the New York Times last summer, we made a mental note to follow the story through to see just what conclusions might eventually be drawn. State police in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, and New Mexico had risked their jobs and reputations for sanity in reporting a wide number of observations, corroborated by radar trackings from the Tinker and Carswell Air Force Bases. Later, however, the Air Force made it a point to release a statement that the radar trackings did not correspond to the visual findings of the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety, and the story disappeared from the pages of the press.

Skepticism is a healthy thing, especially when you get involved with whirling saucers that defy the laws of aerodynamics. But curiosity is also a powerful force, and it was for this reason that we decided to track down at least one specific case of UFO chasing.

A phone call to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomenon in Washington, D.C., put us in touch with Richard H. Hall, its acting director. We learned from Mr. Hall that the Oklahoma State Police had released a nine-page report through its department of public safety, contradicting the Air Force statement and indicating that without question the Carswell Air Force Base radar trackings and the State police visual reports were identical. What's more, a steady stream of new findings had been received by NICAP. Most interesting was a report that the NICAP representative in New England, Mr. Raymond Fowler, was just completing a survey on an alleged landing of a UFO in Exeter, N.H., witnessed by not just one but two police officers.

We talked successively and at length to Mr. Fowler; Lieutenant Cottrell of the Exeter police; the Hampton, N.H., police desk; James R. Bucknam, managing editor of the Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader; Officer Bertrand, of the Exeter police force; and the Pease Air Force Base in nearby Portsmouth, N.H.

Understandably, the Air Force is extremely wary about the matter of UFO's, and the Pease base could only confirm that a large number of sightings had been reported locally.

Beyond that, however, we were able to piece together the following story:

Shortly after midnight, on September 3, Officer Eugene Bertrand of the Exeter police force was on routine duty cruising along an overpass on Route 101 near the town. He pulled up besides a parked car and found in it two women who were visibly disturbed. They reported to him that an airborne object, bright red and flashing, had been trailing them for nearly 12 miles, all the way from the town of Epping. Bertrand, an Air Force veteran of the Korean war, was skeptical, made a routine radio report, and went on with his cruising.

Within that same hour, Norman Muscarello, an 18-year-old resident of Exeter, was hitchhiking home from Amesbury, Mass., and had reached a point 2 miles out of town along Route 150, near Kensington. According to his statement to the police, he looked up into the sky and saw a similar object approaching him with a yawing, kitelike motion. He threw himself against a stone wall while the object hovered over a nearby farmhouse, lighting up the entire area. He finally made a run for the farmhouse as the object sailed out of sight. Unable to make sense of his hysterical story, the farmer took no further action and the boy hitchhiked into town. Here he reported the story to the police, even though he was in a state bordering on shock.

It was now about 2 a.m., Officer Bertrand was called on his car radio and instructed to take the boy back to the farm area to investigate.

"I was sure that these women and this kid had seen a helicopter, or something like that," Officer Bertrand told us. "But we went out to the spot, and I parked the cruiser. It was a clear night. No wind. No fog. We walked about a hundred yards out on the field, near a barn where a lot of horses were kept. Then, the kid yelled, 'There it is!'

"He was right. It was coming up over a row of trees. There was no noise at all. It was about 100 feet in the air, and about 200 feet away from us. I could see five bright red lights in a straight row. They dimmed from right to left, and then from left to right—just like an advertising sign does. It lit up everything around us. But it was silent. The horses started kicking and making an awful fuss, and the dogs in the farm started barking. The kid froze in his tracks, and I grabbed him and pulled him toward the police car. I reached for my revolver and then thought better of it. Then Officer David Hunt arrived in another patrol car.

"We sat there and looked at it for at least 10 minutes. My brain kept telling me that this doesn't happen—but it was, right in front of my eyes. There was no tail, no wings, and again no sound. It hovered there, still about 100 feet away, sort of floated and wobbled. I don't know what it was. All I can say is that it was there, and three of us saw it together."

Nobody else can tell you exactly what it was, either. Lieutenant Cottrell will tell you that the whole story is on the police blotter, and that you can't find two better officers than Hunt and Bertrand. "If I didn't believe these guys, I'd put 'em in a locked room and give 'em some blocks to play with," he says. The Hampton police will tell you that too many reliable people have reported these sightings to doubt them. The editors at the Manchester Union Leader and the Exeter News-Letter will tell you that the reports are from too many reliable sources to doubt.

Moreover, officials suspect other local UFO landings have gone unreported. As Lieutenant Cottrell said, "If I had seen that thing—and I was all alone, nobody else would have ever heard about it."

[From the Haverhill Gazette, Oct. 27, 1965]

PENTAGON DOESN'T BELIEVE UFO EXETER SIGHTINGS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Pentagon believes that, after intensive investigation, it has come up with a natural explanation of the UFO sightings in Exeter, N.H., on September 3.

A spokesman said the several reports stemmed from "multiple objects in the area," by which they mean a high-altitude Strategic Air Command exercise out of Westover, Mass., was going on at the time in the area.

A second important factor was what is called a weather inversion wherein a layer of cold air is trapped between warm layers.

The Pentagon spokesman said this natural phenomena causes "stars and planets to dance and twinkle."

The spokesman said "We believe what the people saw that night was stars and planets in unusual formations."

(This is the official Air Force "explanation" for the September 3, 1965, UFO sightings in the Kensington-Exeter, N.H. area. I have asked the USAF public information officer at the Pentagon for a copy of their official evaluation for the subcommittee and NICAP files.[1])

RAYMOND E. FOWLER,
Chairman, NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee.

NICAP MASSACHUSETTS INVESTIGATING SUBCOMMITTEE,
Wenham, Mass.

Subject: Addendum IV, UFO report, September 3, 1965 (Kensington, N.H.) (Bertraund-Hunt-Muscarello).
Date: October 10, 1965.
From: Raymond E. Fowler, chairman, NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee.
To: NICAP.

This newsclip identifying UFO reports in the southern New Hampshire area is misleading. At the time of the September 3, 1965 UFO sighting I checked with the manager of "Sky-Lite Aerial Advertising Co." and its aircraft was not flying on this night. On October 9 I went over the advertising plane's flight paths between August and October 8. The plane was not even airborne between August 21 and September 10.

[1] See later USAF letter in file which reverses their position.

Joseph Rodina also informed me that his aircraft rarely flies into southern New Hampshire and when it does it is usually in the Salem and Manchester area, miles away from the Exeter area. He told me that he had told the Amesbury News that perhaps some UFO's reported in New Hampshire could have been his aircraft. Unfortunately, this newspaper used his statement to explain the sightings in the Seabrook area which borders Kensington, N.H.

The "Sky-Lite" aircraft* does not carry red flashing lights. It carries a rectangular sign carrying white flashing lights. It was not airborne during the southeast New Hampshire UFO flap. I have notified the Amesbury News of the true facts and have asked them to set the record straight. I am issuing this addendum to avoid further confusion.

RAYMOND E. FOWLER,
Chairman, NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee.

[From the Amesbury (Mass.) News, Oct. 6, 1965]

UFO IDENTIFIED AS AD GIMMICK

The unidentified flying object spotted in this area by many residents has finally been identified.

It's a flying billboard which contains 500 high-intensity lights that spell out an advertising message.

The electronic billboard is towed by a specially rigged light aircraft owned by Sky-Lite Aerial Advertising Agency of Boston and piloted by Daniel C. Vale of Londonderry, N.H.

Recently the rig has been flown over the Amesbury, Seabrook, and southern New Hampshire area carrying the advertising message, "Put a Tiger in Your Tank—See Your Esso Dealer."

However, when spotted from an angle not directly below the aircraft, it gives the appearance of a flying saucer, quite like the "UFO's" described by the area residents.

A spokesman for the firm said the sign is 10 feet wide and 40 feet long. "The plane can turn on a dime, and when it turns, it gives the appearance of being stationary," the spokesman said.

Earlier flights of the night-flying billboard south of Boston also prompted a flash to UFO reports before the "secret" was discovered.

UFO SUMMARY SHEET

UFO reports—Sept. 3, 1966

Number	Witness—Name and address	Age	Location of UFO sighting	Time e.d.t.
1	Unidentified woman motorist	(1)	Route 10L, Epping to Exeter, N.H.	−12:30 a.m.
2 and 3	Norman J. Muscarelle, 205½ Front St., Exeter, N.H.	18	Route 150, Kensington, N.H. Russell and Dining properties.	±1:00 a.m. ±2:25 a.m.
3	Officer Eugene F. Bertrand (Exeter Police Department) Pickpocket Road, Exeter, N.H.	32	do	Do.
3	Officer David R. Hunt, 11 Charles St., Exeter, N.H. (Exeter Police Department)	26	do	±2:35 a.m.
4	Officer David R. Hunt		Route 85/101 Bypass, Exeter, N.H.	3:30 a.m.
5	Unidentified man		Hampton, N.H.	Early a.m.

[1] Not available.

BACKGROUND

I received news of the sighting through newsclips and from a friend whose niece is a policewoman for the Exeter, N.H., Police Department. I arrived at the Exeter police station at 6:40 a.m., on September 11, and interviewed Officer

*NOTE.—This aircraft flies out of Beverly Airport, Beverly, Mass. Usually the aircraft flies along the coast to Boston and back. It rarely is airborne after 11 p.m.

Hunt who filled out and signed an eight-page UFO questionnaire and later gave permission to use his name in connection with the report. I preceded to the residence of Norman Muscarello and discovered that he was out of State until September 14. Arrangements have been made for a personal interview upon his return. I then drove out to the sighting area of sightings two and three, and interviewed residents in the general area. Next, I went to the home of Officer Bertrand and drove him back to the area of sighting two and three where he filled out a UFO questionnaire, signed it and gave NICAP permission to use his name in connection with his sighting. While at the sighting area he gave me a detailed description of the sightings and related information. I interviewed others in the area who had related information and arrived back home at 2:45 p.m. My brother, Richard A. Fowler, and I returned to the area and took photographs. We walked several miles along some powerlines near the sighting area examining this area for any signs of a UFO landing. We feel that the UFO might have been attracted to the area by these powerlines. We found nothing.

SIGHTING ACCOUNT NO. 1

At approximately 12:30 a.m., e.d.t., Officer Bertrand came upon one woman (not two as reported by newspapers) parked in an automobile on route 101 just outside Exeter. When asked if she needed help she said excitedly that she had been chased along Route 101 between Epping and Exeter for 12 miles by a flying object which was encircled with a brilliant red glow. She stated that the object dived at her moving automobile several times. When Bertrand asked where the object was, she pointed to what he thought was a bright star on the horizon. He dismissed the incident and after watching the light source for a few minutes to reassure the woman he proceeded on in the cruiser. He dismissed the incident and did not attach enough importance to the woman's account to warrant obtaining her name.

SIGHTING ACCOUNT NO. 2 (MORE DETAILS FORTHCOMING PENDING PERSONAL INTERVIEW)

At approximately 1 a.m., e.d.t., Norman Muscarello was walking along Route 150 in Kensington, N.H., about 2 miles from Exeter. He had been visiting in Amesbury, Mass., and had been thumbing rides home to Exeter. As he approached the Clyde Russell residence he was alarmed to see an object carrying at least four extremely bright red pulsating lights emerge from nearby woods and maneuver over the field adjoining the road which belongs to Carl Dining. It moved over the Clyde Russell home and hovered there. The house was only 20 to 30 feet from where Muscarello stood and the object appeared to be just a matter of several feet from the roof. Frightened thoroughly he crouched down beside the stonewall which runs along the field. Several times it seemed to move closer to him. Its lights were so bright that the Russell home was bathed with a red glow. The size of the object seemed to be much larger than the Russell home and Muscarello later told the police it was 80 to 90 feet long. The object was completely silent. Then it moved back over the Carl Dining field and disappeared over the trees. Muscarello pounded on the door of the Clyde Russell home shouting that he had seen a "flying saucer." The Russells woke up but refused to answer the door thinking that the boy was drunk or something. Muscarello finally gave up and started down the road toward Exeter. He flagged down a passing automobile and received a ride to the Exeter police station.

(The above account is based upon information received from Officers Hunt and Bertrand. I hope to receive more detailed information from Norman Muscarello personally as soon as he returns from Rhode Island.)

SIGHTING ACCOUNT NO. 3

Muscarello reported the incident to Desk Officer Reginald Towland at about 1:45 a.m., e.d.t. He was white with fear and hardly able to talk. A radio call was made to Officer Bertrand asking him to return to the station, pick up Muscarello and investigate at the scene of the sighting which he did. Upon arriving at the Carl Dining field the object was nowhere to be seen. After waiting and looking from the cruiser for several minutes, Bertrand radioed headquarters that there was nothing there and that the boy must have been imagining things. It was then suggested that he examine the field before

returning, so Bertrand and Muscarello advanced into the field. As the police officer played his flashlight beam back and forth over the field, Muscarello sighted the object rising slowly from behind some nearby trees and shouted. Bertrand swung around and saw a large dark object carrying a straight row of four extraordinarily bright red pulsating lights coming into the field at tree top level. It swung around toward them just clearing a 60- to 70-foot tree and seemingly only 100 feet away from them. Instinctively Officer Bertrand drew his service revolver. (He stated that Muscarello said that he shouted "I'll shoot it!") but thinking this unwise replaced it and yelled to Muscarello to take cover in the cruiser. He told me that he was afraid that they both would be burned by the blinding lights closing in on them. They ran to the cruiser where Bertrand immediately put in a radio call to headquarters for assistance. Officer Hunt arrived within minutes and the trio observed the object move away over and below the tree line.

Data (sighting No. 3)—Based on signed questionnaires and interviews with Officers Bertrand and Hunt.

There is confusion concerning the exact times of the sighting. The police stated that the newspaper account stated that Muscarello arrived at the station at 12 a.m. is incorrect and that it was probably close to 2 a.m., e.d.t. I have arbitrarily assigned the time as being 1:45 a.m., e.d.t., after taking everything into consideration. Muscarello's mother also thought it was closer to 2 a.m. Perhaps after my interview with Muscarello, I will be able to pinpoint the time more exactly. Based upon the 1:45 a.m. time and the fact that when the trio returned to headquarters and reported the sighting No. 3 to Desk Officer Towland at exactly 2:55 a.m., I figure that sighting No. 3 took place approximately between 2:25 and 2:40 a.m.

Sighting No. 3 took place over the field of Carl Dining in Kensington, N.H., on Route 150 about 3 miles south of Exeter, N.H. The duration of the observation was about 10 minutes by Officer Bertrand and Norman Muscarello and about 5 minutes by Officer Hunt when he joined the pair at the field. There was no trace of daylight at the sighting time. The weather was dry and cool with a slight breeze. Observing conditions were excellent. The moon had set at 11:15 p.m., e.d.t., and the sky was studded with stars. The exact shape of the object could not be seen by either police officer although Bertrand told me that it seemed compressed as if it were round or egg-shaped with definitely no protrusions like wings, rudder or stabilizer. I hope to obtain more details from Muscarello concerning the shape, size, and so forth of the object.

The object carried at least four extremely brilliant pulsating red lights which appeared to flash in a steady sequence. They were arranged in a fixed straight line position. Officer Bertrand said that they were brighter than any light he had ever seen and at close range he found that he could not look directly at them. He had the impression that he and Muscarello might have been burned if they did not run from the object as it approached then. He compared their brightness to that of automobile headlights shining directly in one's face at less than several yards away. The manner in which they pulsated gave Bertrand the distinct impression that this was an intelligently constructed vehicle and definitely not some natural phenomenon. The lights were definitely seen to be part of a large dark solid object. The reflection off the object's body caused a halo effect around it. Both officers had eyeglasses on when viewing the object. Neither officer would give an estimate of how large the object itself was although Bertrand was quoted to have said that it was as "big as a house." Bertrand told me that it was very large but the lights obscured it preventing him from seeing enough of it to know how large. When Officer Hunt arrived the object had moved off so what he thinks he only saw two of the lights. I was, however, able to obtain a statement from Bertrand concerning the apparent size of the object. He stated that when the object was at its closest that it was almost the apparent size of a "grapefruit" held at arm's length. When he first sighted it the size seemed to be that of a "baseball" held at arm's length. He estimated that it was 200 yards away when he first spotted it after Muscarello shouted. He said that at its closest approach it just cleared a nearby 60- to 70-foot tree. He said the object was very close and that it appeared to be about 100 feet away. While viewing it from the cruiser it manuvered over the field at about 500 yards away before moving out over the tree line. As it moved the object seemed to tilt back and forth from side to side.

The sighting area was open countryside with farms, fields, and woods. The object was first seen in the northeast and last seen in the north moving in an east

to west flight pattern in a straight line with an elevation of about 10° above the tree-line. Both officers had read a little an UFO's. Neither would venture an opinion as to what the object was but Officer Bertrand stated that it was definitely not an airplane or helicopter and that in his opinion that it was an intelligently constructed and operated vehicle. No sound was heard by the witnesses, even at close range but apparently the animals in the nearby barn of Carl Dining could hear or sense something that frightened them as during sighting No. 2 and No. 3 they whinnied and kicked their stalls. The dog which belonged to people across the road was barking furiously. No interference was noticed on the police radio nor were the lights and ignition of the cruiser affected. Neither officer would estimate the object's speed but stated it was very slow. No scorched marks or indentations were found in the field. Both officers agreed that their signed statements and names could be used by NICAP in connection with the report.

SIGHTING ACCOUNT NO. 4

At 3:30 a.m. e.d.t., Officer Hunt sighted what appeared to be the same object hovering in the distance while at the Route 85–100 bypass in Exeter. He radioed Officer Bertrand who told him it was probably a star. Shortly after this he looked for it again but it had disappeared. Since there was little detail in this sighting I did not bother to probe for details.

SIGHTING ACCOUNT NO. 5

To add to the excitement the police and others told me that an unidentified hysterical man tried to call the police during these early morning hours to report a UFO. He dialed the operator from a pay station in Hampton, N.H., and excitedly asked the operator to connect him with the police as he had been chased by a "flying saucer." Before the call could be put through to the police, the telephone connection went dead. Neither the man or the particular Hampton pay station could be traced.

MILITARY INVESTIGATION

Officer Bertrand informed me that soon after they made their report of sighting No. 3 to Desk Officer Towland they notified Pease AFB, Portsmouth, N.H., of the sighting by phone. Later Pease AFB phoned back and arranged for the police officers to be interviewed. At around 9 a.m. that same morning, a USAF major and lieutenant in uniforms arrived, questioned them and drove both Bertrand and Hunt out to the Carl Dining field where they had sighted the UFO. They asked more questions and returned with the police officers to the station. The USAF officers asked the police to try to keep the sighting from the press so as to avoid alarming the local people. The police told the USAF officers that it was too late for this as several reporters already had the story. (One had driven from Manchester on a motorcycle complete with black jacket, helmet, and goggles. I heard privately that he gave the police quite a start when he came into the station looking like a man from outer space.)

Bertrand told me that most of the questions asked were the same as I had asked. The USAF team were particularly interested in the size and shape of the object. One question that stuck in Bertrand's mind was that they wanted to know if the chickens on the Carl Russell residence next to the field were awakened and alarmed during the sighting. (Apparently they were not disturbed as they were not heard during the sighting although they may have and just were not heard as the chicken house is probably 300–400 yards, at least from where Muscarello and Bertrand were standing in the field.)

Three interesting items told to the police were that (1) that a USAF check had revealed no aircraft in the area during the time sighting No. 3 occurred; (2) that Pease AFB had been receiving other UFO reports in the New Hampshire area almost nightly during the previous week; (3) they mentioned a sighting which took place in late July concerning an automobile coming upon a UFO hovering over the road in front of them. I have the details and hope to look into it.

After returning Officers Bertrand and Hunt to headquarters, both the major and lieutenant returned to the sighting area and questioned residents living near the field. Mrs. Muscarello told me that two USAF officers had questioned her son at length and that a U.S. Navy officer also came to the house and asked several questions about the sighting.

INTERESTING SIDELIGHTS

1. Mr. and Mrs. Chase of Kensington who live a few miles down Route 150 told me that:

(*a*) An Air Force officer had gone around to all the stores selling newspapers in Exeter and purchased all copies of the Manchester, N.H., Union Leader newspaper which carried a detailed account of these sightings and a posed photo of Herman Muscarello and Officers Bertrand, Hunt, and Towland. The police had not heard of this and I did not check further.

(*a*) Mrs. Chase, a nurse, was on duty at the Exeter Hospital during the sightings and told me that the Hampton, N.H. police phoned the hospital to see if a man was brought into the hospital suffering a heart attack or shock. This was in relation to the hysterical man who tried to reach the police by phone about being chased by a UFO. Reference sighting No. 5.

(*c*) Mrs. Chase also told me that a friend of hers, a Mrs. Parker Blodgett, works as a correspondent for the "Haverhill (Mass.) Gazette" newspaper and was asked by the USAF not to publish UFO reports. (However, she did, as I have a copy of her article dated September 7, 1965.)

2. A Mrs. St. Laurente of Kingston Road, Kensington, N.H. told a church minister friend of mine that her brother, who usually cuts the hay on the Carl Dining field, refuses to do so because he has heard that the hay has been contaminated by radiation.

3. The police told me that for the past few weeks previous to the sightings they have received reports from people, some of them personal friends, of their whole house suddenly being momentarily illuminated by a bright reddish glow after they had gone to bed. No objects were seen.

4. Mr. and Mrs. DeMarco, N. Hampton Road (Route 88), Hampton, N.H., observed a star-like object blinking red which alternately hovered and moved in the western sky between 9 and 9:30 p.m. on September 5, 1965. Since Venus had set and Mr. DeMarco was a former USAF control tower operator who assured me that it was not an aircraft, I thought the report was worth mentioning.

5. A Mr. Rice, who owns a CB radio told me that he was talking over his radio with a Portsmouth, N.H., police cruiser on September 7, 1965, about 8:00 p.m. e.d.t. The officer told him that he was out investigating a UFO report and asked Mr. Rice to give him a call if he spotted it. He said the UFO was supposed to be over the Hampton Falls area near where Mr. Rice lives on Route 88. No UFO was seen by Mr. Rice. The cruiser used call letters KMA–8616 and used both channel No. 2 and No. 6.

6. Since the UFO sighting at the Carl Dining field, many cars pull up and watch for the object at night. Mr. Dining had to rope off the entrance to his field and post it as people were littering his property.

7. Mrs. Muscarello thinks the USAF Lieutenant's name was Brant.

8. On my first two visits to the Carl Dining field on the morning of September 11, 1965, I saw a low-flying C–119 Flying Boxcar pass over the area on both occasions.

9. Other civilian UFO Investigators were given the brushoff by the police. I was very fortunate to have received such a good response from them.

EVALUATION

Characters of witnesses

Muscarello: Comes from twice-broken home—has had problems with police and is well-known by them—usually a cool, calm boy. Until my personal interview with him I can say no more.

Bertrand and Hunt: Credible witnesses, good observers with a keen desire to relate only facts—I could not even persuade them to guess at estimates of the object's real size and speed.

The sightings

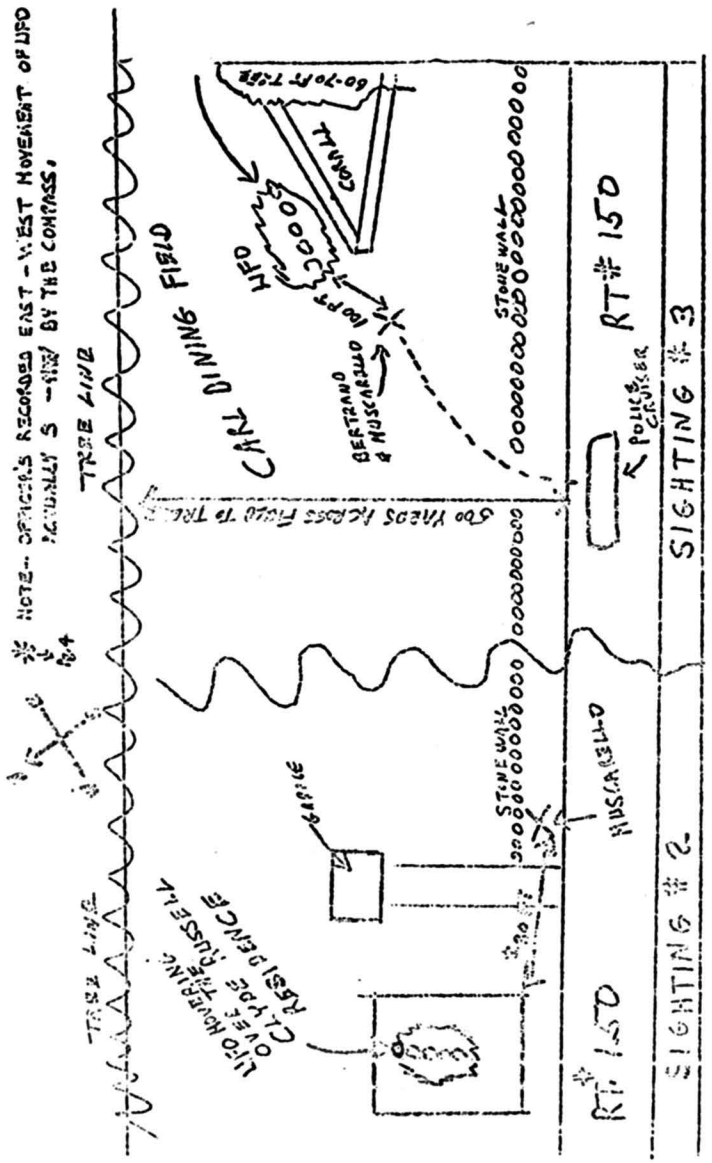
Sighting No. 1: There is enough similarity between the unidentified woman's report and the detailed sightings No. 2 and No. 3 to warrant its probable authenticity. The chances of a similar report occurring the same morning, unless it were authentic, is astronomical. It is possible that the object she pointed out to Officer Bertrand was Jupiter and not the object that had chased her.

Sightings No. 2 and No. 3: The credibility of the witnessing police officers coupled with the sightings of Muscarello; the many typical UFO characteristics exhibited by the object; the other correlated UFO reports and the military's interest and actions concerning the UFO reports, rate these as first-class UFO sightings by this investigator.

Sighting No. 4: Insufficient information but interesting.

Sighting No. 5: Again, the chances are astronomical that several people entirely independent of one another should report that they were "chased by a flying saucer" in the same general area. It is possible concerning sighting No. 5 that someone could have been monitoring the police radio conversations about the UFO reports and decided to play a little joke but this seems unlikely. Not many people, other than responsible law enforcement officers are up tuning the police radio and at these wee hours of the morning. Thus, the report is probably genuine. Why the unidentified man did not or could not complete his call to the police will have to remain on open question unless he steps forward and relates what happened.

I was able to talk to many people during my investigation. The great majority did not appear to be frightened about the incident. This is contrary to what the USAF team thought would occur if the story got in the newspapers. Instead of fear, I found a tremendous curiosity on the part of people to know more about UFO's. Strangely enough many openly voiced the interplanetary origin theory without any encouragement from me. Several years ago very few people other than those who have read widely about UFO's would talk like this. Slowly but surely over the years the public has been becoming UFO-conscious: Reports like this one coupled with wide publication will help much in informing the public-at-large of the reality and problem of UFO's.



Respectfully submitted,
Raymond E. Fowler
Chairman: NICAP Mass. Subcommitee

U. F. O DATA SHEET — Page one

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give as much information as possible concerning the "Unidentified Flying Object" that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

Investigator: National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena
Raymond E. Fowler
13 Friend Court
Wenham, Massachusetts

Time he reported sighting to Desk officer. - 2:25 AM WAS SIGHTING TIME

1. When did you see the object? 3 (DAY) 9 (MONTH) 1965 (YEAR)

2. Time of day: 2 (HOUR) 55 (MINUTES) (Circle One): (A.M.) or P.M.

3. Time zone: (Circle One): (a) Eastern, b. Central, c. Mountain, d. Pacific, e. Other _____
(Circle One): (a) Daylight Saving Time, b. Standard Time

4. Where were you when you saw the object?
KENSINGTON RFD (Nearest Postal Address) KENSINGTON (City or Town) N.H. (State or Country)
Additional remarks: _____

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____ HOURS 10 MINUTES _____ SECONDS

5.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.
a. Certain c. Not very sure
(b.) Fairly certain d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?
(Circle One): a. Bright daylight d. Just a trace of daylight
b. Dull daylight e. (No) trace of daylight
c. Bright twilight f. Don't remember

7. If you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?
a. In front of you c. To your right e. Overhead
N/A b. In back of you d. To your left f. Don't remember

8. If you saw the object at NIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (circle one): a. None b. A few c. (Many) d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (circle one): a. Bright moonlight b. Dull moonlight c. No moonlight- dark d. Don't remember

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

(Circle one): (a) YES b. NO c. DON'T REMEMBER

10. If it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight appearing to be? (CIRCLE ONE BELOW):

a. A mile or more away? (a distant car)
b. Several blocks away?
c. A block away?
d. Several yards away?
e. Other? BRIGHTER THAN HEADLIGHT AT CLOSE RANGE

11. Did the object: (Circle One for each question)

a. Appear to stand still at any time?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
c. Break up into parts or explode?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
d. Give off smoke?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
e. Change brightness?	(YES)	NO	DON'T KNOW
f. Change shape?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate?	(YES)	NO	DON'T KNOW

12. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): YES (NO) DON'T KNOW If you answered yes, then tell what it moved behind: _____

13. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud? YES (NO) DON'T KNOW (Circle One)

If you answered yes, then tell what it moved in front of: _____

14. Did the object appear (Circle One): (SOLID)? TRANSPARENT? DON'T KNOW

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

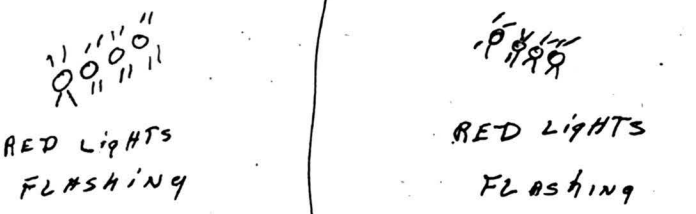
a. Eyeglasses	(YES)	NO	d. Window glass	YES	NO	g. Other	_____
b. Sun glasses	YES	NO	e. Binoculars	YES	NO		_____
c. Windshield	YES	NO	f. Telescope	YES	NO		_____

16. Tell in a few words the remaining things about the object.

a. SOUND NONE

b. COLOR RED

17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapour trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.



18. The edges of the object were:

(Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred b. Like a bright star c. Sharply outlined e. Other LIGHTS WERE SO BRIGHT THEY CREATED A HALO

19. If there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were travelling.

N/A

Page 4

20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place a "A" at the beginning of the path; a "B" at the end of the path; and, show any changes in direction during the course.

21. IF POSSIBLE, try to guess or estimate what the real size of the object was in its longest dimension. N/A Feet.

22. How large did the object or objects appear as compared with one of the following objects "held" in the hand at about arm's length?

(Circle One): a. Head of a pin; b. Pea; c. Dime; d. Nickel; (e) Quarter; f. Half-dollar; g. Silver dollar; (h) Baseball; (i) Grapefruit; j. Basketball; k. Other _____

1 - (h) Baseball ← see question 41

2 - (e) Quarter

22.1 CIRCLE ONE of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to question 22.

a. Certain; b. Fairly certain; (c) Not very sure; d. Uncertain

* While over field when 1st seen.
** While over trees bordering field

1 - 200 yards *

2 - 500 yards **

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? DROPPED BELOW TREE LINE

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the objecg that you saw. Of what type MATERIAL would you make it? How LARGE would it be, and what SHAPE would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

N/A

Page 5

25. Where were you located when you saw the object? (Circle One):

a. Inside a building; b. In a car; (c) Outdoors; d. In an airplane; e. At sea; f. Other _____

26. Were you (Circle One):

a. In the business section of city?; b. In the residential section of a city?; (c) In open countryside?; d. Flying near an airfield?; e. Flying over a city?; f. Flying over open country?; g. Other _____

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

WENT TO ASSIST 18 year old boy

28. If you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

N/A

28.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One):

a. North; b. Northeast; c. East; d. Southeast; e. South; f. Southwest; g. West; h. Northwest

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour

28.3 Did you stop at any time while observing object?

(Circle One): YES NO

29. What direction were you looking when you FIRST SAW the object? (Circle One):

a. North; c. East; e. South; g. West; (b) Northeast; d. Southeast; f. Southwest; h. Northwest

30. What direction were you looking when you LAST SAW the object? (Circle One)

(a) North; c. East; e. South; g. West; b. Northeast; d. Southeast; f. Southwest; h. Northwest

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North and also the the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation.)

N/A

31.1 When it first appeared:

a. From true North _____ degrees

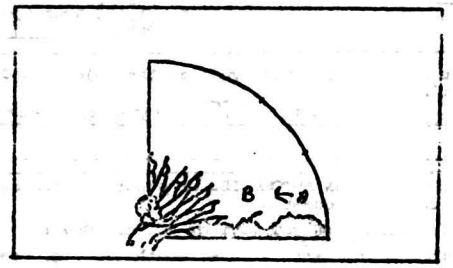
b. From horizon _____ degrees

31.2 When it disappeared:

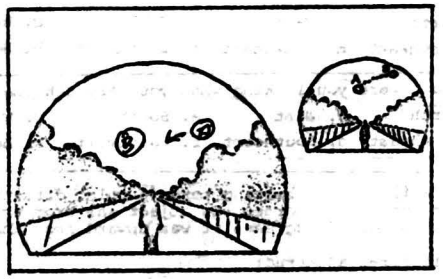
a. From true North _____ degrees

b. From horizon _____ degrees

32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place a "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you FIRST saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you LAST saw it.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you FIRST saw it, and a "B" at its position when you LAST saw it. (Refer to smaller sketch as an example of "how" to complete the larger sketch.)



33.1 Were there any KNOWN aircraft in the sky during your sighting?

(Circle One): YES (NO)

If you answered YES, was it following or attempting to intercept the Unidentified Flying Object? (Circle One): YES NO

If you answered YES, please circle TYPE of aircraft:

MILITARY? COMMERCIAL PRIVATE? JET? PROPELLER?

How many engines did the aircraft have? _____

34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

34.1 CLOUDS(Circle One)
(a) Clear sky
b. Hazy
c. Scattered clouds
d. Thick or heavy clouds
e. Don't remember

34.2 WIND(Circle One)
a. No wind
(b) Slight breeze
c. Strong wind
d. Don't remember

34.3 WEATHER(Circle One)
(a) Dry
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

34.4 TEMPERATURE(Circle One)
a. Cold
(b) Cool
c. Warm
d. Hot
e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

Official or Organization Name(s)	Day	Month	Year
DESK OFFICER EXETER P.D.	3	9	65
OFFICER TOLAND			

36. Have you read literature pertaining to Unidentified Flying Objects?
(Circle One) (YES) NO If YES, how much? (Circle One) A LITTLE? MODERATELY? EXTENSIVELY?

37. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?
(Circle One) (YES) NO

37.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?
(Circle One) (YES) NO

37.2 Please list their names and addresses if you circled YES:
(Attach separate sheet for above)

38. Was this the first time that you had seen an object(s) like this?
(Circle One) (YES) NO

38.1 If you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see the other one(s)? _____

39. In your opinion, what do YOU think the object(s) was and what might have caused it?

DO NOT KNOW

40. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object? Page 8
(Circle One) YES (NO)
If you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? _____ MPH

41. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?
(Circle One) (YES) NO
If you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? 100 FEET

42. Did the Object(s) cause any interference with the operation of:
(Circle where applicable) RADIO? TV? LIGHTS? OTHER? NONE
If you underlined any of above, explain the interference below:

43. Was a photo taken of the Object(s)? (Circle One) YES (NO)
Would you be willing to submit a copy? (Circle One) YES NO
N/A If you circled YES, please send copy indicating monetary reimbursement:

44. Do you belong to any Organization which investigates Unidentified Flying Objects? (Circle One) YES (NO) If YES, list them below:

45. May we publish your report if your name is kept confidential? YES NO
May we publish your report and use your name? (YES) NO
(Circle One)

47. Please give the following information about yourself: EUGENE
NAME: [redacted] BERTRAND [redacted]
Last Name First Name Middle Name
ADDRESS: [redacted] PICKERET RD EXETER N.H.
Street City State
TELEPHONE NUMBER 772-4943
What is your present job? POLICE OFFICER
AGE 32 SEX _____
Please indicate any educational training you have had: (Number of years)
a. Grade school 8 e. Technical school _____
b. High school 4 (Type of) _____
c. College _____
d. Post graduate _____ f. Other special training? _____
_____)

48. Signature: [redacted] Date: 9/11/65

U F O DATA SHEET

Page one

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give as much information as possible concerning the "Unidentified Flying Object" that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

Investigator: National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena
Raymond E. Fowler
13 Friend Court
Wenham, Massachusetts

Time to be reported sightg to Desk Officer—TIME OF SIGHTING = 2:55 AM

1. When did you see the object?
3 DAY / 9 MONTH / 1965 YEAR

2. Time of day: 2 HOUR / 55 MINUTES
(Circle One): (A.M.) or P.M.

3. Time zone: (Circle One): (a.) Eastern b. Central c. Mountain d. Pacific e. Other _____
(Circle One): (a.) Daylight Saving Time b. Standard Time

4. Where were you when you saw the object?
KENSINGTON RFD / KENSINGTON / N.H.
Nearest Postal Address / City or Town / State or Country
Additional remarks: _____

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____ HOURS / 5-5 MINUTES / _____ SECONDS

5.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.
a. Certain c. Not very sure
(b.) Fairly certain d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?
(Circle One): a. Bright daylight d. Just a trace of daylight
b. Dull daylight (e.) No trace of daylight
c. Bright twilight f. Don't remember

7. X N/A If you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?
a. In front of you c. To your right e. Overhead
b. In back of you d. To your left f. Don't remember

Page 2

8. If you saw the object at NIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON? (Just before sighting)?

8.1 STARS (circle one): a. None
b. A few
(c.) Many
d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (circle one):
(a.) Bright moonlight
b. Dull moonlight
c. No moonlight- dark
d. Don't remember

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

(Circle one): (a.) YES b. NO c. DON'T REMEMBER

10. If it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight appearing to be? (CIRCLE ONE BELOW):

a. A mile or more away? (a distant car)
b. Several blocks away?
c. A block away?
d. Several yards away?
(e.) Other? Brighter than headlights at close RANGE

11. Did the object: (Circle One for each question)

a. Appear to stand still at any time?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
c. Break up into parts or explode?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
d. Give off smoke?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
e. Change brightness?	(YES)	NO	DON'T KNOW
f. Change shape?	YES	(NO)	DON'T KNOW
g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate?	(YES)	NO	DON'T KNOW

12. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): YES (NO) DON'T KNOW If you answered yes, then tell what it moved behind: _____

13. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud? YES (NO) DON'T KNOW (Circle One)

If you answered yes, then tell what it moved in front of: _____

14. Did the object appear (Circle One): (SOLID?) TRANSPARENT? DON'T KNOW

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

a. Eyeglasses	(YES)	NO	d. Window glass	YES	NO	g. Other	_____
b. Sun glasses	YES	NO	e. Binoculars	YES	NO		_____
c. Windshield	YES	NO	f. Telescope	YES	NO		_____

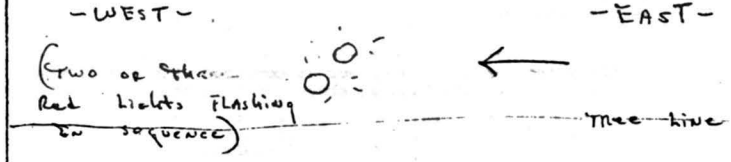
Page 3

16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

a. SOUND None

b. COLOR Red

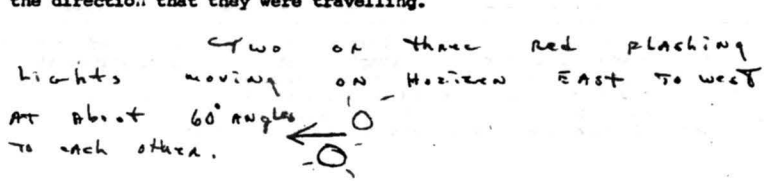
17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapour trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.



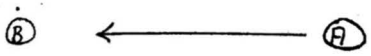
18. The edges of the object were:

(Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred (e.) Other Lights were so bright they created a Halo effect.
b. Like a bright star
c. Sharply outlined

19. If there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were travelling.



20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path; a "B" at the end of the path; and, show any changes in direction during the course. No change in direction or Angle.



21. IF POSSIBLE, try to guess or estimate what the real size of the object was in its longest dimension. N/A Feet.

22. How large did the object or objects appear as compared with one of the following objects "held" in the hand at about arm's length?

(Circle One):
a. Head of a pin
b. Pea
c. Dime
d. Nickel
(e.) Quarter
f. Half-dollar
g. Silver dollar
h. Baseball
I. Grapefruit
j. Basketball
k. Other _____

22.1 CIRCLE ONE of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 22.

a. Certain
b. Fairly certain
(c.) Not very sure
d. Uncertain.

Comparison based on probable distance of 2½ - 4 miles

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? Dropped below trees or horizon line.

24. N/A In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type MATERIAL would you make it? How LARGE would it be, and what SHAPE would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

25. Where were you located when you saw the object? (Circle One):

a. Inside a building
b. In a car
(c.) Outdoors
d. In an airplane
e. At sea
f. Other _____

26. Were you (Circle One):

a. In the business section of city?
b. In the residential section of a city?
(c.) In open countryside?
d. Flying near an airfield?
e. Flying over a city?
f. Flying over open country?
g. Other _____

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

Called to screen to assist other causes.

28. N/A X If you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

28.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One):

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour

28.3 Did you stop at any time while observing object?

(Circle One): YES NO

29. What direction were you looking when you FIRST SAW the object? (Circle One):

a. North
(b.) Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

30. What direction were you looking when you LAST SAW the object? (Circle One)

(a.) North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

31. X N/A If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North and also the the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

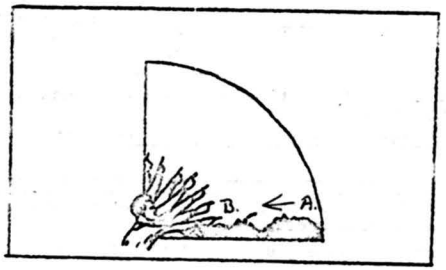
31.1 When it first appeared:

a. From true North _____ degrees
b. From horizon _____ degrees

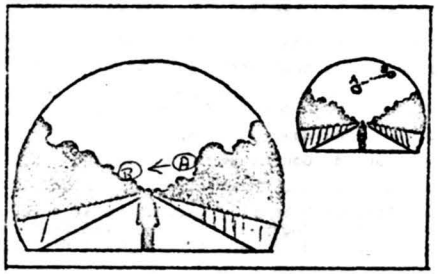
31.2 When it disappeared:

a. From true North _____ degrees
b. From horizon _____ degrees

32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place a "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you FIRST saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you LAST saw it.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you FIRST saw it, and a "B" at its position when you LAST saw it. (Refer to smaller sketch as an example of "how" to complete the larger sketch.)



33.1 Were there any KNOWN aircraft in the sky during your sighting?
(Circle One): YES (NO)

If you answered YES, was it following or attempting to intercept the Unidentified Flying Object? (Circle One): YES NO

If you answered YES, please circle TYPE of aircraft:

MILITARY? COMMERCIAL? PRIVATE? JET? PROPELLER?

How many engines did the aircraft have? _____

34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

34.1 CLOUDS(Circle One)
(a) Clear sky
b. Hazy
c. Scattered clouds
d. Thick or heavy clouds
e. Don't remember

34.2 WIND(Circle One)
a. No wind
(b) Slight breeze
c. Strong wind
d. Don't remember

34.3 WEATHER(Circle One)
(a) Dry
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

34.4 TEMPERATURE(Circle One)
a. Cold
(b) Cool
c. Warm
d. Hot
e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

Official or Organization Name(s)	Day	Month	Year
Desk officer Exeter P.D.	31	9	65
Officer Toland			

36. Have you read literature pertaining to Unidentified Flying Objects?
(Circle One) (YES) NO If YES, how much? (Circle One) (A LITTLE?)
MODERATELY? EXTENSIVELY?

37. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?
(Circle One) (YES) NO

37.1 If you answered YES, did they see the object too?
(Circle One) (YES) NO

37.2 Please list their names and addresses if you circled YES:
(Attach separate sheet for above)

38. Was this the first time that you had seen an object(s) like this?
(Circle One) (YES) NO

38.1 If you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see the other one(s)? _____

39. In your opinion, what do YOU think the object(s) was and what might have caused it? Do not know.

40. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object? Page 8
(Circle One) YES (NO)
If you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate?_____MPH

41. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?
(Circle One) (YES) NO
If you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? 9000 Feet
at closest. Saw at about 2-3 miles on Horizon.

42. Did the Object(s) cause any interference with the operation of:
N/A (Circle where applicable) RADIO? TV? LIGHTS? OTHER? None
IF you underlined any of above, explain the interference below:

43. Was a photo taken of the Object(s)? (Circle One) YES (NO)
N/A Would you be willing to submit a copy? (Circle One) YES NO
If you circled YES, please send copy indicating monetary reimbursement:

44. Do you belong to any Organization which investigates Unidentified Flying Objects? (Circle One) YES (NO) If YES, list them below:

45. May we publish your report if you name is kept confidential? (YES) NO
May we publish your report and use your name? changed to (YES) NO (Circle One)

47. Please give the following information about yourself:
NAME Hunt (Last Name) David (First Name) Russell (Middle Name)
ADDRESS 11 Charles St. (Street) Exeter (City) N.H. (State)
TELEPHONE NUMBER 772-3615
What is your present job? Police Officer.
AGE- 26 SEX- Male
Please indicate any educational training you have had: (Number of years)
a. Grade school 8 e. Technical school _____
b. High school 4 (Type of) _____
c. College _____
d. Post graduate _____ f. Other special training? _____
_____)

48. Signature: David R. Hunt Date: 9/11/65

WENHAM, MASS., *October 29, 1965.*

MASTON M. JACKS,
Major, U.S. Air Force, Chief, Pictorial Branch,
Public Information Division, Office of Information.
SAF–OIPB
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
Office of the Secretary, U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MAJOR JACKS: This is a formal inquiry concerning the official U.S. Air Force evaluation of the detailed UFO report submitted to AFSC–FTD/Project Blue Book last month. My investigation and subsquent report took place shortly after the official U.S. Air Force investigating team from Pease AFB made their investigation.

The UFO sighting took place between the Clyde Russell and Carl Dining properties along Route 150 in Kensington, N.H., on September 3, 1965, in the early hours of the morning. The witnesses were Norman Muscarello and Officers Bertrand and Hunt of the Exeter, N.H., police force.

In 1964 I customarily received correspondence from your office in response to UFO reports submitted to the U.S. Air Force for evaluation. This was appreciated. I have submitted many reports since but have not received any response. This is understandable due to the many reports received by the U.S. Air Force and I do not expect such a service on your part normally, but, I did spend a great deal of time and thought on the Kensington, N.H., report and would appreciate your sending the official U.S. Air Force evaluation of the same as soon as possible. I understand the evaluation has been made.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. I look forward to hearing from your office soon.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND E. FOWLER.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
Washington, January 25, 1966.

DEAR MR. FOWLER: This is in reply to your request for information on the Exeter, N.H., UFO sightings.

The initial investigation from Pease Air Force Base was submitted to our office on September 15, 1965, and contained statements from the principal witnesses. This data indicated that a refueling operation might have been the cause of the sighting. Refueling area "Fur Trapper" and refueling area "Down Date" are controlled through Loring Air Force Base and located over the area of the sighting. A call was made to the controller of this refueling area, and we were informed that they were closed from 03/0500Z to 03/600Z for an 8th Air Force operation, "Big Blast." A call was placed to the 99th Bomb Wing at Westover Air Force Base for information on this operation.

The initial impression was that aircraft from an 8th Air Force operation, "Big Blast," was the cause of the lights observed during this incident. Information received from the 8th Air Force indicates that 10 B–47 aircraft from Pease Air Force Base involved in Operation Big Blast "Coco" were in the traffic pattern over Exeter, N.H., between 03/444Z and 03/535Z. A copy of this letter is enclosed. Since this information conflicted with the time of the sighting and eliminated these aircraft as a possible evaluation of this incident, a letter was forwarded to Mr. Eugene Bertrand and Mr. Dave Hunt of the Exeter Police Department requesting clarification of the time of the sighting. A copy of our letter to these gentlemen and a copy of their reply is attached.

The early sightings by two unnamed women and Mr. Muscarello are attributed to aircraft from operation Big Blast "Coco." The subsequent observation by Officers Bertrand and Hunt occurring after 2 a.m. are regarded as unidentified.

Sincerely,

JOHN P. SPAULDING,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force, Chief, Civil Branch, Community Relations Division, Office of Information

DECEMBER 2, 1965.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr.,
Major, U.S. Air Force,
Chief, Project Blue Book,
Wright Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio.

DEAR SIR: We were very glad to get your letter during the third week in November, because as you might imagine we have been the subject of considerable ridicule since the Pentagon released its "final evaluation" of our sighting

of September 3, 1965. In other words, both Patrolman Hunt and myself saw this object at close range, checked it out with each other, confirmed and reconfirmed the fact that this was not any kind of conventional aircraft, that it was at an altutude of not more than a couple of hundred feet, and went to considerable trouble to confirm that the weather was clear, there was no wind, no chance of weather inversion, and that what we were seeing was no illusion or military or civilian craft. We entered this in a complete official police report as a supplement to the blotter of the morning of September 3 (not September 2, as your letter indicates). Since our job depends on accuracy and an ability to tell the difference between fact and fiction, we were naturally disturbed by the Pentagon report which attributed the sighting to "multiple high-altitude objects" in the area and "weather inversion." What is a little difficult to understand is the fact that your letter (undated) arrivcd considerably after the Pentagon release. Since your letter says that you are still in the process of making a final evaluation, it seems that there is an inconsistency here. Ordinarily, this wouldn't be too important except for the fact that in a situation like this we are naturally very reluctant to be considered irresponsible in our official report to the police station.

Since one of us (Patrolman Bertrand) was in the Air Force for 4 years engaged in refueling operations with all kinds of military aircraft, it was impossible to mistake what we saw for any kind of military operation, regardless of altitude. It was also definitely not a helicopter or balloon. Immediately after the object disappeared, we did see what probably was a B–47 at high altitude, but it bore no relation at all to the object we saw.

Another fact is that the time of our observation was nearly an hour after 2 a.m., which would eliminate the 8th Air Force operation, Big Blast, since as you say this took place between midnight and 2 a.m. Norman Muscarello, who first reported this object before we went to the sight saw it somewhere in the vicinity of 2 a.m., but nearly an hour had passed before he got into the police station, and we went out to the location with him.

We would both appreciate it very much if you would help us eliminate the possible conclusion that some people have made in that we might have (*a*) made up the story, or (*b*) were incompetent observers. Anything you could do along this line would be very much appreciated, and I'm sure you can understand the position we're in.

We appreciate the problems the Air Force must have with a lot of irresponsible reports on this subject, and don't want to cause you any unnecessary trouble. On the other hand, we think you probably understand our position.

Thanks very much for your interest.

Sincerely,

EUGENE BERTRAND, *Patrolman.*
DAVID HUNT, *Patrolman.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
HEADQUARTERS, 8TH AIR FORCE (SAC),
Westover Air Force Base, Mass., Novembr 24, 1965.

Memorondum: DOOTO.
Subject: UFO sighting.
To: AFSC (TDEW/UFO.)

1. In reply to your letter, same subject, November 16, 1965, and telephone conversation between Specialist Master Sergeant Heffley, 8th Air Force, and Sergant Moody, Headquarters, AFSC, on November 19, 1965, the following information is furnished.

2. Big Blast "Coco," a SAC/NORAD training mission, was flown on September 2–3, 1965, By 03/0430Z, the operational portion of the mission was complete, and participating aircraft were en route to their home stations.

3. Ten B–47 aircraft from Pease AFB were involved in Big Blast "Coco" and were estimated to arrive at their initial approach fix (Pease TACAN 320° radial, 10 DME fix), between 03/0444Z and 03/0535Z. The town of Exeter is within the traffic pattern utilized by air traffic control in the recovery of these aircraft at Pease AFB, N.H. During their approach the recovering aircraft would have been displaying standard position lights, anticollision lights, and possibly over wing and landing lights.

For the commander.

WILLIAM A. MCGILPIN, Jr.,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force.,
Directorate of Operations.

Mr. EUGENE F. BERTRAND, Jr.,
Mr. DAVID R. HUNT,
Exeter Police Department, Exeter, N.H.

GENTLEMEN: The sighting of various unidentified objects by you and Mr. Norman Mascarello was investigated by officials from Pease Air Force Base, N.H., and their report has been forwarded to our office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. This sighting at Exeter, N.H., on the night of September 2 has been given considerable publicity through various news releases and in magazine articles similar to that from the Saturday Review of October 2, 1965. A portion of this article is attached for your information. This information was released by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a private organization which has no connection with the Government. As a result of these articles, the Air Force has received inquiry as to the cause of this report.

Our investigation and evaluation of this sighting indicates a possible association with an 8th Air Force operation, "Big Blast." In addition to aircraft from this operation, there were five B–47 type aircraft flying in the area during this period. Before a final evaluation of your sighting can be made, it is essential for us to know if either of you witnessed any aircraft in the area during this time period either independently or in connection with the objects observed. Since there were many aircraft in the area, at that time, and there were no reports of unidentified objects from personnel engaged in this air operation, we might then assume that the objects observed between midnight and 2 a.m. might be associated with this military air operation. If, however, these aircraft were noted by either of you, then this would tend to eliminate this air operation as a plausible explanation for the objects observed.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr.,
Major, USAF, Chief, Project Blue Book.

NOVEMBER 16, 1965.

Memo: TDEW/UFO.
Subject: UFO sighting.
To: Hq 8th Air Force.

1. A report of an unidentified flying object was submitted to our office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base by the 817 Combat Support Group, Pease Air Force Base. This report was submitted to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in accordance with AFR 200–2. Evaluation of information submitted indicates that the observation may be associated with the military operation, Big Blast. The location of the observation was the New Hampshire area, in and around the town of Exeter. Time of the reported UFO was the night of August 2–3, 1965, and specifically 03/0500 to 0600 Zebra. This UFO report has received considerable publicity in newspaper and magazine articles, and the Air Force has received numerous queries regarding the cause of this sighting.

2. We would like to know the specific types of aircraft used in this operation and possible location of these aircraft at the time of the report.

For the commander.

ERIC T. DE JONCKMZERE,
Colonel, U.S. Air Force,
Deputy for Technology and Subsystems.

NICAP MASSACHUSETTS INVESTIGATING SUBCOMMITTEE,
Wenham, Mass., February 10, 1966.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
Office of the Secretary,
U.S. Air Force,
Washington, D.C.

(Attention: John P. Spaulding, lieutenant colonel, U.S. Air Force, Chief, Civil Branch, Community Relations Division, Office of Information).

DEAR COLONEL SPAULDING: Thank you for your correspondence of January 25, 1966, in response to my letter of November 24, 1965, regarding my inquiry concerning the September 3, 1965, UFO sightings in Exeter, N.H. I appreciate your letter and the attached backup information concerning which I would make the following comments.

The UFO sighted by Norman Muscarello was identical to the UFO sighted later by Muscarello Bertrand, and Hunt. Norman observed the UFO at close range during his initial sighting. There is no question in my mind that the same or similar object was involved in both of these particular sightings. The number of pulsating lights, the yawing motion, the same location, etc., make this so very apparent. Since I did not interview the "unnamed women" I am not certain of the details of their sighting but according to Officer Bertrand, the object they described was very similar to the UFO they sighted later. I might add that another witness, a male motorist, also sighted a similar object. He tried to phone the police from a pay station at nearby Hampton, N.H., but was cut off. Later he reported the incident to U.S. Air Force authorities at Pease AFB. The chances are astronomical that six people, entirely independent of each other, should report the identical description of a UFO within the span of several hours in the same general area. I am aware of the many UFO sightings in New Hampshire especially in September. It may be more than coincidence that many of these sightings were near powerlines.

Although I do not agree completely with the way Washington is handling the UFO problem I am sympathetic with the official attitude. I have enough faith in the Government to realize that although official releases on UFO's would indicate that UFO's present no problem regarding national security and that the U.S. Air Force treats the subject lightly, the converse is true, that is, that a full-scale military and scientific research program is being carried out on UFO's because they are a threat to our national security. It is because of this belief that I will continue to send the better UFO reports our subcommittee investigates to Project Bluebook and will continue to urge the public to report all UFO sightings to the nearest Air Force base at my lectures, personal contacts, etc. I might add that I encourage reporting such UFO's to NICAP concurrently with any report to the U.S. Air Force.

It is heartening to see that the U.S. Air Force regards the UFO sighted by Officers Bertrand and Hunt as an unknown. I am sure this will help a little in reducing the ridicule they experienced because of the U.S. Air Force initial explanation of their sightings. I feel certain that if it were not for the fact that their sighting is being carried nationally in the pages of Saturday Review, Look, etc.; and if they had not personally complained publicly and to your office, that their sighting would have been lumped into the same category as the UFO Muscarello and the other sighted. However, my rambling on will not make a bit of difference to present official policy and in a real sense I am wasting your time in even replying as I'm sure your office is very busy but I felt that I would express my feelings on the subject at hand just for the record.

Thanks so much again. I look forward to the time that Government policy will become more relaxed on the UFO subject and in the meantime will continue my meager research and efforts in this field for NICAP and the U.S. Air Force.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND E. FOWLER,
Chairman, NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee.

Mr. BATES. In reference to the so-called sighting in New Hampshire, Doctor, you are familiar with that case?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir; I am familiar with the case.

Mr. BATES. You have examined it?

Dr. HYNEK. No, I have not been there to examine it. Much of my information is based upon the rather excellent account that Mr. John Fuller has given of it in Look magazine. I cannot vouch for the authenticity of his statements, but I have talked with Mr. Fuller, and he apparently has tried to do a very thorough job in talking with people in New Hampshire.

Mr. BATES. Are you familiar with Mr. Raymond E. Fowler?

Dr. HYNEK. I have had some correspondence with him, but I have never met him.

Mr. BATES. Is this Portsmouth case one of the 5 percent that have not been identified, or within the 95 percent on which you have reached a decision?

Dr. HYNEK. It is, I believe, to the best of my knowledge, listed as unidentified.

Mr. BATES. This one is still unidentified?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, you make no bones about it, you cannot explain it?

Dr. HYNEK. That is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. BATES. I wonder if you would give us some idea of these 20 cases that you have cited, and tell us a little something about the nature of these cases, and what the problems are, generally?

Dr. HYNEK. Well, I do not have the case files with me. I should be happy to prepare them for submission. But in broad description, they vary quite a bit. They are either daytime sightings or nighttime sightings. I will describe one, which may not be necessarily typical. But it is an example of a sighting that puzzled some very solid citizens. These individuals happened to be—and I will withhold names, of course—two students of anthropology at the University of Wisconsin. They were with two other people in a car, returning home one evening from shopping, about 9 p.m. In the distance they saw what they first took to be rotating blinker lights on a police car, and they thought there had been an accident down the road some place. They then decided that this couldn't be the case because the lights were a little too high. This illustrates the sort of thing we refer to as escalation of explanation.

When someone writes in or calls in that they have seen a space ship patrolling the earth, and this is not a fact, this is an interpretation of a fact, usually, what they have actually seen was a light, I am much more interested in the sincere individuals who report something, who say "I thought at first it was this, then I decided it couldn't be that, it had to be something else." In this escalation hypothesis, the incident I have described, these people said it could not have been blinker lights on a police car because they were too high. The next hypothesis was that it was an aircraft about to crash. As the object came closer all they could see were four huge red lights and an even larger brighter single white light. As it came closer to the car—the little 12-year-old girl in the back seat, became so frightened that she just tumbled over and hid her eyes.

I questioned these people for some 2 hours. They were very intelligent people and were truly puzzled. They did not for a moment think they were being visited by a vehicle from outer space. They were just puzzled. They simply wanted an explanation of what they had seen.

The object apparently extended upward at an angle of about 30 degrees, so that part of it could be seen above the telephone wires and part below. It hovered around the car for awhile. The man drove into a farmer's driveway, turned his lights out and listened, but could hear no noise. He backed out and as the object began to move away, he gave chase but could not catch up with it.

This was a case of four intelligent people seeing this strange object and reporting it. But no one else did. Why not? Was this some sort of a strange phychic projection, or something these people were particularly prone to? Why did this take place in an area which was

not overly populated but certainly not completely sparse. Why would they be the only four people to see this? This is a problem we are faced with on many reported sightings. Therefore, I find it most difficult to ascribe a physical tangibility that there was an actual craft here. I would rather seek some other scientific explanation.

Mr. BATES. With respect to your response on that particular case. In the New Hampshire situation, two women apparently saw this object which they said was the size of a house. They reported it at the police station. And then the officer came out. He saw it when he got there. So there is someone who did see it in addition to the people who reported it originally.

Dr. HYNEK. Yes.

Mr. BATES. You have no decision with respect to the New Hampshire case?

Dr. HYNEK. I would not offer or venture any conclusion to something I had not personally investigated.

Mr. BATES. This particular case has been referred to a study group, the New Hampshire case, or has it not, or is it a dead issue?

Dr. HYNEK. No case in the Air Force files that is unidentified is a dead issue.

Mr. BATES. Is it just in limbo now, or is somebody still looking into it?

Dr. HYNEK. I would say at the moment, considering the recent reported sightings in Michigan, that it is in limbo.

Mr. BATES. Do you expect to investigate this further? Would this be one that you would prefer to the panel?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir. I think this is one they should take a look at.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you think they should be examined further?

Dr. HYNEK. I am sorry, sir?

The CHAIRMAN. Do you think this panel, about whom the Secretary has spoken, should go into this further and make a report?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir; I do.

The CHAIRMAN. There are five such cases, or four, of some unexplained phenomena; is this a fact?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir; there are at least that many.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, do you plan to have this board look into these?

Secretary BROWN. We will continue our investigations of all of these, Mr. Chairman.

I have this recommendation to establish a civilian panel from the Scientific Advisory Board, and I believe I may act favorably on it, but I want to explore further the nature of such a panel, and the ground rules, before I go ahead with it. I don't want to have a group of people come in for just 1 day and make a shallow investigation. They have to be prepared to look into a situation thoroughly if they are to do any good.

The CHAIRMAN. If you cannot explain these things, and you are our source of beginnings, how on earth could a subcommittee of this committee explain them?

Dr. HYNEK. Are you looking to me for an answer?

The CHAIRMAN. If I conducted a hearing on this it would go on and on, and on, if I let it, I would imagine.

Dr. HYNEK. Well, sir, scientists have a somewhat different way of working. They gather data quietly without fanfare, without the press looking over their shoulder. They may work for several years.

The CHAIRMAN. What would you suggest that I do, Doctor, as chairman of this committee?

Dr. HYNEK. You are in a totally different category, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Since this thing began in Michigan, we have two members of the Michigan delegation, and I am going to start off with Mr. Nedzi and ask him if he has any questions.

Mr. NEDZI. Mr. Chairman, you are very kind. I don't have any questions directly pertaining to Michigan, although I have recently been advised my district is about 150 miles from the sightings. The sightings are moving eastward toward my district. [Laughter.]

One question, Doctor, as to these statistics. Are they statistics only from the United States, the investigations made by you and the Air Force?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir. The Air Force would have no jurisdiction over cases in other countries. But there are, I understand, reports from other countries, also.

Mr. NEDZI. Is any effort made to coordinate information with some of the sightings that are made abroad?

Dr. HYNEK. No, sir. Up to now we have made no concerted effort to do this.

Mr. NEDZI. Do you think it might be a good idea to do it?

Dr. HYNEK. Well, I think we should attend to the situation here in the United States first. Then, if our efforts are successful and if we strike scientific paydirt and find something of value, then perhaps the other step you suggest would be advisable.

Mr. NEDZI. Do you know whether any studies are going on overseas, with respect to UFO's?

Dr. HYNEK. I know of no formal studies. Actually, the rest of the world seems to be guided by, and shows a tremendous respect for, the U.S. Air Force, and they feel, I understand, that the Air Force has done a fine job.

Mr. NEDZI. Perhaps the question should be directed to the Air Force, but it seemed to me there should be some kind of exchange of ideas among the scientists who might be interested in it in other countries where these sightings have taken place. It might contribute toward an exposé of the problem.

Let me clarify for the record, I do not believe in flying saucers, but I think it is important to have some kind of evidence that can be presented to the people so that they don't let the thing get more out of hand than I think it already is.

Secretary BROWN. That is what we have been trying to do, Mr. Nedzi. I do not think we have any ideas of a scientific nature to exchange with anyone else yet, nor do they have such information to exchange with us, and the difficulty in going to an international program is that it won't broaden our knowledge of basic data very much. On the other hand, it may degrade the quality of the data, because we have a hard enough time getting details in this country. A few well-authenticated but unexplained cases are worth much more than a

number of unexplained cases where the data is not sufficiently precise to be helpful in an analysis.

Mr. NEDZI. My final question, Doctor, would be whether—and I think you touched upon this—whether there has been ever any evidence in any of these unexplained sightings that would indicate that there is some kind of extraterrestial intelligence involved?

Dr. HYNEK. I believe I have covered that. I have not seen any evidence to confirm this, nor have I know any competent scientist who has, or who believes that any kind of extraterrestrial intelligence is involved. However, the possibility should be kept open as a possible hypothesis. I don't think we should ever close our minds to it. But certainly there is no real evidence of intelligent behavior of hardwares. If we had received periodic visits by controlled space vehicles since 1947, or earlier, it is likely they would have had some kind of trouble at some time and dropped something off the coast of Spain or some place, and we have not come across any positive proof like that.

Mr. NEDZI. Mr. Chairman, until the sightings get a little closer to my district, I have no further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. I recognize Mr. Chamberlain, then I go to Governor Stafford and Mr. Hébert, because I want to get as close to the districts as I can.

I want to put in the record Mr. Ford's letter, and the response by Secretary Brown.

What else, Mr. Blandford, ought to go in the record?

Mr. BLANDFORD. That is all that ought to be in at this time.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, we will put all of these in the record. I want to shed as much light on these illuminated objects as we can.

(The material above referred to is as follows:)

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
OFFICE OF THE MINORITY LEADER,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., March 28, 1966.

Representative L. MENDEL RIVERS,
Chairman, Armed Services Committee,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CHAIRMAN RIVERS: No doubt you have noted the recent flurry of newspaper stories about unidentified flying objects (UFO's). I have taken special interest in these accounts because many of the latest reported sightings have been in my home State of Michigan.

The Air Force sent a consultant, Astrophysicist Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University, to Michigan to investigate the various reports; and he dismissed all of them as the product of college student pranks or swamp gas or an impression created by the rising crescent moon and the planet Venus. I do not agree that all of these reports can be or should be so easily explained away.

Because I think there may be substance to some of these reports and because I believe the American people are entitled to a more thorough explanation than has been given them by the Air Force to date, I am proposing that either the Science and Astronautics Committee or the Armed Services Committee of the House schedule hearings on the subject of UFO's and invite testimony from both the executive branch of the Government and some of the persons who claim to have seen UFO's.

I enclose material which I think will be helpful to you in assessing the advisability of an investigation of UFO's.

May I first call to your attention a column by Roscoe Drummond, published last Sunday in which Mr. Drummond says, "Maybe all of these reported sightings are whimsical, imaginary or unreal; but we need a more credible and detached appraisal of the evidence than we are getting."

Mr. Drummond goes on to state, "We need to get all the data drawn together in one place and examined far more objectively than anyone has done so far. A stable public opinion will come from a trustworthy look at the evidence, not from belittling it.

"The time has come for the President or Congress to name an objective and respected panel to investigate, appraise, and report on all present and future evidence about what is going on."

I agree fully with Mr. Drummond's statements. I also suggest you scan the enclosed series of six articles by Bulkley Griffin of the Griffin-Larrabee News Bureau here. In the last of his articles, published last January, Mr. Griffin says, "A main conclusion can be briefly stated. It is that the Air Force is misleading the public by its continuing campaign to produce and maintain belief that all sightings can be explained away as misidentification of familiar objects, such as balloons, stars, and aircraft."

I have just today received a number of telegrams urging a congressional investigation of UFO's. One is from retired Air Force Col. Harold R. Brown, Ardmore, Tenn., who says, "I have seen UFO. Will be available to testify."

Another, from Mrs. Ethyle M. Davis, Eugene, Oreg., reads, "9 out of 10 people want truth of UFO's. Press your investigation to the fullest."

Ronald Colier of Los Angeles, who identifies himself as "a scientist from MIT," urges that you "do everything in your power to make Air Force Project Blue Book (the Air Force name for its study and verdicts on UFO reports) known to the people." Are we to assume that everyone who says he has seen UFO's is an unreliable witness?

A UPI story out of Ann Arbor, Mich., dated March 21, 1966, states that "at least 40 persons, including 12 policemen, said today that they saw a strange flying object guarded by 4 sister ships land in a swamp near here Sunday night."

Matt Surrell of Station WJR, Detroit, cites an eye witness account of a recent UFO sighting by Emile Grenier of Ann Arbor, an aeronautical engineer employed by Ford Motor Co. He points out that an aeronautical engineer can hardly be considered an untrustworthy witness.

In the firm belief that the American public deserves a better explanation than that thus far given by the Air Force, I strongly recommend that there be a committee investigation of the UFO phenomena.

I think we owe it to the people to establish credibility regarding UFO's and to produce the greatest possible enlightenment on this subject.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

GERALD R. FORD, *Member of Congress.*

Enclosures.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 27, 1966]

DON'T SNEER AT UFO'S

(By Roscoe Drummond)

You can't dismiss the possibility that some of the unidentified flying objects, which so many people have sighted in so many places, are real.

There are, of course, UFO buffs who seem to want to believe everything and discount logical explanations. But Air Force officials assigned to check up on these sightings seem so bored and skeptical that many people have the impression that they think the public would panic if all the facts were brought out into the open.

Let's not leave the search for more knowledge to those who tend to accept everything uncritically or to those who tend to dismiss every UFO as ridiculous.

The time has come for the President or Congress to name an objective and respected panel to investigate, appraise and report on all present and future evidence about what is going on.

Last week, more than 100 persons (some of them trained observers) reported seeing "flying saucers" in seven States, from Maine to Texas to Colorado.

Last year, project Blue Book, the small Air Force unit created to keep tabs on these things, received 886 reports of UFO sightings.

During the last 2 years, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a private group headed by a retired Naval Academy Marine Corps pilot, received 3,000 such reports.

During the past 10 years, the NICAP received some 8,000 reports and says that 1,500 of them "seem pretty substantial and unexplained."

The Air Force totals 10,147 UFO reports and states that 646 of them remain unexplained by provable natural phenomena.

Maybe all of these reported sightings are whimsical, imaginary or unreal. But we need a more credible and detached appraisal of the evidence than we are getting.

Maybe there is no intelligent life on other planets. Many scientists think other planets could not sustain such life. But we don't really know.

One fact about the UFO's gives me pause. There have been no really solid reports of creatures being seen getting off landed saucers. To venture from one planet to another involves great intellectual curiosity and I would think it almost impossible for someone from outer space, once here, to stifle that curiosity to the extent of not trying to make personal contact with Earth people.

Conceivably, we have been seeing only preliminary unmanned orbitings of the Earth precisely controlled at great distances. But we don't know.

We need to get all the data drawn together in one place and examined far more objectively than anyone has done so far. A stable public opinion will come from a trustworthy look at the evidence, not from belittling it.

[From the Washington Evening Star, Mar. 25, 1966]

Deputy Sheriff "Shoots" a UFO Over Michigan

Ann Arbor, Mich.—A Michigan deputy sheriff said an unidentified flying object sighted over southern Michigan last week was trapped—on film—and still another UFO was reported yesterday.

Deputy Sheriff David Fitzpatrick of Washtenaw (Ann Arbor) County took the photographs with a tiny camera roughly the size of a man's two forefingers held together.

Prints were delayed because the tiny film had to be sent to Forest Hills, N.Y., for development.

The new sighting of an unidentified flying object near Holland, Mich., came from both Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nichols, who live across Michigan's southern Lower Peninsula near Saugatuck. They said it flew across a highway ahead of them, no more than 150 to 200 feet high.

Nichols, 24, said the object appeared about half the size of an automobile and was "a round circle glowing red on the inside and white on the outside."

Nichols' description fits roughly that given by several of more than a score who have reported sightings in the Ann Arbor area in the last 10 days.

Fitzpatrick, however, said the two objects he photographed gave off a brilliant yellow-white light in graceful swoops which he and Sheriff's Sgt. N. K. Schneider observed from about 4 a.m. to 7 a.m., March 16.

The photographs show two distinct streaks of light in the sky high above street lights leading into Milan. No details of the objects are visible in the photographs blow up to 8 by 10 inches from the tiny film.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern University astrophysicist, was sent here by the Air Force to investigate recent reports.

He has scheduled a news conference in Detroit today to discuss his probe.

Meanwhile, reports of unidentified flying objects moved south into Ohio today. A farmer who lives near Upper Sandusky in northwestern Ohio told sheriff's deputies that an object shaped "like a top" or a "Christmas tree upside down" hovered over a wooded area on his property early today.

Deputies were called to the farm three times, but the farmer said the object, with lights on its outer edges, disappeared each time before they arrived.

[From the Detroit News, Mar. 23, 1966]

Photo Adds New Wrinkle to Saucers

(By Douglas Bradford)

While Air Force officials prowled through the countryside for some sign of the strange night visitors that have been zipping through southeastern Michigan skies, a Monroe area boy came up with what he said was a picture of one.

Paul Richwine, 16, who lives in Woodland Beach, 3 miles north of Monroe, produced a piece of film with a blob on it that he says his camera "saw" when he pointed it at a "flying saucer" over his home Friday night.

Detroit News photographers say the blob could be due to a wrinkle in the film.

But Paul and his mother, Mrs. Mariannice Richwine, insist that they saw the strange glowing objects cavorting in the sky and that the dark area on the picture represents one of them.

The object in the picture doesn't seem to have much material substance.

Neither Paul nor his mother can account for the fact that the thing they saw was bright and shiny with flashing colored lights while the camera recorded a dark smear.

Paul said his Argus F–100 was on time exposure at f. 2.8 and was loaded with fast film when he took the picture at about 11:30 p.m., Friday.

The News photographers conceded that the darkness in the picture "might" be the indication of something moving quite swiftly on a time exposure, or the blob could be a water spot on the negative or a wrinkle in the film.

Mrs. Richwine said the object's appearance was preceded by four glowing shapes about 10:30 p.m., Friday. She saw them from her front window, she said.

[From the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press, Mar. 22, 1966]

State Flying Object Reports Bring Plea for Federal Sift

Ann Arbor.—A Michigan Congressman planned Tuesday to ask the Defense Department to investigate reports of unidentified flying objects sighted near Ann Arbor.

U.S. Representative Weston Vivian, Democrat, of Michigan, left for Washington, D.C., Monday after conferring with Sheriff Douglas J. Harvey, of Washtenaw County. Harvey said Vivian also planned to talk with the U.S. Air Force.

Three times within a week, residents of the nearby community of Dexter have reported sighting objects flying in the night sky.

"I didn't believe those reports," said Harvey. "But with so many trained police personnel and reliable citizens having seen them, I must believe something is in the Washtenaw County skies."

And Tuesday, the Hillsdale County civil defense director and 87 college coeds said they watched an eerie, hovering flying object settle in a swampy hollow near a school dormitory Monday night.

William VanHorn, 41, the county civil defense director for 10 years, said he watched the unidentified object through binoculars for 3 hours.

The Air Force announced it was calling in Dr. H. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and scientific consultant to the Air Force's UFO study program, to investigate the rash of sightings.

Hynek will work from Selfridge Air Force Base near Mount Clements, the Air Force said.

In Hillsdale, VanHorn said he joined the 87 Hillsdale College coeds and their housemother to watch the object. He said it emitted wavering orange, red * * *.

[From the New York Times, Mar. 22, 1966]

Forty in Michigan Say a Mysterious Craft Hovered in Swamp

Ann Arbor, Mich., March 21.—At least 40 persons, including 12 policemen, said today that they saw a strange flying object guarded by four sister ships land in a swamp near here Sunday night.

Descriptions of the unidentified flying objects tallied closely. A patrolman, Robert Hunawill, said he and other residents of the area saw similar craft before dawn last Monday and Wednesday.

In Washington, the Air Force said it knew nothing of the reports. The Air Force's Michigan headquarters in Battle Creek would not comment.

Two persons who slogged through the 300-acre swamp today and looked for traces of the craft found nothing but marsh grass, quicksand, and muck.

However, the two persons who reportedly were closest to the object, Frank Mannor, 47 years old, and his son, Ronald, 19, said it did not appear to touch the ground but sat on a base of fog.

Frederick E. Davids, State police commissioner, who is also head of civil defense for Michigan, opened an investigation.

"I used to discount these reports too, but now I'm not so sure," he said.

Mr. Mannor and his son said they had run to within 500 yards of the object. Mr. Mannor said the craft was shaped like a football and was about the length of a car with a grayish yellow hue and a pitted surface like coral rock.

"It had a blue light on one end and a white light on the other," he said.

"They were pulsating and each of them looked like they had a little halo around it," he said.

Other witnesses saw only the lights, but their descriptions, including those of policemen, agreed closely.

Stanley McFadden, Washtenaw County sheriff's deputy, said he and Deputy David Fitzpatrick watched the object fly over their car about the same time the Mannors reported it had taken off.

Officer Hunawill said four other unidentified flying objects had hovered in a quarter circle over the object in the swamp.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 23, 1966]

FIRST UFO'S OF SEASON ARE SIGHTED

Spring's first flying saucers have sprouted right alongside the forsythia.

Scores of people in Michigan have reported strange flying objects since the weekend, and a former fighter pilot says he saw several over his Bethesda home Saturday night.

The Air Force, which has investigated more than 10,000 such reports since 1947, sent Northwestern University's Dr. H. Allen Hynek, its top scientific adviser on unidentified flying objects (UFO's), to look into the Michigan reports.

The latest was Monday night at Hillsdale College, where a county civil defense director, a former reporter and assistant dean, and 87 coeds say they watched a glowing object zipping around campus for 4 hours.

This report coincided with one near Ann Arbor, where about 50 persons—including 12 policemen—said they saw an eerie object cruise over a swamp Sunday night while four sister ships hovered overhead.

In Bethesda, retired Air Force Col. Howard T. Wright, of 5119 Newport Avenue, said he and five other persons saw several objects outside his home and they were "definitely not in my imagination, nor were they satellites or airplanes."

[From the New York Times, Mar. 23, 1966]

EIGHTY-SEVEN MICHIGAN COEDS AND OFFICIAL SIGHT MYSTERIOUS OBJECT

HILLSDALE, MICH., March 22 (UPI).—A civil defense director, an assistant dean and 87 coeds reported a glowing object fly past a college dormitory and hover in a swamp for hours.

Their description of the object seen here last night tallied closely with that of one seen by more than 50 persons, including 12 policemen, near Ann Arbor, Mich., the previous night.

The Air Force dispatched its top scientific adviser on unidentified flying objects to begin an investigation.

The witnesses said they watched from the second floor of a Hillsdale College dormitory as the object wobbled, wavered, glowed, and once flew right at a dormitory window before stopping suddenly.

Mrs. Kelly Hearn, for 7 years a newspaper reporter before becoming assistant dean of women, assistant professor of English and housemother of the dormitory, had the coeds take notes as they watched the object for 4 hours.

They and William Van Horn, 41, Hillsdale County civil defense director, said the object dimmed its lights when police cars approached, brightened again when they went away, and dodged an airport beacon light.

Barbara Kohn, 21, of New Castle, Pa., and Cynthia Poffenberger, 18, of Cleveland were the first to see the object. They described its shape as roughly

that of a football. This was roughly the same description given by a man and his son who reported that they saw an eerie object land in a swamp Sunday night 45 miles northeast of here near Ann Arbor.

The Air Force announced it was bringing in Dr. H. Allen Hynek, chairman of Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and scientific consultant to the Air Force's Project Blue Book program to track down the reports of unidentified flying objects.

Dr. Hynek set up his headquarters at Selfridge Air Force Base, Mount Clemens, Mich., near the southern Michigan section where the objects have been reported several times lately.

"It was definitely some kind of vehicle," Mr. Van Horn said. "Through the glasses [binoculars] it was either round or long."

The object's shape was briefly outlined by lightning as it veered over and near the dormitory before retreating into the swamp, Miss Kohn said. It stayed there for 4 hours before vanishing, witnesses said.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 29, 1966]

TRUTH ABOUT FLYING OBJECTS HIDDEN BY AIR FORCE, FAITHFUL SAY

(By Howard Simons, Washington Post Staff Writer)

Firm believers that unidentified flying objects are for real and from a far-off super-civilization met the press yesterday amid a torrent of reports about new objects being sighted everywhere in the United States.

The believers repeatedly charged the Air Force with deliberately hiding the truth, which if it were known "would bring forth one of the greatest stories of the century."

The believers also "fully backed" Representative Gerald Ford, Republican, of Michigan, who wants a congressional investigation of unidentified objects which have lately plagued his home State.

But most of all, the believers want to be believed and loved.

"We want the Air Force merely to end its secrecy on sightings and stop ridiculing competent witnesses," said retired Marine Corps Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, a UFO skeptic until his conversion.

Keyhoe now is director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, an organization whose major aims are to evaluate all UFO sightings; get the Air Force to own up to the truth and to expose UFO charlatans who keep seeing "little green men."

Keyhoe and his colleagues, including scientists, engineers, military personnel, and pilots, scorn the thought of "little green men."

Had a visitor from afar ever set foot on the earth? the serious students of UFO's were asked.

There was only one case suggesting so, said committee staff member and former Newsman Donald Berliner. It happened in April 1964 near Socorro, N. Mex., where police officers saw two small suited occupants get out of a UFO.

"They were small and suited," noted a reporter. "How could you be sure they were not green?"

"We have no reason to believe they were green," wryly quipped Berliner.

The committee's case for believing that UFO's are for real was put to the press by Keyhoe. It amounted to an argument that thousands of competent persons—including radar controllers, qualified pilots, and missile trackers—had sighted objects; roughly 100,000 persons in all.

The Air Force, which has been investigating UFO reports since 1948, has steadfastly maintained there is no evidence any flying object has come from somewhere else in the universe.

Keyhoe's view, shared by the committee's board of governors, is radically different. The committee concludes, Keyhoe said yesterday, that "these things are real and must be extraterrestrial because they are so superior to anything we have."

According to Keyhoe, UFO's have been observing the earth for 200 years. He gave two reasons, essentially, for why no contact has been made with whoever it is that pilots the UFO's.

One reason is that the Air Force has orders to scare the UFO's away.

A second reason is that until humans demonstrated the atomic bomb and space flight the UFO people regarded earth as too primitive a society to bother with other than for surveillance purposes.

[From the Portland (Maine) Evening Express, Jan. 17, 1966]

THOSE "FLYING SAUCERS"—AIR FORCE EXPLAININGS-AWAY OF UFO'S DEEPENS MYSTERY

(Editor's note: This is the first of a series about UFO's (unidentified flying objects by Bulkley S. Griffin, executive editor of the Evening Express Washington Bureau. He wrote the stories after visiting the UFO office of the U.S. Air Force.)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Air Force handling of the unidentified flying objects (UPO's) continues to be something of a mystery. Its persistent endeavors to explain all the UFO sightings as misidentification of ordinary objects, such as stars and balloons, has become so conspicuous as to raise questionings in the minds of a growing number of citizens. Some of these explanations seem to run counter to both logic and commonsense. Running along with these explainings-away is an apparent Air Force lack of enthusiasm—especially at high levels—to do a thorough job of investigating sightings.

Headquarters of the Air Force investigation and conclusions on unidentified flying objects—they call the enterprise Project Blue Book—is at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. In charge of Project Blue Book is Maj. Hector Quintanilla.

Recently this writer has made two more visits to Wright-Patterson to study the files of Project Blue Book and to talk with Major Quintanilla, the architect of the military's final public verdicts on the UFO's.

A multitude of UFO sightings in the last dozen months has kept the Air Force busy trying to explain-away and has rendered the public more conscious and curious than ever about these strange, usually lighted, objects in the sky. The Air Force and the burdened Project Blue Book have often resorted to the expedient of lumping a number of sightings together—not naming any particular one—and furnishing a generalized catchall explanation.

This is what it did respecting an extraordinary number of sightings in the Southwest around the beginning of last August. The very number of the UFO's and of the sighters of them shook some public confidence thereabouts in both the Air Force's knowledge of the subject and in the good faith of its explainings-away.

Extracts from dispatches sent out at that time by the two national wire services will refresh memories and provide a good idea of the magnitude of the UFO performance. On Tuesday, August 3, the New York Times and other newspapers carried an Associated Press dispatch from Oklahoma City, dated August 2. It began:

"Authorities in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas were deluged last night and early today (August 2) by reports of unidentified objects seen flying in the sky.

"The Sedgwick County sheriff's office at Wichita, Kans., said the Weather Bureau had tracked several of them at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 feet.

"The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said that Tinker Air Force Base here (Oklahoma City) had tracked four of the unidentified flying objects on its radar screen at one time, estimating their altitude at about 22,000 feet. A Tinker spokesman refused to confirm or deny the reports of radar observations."

"Reports poured in" from 21 cities and towns, continued the Associated Press dispatch. The 21 are named: 7 are listed in Texas, 3 in New Mexico, 5 in Oklahome, and 6 in Kansas.

The United Press International, in a dispatch in the evening of August 2, named eight States. "Reports of sightings by eye poured in from Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Wyoming. Oklahomans probably saw the most."

In a dispatch from Oklahoma City dated August 4, the United Press International declared that "thousands of persons across the Nation's midlands and Southwest again last night reported seeing mysterious flashing, winking, and sparkling phenomena that sped and sometimes zigzagged across the skies.

"The Air Force contends most of the sightings were probably stars or planets. It was the fourth consecutive night of UFO sightings. A lot of people took issue with the Air Force's claim that they were stars or planets."

It can be mentioned in passing that radar does not pick up stars or planets.

In one United Press International dispatch it is stated that "Oklahomans probably saw the most" of these sightings. The Oklahoma sightings therefore provide

an illuminating example of how the Air Force deals with the public in such a situation.

By good fortune, one does not have to rely mainly on newspaper reports, sometimes meager, or upon the Air Force statements. The Department of Public Safety of the State of Oklahoma has sent to the office of Congressman John Jarman, Democrat, of the Oklahoma City congressional district, and to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) in Washington a summary of the teletype reports sent into the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Communications Network Center, July 31–August 5, from the various highway patrol headquarters over the State.

This valuable document, which was not observed in the files of Project Blue Book, will be utilized in one or more following articles dealing with the curious behavior of the Air Force touching the UFO's and the public.

[From the Portland (Maine) Evening Express, Jan. 18, 1966]

THOSE FLYING SAUCERS—HIGHWAY PATROL REPORT FIRES CONTROVERSY OVER UFO'S

(Editor's note: This is the second of a series about UFO's (unidentified flying objects) by Bulkley S. Griffin, executive editor of the Evening Express Washington Bureau. He wrote the stories after visiting the UFO office of the U.S. Air Force.)

(By Bulkley Griffin)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Research into the matter of the unidentified flying objects (UFO's), the U.S. Air Force, and the public, receives substantial help from a report furnished by the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety. This summarizes the messages dealing with UFO sightings that passed over the Oklahoma Highway Patrol network in the period July 31–August 5.

A survey of this information reveals the large number of sightings and the much larger number of witnesses of those sightings, and lists some radar sightings by the Air Force. It compares with a generalized attention to those sightings by the Air Force and Project Blue Book, the latter the name for the Air Force investigation of UFO's.

At 3:30 p.m. August 2, Project Blue Book issued a statement assuming to explain the avalanche of UFO sightings that had hit the Southwest—but probably had hit Oklahoma the heaviest—starting July 31.

Therefore, this article will seek to hit the high points of the sightings reported on the Oklahoma Highway Patrol network beginning with July 31, up to the issuance of the Project Blue Book explanation.

The first report on the teletype came the early morning of July 31. A Wynnewood, Okla., police officer, Louis Sikes, reported a UFO. The radar at Tinker Air Force Base located the object. A little later, continued the highway patrol report, "Caswell Air Force Base (Fort Worth, Tex.) aimed their radar at the same location and came up with the same fix as Tinker." Both Tinker and Caswell followed the object, which once disappeared and then reappeared, for some time. Later that day an Associated Press dispatch from Oklahoma City stated flatly that Tinker and Caswell both had the UFO on radar.

The next night saw the UFO reports crowding the highway patrol teletype. Some quotations of messages will be given.

At 9:19 p.m. the highway patrol tower sent out this message: "Since 8 p.m. the tower has received in the neighborhood of 25 to 30 visual sightings, many by police officers and highway patrol troopers of various unidentified flying objects from the Purcell area north through the Norman area to Chandler and back through Meeker and Shawnee.

"Three Shawnee officers and their captain have four of the objects in sight at this time, also another has cropped up from the south of Tecumseh and is apparently going to fly directly over Shawnee.

"The sightings vary from one to four of the objects at various times starting in a reddish color and varying to a white and blue luster.

"Shawnee reports the objects seem to be flying four to a formation in a diamond-type formation. Cushing has reported four of the objects. Oklahoma Highway Patrol Units 30 and 40 have also made visual sightings. Reports have

come from (three) individuals." Names of two civilians are given; third was a police officer from Tulsa, not named.

"Tinker Air Force Base has had from one to four of them on radar at a time, and they advise they are flying very high, at approximately 22,000 feet, which seems to coincide with the visual sightings, all of which are 'very high flying objects.'"

Other reports came in the night of August 1. The sheriff's office at Chandler reported two UFO's. Two individuals—names given—spotted a UFO between Norman and Purcell. "Tinker AFB looking at it—or attempting to do so at this time with radar—Wichita Falls, Tex., also notified to look." Another UFO was seen near Forgan, and sighter's name and address given.

"Although there were numerous other reports from other sources which did not reach the patrol, those above were all of the reports whch moved on the highway patrol wire on August 1," it is stated in the summary from the department of public safety. On August 2, the teletype carried its first UFO report of that day at 2 p.m. regarding a sighting at 12:50 p.m. near Cushing. Other reports followed through the afternoon and night.

All this from just one State's highway patrol teletype.

At 3:30 p.m. on August 2, Maj. Hector Quintanilla, in charge of Project Blue Book, issued the following statement:

"Initial study of the reports thus far received by the Air Force indicates that the observations were astronomical in nature. The objects most likely observed were the planet Jupiter and the stars Rigal, Capella, Betelgeux, or Al-debaran, which are clearly visible in the eastern sky. The time of reported sightings, the azimuth and elevation of the reported sightings supports this conclusion. In addition, on August 1 and 2 the temperature distribution and varying wind speeds observed over the Great Plains, from northern Texas to Wyoming were favorable for the phenomenon, known as scintillation. Some of the reports were the aquarid meteor showers which occur between July 26 to August 6. The meteors approach from the southeast and streak swiftly across the sky trailing sparks. There has been no confirmation that any of the sightings reported were tracked on radar.

This official statement presents two characteristics typical of Air Force treatment of UFO reports. First, no specific sighting is mentioned, and just about every conceivable reason for seeking to explain away the multitude of sightings over eight States is included.

Second, no radar sighting is admitted. This is despite the highway patrol's report of Tinker and Carswell Air Force Bases having a fix on a July 31 object, and Tinker having a fix on up to four objects the night of August 1–2; and despite national wire services reports of these radar sightings and of a Wichita weather station radar sighting of several UFO's.

Radar does not pick up stars and planets, as has been stated. Further, corroboration of visual sightings by a radar sighting—as the Oklahoma Highway Patrol indicated on one occasion the night of August 1—would strengthen the argument that some UFO's are real and unknown.

But that August 2 statement from Project Blue Book was immediately attacked from a different angle by Director Robert Risser of the Oklahoma Science and Art Foundation Planetarium in Oklahoma City. To quote a UPI dispatch:

"'That (Project Blue Book statement) is as far from the truth as you can get," Risser said. 'Somebody has made a mistake. These stars and planets are one the opposite side of the earth from Oklahoma City at this time of year.'"

Major Quintanilla, recently asked about the comment of Director Risser, pointed out the UFO reports were coming in from several States, and said his August 2 announcement referred to Wyoming where the stars in question were visible. He added the statement applied to Oklahoma between 1 and 4 in the morning.

[From the Portland (Maine) Evening Express, Jan. 19, 1966]

THOSE "FLYING SAUCERS"—NEW HAMPSHIRE SIGHTING ONE OF MOST FRIGHTENING

(Editor's Note: This is the third of a series about UFO's (unidentified flying objects) by Bulkley S. Griffin, executive editor of the Evening Express, Washington bureau.)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—One of the more impressive sightings of an unidentified flying object (UFO) occurred near Exeter, N.H., last September. As narrated, it was an extended closeup observation of a lighted object that was noiseless and

close to the ground. Several persons apparently observed it, three of them, including two policemen, at one time.

The conclusion of Project Blue Book—the name of the Air Force UFO probe that announces the final verdicts on sightings—that the New Hampshire watchers saw low-flying airplanes, is of a piece with many other Air Force attempted explainings away. It doesn't make sense.

The New Hampshire sighting is of significance on another ground. It involves the reported effect of a UFO in disturbing and exciting animals.

The sequence of events near Exeter began at 1 o'clock in the morning of last September 3 when Exeter Police Officer Eugene P. Bertrand, Jr., 30, cruising in his police car, came upon an auto drawn up by the side of the road and in it an hysterical woman, who according to the officer's report to the investigative officer from Pease Air Force Base, N.H., "stated she was too upset to drive." She stated a light had been following her and had stopped over her car." The officer stayed with her about 15 minutes, sought to reassure her, saw nothing, and departed for the police station.

There he found Norman J. Muscarello, 18, of Exeter who had come to the station to tell of his experience while a few miles out of Exeter. He said something big with dazzling, flashing red lights had appeared moving just above the treetops. It had moved rather slowly toward him. He had jumped into the ditch for safety. Then the thing had disappeared.

Officer Bertrand took Muscarello with him in his patrol car and they returned to the field where Muscarello had had his alarming experience. They both got out of the car and walked into the field, Bertrand having a flashlight. At this point Officer Bertrand's report to an examining officer at Pease AFB can be taken up.

"When we had gone about 50 feet a group of five bright red lights came from behind a group of trees near us. They were extremely bright and flashed one at a time.

"At one time they came so close I fell to the ground and started to draw my gun. The lights were so bright I was unable to make out any form.

"There was no sound or vibration but the farm animals were upset in the area and making a lot of noise. When the lights started coming near us again Muscarello and I ran for the car. * * *

"I radioed Patrolman David Hunt who arrived in a few minutes. He also observed the lights which were still over the field at an estimated altitude of 100 feet and finally disappeared in the distance at the same altitude. The lights were always in line at about 60° angle. When the object moved the lower lights were always forward of the others."

In this case the Air Force, which generally appears to hang back from much investigating of UFO reports, did do some investigating. It interviewed the sighters and neighbors.

The Pease AFB officer, who headed this local military probe and who, by the way, was a command pilot, made this finding:

"At this time have been unable to arrive at a probable cause of this sighting. The three observers seem to be stable, reliable persons, especially the two patrolmen. I viewed the area of the sighting and found nothing in the area that could be the probable cause. Pease AFB had five B–47 aircraft flying in the area during this period but do not believe they had any connection with this sighting."

However, Project Blue Book lists low-flying airplanes as probably responsible for this Exeter sighting. Maj. Hector Quintanilla, in charge of Blue Book, states that the 8th Air Force SAC (Strategic Air Command) group at Westover Air Force Base, Mass., was conducting a low-level operation, called Big Blast, at the time. He said he believes the Exeter "people were looking at low-level aircraft."

The effect of a UFO on animals had been reported in a New York State case about 2 weeks before the Exeter event. An investigating officer from the Niagara Falls Air Force Base, commenting on the sighting of a low-down UFO near Cherry Creek, N.Y., on August 19, said:

"Preliminary analysis reveals object not explainable in conventional terms. Object caused reduction in farm cows' milk from 2½ cans to 1 can. Disturbed bull in field. Caused dog to bark." This sighting, by the way, is one of the very few that Project Blue Book has marked "Unidentified."

The Exeter UFO produced a fairly familiar charge; namely that the Air Force sought to suppress news of the sighting. In this instance the charge came from Raymond Fowler, of Wenham, Mass., head of a local area NICAP

group, who went to the scene to investigate for NICAP. The latter stands for National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, the unofficial but responsible Washington organization. The Fowler charges are in the files of Blue Book and of NICAP.

Fowler talked with witnesses and others and said he was told that Pease AFB officers had asked the police and a local newspaper correspondent not to mention the sightings. The request was put to the police on the ground people would be alarmed if told the facts, it is stated.

Major Quintanilla, informed of this charge, said that "I would not allow any suppression of news." However, it is an impression in Washington that officers a good deal higher than Major Quintanilla would not exert themselves to prevent news suppression of UFO sightings.

The Haverhill (Mass.) Gazette wrote an editorial on this UFO in the neighborhood, in which it said: "So many have reported seeing it (the Exeter UFO) and their descriptions jibe so closely that, unless they have banded together in one large hoax, their stories must be given credence."

[From the Portland (Maine) Evening Express, Jan. 20, 1966]

THOSE "FLYING SAUCERS"—AIR FORCE BRUSHES OFF FLOOD OF SIGHTINGS IN SOUTHWEST

(Editor's note: This is the fourth of a series about UFO's (unidentified flying objects) by Bulkley S. Griffin, executive editor of the Evening Express, Washington bureau.)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A good 2 weeks after the flood of unidentified flying object (UFO) sightings last August over Oklahoma and other Southwestern States, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma City, produced its formal survey and judgment. It sent this several-page explanation of sightings in its wide area to Project Blue Book, the Air Force office in charge of the UFO investigations and conclusions.

This report is a good example of Air Force anti-UFO propaganda. Except for mention of one specific sighting—which was decreed to be a weather baloon—the report is generalized, pulling out all the stops on the possibilities of citizens making mistakes and including a statement from the official of a planetarium in Oklahoma City whose text was that "the average person is uneducated as to what the sky normally looks like."

Interviews with military experts are given which mention unusually bright stars at this time of year, a haze that reflects things from the ground, the frequency of weather balloons and so on.

An impressive but superficial case is made for weather balloons as fooling people into thinking they are seeing a UFO. The number released daily in the Oklahoma area is considerable.

But the fact is that the citizens thereabouts have lived with these balloons day after day and year after year and by now must be fairly well acquainted with what they look like and how they act. They are also pretty well acquainted with stars, which at the moment may be supplanting balloons as the favorite explanation put forth by Project Blue Book.

The Tinker AFB report did not need to avoid mention of particular sightings. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol teletype reported a number of sightings well worth investigation and these teletype UFO reports were relayed to all major newspapers, wire services and TV and radio stations across the State of Oklahoma; also to the weather wire teletype system. They were available to sincere Air Force investigators.

The failure to interview witnesses could be termed negative Air Force propaganda. The highway patrol messages named close to a dozen civilian witnesses usually with addresses, and the number of highway patrol officers that had sightings must have totaled two dozen and more. Yet the formal August 20 report from Tinker shows interviews with but two civilians and two police officers.

Maj. Hector Quintanilla, in command of Project Blue Book, says the Air Force seeks interviews with persons who call up and whose names they learn. "We are not interested in persons who go to the newspapers or to radio and TV stations," he said. The wisdom of this exclusion is of course wide open to question—assuming that the Air Force is seeking information.

But Tinker AFB itself must have received dozens of calls during the heavy sighting period of July 31 through August 5. This much is indicated by a sentence sent out over the highway patrol network the night of August 2. "The security officer at Tinker Field reports he has been swamped with calls the past hour from people reporting UFO's." This report refers to just 1 hour of the several-day sighting period.

Chances are, it is said, that the Air Force handling of the UFO problem may be allowed to drag along by an apathetic public. Yet one may speculate on what an honest and energetic investigation might do. For one thing, it would investigate some of the sightings reported by the Oklahoma highway patrol.

For instance, take this report that moved with many others, over the teletype August 4. "Twenty-five people at a church in Cushing, Okla., all watched several UFO's. Sometimes they would stay stationary, then would move at a high rate of speed. Were moving south for a while, then stopped and stood still for some time, then were joined by two and moved to the west at high speeds, then turned and traveled east for a while, then stopped completely and stood still, then went east and suddenly disappeared from sight. The first ones were orange lights, the ones that joined them had red and green lights like airplanes. PD (police department) Cushing also observed the same things."

Or the "approximately 30 calls" to the Shawnee Police Department reporting 4 or 5 lighted objects traveling northwest which "make no conventional noise such as an aircraft does but rather make a humming noise." Or what did the five citizens of Norman, Okla., see looking at a white globe 30–40 feet in diameter through a "tripod-mounted 160-power telescope."

The evidence is convincing that the Air Force—for reasons it doesn't announce—is not really trying to discover what the UFO's are. Or, if the Air Force already knows, it is painstakingly keeping its information from the public. Chief blame for this lack of action must rest on the Government.

But another culprit, the scientific community, must bear blame according to an August article by Robert C. Cowen, natural science editor of the Christian Science Monitor. He wrote in part:

"The main reason there has been no scientific study of the (UFO) puzzle is social pressure within the scientific community. It has not been due to lack of opportunity to gather data.

"Many scientists feel the whole subject is 'kooky.' They dismiss it with ridicule. It can be personally embarrassing, even detrimental to a scientist's career, to try to take the saucer problem seriously."

It is time to investigate; scientific knowledge of some sort resides in the UFO phenomenon, said the writer.

[From the Portland (Maine) Evening Express, Jan. 21, 1966]

THOSE "FLYING SAUCERS"—WHAT SHERIFFS SAW WASN'T STAR, UFO PROBER ADMITS

(Editor's note: This is the fifth of a series about UFO's (unidentified flying objects) by Bulkley S. Griffin, executive editor of the Evening Express, Washington bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The case of the two Texas deputy sheriffs whose patrol car was allegedly followed by an unidentified flying object (UFO) so that they hit 110 miles an hour in rushing away, is worth mentioning for its own sake in any study of the Air Force-UFO confrontation.

The case also illustrates the possibility of a more realistic trend in Project Blue Book—which is the name of the Air Force's investigation of UFO's.

Project Blue Book first listed the Texas sighting as, "Refraction of Star Antares distorted due to inversion." This verdict was a highly improbable one from the start, as will be seen from the testimony of the two deputy sheriffs. Recently, Maj. Hector Quintanilla, in command of Project Blue Book, stated he has withdrawn this conclusion after talking over the phone with Deputy Sheriff McCoy. The star verdict didn't seem to fit. So Blue Book now records the sighting as one of the very few unexplained ones on its rolls.

Another recent case of reconsideration of a verdict occurred in the instance of the four lighted objects seen together by many observers the night of August 1–2, according to the teletype reports of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. The latter

said Tinker AFB had picked them up. But Blue Book had this sighting listed as "Astro (Antares)." Radar does not pick up stars, as previously noted.

Recently, however, as this writer was discussing this sighting at the headquarters of Project Blue Book and pointed out that a Tinker AFB radar squadron sergeant had referred to two stationary objects and two moving in the formation, Project Blue Book proposed that the two stationary objects were stars—the brightest of them Antares—and the two alleged to be moving could be airplanes.

The two cases, one in Oklahoma and one in Texas, suggest to some observers that Project Blue Book, while vigorously trying to explain away has of late occasionally sought to throw a little more credibility into its investigations and conclusions.

But to get to the two Texas deputy sheriffs, who, as it came about, were followed by a UFO the same night—September 3—on which at least one person in the Exeter, N.H., case reported being followed.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Billy F. McCoy and Deputy Sheriff Robert W. Goode were on routine patrol near Damon, Tex.—which is around 40 miles southeast of Houston—when they saw a bright purple light, which soon produced a smaller blue light, on the horizon about 5 miles away. One of the officers studied the lights through binoculars. They had slowed down off the edge of the highway when the lights started rapidly toward them.

The testimony of Chief Deputy Sheriff McCoy, as given to an investigating officer from Ellington AFB, Tex., continues:

"The object came up to the pasture next the highway about 150 feet off the highway and about 100 feet high. The bulk of the object was plainly visible and appeared to be triangular shaped with a bright purple light on the left and the smaller, less bright, blue light on the right end. The bulk of the object appeared to be dark gray in color with no other distinguishing features. It appeared to be about 200 feet wide and 40–50 feet think in the middle tapering off toward both ends. There was no noise or any trail.

"The bright purple light illuminated the ground directly underneath it and the area in front of it, including the highway and the interior of our patrol car. The tall grass under the object did not appear to be disturbed.

"There was a bright moon out and it cast a shadow of the object on the ground immediately below it in the grass. Deputy Sheriff Goode was in the driver's seat with his left arm lying in the open window. Although he was wearing a long-sleeved shirt and a coat, he later said that he felt the heat apparently emanating from the object."

The officers rushed away toward Damon "as fast as we could go" traveling "at speeds up to 110 miles an hour," said McCoy. Arrived in Damon, they discussed the matter. "We were both scared but still wanted to find out what it was." So they returned to the scene and saw the UFO on the horizon acting exactly as it had before. "We decided to leave the area because we figured that the object would start coming toward us again," stated McCoy.

The report to Blue Book of the investigating officer from Ellington Air Force Base believes the two deputy sheriffs definitely saw "some unsual object." This report reads in part:

"After talking with both officers involved in the sighting there is no doubt in my mind that they definitely saw some unsual object or phenomenon. However, my investigation failed to uncover any facts that permitted me, with my meager knowledge of such things, to arrive at any explanation for the unusual sighting.

"Both officers appeared to be intelligent, mature, levelheaded persons capable of sound judgment and reasoning. Chief Deputy Sheriff McCoy hold a responsible position in the department requiring the supervision over 42 personnel. Both officers have been subjected to considerable friendly ridicule from their contemporaries and the local townspeople; but have continued to profess the facts of their sighting * * *."

[From the Portland (Maine) Evening Express, Jan. 22, 1966]

THOSE "FLYING SAUCERS"—EVIDENCE INDICATES AIR FORCE MISLEADING PUBLIC ON UFO'S

(By Bulkley Griffin (last of six articles))

WASHINGTON, D.C.—This is the final one of half a dozen articles on the unidentified flying objects (UFO's), the U.S. Air Force, which has the official job

of investigating the sightings, and the public. The conclusions reached have been assisted by two more examinations of the files of Project Blue Book, the Air Force name for its study and its verdicts on UFO reports.

A main conclusion can be briefly stated. It is that the Air Force is misleading the public by it continuing campaign to produce and maintain belief that all sightings can be explained away as misidentifications of familiar objects, such as balloons, stars, and aircraft.

The logical assumption, backed by much circumstantial evidence, is that the Air Force is deliberately misleading the public.

In this campaign the Air Force, backed by normal public respect for the military and for authoritative statements, and also assisted by the natural human disinclination to think uncommonly or to be laughed at, has been largely successful.

However, the Air Force success in having the public believe what it wants it to believe respecting UFO's is steadily and conspicuously lessening. More and more skepticism is being voiced in newspapers and by citizens.

Another chief conclusion is this: no energetic and thorough effort to investigate the unidentified flying object phenomenon is being made by the Air Force or ever has been made by it. And this charge holds true respect any other Government agency and respecting what has been termed the Nation's scientific community.

Reasons for the persevering Air Force performance are unknown to the public. In the speculation one of the following three reasons is commonly advanced: the Air Force fears national panic if the truth about the UFO's were told; the Air Force feels it is stuck with its story; or the Air Force is silenced by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The first alleged reason, however uncomplimentary to the intelligence of our citizens, is one that has been heard at the Capitol off and on for approaching 20 years. Some speculate it may be the reason the Air Force has given to the chairmen of the two congressional space committees in its understood endeavor to hold off a congressional investigation of the UFO subject.

What is the truth about the UFO's? It is quite possible that no one on this earth knows.

A veteran New England congressional leader, who was in a position to know, told this writer that the Air Force didn't know what they are. Officials of the Central Intelligence Agency ought to know if anyone does, yet a former head of the CIA, Adm. R. H. Hillenkootter, affirmed half a dozen years ago that he did not believe in the Air Force explainings-away; but he did not indicate he thought he thought he knows the truth of the matter.

An increasing number of good observers hold that a sizable minority of the sightings—many sightings presumably are misidentifications—represent something new and unknown. A large number of these observers, who include veteran pilots, radar operators, air traffic controllers, teachers, astronomers, and other experts, hold that the unknown UFO's are extraterrestrial.

To all this Air Force officials can and do respond that not a single tangible bit of evidence of any such UFO has been found. This is a mighty strong argument, the strongest argument of the so-called explainers-away.

Yet to an augmenting number of competent observers the evidence grows stronger that some of the UFO's are real and really unknown. So very many impressive sightings can't be explained away, it is said.

"From the United States, from Argentina, Uruguay, Portugal, France, Antarctica, and Australia (from four continents) have come the rash of reports of sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFO's). The sightings have been the most numerous since 1957." So summarized a United Press International dispatch last August.

First and last, few presumably will challenge a conclusion that the mystery and the problem of the unidentified flying object remain with this world.

And as for the Air Force, with its intensive campaign to explain away every UFO sighting, it might listen to the recent advice of a veteran astronomer, Dr. I. M. Levitt, director of the Fels Planetarium, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, said:

"It would be well if our Project Blue Book officials were simply to indicate that sightings in a minority of cases cannot be explained. It would clear the air of a great deal of misunderstanding and mistrust of this group by the intelligent laymen and observers who have seen objects in the sky."

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
Washington, January 18, 1966.

Hon. L. MENDEL RIVERS,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Recently you requested information in behalf of Mr. John R. Gray about unidentified flying objects (UFO).

The Air Force does not withhold or censor information on UFO's. The results of all Air Force investigations are available to bona fide news representatives and scientific researchers. Press releases are issued as warranted, and an annual report (copy attached) on the project is available to the public. There has never been an order issued by the Secretary of the Air Force to suppress or withhold such information.

The three conclusions set forth in Mr. Gray's letter are, in fact, the conclusions which were reached as a result of a panel of scientific consultants that met at the request of the Government to study the problem in 1953. For your information, the U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board has been asked to evaluate the UFO program. An ad hoc committee has been appointed and will convene sometime in February. The results will be available shortly after the meeting.

As a result of investigating over 10,000 reports since 1947, we cannot associate disruption of running engines, radios, and headlights, or malfunction of aircraft instruments, or heat sensations with UFO activity. Nor can we attribute them to aircraft operations. There are many plausible explanations for effects such as car radio static when passing powerlines, overheated car engines, drops in power and voltage in the electrical system, malfunction of equipment, and imagination or panic of an observer. Weather conditions such as temperature inversions can cause known natural or conventional objects to appear to hover, move around, and change colors. Satellites and balloons make no noise while in flight. Balloons can also hover and suddenly accelerate depending on the wind conditions.

The foregoing information also explains our third conclusion. There has never been a top-secret document, entitled "Estimate of the Situation," which concluded that UFO's are interplanetary in nature.

As of December 31, 1965, the Air Force has received 10,060 reports since 1947 of which 645 are unidentified and cannot be explained. It is our opinion that all reports could be explained if more detailed objective data had been available. However, because of the fact that analyses of UFO sightings depend primarily on the personal impressions and interpretations of the observer rather than on accurate scientific data or facts obtained under controlled conditions, positive identification of all sightings is improbable. Information on any UFO report is available to private citizens upon request.

Photographs received in conjunction with UFO reports are evaluated by photo analysis personnel. The objects in such photographs have been evaluated as known natural or conventional objects which have been misinterpreted by the observer. Such photographs are returned to the owner after analysis.

Our Project Blue Book office is located at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, where all UFO records are kept. All objects which have been picked up or tracked on radar have been identified as flocks of birds, weather phenomena, or reflections from ground targets. Radar scope photography is classified only if it reveals classified defense information.

The joint Army-Navy-Air Force publication 146 deals with UFO's only as a catchall class of sightings that does not fall into a recognized category such as ships, submarines, aircraft, or guided missiles. The purpose of the publication is to provide uniform instructions for the peacetime reporting of what is judged to be vital intelligence sightings. Any person who violates the provisions of the publication may be liable to prosecution thereunder. The purpose of this is to emphasize the necessity for handling of such information within official channels only.

The article appearing in the December 24, 1959, issue of TIG Brief, entitled "UFO's Serious Business," has been misinterpreted. The purpose of this article was simply to improve the quality of reports and investigative procedures. It also contained guidelines for effective reporting and the equipment necessary for investigations. We have no knowledge of any research projects such as those stated by Mr. Gray, nor do we have any information about the Santiago, Chile, incident.

All UFO reports which are submitted to the Air Force are regarded as earnest reports from people who have seen an aerial object which they could not identify. The purpose of our program is to evaluate such reports and to inform the observer of the cause of his sighting.

The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena is a private organization which is in no way affiliated with our Government.

It is a pleasure to again be of service to you.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT W. COVELL,
Colonel, USAF,
Congressional Inquiry Division, Office of Legislative Liaison.

JANUARY 11, 1966.

Hon. L. MENDEL RIVERS,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR SIR: Thank you for the very prompt reply (Jan. 6, 1966) to my letter of December 29, regarding UFO's. You stated that you may check out my comments with the proper authorities. Knowing in advance essentially what reactions you will receive from these authorities, be they Air Force, Department of Defense, or Congressional Inquiry Division officials, I strongly and respectfully request you withhold acceptance of their statements until you contact Maj. Donald Keyhoe (USMC, retired) or Mr. Richard Hall. These gentlemen, as you are undoubtedly aware, are director and associate director, respectively, of NICAP and can be reached at NOrth 7-9434.

This course of action is most desirable for the ultimate best interest of the American people as it permits both sides of this controversy to be impartially weighed.

NICAP, in the 9 years since its inception, has amassed sufficient factual information, documentation, and evidence to refute any or all Air Force claims. The organization asks only that it be given the opportunity to present this information in open hearings in order to attain its immediate goal of getting to the people the truth about the UFO's, as can be ascertained and officially confirmed; and the best hope of achieving this end is through congressional action.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN R. GRAY,
Huntington Beach, Calif.

DECEMBER 29, 1965.

Hon. L. MENDEL RIVERS,
U.S. House of Representatives,
The House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR SIR: As chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, you may be the proper person in the House, to whom I should address this correspondence pertaining to a subject, the scientific aspect of which promises far-reaching implications. A considerable amount of genuine scientific research by private individuals in this field is being thwarted, in part, by a policy of an agency of the U.S. Government through the employment of ridicule and the withholding of pertinent information. It is a field that has been the subject of suppression since 1947 and particularly since 1953 by order of the Secretary of the Air Force.

The subject, of which I write, is that of unidentified flying objects (UFO's) and the Air Force censorship in the handling of legitimate sightings and reports. The publicized conclusions, in part, of the Air Force's Project Blue Book are:

(1) No unidentified flying object reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security;

(2) There has been no evidence submitted to or disclosed by the Air Force that sightings categorized as unidentified represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present day scientific knowledge; and

(3) There has been no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as unidentified are extra terrestrial vehicles.

Other than the close encounters with UFO's reported by airline and military pilots, an element of truth can be conceded in conclusion (1). However, the vadility of number (2) must be disputed. Do we possess any aircraft that can:

1. On close proximity to ground vehicles disrupt the running engines, headlights, and radios of those vehicles?

2. On close proximity to conventional aircrafts cause their gyro compasses and direction finders to momentarily malfunction?
3. On close proximity to conventional aircrafts or ground vehicles cause intense heat sensation experienced by their occupants?
4. Hover at any one point at any given time and suddenly accelerate horizontally or vertically out of sight in a matter of 5 to 10 seconds?
5. Execute an abrupt 90° or 180° change of direction while in flight?
6. Make no discernible sound while in flight?
7. Glow brilliantly and change colors?

Such behavior and characteristics have been witnessed by reliable persons and documented enumerable times and are very familiar to the Air Force; in addition to being definitely beyond the scope of our present technology. If conclusion (3) had included the word "proof" instead of "evidence," the probability of truth could also be conceded here. As it stands, the statement is likewise false for the same reasons as the arguments listed against conclusion (2). Since our present state of technology does not permit satisfactory explanations to such behaviors of these objects, what other assumption can a scientific mind make than that their origin is extra terrestrial? It may be recalled that the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, in July–August of 1948 concluded in their top secret document estimate of the situation that UFO's were interplanetary. While top Air Force officials will vehemently deny that such a document ever existed, proof that it does exist and is accessible for examination by interested Members of Congress—but not from the Air Force.

While the Air Force does not publicly admit to the existence of the wealth of documented evidence that has been accumulated since before the appearance of the first airplane, it does admit to possessing at least 663 "unknowns" on the books. Sightings classified as "unknowns" are those well decumented by official and unofficial sources but remain unsolved and "unexplainable." Private citizens inquiring into the nature of these unknowns will be told that such is classified information (AFR 200–2 paragraphs 9 and 19). It should be noted, in this respect, that Vice President Humphrey and Senator Birch Bayh were misinformed by the Air Force through the Congressional Inquiry Division to the effect that all of the 663 "unknown" cases were solved. The letter to Senator Bayh was signed by Col. Frederick H. Fahringer.

Dealings with the Air Force concerning information of UFO's have proven to be a one-way proposition—all in and none out. Is it little wonder that only about 10 percent of the citizenry dare risk disparagement for submitting reports that are truly unexplainable? The "lending" of photographic evidence of a sighting by a witness to the Air Force is tantamount to forfeiture. Infrequently, an Air Force "slip-up" occurs in his favor.

The Air Force maintains that there is no censorship of UFO's. Anyone following this subject knows differently. Strong feelings were expressed by three of my acquaintances, all departed in recent years from service in that branch, in verifying that censorship does indeed exist. Two were radar technicians, one of whom was stationed at White Sands in 1949 while the other was assigned to the 776th Radar Squadron at Point Arena, Calif. in 1961–62. The third was a member of Project Blue Book in Alaska during 1961–62.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff regulation JANAP 146, section III, title 18, United States Code 793, threatens imposition of penalties of 1 to 10 years imprisonment and/or up to $10,000 fine upon any Air Force pilot who reveals an official UFO report. Such harsh punishment would certainly be indicative of the seriousness with which the Air Force regards the UFO's; and all the while the publicized line is "they don't exist." The official position was subsequently revealed when on December 24, 1959, an Air Force Inspector General brief was issued stating that "UFO's are Serious Business" and instructing all investigating officers to be equipped with geiger counters. The degree of seriousness can also be realized when one considers the lengths to which six agencies of the Federal Government are extending themselves in research to uncover the suspected secret of these objects—that of gravity control, or antigravity power. Forty-six such projects of research of varying degrees are currently being subsidized including 33 under Air Force supervision.

While it is understandable that information pertaining to these projects does not necessarily fall into the sphere of the public's "right to know," there is no apparent reason or justification for the continuation of this "blackout" policy regarding UFO's. It matters not whether this policy was instigated by the Air Force or its superior, but it does matter when individual research in this field is

stifled; and it matters when the American people are denied the right to know what kind of powers they may be up against. Persistence in this dogmatic attitude will only tend to deteriorate public morale if not the public trust in the Air Force when irrefutable proof of the existence of these objects manifests itself.

Those behind this official "blackout" should be displaying real responsibility to all of us by desisting from the practices of ridiculing sincere witnesses and belittling sightings that defy explanations and at least extend public acknowledgement of some credence to the evidence that abounds. Instituting a policy of dealing honestly, for a change, with the people would prepare the way to a minimum of possible panic (assuming this to be the basic reason for the censorship) upon arrival of that "moment of proof." (Please, excuse the pun.) Consider the contrast of the disrespect shown Americans to the consideration extended the citizens of Argentina and Chile. For example, on August 3, 1965, the radio and TV stations of Santiago, Chile, alerted the populous to view the three luminous discus hovering over the city for some 25 minutes before moving slowly away.

With the hope that we may yet receive such courtesy instead of treatment as children, I respectfully urge that you consider the undertaking of a hearing into this despicable situation. Until this condition is brought out into the open, much of the news media will continue to refrain from giving the UFO's serious consideration they so justly deserve.

All statements made in this letter can be substantiated by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) located at 1536 Connecticut Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. Documented evidence and authentication required to support the assertion that a censorship does in fact exist will be put at the disposal of your committee by NICAP upon request.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN R. GRAY, *Huntington Beach, Calif.*

[From Life magazine, Apr. 1, 1966]

A WELL-WITNESSED "INVASION"—BY SOMETHING

FROM AUSTRALIA TO MICHIGAN, A FLURRY OF EERIE UFO SIGHTINGS

Call them what you will: flying saucers, unidentified flying objects (UFO's), optical illusions, or the first symptoms of the silly season. They are back again—and seen by more people than ever before. Some are greenish and iridescent, like the mystery thing that swooped down over Perth, Australia, several weeks ago. Others are football shaped and aglow with pulsating lights. Last week the manifestations seemed almost to have reached the proportions of an invasion. Near Ann Arbor, Mich., 52 witnesses, including a dozen policemen, saw 5 strange objects hovering over a swamp. The next day a glowing thing floated over a small college in Hillsdale, Mich. and was sighted by 87 students, an assistant dean and the local civil defense director. Whatever the explanation of the peculiar phenomena—seen and described similarly by so many—something surely was in the air.

"IT WASN'T NO HULLABILLUSION," SAID THE FARMER, AND 52 AGREED

(By Paul O'Neil)

DEXTER TOWNSHIP, MICH.—Frank Mannor has never believed in flying saucers. Hasn't any need of them. Wishes he'd never seen one. Frank should have been born in the day of Dan'l Boone. Since he wasn't, he's on the unemployment. Still, he's a happy man. Or was.

He is a husky, grizzled fellow of 47 who has 10 children, a well of water with an outside pump, a solidly build privy, a TV set and a battered refrigerator with the coil on top. Four disembodied automobiles rest beside his white, tumbledown, two-story farmhouse in the open country 12 miles northwest of Ann Arbor. They provide parts for his good car. He has an ancient schoolbus for hunting expeditions. He also has six dogs. The dogs started it all. When they began "barkin' and bellerin' " at 8 o'clock that Sunday night, Frank ran outside—even though he was wearing his suit pants—and looked east into swampland from the rise of ground on which the house is built. He saw lights and a faint red glow "like cigarets being smoked."

Frank called his 19-year-old son, Ronnie. Suit pants or not, they started down toward whatever it was. "I thought a meteor had hit, that maybe we could pick up pieces of it," Frank said.

It never for a minute occurred to him that the United States hadn't had a good, mysterious flying saucer manifestation for a coon's age, that it was probably time for a new visitation from the mysterious little men from outer space and that they had decided to use southern Michigan in general and his swamp in particular for the dangdest display of flashing lights and whizzing half-seen objects since Frank Perkins fired a .22 rifle at a New York crow—and hit a fireworks factory—back in 1951.

Frank Mannor soon realized that he and his son were stalking some kind of thing. The ground between his house and the swamp is hummocky, rolling, but the night was clear and moonlit and the glow ahead was plain. "Just like we were hunting deer," Frank said to Ronnie, "Don't talk, we'll sneak up on it."

They jumped a creek, climbed a rise, and there it was, a few hundred yards ahead in the marsh. The thing seemed as long as an automobile, and wore a green light on one end and a white light on the other. Its back was humped and looked grayish- or bluish-brown and was "quilted" or rough "like coral rock," It seemed to be sitting perhaps 8 feet off the ground in a patch of mist. "Like a man in a boat on a misty lake in the morning—you can see the man but can't quite make out the boat."

Suddenly it turned blood red. "Look at that horrible thing, Dad," blurted Ronnie—and the lights instantly went out. Both began running toward it. "I was a-puffin'," said Mannor. "But when we got there it was gone. I hunted for 4 hours but there was no sign or smell of it. I'm glad I didn't have a gun. I'd a shot it and I might have harmed someone."

Back at the house, meantime, Mannor's wife Leona—a woman who wears shapeless slacks and a flannel shirt with the tail out—decided to call the nearby Dexter village police. "We've got an object out here," she said formally, "that looks like what they call a flying saucer. It's got lights on it down in the swamp."

Since the Mannors are on an eight-party line Leona told a great many other other people, too, and the word spread like lightning—or the glow from a flying saucer. Cops and deputy sheriffs were soon tumbling out of cars and thrashing off toward the marsh, and the road beyond the house was jammed solid with the cars of gawkers. Most of them were rewarded for their effort. Dexter Police Chief Robert Taylor and Patrolman Nolan Lee saw the red glow as they stumbled around in the dark; so did Washtenaw County Deputy Sheriffs Stanley McFadden and David Fitzpatrick. All reported, like Mannor, that the light eventually vanished. But unlike their host, who said, "I never seen it take off," the cops felt it had zipped away over Mannor's house making a sound like "an ambulance."

"I seen it," said McFadden, "but I still don't believe it."

Dexter Patrolman Robert Hunawill saw a "strange, lighted object" appear over his patrol car as he waited in the road for those who had set out for the swamp. It had red and white lights "which at times had a bluish tinge" and made continuing sweeps over the swamp at a height of 1,000 feet and then, on being joined by three other "objects," flew away. Chief Taylor's 16-year-old son Robert saw one lighted thing at 10:30. It flashed red and white and hurried off to the west.

Ann Arbor, though sharply divided between scoffers and believers the next day, still seemed to feel a unanimous civic pride in the fact that the Air Force had taken cognizance of its lurid phenomenon by dispatching Astronomer J. Allen Hynek, director of Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory, to weigh the tales of the elect and, no doubt, send a message of gravity and import to the Pentagon. They were even more heartened to hear that Hynek did not instantly announce that Mannor and his fellow bushwhackers had simply seen the University of Michigan's dish-shaped Peach Mountain radio telescope, which stands against the sky beyond the area in which they saw the glowing thing. Hynek, a bearded man who has investigated a hundred other "sightings" for the Air Force in the last two decades, was sure Mannor was too accustomed to the telescope to ever mistake it for anything else.

"I believe the people who made these sightings are entirely honest and sincere," he said. "But I am not willing to guess what they saw." He hedged when asked if he thought the thing might conceivably have been a new "test vehicle" of some sort. "I think I know much more of what is going on than * * *" he began, but then halted and said, "so I don't think I should say anything * * * I'm sure there is some natural explanation for all of this."

Back by Frank Mannor's house the road jammed up with the cars of the expectant; one man scraped away at a violin for an hour in the hope of summoning creatures from outer space and another blinked a light in what he described as a "pi code"—which he believed to be the key to interplanetary understanding. Many came to scoff. Mannor grew more indignant by the hour.

"People are trying to make a fanatic out of me," he complained. "They was still tramping around here at 3 o'clock this morning and look at them now. They say, 'How much money are you going to make off this?' That's crazy. I don't want no money. I didn't want no publicity in the first place. I don't want none now. I'm just a simple fellow. But I seen what I seen and nobody's going to tell me different. That wasn't no old foxfire or hullabillusion. It was an object. Maybe it'll come back if all these people would stay away and we could get a picture and have verication of it. Anybody wants to give me a lie-detector test I'll take it."

Leona, his wife, was more succinct: "We ain't Martians—they act like you're not human or something because you seen it. I'm about to get a gun and shoot some of these smart alecks if they don't stay to hell away."

10,147 Flying Saucer Sightings

(Ever since the Old Testament prophet Ezekiel recorded an encounter with a fiery flying wheel, people have been seeing saucerlike things in the sky. In the following report Life Correspondent Bill Wise tells of the Air Force's efforts to make sense of all.)

Dayton, Ohio.—There have been 10,147 reported UFO sightings since a private pilot named Kenneth Arnold claimed he saw a set of rapidly moving "things" in the air near Mount Rainier, Wash., on June 24, 1947. Arnold's widely publicized report set off the first of the modern epidemics of saucer sighting, and the Air Force has been in the saucer business ever since. Its "Project Bluebook" occupies a single room on the second floor of a windowless red concrete building here at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Its functions: (1) to try to find an explanation for all reported sightings of unidentified flying objects, (2) to discover whether the UFO's pose any security threat, and (3) to determine if UFO's exhibit any advanced technology which the United States could put to use.

To assist Project Bluebook, there is an UFO officer stationed at every Air Force base in the country; the officer at the base nearest a reported sighting is responsible for initiating the investigation. According to Maj. Hector Quintanella, Jr., a physicist who heads Project Bluebook, most UFO sightings have a rational and usually very simple explanation. The most common reports stem from bright stars, planets and meteorites, particularly when viewed through broken clouds or haze.

Others turn out to be satellites—few people realize that there are now more than 30 of these in orbit that are visible to the naked eye. Thousands of balloons—some as large as 300 feet in diameter, some carrying running lights—are released daily at airports, weather stations and research centers, and these lead to a great many "saucer" reports. Conventional aircraft are another major source—reflecting sun by day or providing the glow of running lights or jet afterburners or the flash of photo recon strobe lights at night.

All satellites and most weather balloons and aircraft are being carefully tracked and logged by military or civilian agencies, and Project Bluebook routinely checks sightings against these records. Unreported local flights by private aircraft pose the most frequent problem in this detective work.

Strange blips on radar screens have occasionally unsettled personnel at tracking stations—e.g., two "objects" that appeared on the scopes at Patuxent Naval Air Station (Md.) last December seemingly approaching the base at an estimated 4,800 miles an hour before making a tight turn and disappearing. But these can generally be traced to pulsating "bugs" within a receiving set or to interference from other neighboring electronic gear. Wright-Patterson experts have been able to account for every errant radar blip reported to date.

There is no question that our Air Force and those of other countries employ assorted airborne hardware as tactical and training devices. Many of these are, of course, seen as flying saucers and it is obvious that for security reasons the Air Force is reluctant to talk about them.

"I have looked at the records of nearly every UFO case back to 1947," says Major Quintanella, "and my feeling is that the vast majority have involved simple misinterpretation of natural phenomena."

Of the sightings so far checked out, less than 2 percent of the total are listed on Project Blue Book's file as unidentified. The Air Force officially concludes that none of these has given any indication of posing a threat to national safety, or offering new technological data, or of originating from some extraterrestial source. However, some of these files remain officially open and the investigations on them continue.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, who is heading up the Ann Arbor investigation for the Air Force, is an old hand at checking on flying saucers for Blue Book. Dr. Hynek notes that sighting reports usually do not originate with persons who believe in outerspace visitations. "Believers" don't need sightings to convince them, and are irritated by the embarrassment and skepticism with which most UFO spotters, like Frank Mannor, report what they believe they have seen.

"It is easy to dismiss the cases of birds, balloons, and the like," says Dr. Hynek, "but when good solid citizens report something puzzling, I believe we have an obligation to do as good a job as we can. I regard our 'Unidentifieds' as a sort of blot on the escutcheon. Somehow we scientists should be able to come up with answers for these things."

Major Quintanella, although certain that no evidence turned up to date has even hinted at spacecraft of unearthly origin, agrees that it is impossible to prove that flying saucers do not exist. In any event, the Air Force is not about to give up chasing UFO's.

"We are spending millions to develop our own rocket boosters to get our spacecraft to the moon and beyond," says the major, smiling. "Imagine what a great help it would be to get our hands on a ship from another planet and examine its powerplant."

The CHAIRMAN. What I want to ask you is, why do they always see them in the nighttime?

Dr. HYNEK. There are a number of reports from the daytime although it is true there are many more night sightings.

The CHAIRMAN. Then there is another thing, if anybody wanted to spy on this country why would they go to this expense, when you can go to any newsstand and get all the information you want, and if that doesn't help you get a roadmap, and if that doesn't help you, hire a Hertz car.

Dr. HYNEK. Maybe they don't know this.

The CHAIRMAN. If the Martians don't know this by this time they will never know it.

Spying on this country is so simple, I cannot understand why the Russians or anybody wants to put something up in the air to spy on this country, when they have got so many avenues we don't police.

Dr. HYNEK. No comment on that, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, you ought to comment on it.

Dr. Chamberlain, we will hear from you.

Dr. CHAMBERLAIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I really have no questions, but I will say the sightings in Michigan were near my area, but not within it. I am pleased to hear your recommendation and to have the Secretary's statement that he intends to implement it.

I am further comforted to know he is giving it further thought and he is going to, at such time as your recommendation is implemented, we are going to have a panel that will consider these things in depth, not just in town for a day, with a cursory look, and disposing of it, because I feel we have other scientific achievements and advances, and that there is going to be a growing importance of surveillance of this phenomena.

I would say, further, the people in our area are concerned about this. There has been considerable responsible editorial comment in our newspapers. It should not be "poo-pooed," as you say.

I am pleased to have your statement.

And, Mr. Chairman, I thank you for having this hearing, and these people in to put some attention on this matter. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Governor Stafford. Governor Stafford, you are from Vermont, how close is this to your district?

Mr. STAFFORD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to comment on that.

Mr. Bates has pointed out there have been UFO sightings in New Hampshire, Vermont not to be outdone last week has had sightings there, also, some within 16 miles of my hometown.

The CHAIRMAN. That is getting awfully close.

Mr. STAFFORD. Yes, sir.

Since our States of Vermont and New Hampshire are known as the twin States, Mr. Chairman, this may be simply a case of bad navigation on the part of the UFO's, although some of us think it may be if they are extraterrestrial they are simply looking for a warmer climate than New Hampshire possesses. But in any event, in seriousness, the people in Vermont are very much concerned over the sightings that have occurred in our State, and reputable people have seen phenomenon which they cannot understand.

I would simply hope that the Secretary of the Air Force and the doctor could assure me that if these sightings have not already been evaluated, that in the course of investigation and deliberations they will be.

The CHAIRMAN. I hope if you come in contact with any of them you don't have to tell them where South Carolina is.

Mr. Hébert is next.

Mr. HÉBERT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

While these objects have not been seen in my district, I just want to prepare myself, because after next election day I might have seen some of them.

Doctor, have you conferred with Mr. Ray Walston on this subject matter?

Dr. HYNEK. No, sir.

Mr. HÉBERT. Does that ring a bell with you, Mr. Ray Walston?

Dr. HYNEK. No, sir.

Mr. HÉBERT. It does not ring a bell? He is the most authoritative man in the country on space. He appears in every home every Sunday night, he is "My Favorite Martian."

Dr. HYNEK. Oh. [Laughter.]

Mr. HÉBERT. He has an antenna out of his head, too.

Dr. HYNEK. I think I have been talking to the wrong people.

Mr. HÉBERT. He can shed a lot of light on the subject. I just wanted to direct your attention to that.

That is all, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Hall, you are next after Mr. Price.

Mr. PRICE. Doctor, if in fact they exist and are from outer space, don't we have have a tracking system that now does a real competent job tracking every satellite in outer space so we know every one that is launched somewhere else, and as they circle in outer space we have a record of each of these, do we not?

Dr. HYNEK. It is my understanding that we do. This is the point I made earlier.

Mr. PRICE. If they did travel in outer space there would be a record somewhere of their travels in outer space?

Dr. HYNEK. I would certainly think so, and this, of course, is I think one of the most potent arguments against extraterrestial visitation by intelligences, unless they were so superintelligent they knew how to evade completely our surveillances. I think this would be pretty difficult.

Mr. PRICE. As they left their normal orbit they could be tracked and followed?

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir.

Mr. PRICE. As they left the orbit?

Dr. HYNEK. To the best of my understanding, they certainly could be.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Hall.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to thank the Secretary and his distinguished guests for this, and say for some time we have even had space conventions down in the Ozarks, in the last 13 years, and it would seem obvious to me in view of the report today those who take trips by the use of hullucinatory drugs are almost synonymous with the number of space sightings we have had reported here today, namely, in the order of 10,000. To me it indicates a decrease in the mores and the fiber of those who would subject themselves to hullucinatory influences in the first place.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Stratton?

Mr. STRATTON. You mentioned something from Life magazine, Mr. Chairman. There were two pictures in Life magazine I think we would like an explanation of. One of them was a red object which was clearly visible in the photograph. The other were two lights, I think, taken in Sidney Harbor, one at one position and one at another, and then there was the third photograph. I wonder if the Doctor could give us what the explanation is of these?

Dr. HYNEK. Well, sir, unless one has the original negative, there is very little photoanalysis that can be done. It is said a picture is worth a thousand words, but I think in this case it is the other way around, because generally it has been our experience, and I think Major Quintanilla will bear me out, that when we do have hoaxes they very frequently are accompanied by photographs.

Mr. STRATTON. I appreciate it is possible to doctor up negatives.

Let me put it the other way around. Have these three incidents which are reported photographically in Life magazine been examined by you, and, if so, what are your findings with regard to them?

Dr. HYNEK. No, sir; they have not been examined by me, because I do not have the original negatives.

Mr. STRATTON. Are these incidents listed in the list that you have compiled, and which the Secretary has told us 95 percent are explainable?

Dr. HYNEK. No, sir. These particular pictures are not in my list since I don't know enough about them.

Mr. STRATTON. Doctor, I would suggest since these have had very prominent circulation, in a magazine of some prominence in the country, that we ought to examine these particular things and determine whether they are hoaxes or not. If anything is disturbing the American people, I would assume a picture of this kind would be disturbing in just the same way that Life's story of what happened to some dogs up in Baltimore has now resulted in legislation being recommended to the House.

You have no explanation or haven't looked into the series of photographs that appear on pages 26 and 27 of Life magazine, and pages 24 and 25?

Dr. HYNEK. I just learned of the Life article last week.

Mr. STRATTON. Is that correct, Doctor?

Dr. HYNEK. That is correct, I have not examined the photographs and information published by Life.

Mr. STRATTON. Has anybody examined them in the Air Force?

Major QUINTANILLA. Mr. Stratton, we have asked for the negatives of those pictures, but the citizens will not turn the negatives over to the Air Force. You cannot force them to turn them over to the Air Force.

Mr. STRATTON. They turned them over to Life magazine, haven't they?

Major QUINTANILLA. You will have to ask them; I don't know.

Mr. STRATTON. What has Life got?

Major QUINTANILLA. I don't know, sir.

Mr. STRATTON. How can you have examined this without finding out what Life has?

Major QUINTANILLA. What is that, sir?

Mr. STRATTON. How can you have examined these particular instances without finding out what Life has?

Major QUINTANILLA. The Air Force has not investigated these instances, sir, and the photographs have not been examined because the negatives have never been turned over to the Air Force.

Mr. STRATTON. You have not been in touch with Life magazine to find out what they have?

Major QUINTANILLA. No, sir; we have not.

Mr. STRATTON. Don't you think it might be well to undertake to make an effort to find out whether Life has the negatives, for example, or whether they have been in touch with the individuals concerned?

Major QUINTANILLA. Yes, sir.

Mr. STRATTON. Well, I think, Mr. Secretary, as I just said, I am very much impressed with the doctor's statement, and with yours, but this kind of thing in Life magazine makes it appear that there is something there, and you say that you have examined these things, and there is nothing there, and I think that you ought to have examined this so that we can have an explanation of these particular phenomena.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me say something.

We cannot ask the Secretary to look into every magazine that is published, or every periodical that comes out of everybody's printing press. Now, it seems to me like Life magazine is not exempted or excluded, if they are as interested as they appear to be in this magazine, that comes to my office free, and which I seldom look into—that is my responsibility, I have other things to do—it looks to me like these people who give such great dissemination to these things would be interested in seeing what the DOD has, without imposing on the Secretary of Defense the responsibility of tracking down everything that comes out of everybody's camera. I do not know why we should im-

pose on the Secretary the requirement to track down Life magazine and say give me your negatives, give me your reasons. Is this what you want?

Mr. STRATTON. Mr. Chairman, it was my understanding we were asking this question because many people had been somewhat concerned by these reports in recent days, including the distinguished minority leader in the House.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. STRATTON. And it does seem to me when a national magazine that has as much influence as Life has, prints some photographic—what purports to be photographic—pieces of evidence of these objects, we ought to if we are going to allay the concern of these people who have started this investigation by our committee in the first place, that we ought to have an answer to it.

The CHAIRMAN. I think so, too, but I don't think we should criticize the Secretary for not having done it.

Mr. Secretary, here is what I am going to request you do. You get in touch with Life magazine and request them to furnish you with this information that Mr. Stratton has brought to your attention, or any other magazine, and report back to this committee.

Secretary BROWN. We will be glad to do so.

The CHAIRMAN. I am sure Life magazine would be eager to do this. Mr. Stratton, I think you are wise in suggesting it, but what I didn't want to do is to unwittingly criticize the Secretary for not having done it.

Now, Mr. Secretary, will you do it?

Secretary BROWN. We will do it, Mr. Chairman, and we will I think continue to follow our ground rules—

The CHAIRMAN. You get those negatives if you can and turn them over to the doctor, and I want a report on it.

Mr. STRATTON. Mr. Chairman, I have one more question. May I say I wouldn't dream of criticizing the Secretary, he and I are good friends, and he knows I am only trying to be helpful.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, and I know he cherishes your friendship, and so do I.

Mr. STRATTON. The other item that has really led to all this concern today are these sightings in Michigan. The Secretary has given us a report, but I have only had a chance to skim over it. The doctor here a moment ago commented with respect to these people in Wisconsin that only two or three people in the area had seen the phenomenon, and wasn't it surprising that a lot of people who must have been around didn't see it.

If I understand the newspaper accounts correctly, the thing that is unique about the Michigan sightings is that a lot of people in the area saw it, and the girls in the dormitory apparently sat around for hours watching it, and people came and went, and all saw whatever it was.

Now, I wonder if you could give us in a nutshell what the explanation of this is? Marsh gas is what I understand is the explanation.

Could you tell us, doctor, in a few words the gist of what you discovered out there that you have reported here?

Dr. HYNEK. I will be happy to. I conducted a detailed inquiry into the two reported sightings at Dexter and Hillsdale, Mich. Of the 50 to 60 people who reported having seen one or the other of these I talked with about 32 persons.

The CHAIRMAN. How many, doctor?

Dr. HYNEK. With about 32 people. I talked with some of these briefly, but spoke with at least 15 persons in considerable detail.

These two sightings, although separated by some 65 miles, were a localized phenomenon. They were in the swamp area. No individual that I talked to, and no group of persons, could agree that they has seen anything either enter or leave the swamp. There were several isolated reports by people who said that yes, they saw a bright light come, but they could not get any general support or concurrence on this, from the others. Witnesses did agree that they saw a glow, and red, yellow, and green lights in the swamp area in both cases. So I said to myself, "What is common in swamps?" And I researched this question with the aid of several professors at the University of Michigan. They have been very helpful to me in this, since an astronomer doesn't know about swamps; he usually has his eyes a little higher than that. They informed me, and I later found in several books, that marsh gas, resulting from the spontaneous igniting in air of such gases as CH_4, methane, H_2S, PH_3, phosphine, and particularly important, P_2H_4, an impurity in phosphine, is a common occurrence and produces what appears to be glowing lights of different colors. Since then I have had several letters from people saying "What are they getting all excited about in Michigan, I have seen these things since I have been a kid on the farm." As these gases are ignited, they can produce red, yellow, and green glows. There is nothing mysterious about these colors.

The lighting goes out here, and goes on here, thus giving the impression of motion. The light was moving smoothly, they said, not following the train which was bumpy, and they also rose some distance and came down. They were reportedly observed for a period of 2½ to 3 hours.

In a book, "Light and Color in the Open Air," it is pointed out that swamp lights, commonly known as will-o'-the-wisp, fox light, and so forth, can be observed for several hours, sometimes all night.

And the conditions were just right for it in Michigan. In both cases, the winds were reasonably calm. Had there been high winds, it is unlikely these glows would have taken place.

Furthermore, Michigan had experienced an unusually mild winter. They tell me there wasn't much snow. However, the swamp had been covered by ice.

Now, in a swamp rotting vegetation produces these marsh gases. When a thaw comes, it seems entirely logical to me, that these gases would bubble up, and be spontaneously ignited, and you would see these things. To me it is a logical explanation. I said in my press release I couldn't prove it in a court of law but it seems to me to be a very logical explanation.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, Mr. Ichord.

Then I will come over to the other side.

Mr. ICHORD. Let me first differentiate, Mr. Chairman, my position from the chairman, and Mrs. Rivers, and also Mr. Nedzi.

I am neither a believer nor a disbeliever. I am from Missouri, and I have got to be shown.

The CHAIRMAN. You go right ahead.

Mr. ICHORD. I would like to ask, along the line Mr. Stratton was inquiring, how close was the Life magazine article to April Fool's Day?

Mr. Chairman, one of the members of the committee staff has handed me a question that I think should be in the record.

Doctor, are you familiar with the NICAP, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomenon?

Dr. HYNEK. I would think anyone who has been looking into UFO's for the past many years as I have couldn't help be acquainted with their work.

Mr. ICHORD. What is the makeup of this committee?

Dr. HYNEK. It is called a committee, but it is a rather large group of civilians over the country, as I underdstand it, who volunteer to investigate the cases.

Mr. ICHORD. It has no official standing, then?

Dr. HYNEK. No official governmental standing; no, sir.

Mr. ICHORD. This committee does not always agree with your explanation of the various sightings?

Dr. HYNEK. I believe that is correct.

Mr. ICHORD. How many, Doctor, of the 10,000-plus cases, have there been photographs allegedly taken of UFO's?

Dr. HYNEK. In a very few cases. This is another thing which bothers me.

Mr. ICHORD. Can you give an idea of how many?

Dr. HYNEK. How many?

Major, would you venture a guess?

Major QUINTANILLA. I don't know.

Dr. HYNEK. I would say only about 1 percent, or less, of the cases reported have included photographs.

Mr. ICHORD. Then I take it you can't tell me how many of these photograph cases have not been explained by you, since you can't tell me how many photographs have been taken?

Dr. HYNEK. This is right. But the point is that you cannot make a scientific analysis of a photograph unless you have the negative.

As the major has pointed out, time and again when we request the negatives, they are not forthcoming.

Sometimes other groups get them.

Mr. ICHORD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, Mr. Clancy.

Mr. CLANCY. Mr. Chairman, just one short question for the doctor.

Have any of the 5 percent of the unexplained cases been observed on radar screens?

Secretary BROWN. I don't know the answer to that one.

Major QUINTANILLA. No, sir.

Mr. CLANCY. What percentage of the reported incidents have been reported on radar screens?

Major QUINTANILLA. About 1.5 percent, sir.

Mr. CLANCY. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Schweiker, we are finishing up now.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

First I would like to request the Beaver County photograph be included in the Air Force investigation, the one that appeared in Look magazine, and was verified by the Beaver County Times. I hope that will be included.

The CHAIRMAN. We will get an Air Force report on that, too.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Do I understand that you said none of the unexplained objects have been sighted on radar?

Major QUINTANILLA. No, sir; I said 1.5 percent.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. No, the first question he asked you was, have any of the unexplained objects been sighted on radar. I thought you said "No" to that just a couple of minutes ago.

Major QUINTANILLA. That is correct. We have no radar cases which are unexplained.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. All right.

Let's go back to the story Mr. Bates was talking about, Exeter, N.H., the one Mr. Fuller has written about in several magazines.

I understand this is an unexplained sighting on your part, is that correct?

Major QUINTANILLA. That is correct, sir.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. He specifically says in his story—and I quote his words now—

Confidential comments made to me by the Coast Guardsmen and military in the area support the laymen's testimony and confirm the reports of radar sightings and scrambling by jet fighters from Pease Air Force Base.

Major QUINTANILLA. No, sir; that is not correct. We have no radar information on that sighting. No jet fighters were scrambled.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Let me ask you this: In the Pease Air Force Base, you had an investigation by Major Griffin, and a Lieutenant Brant, is that correct?

Major QUINTANILLA. Sir?

Mr. SCHWEIKER. In the situation at Exeter, N.H., did you have a report filed to you folks by Major Griffin and Lieutenant Brant?

Major QUINTANILLA. Yes, sir; we did.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Could we have copies of their raw report?

Major QUINTANILLA. Yes, sir; you may.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. What were their conclusions?

Major QUINTANILLA. They couldn't explain it.

Secretary BROWN. They sent them over to us.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. They made no mention of planes scrambling from Pease Air Force Base?

Major QUINTANILLA. There were aircraft in the area on regularly scheduled missions, but they were not scrambled for the purpose of observing the reported UFO's.

Secretary BROWN. Two of my staff have pointed out to me, Mr. Schweiker, that Pease AFB has no fighters; it is a SAC bomber base, and is not a fighter base.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any other questions, Mr. Schweiker?

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Yes, sir.

I would like to ask the doctor:

You said to have some bona fide sightings we need a lot of people and a point-to-point situation and some other things. Doesn't the Exeter, N.H. sighting, at least as reported—I want to point out that in this sighting there were several policemen, including the chief of police and several news people who all reported the same phenomena, 60 people. Doesn't that meet your criteria; a lot of people saw it, it was a point-to-point situation, at least this observer says there were

radar sights. This apparently seems to be in disagreement at the present time.

Wouldn't that be a classification of what you said we don't have?

Dr. HYNEK. No, sir. I said there were several cases where we had a lot of witnesses. It does not have to be a point-to-point situation. When an airliner leaves New York for San Francisco, it is seen over Ohio, Nebraska, and so forth. These sightings were confined to a relatively narrow area. I want to know what happened to these objects. Why weren't they seen over Fort Wayne, Ind.?

Mr. SCHWEIKER. The fact one officer reports he went to the scene after someone else sighted it, and returned back to the same point, there it was, according to the police officer's testimony.

Dr. HYNEK. Yes, sir, but it was in the same area. We don't know what it was. I would like to know what it was.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. One of the other witnesses in this story—and all I have to go on is what the reporter's writing says, they did, in fact see it go from point to point, while they were watching it.

Dr. HYNEK. Within a relatively narrow area. But I don't recollect whether they saw it leave for distant points. One of the things that seems to be so odd about this particular case is that we did not find horizontal trajectories over any length, as you would expect from a craft.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Is the Beaver County sighting unexplained or is that explainable, this photograph I referred to?

Major QUINTANILLA. Is this Mr. Lucci's photo?

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Yes, sir.

Major QUINTANILLA. We have asked Mr. Lucci to submit the negative for photo analysis, but he has refused to do so.

Dr. HYNEK. It needs a double exposure, as we can judge from the print.

Major QUINTANILLA. We asked the gentleman to submit the negative for analysis and he refuses to do so.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. On what basis?

Major QUINTANILLA. I don't know, sir. We requested the negative.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. He submitted it to the Beaver Times. They published it. Maybe these people are a little skeptical about turning over negatives without some assurance.

I think we ought to look into that a little bit, because the newspaper claims they saw the negatives, examined by their photographic experts, and they are authentic.

Major QUINTANILLA. I have a copy of our letter in my files asking Mr. Lucci to submit the negative for analysis, and he declined to do so. That is all I can say.

Mr. SCHWEIKER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Schweiker.

We will go to Mr. Leggett.

Mr. LEGGETT. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Wilson and I want to go on record at this time that we do not believe; we are intelligent people.

Mr. BATES. Which Wilson?

The CHAIRMAN. We are going to adjourn, and we are going to meet again at 2:30. If there is no reason to hold Dr. Hynek and Major Quintanilla, we will let them be excused. Some people say whenever you all have gone we are going to get down here in executive session

and you, Dr. Brown, are going to tell us—here is what I meant to tell you—and this is far from the truth.

I know of nothing else to ask him. I think we have explored everything.

Mr. Stratton, have you had any afterthoughts?

Mr. STRATTON. Just one question.

Was there not a sighting, back it seems to me in 1947, when an object was observed on radar, either at National Airport or Bolling, both coming in and going out? It seems to me there was also a visual sighting that went along with that.

Do you—Major Quintanilla, I don't know how long you have been following this, but is this in your records at all?

Major QUINTANILLA. I am sure that if the sighting was reported to the Air Force it is on record, but I am not aware of this particular one, sir.

Mr. STRATTON. It seems to me both the radar and the reported visual sighting were relatively in agreement. I just wondered if you were familiar with it?

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Stratton.

Are there any other questions from any other member of the committee?

Mr. ICHORD. We will be back here at 2:30?

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will reconvene at 2:30 for the purpose of taking up 412.

Dr. Brown, we have no more requirement for the major and Dr. Hynek, and the resumption of the hearing this afternoon will be in executive session.

It will have to do with 412. We will take up where we left off.

Dr. Brown, if you and General McConnell will be back at 2:30, we will meet. We don't plan to have a meeting Thursday, because I think a lot of members will have gone, if we finish on Wednesday. But we do want to meet this afternoon, and tomorrow, and maybe tomorrow afternoon.

Then I think we may be able to finish with Dr. Brown before the recess.

At 2:30, Dr. Brown. And I want to thank you, Dr. Brown, for producing this information.

(Whereupon, at 11:55 a.m. the committee was adjourned to reconvene at 2:30 p.m. of the same day.)

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