

STAFF STUDY - 28 September 1959

K-43-6012-7
28 Sep 1959 5 Feb 1960
X

RETURN TO

USAF Historical Archives
ASI(ASHAF-A)
Maxwell AFB, Ala 36112

7-3745 - 369

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SMC

UNCLASSIFIED

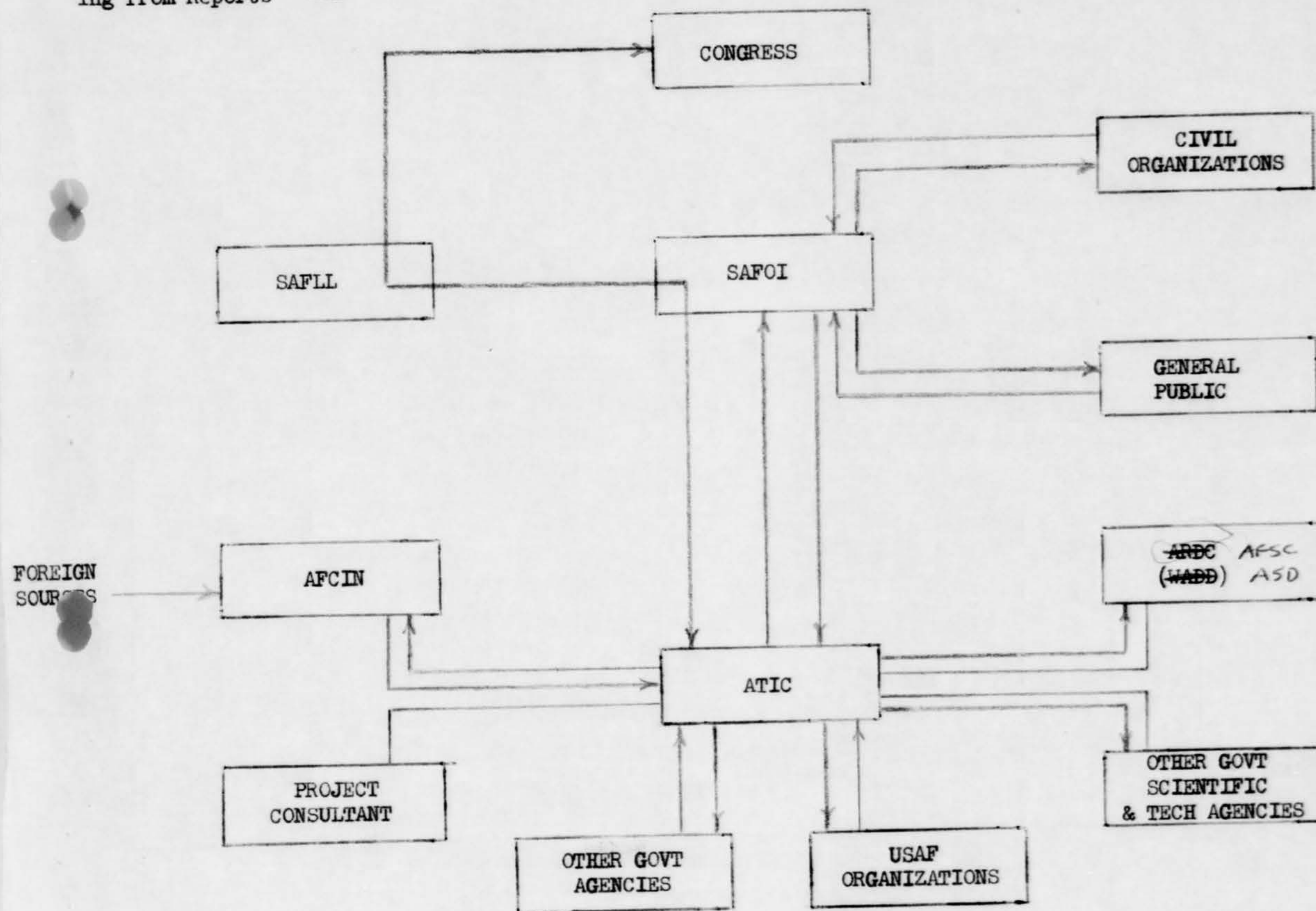
UFO STATISTICS FOR CALENDAR YEARS 1956, 1957, 1958

	1 Jan - 31 Dec 1956		1 Jan - 31 Dec 1957		1 Jan - 31 Dec 1958		TOTAL	%
	# OBJ	%	# OBJ	%	# OBJ	%		
Astro	205	26.3	326	27.7	197	33.4	728	28.50
Aircraft	192	24.6	286	24.2	110	18.6	588	23.00
Balloons	203	26.0	209	17.7	68	11.5	480	19.12
Insuff Data	109	14.1	169	14.4	104	17.6	382	14.96
Other	52	6.8	168	14.3	95	16.1	315	12.33
Satellites					11	1.9	11	0.44
Unidentified	<u>17</u>	2.2	<u>20</u>	1.7	<u>5</u>	.9	<u>42</u>	1.65
	778		1178		590		2546	

LEGEND

Cong Requests —
 Reports —
 Analysis —
 Information Result-
 ing from Reports —

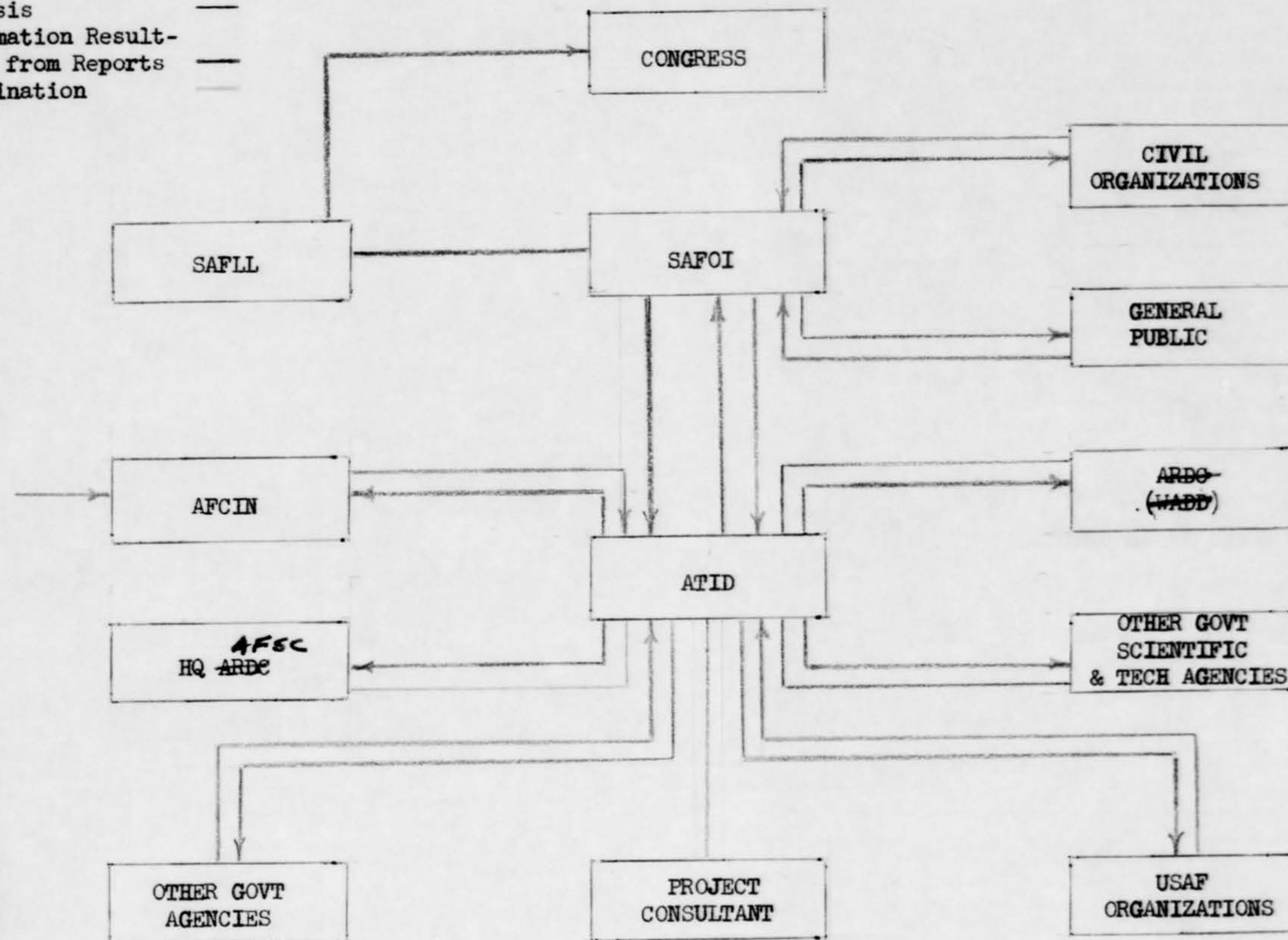
FLOW CHART (CURRENT)



LEGEND

Cong Requests
Reports
Analysis
Information Result-
ing from Reports
Coordination

UFO PROJECT FLOW CHART (PROPOSED)



AFSC
ASD

HEADQUARTERS
AIR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Andrews Air Force Base
Washington 25, D.C.



5 FEB 1960

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

RDRRC

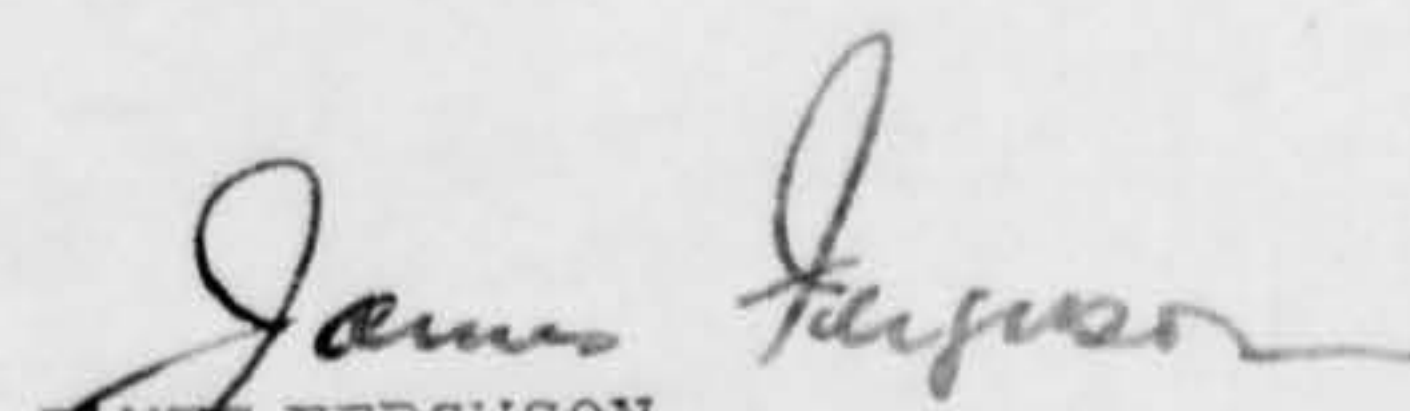
SUBJECT:

Transfer of USAF Aerial Phenomena Program

TO:

HQ USAF (AFCIN)
Wash 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to your letter of 7 December 1959, subject as above, and to our interim reply of 23 December 1959.
2. Our review of the USAF Aerial Phenomena Program, including the AFCRC Study, has been completed. We find that more than half of the program relates to phenomena of a non-scientific nature. The remaining portion, while possibly associated with scientific processes, does not include qualitative data and is therefore of limited scientific value. Considering the quality of data available from other sources, exploitation of the aerial phenomena observations would not significantly enhance our research programs.
3. For the reason stated above, I do not believe that the transfer of the USAF Aerial Phenomena Program to ARDC is in the best interest of the Air Force.


JAMES FERGUSON
Major General, USAF
Vice Commander

Copy to:
AFCRC

Director Aerospace Studies Inst ATTN: Archives Branch Maxwell AFB, Alabama	RETURN TO:	K243.6012-7 28 Sep 59 - Mar 1960
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To be returned to 4E4 after coordination

SUBJECT: (U) Transfer of USAF Aerial Phenomena Program

TO: Lt Gen Bernard A. Schriever
Air Research-Development Command
Andrews AFB
Washington 25, D.C.

1. Reference Air Force Regulation Nr 200-2, Subject, "Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)," dated 14 September 1959.

2. In 1947 the USAF assumed responsibility for a program of investigation and analysis of unidentified flying objects over the United States. This program was designed to determine if these phenomena represented a threat to our national security. At its inception the program was directed toward determining first, if these phenomena were hostile, and second, had any possible scientific value. A tertiary objective was to determine the nature of each of these reported objects.

3. With the passage of time there has been no indication that these phenomena were hostile or posed a threat to the security of the United States. After review of the twelve year record of the UFO program it is clear that the program has developed along lines progressively more remote from intelligence interests. However during the life of the project there have been indications of possible scientific value. Our experience with this program indicates exploitation may be desirable in the following scientific and/or technical areas:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Slow moving and erratic meteors. | e. Radar. |
| b. Fireballs. | f. Static electricity. |
| c. Space vehicles (general). | g. Meteorology. |
| d. Missiles. | h. Upper air physics. |

4. It is my opinion that any future value to the Air Force lies in exploitation of these phenomena for scientific purposes rather than as an intelligence function. With your concurrence I propose to initiate action to transfer the aerial phenomena program which now involves three full-time USAF personnel and one scientific consultant to such agency within your command that you may deem appropriate.

COORDINATION

AFCIN-4E4	<u>RMShoop</u>	DATE	<u>1 Dec 59</u>
AFCIN-4E	<u>[Signature]</u>	DATE	<u>1 Dec 59</u>
AFCIN-4	_____	DATE	_____

AFCIN-4

(U) Transmittal of Letter

AFCIN (Major General Walsh)

The attached letter is forwarded for your approval and signature.

1 Atch
Letter to ARDC

File - 4E49

SUBJECT: (U) Transfer of USAF Aerial Phenomena Program

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Air Research-Development Command
Andrews AFB
Washington 25, D.C.

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REFERRAL NOTICE								DATE 7 March 1960																																																	
SUBJECT (or identification) (Uncl) Transfer of USAF Aerial Phenomena Program								SUSPENSE DATE None																																																	
FROM: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, PLA																																																									
TO: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-X</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-1</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-2</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-3</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-XA</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-XN</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-Y</td> <td style="width: 15%;">AFCIN-4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AFCIN-X1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AFCIN-X2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AFCIN-X3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AFCIN-X4</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AFCIN-X5</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>										AFCIN-X	AFCIN-1	AFCIN-2	AFCIN-3	AFCIN-XA	AFCIN-XN	AFCIN-Y	AFCIN-4	AFCIN-X1								AFCIN-X2								AFCIN-X3								AFCIN-X4								AFCIN-X5							
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INFORMATION AND/OR FILE	PREPARATION OF REPLY (for signature of Deputy, ACS/Intelligence)	FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT (indicate name and extension)																																																							
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DIRECT REPLY (with copy to AFCIN-X)	INFORMATION COPIES FORWARDED TO:																																																								
COMMENTS (Use reverse and blank sheets if more space is required) 1. The attached letter from Hq, ARDC, dtd 5 Feb 60, subject as above, is forwarded for your information and continuing appropriate action. 2. ARDC has concluded that it is not in the best interests of the USAF for ARDC to assume responsibility for the USAF Aerial Phenomena Program. AARON J. BOGGS Colonel, USAF AFCIN-PIA 1 Atch Ltr ARDC 5 Feb 60 Trans USAF Aerial Phenom Prog																																																									
COORDINATION (Initials, Last name and Grade)		SIGNATURE																																																							

D R A F T

28 September 1959

SUBJECT: UFO Program

TO: AFCIN (General Walsh)

1. Since 1947 the Air Force, and more specifically the ATIC, has been responsible for a program designed to determine if unidentified flying objects were a national threat or had any scientific value. This program at its inception was designed to determine if UFO's were hostile, and had any possible scientific value. A tertiary objective was to determine the nature of each of these objects. With the passage of time the absence of positive indication that these objects were hostile or had any scientific value, and the coming of the UFOites the third objective began to take on more stature. Today this objective has grown to such an extent that we are fast reaching the point where the tail may wag the dog. This is a possible great danger to the Air Force prestige and certainly a danger to the intelligence community.

2. The attached study offers as a solution transfer of the UFO project to AFDC with aims toward eventual complete elimination as a special project. I concur with the views outlined in the study that such a move would be beneficial to both the intelligence community and to the UFO program. Disassociation with intelligence would do much to strip the aura of mystery from the UFO program, and the same disassociation would eliminate a project from intelligence which is more or less open to public inspection.

3. It is suggested that the attached study be approved and forwarded to the Air Force Chief of Staff with a recommendation for consideration and possible implementation.

CHARLES B. DOUGHER
Major General, USAF
AFCIN-4

1 Atch:
Study by AFCIN-4E4
28 Sep 59

STUDY BY AF CIN-4E4
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS - PROJECT #5771 (BLUE BOOK)

PROBLEM:

28 September 1959

1. Since the fall of 1947, the Air Force has conducted a project designed to determine if unidentified flying objects constitute a threat to national security, or if they offer any scientific and/or technical information which would be beneficial. This program, far from the original intent, has become an unproductive burden upon the Air Force, and specifically the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center. The program requires financing and manning and has resulted in unfavorable publicity for the Air Force, and again more specifically the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center. The Air Force needs to eliminate this costly, and to date unproductive, program. Complete elimination is desirable, but it should certainly be disassociated with the intelligence community where it is extremely dangerous to prestige.

FACTORS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

2. As of 30 June 1959, after 12 years of investigating and analyzing every unidentified flying object which was brought to its attention, the Air Force has accumulated a file of 6152 cases. The number of reports number better than 8000, for many objects were reported by more than one witness and from different sources (Tab - A). (From this vast experience with UFO's, the Air Force has not had the slightest evidence that these objects constitute a threat to national security, or are space vehicles controlled by man or alien beings from another world; nor has any real scientific and/or technical knowledge resulted.)

3. There are 50 private UFO organizations in the ZI whose members exploit unidentified flying objects for financial gain, religious or other more devious reasons at the expense of the Air Force (Tab - B). There have been instances when the members of these organizations have actually competed with the Air Force during the investigation of a case. When not satisfied with the Air Force handling, these private investigators have, on occasion, incited the witness to complain to their Congressmen. These complaints have resulted in Congressional hearings, unfavorable publicity, and always an increase of the work load imposed upon the ATIC (TAB -C).

4. The methods by which UFO reports are forwarded is by TWX or telephone from military installations, and by letter or phone from civil organizations or private citizens (TAB - D). This, when compared with the reaction time necessary for survival in event of an attack using modern weapons, is ridiculous. The ATIC interest in these objects, in view of the foregoing, can only be its intelligence or scientific and/or technical significance after successful defense action has been accomplished by another agency.

5. Approximately 80% of the effort in the UFO program is directed toward the public relations objective.

6. The ATIC has a staff of three people who work full time on the UFO program, and there are two at SAFIS who spend considerable time with the

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 OFFICE OF RECORD

JWS

10 November 1959

AFOIN-4

AFCIN-4E

AFOIN-4E Program

General Dougher

AFOIN-4E

1. It is my impression that General Walsh is interested in producing the maximum of aerospace intelligence with the minimum expenditure of funds and utilization of manpower. Toward that goal we have already witnessed the necessity for reducing ATIC efforts in those areas indirectly applicable to the aerospace problem.

2. I have conducted a review of the functions of AFCIN-4E, and feel that the time is now upon us when we must seriously consider whether to continue performing the UFO mission. Since 1947 the Air Force, and more specifically ATIC, has been responsible to determine the nature of unidentified flying objects. At that time it was felt that the assignment should be made to intelligence since it was possible that these objects might pose a threat to the national security. After 12 years experience ATIC has yet to uncover any positive evidence that UFO's constitute any such threat.

3. The attached study clearly indicates that this program has cost us much in both manpower and money. It further points out that at this time it does not properly belong in the intelligence community, but rather it should be regarded as a scientific phenomenon, coming within the purview of ARDC.

4. If after reviewing the study you concur, the attached letter to General Walsh will be prepared in final form.

AFOIN-4D

Philip G. Evans
 PHILIP G. EVANS

Colonel, USAF

AFCIN-4E

AFOIN-4E

2 Atchs:

1. Staff Study by 4E4
2. Proposed Ltr to Gen Walsh

If inclosure 1 is withdrawn (or not attached), the classification of this correspondence will be downgraded to Secret in accordance with AFR205-1.

AFOIN-4F

OTHERS

UNCLASSIFIED

PERM	
TEMP	
90 DAYS	
INITIAL	

1003829

program. In addition to these full time, or nearly full time people, there are a great number in the field who must meet the problems of this program on a day to day basis (TAB - G). Since 1947 the program has contracted the services of a scientific consultant in the person of Dr. J. Allen Hynek. The annual average for Dr. Hynek's services has been \$1500. In 1952 a statistical study of the program was performed by a civilian contractor. This study cost the Air Force approximately \$100,000. In addition to the above listed expenses must be added the operating expenses which can be directly attributed to the UFO program. For all of this expense, to date we have only bought a small amount of good will from a small minority of the public.

DISCUSSIONS:

7. Immediate elimination of the program. To do this would result in destroying every advantage gained in the past 12 years. It would not only supply fuel for the confirmed UFOites, but would also provide avenues for propagandists. In addition to arousing the confirmed UFO believers, it could encourage the wrath of those citizens who took no active part, but trusted their security in the fact that the Air Force was on the job. While the eventual elimination is to be sought as a goal, it must be understood that the public must first be conditioned in order that they be receptive of the idea. Disbandment of the program as a project assigned to a specific agency by no means infers that the Air Force will not continue this effort. Every agency in the Air Force, as a matter of doing its part toward accomplishment of the overall Air Force mission, would give proper attention to reports of any objects which may prove hostile or of intelligence and/or scientific and technical value. The only objective which would suffer as a result of eliminating this program would be the public relations aspects.

8. Remove the UFO program from the intelligence community with plans for eventual complete elimination following a program of public education. By moving the project out of the intelligence community several problems associated with the program would be eased. First, the public tends to exaggerate the importance of any operation which is in any way connected with military intelligence. Second, it would eliminate as an intelligence responsibility a program which is open to public inspection. Third, the program, in the absence of potential national threat and scientific returns, has been one mainly of public relations. The program could be moved to the Washington area and made the direct responsibility of one of the branches of the SAFIS. The long range plan to educate the public would use the media of the press, television, radio, and possibly movies, to inform the public of the various aspects of the program. The public should be made aware of the phenomena and/or man-made objects which have been misidentified and reported as UFO's. Within the limits of security, all rocket, satellite launching, etc., should be made public knowledge. The public should be made aware that the Air Force will still be accomplishing the two major objectives of this program; determining if UFO's constitute a national threat, and if they are of any scientific and/or technical value as a routine part of its overall mission. A study program should be undertaken by the persons conducting the UFO project which would be more than the pure statistical study which was accomplished for Special Report #14. This study should make specific correlations to determine, if possible, the cause for

surges of reports (this would serve a dual purpose by allowing anticipation of surges and also possible prevention by known causes). The study should contain specific information as to the types of phenomena and/or man-made objects which have been responsible for the sightings. The report should also give heavy consideration to the psychological aspects of the program. Removal of the program from the intelligence community would not mean that the objectives of the program have changed, but only that more discretion will be given to which cases are possibly of intelligence significance, or are of possible scientific value. Liaison between the UFO office and the appropriate sub-division of AFCIN, ADC, or ARDC would tend to maintain the high level of these objectives. A rated officer with a technical background and intelligence experience should be assigned as OIC of this program to allow a high degree of accomplishment in the analysis of the cases, to insure that scientifically significant cases will be recognized, and that cases which may have intelligence value will be given the proper attention. The main disadvantages of this plan are the relatively great expense which may be incurred during the initial phases of the public education program, moving of the UFO office away from the scientific and technical facilities of the AFIC and the WADC, and the loss of prestige which would result by removing the organization from the responsibility of an organization with scientific and technical capability to another whose main concern is public information. When viewed properly, it will be realized that the expense incurred in the public education program will more than pay for itself if this eventually leads to deactivation of the program. As for the scientific and technical assistance, this is available in the Washington, D. C. area from ARDC, NACA, etc.

9. A third solution is essentially the same as that outlined under paragraph eight. The only recommended change is that the UFO program be associated with an organization such as ARDC which has a scientific and technical capability. Liaison then would be accomplished between the UFO office and SAFIS, AFCIN, and ADC. This solution would do away with the problem of the possible loss of prestige which could result from the disassociation with an organization having scientific and technical capability while retaining all of the advantages.

CONCLUSION:

10. The best immediate solution to the UFO program is to disassociate the project with the intelligence community and to assign responsibility for the program to the ARDC with SAFIS, AFCIN, and ADC liaison. The program under ARDC guidance to be directed toward active public education and the eventual elimination of the program as a special project.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

11. It is recommended that this study be approved and forwarded to the ACS/I for consideration, with a recommendation that it be approved and forwarded to the Air Force Chief of Staff for consideration and possible implementation. Such approval to be acknowledged by authentication of the draft document which is attachment number one to this study.

RICHARD R. SHOOP
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4EH

STUDY BY AFCIN-4E4
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS PROGRAM
PROJECT #5771 (BLUE BOOK)

I. PROBLEM:

A. Examine the current unidentified flying objects program, as conducted by the United States Air Force, to determine its proper orientation within the Air Force structure.

II. FACTORS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

A. In 1947 the Air Force established a project whose purpose was to collect, collate, evaluate, and distribute to interested government agencies and contractors all information concerning sightings and phenomena in the atmosphere which could be construed to be of concern to national security. As of 30 June 1959, after 12 years of investigating and analyzing every unidentified flying object sighting brought to its attention, the Air Force has accumulated a file of 6152 cases. The total reports received number better than 8000, for many objects were reported from more than one source (TAB-A). From this vast experience with UFO's, the Air Force has not had the slightest evidence that these objects are a threat to national security or are space vehicles controlled by man or aliens from another world. This same experience has not revealed any scientific and/or technical information which would be beneficial to the United States.

B. The UFO program, far from its original intent of determining the intelligence and scientific and/or technical value of these objects, has seemingly acquired a primary objective of providing public information. This distortion, of what was a lesser objective, is probably due to the fact that public interest in the UFO has appeared to gain momentum each year since 1947. In the ZI there are 50 private UFO organizations whose members exploit unidentified flying objects for financial gain, or religious, or other more devious reasons (TAB-B). There have been instances when members of these organizations have actually competed with the Air Force during the investigation of a case. When not satisfied with Air Force handling, these private investigators have, on occasion, incited the witness to complain to their Congressmen. These complaints have resulted in Congressional hearings, unfavorable publicity, and an increase of the work load imposed upon ATIC (TAB-C).

C. The UFO project requires manpower and resources which ATIC might use more constructively on other programs. ATIC presently has a staff of three people who work full time on the UFO project, and several others who must allocate part of their time. In addition to these full time, or nearly full time people, there are a great number in the field who must meet the problems of this program on a day to day basis (TAB-G). Since 1948 the project has contracted the services of a scientific consultant

in the person of Dr. J. Allen Hynek. The annual average for Dr. Hynek's services has been \$1500. In 1952 a statistical study of the program was performed by a civilian contractor. This study cost the Air Force approximately . In addition to the foregoing expenses, the operating costs which can be directly attributed to the UFO program must be added.

III. DISCUSSION:

A. Several solutions to the problem of proper orientation of the UFO program are as follows:

1. Retain the program at ATIC and direct the major efforts associated with the program toward accomplishment of the original objectives. The major advantage of this solution is that the project has been assigned to the intelligence community since its birth and all Air Force experience in handling the program belongs to ATIC. There would be no requirement to establish new lines of communication and/or liaison. This solution would require no new directives and the sub-divisions of the Air Force are familiar with the present method of operation and know their responsibilities to the program. This solution has several disadvantages. The public tends to exaggerate the importance of any operation which is in any way associated with military intelligence. The UFO program is more or less open to public inspection, and the association of such a wide-open project with ATIC has a tendency to reduce the prestige of the intelligence community. The project requires manpower and resources which might be used more constructively on other programs.

2. Transfer the UFO project from the intelligence community to another agency of the Air Force which has a scientific and technical capability; i.e., Air Research and Development Command. Such a change would allow a fresh approach by an organization which would not be burdened by problems which are bred from familiarity. The scientific objectives of the project, in the absence of evidence that UFO's pose a threat to national security could possibly take on greater stature, and association with an agency such as ARDC could enhance this possibility. The UFO program would not suffer any loss of prestige due to its disassociation with the scientific capabilities of ATIC. There are certain disadvantages which could result from the reassignment of the UFO program. There would be a requirement for establishing new lines of communication and/or liaison, new directives, and for the sub-divisions of the Air Force becoming familiar with new operating procedures and responsibilities.

3. Transfer the UFO project to one of the sub-divisions of SAFIS. This solution would effect the transfer of the project to an agency which is presently responsible for the public information aspects of the program. Responsibility for the full program could probably be accomplished by expansion of the present office. The project would be assigned to an agency which has some familiarity with the program. A program of public education on the UFO program could best be conducted by SAFIS. There are some disadvantages however, since extensive coordination would be required

between the UFO office and AFCIN, ADC, and ARDC in order to accomplish the primary objectives of the project. There would also be a requirement for new directives, and the sub-divisions of the Air Force would have to become familiar with new responsibilities and a new method of operation. In addition, the UFO program could lose prestige due to its association with an agency which has no scientific capability.

B. Elimination of the direct association between the intelligence community and the UFO project would be mutually healthy. The intelligence community should not be burdened with this program which has such strong overtones of public relations. Also, it has been pointed out more than once during the 12 year life of this project that positive steps should be taken to strip this program of its aura of mystery. The disassociation with intelligence would do much to accomplish this aim because of the public's cloak and dagger attitude toward military intelligence. The UFO program to date has revealed no evidence which indicates these phenomena are a threat or potential threat to our national security. In the absence of such evidence the only possible positive gain from this project would be the scientific and/or technical knowledge which might be available. This objective would be within the scope of the normal mission of ARDC. If this project was moved to SAFIS, the primary objectives would be further subjugated and in time the UFO project would probably degenerate into a complete public relations program.

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. Assignment of the UFO project to an agency with a scientific capability; i.e. ARDC, is the most logical orientation of the program within the Air Force structure. When the UFO project was conceived in 1947, a major consideration was national security; therefore, its assignment to intelligence was very logical. Experience to date with the UFO has not revealed any evidence that these phenomena are a threat to national security, and their only possible value to the Air Force is scientific information. To enhance the success of this reassignment, the scientific objectives of the project should be more clearly defined.

V. ACTION RECOMMENDED:

A. It is recommended that this study be approved and the necessary steps taken for possible implementation. Such approval should be acknowledged by authentication of the draft document which is Attachment #1 to this study.

30 November 1959

D R A F T Ltr to General Schriever from General Walsh

1. In the fall of 1947 the United States Air Force took official notice of reports of unidentified flying objects. Responsibility for the UFO project was assigned to the Intelligence community.
2. The project as established was to determine first, if UFO's were hostile, second, had they any possible scientific value, and third, to determine the nature of each of these objects. After 12 years, 6152 cases, and more than 8000 reports, the Air Force has not discovered any evidence which would indicate that UFO's are inimical or pose a security threat in any way.
3. During the life of this project there have been indications of its possible scientific value. Dr. D. H. Robey of Convair-Astronautics, in his study on "Slow Moving Green Fireballs," uses UFO reports as possible substantiating evidence; Dr. Charles P. Olivier, President of The American Meteor Society, has on several occasions requested information from the Air Force to be used for his studies on "fireballs". Dr. Olivier claims the Air Force information is more complete than his own reports. The UFO files contain reports of cases which were analyzed as being due to rare scientific phenomena such as "ball lightning".
4. In the absence of a security threat from UFO's, it is my opinion that the project's value to the Air Force lies in exploitation of its scientific information. In order to accomplish this goal the UFO program should be transferred to ARDC, and its scientific objectives ~~more~~ clearly defined.

STUDY BY AFGIN-4E4
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS PROGRAM
PROJECT #5771 (BLUE BOOK)

I. PROBLEM:

A. Examine the current unidentified flying objects program, as conducted by the United States Air Force, to determine its proper orientation within the Air Force structure.

II. FACTORS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

A. In 1947 the Air Force established a project whose purpose was to collect, collate, evaluate, and distribute to interested government agencies and contractors all information concerning sightings and phenomena in the atmosphere which could be construed to be of concern to national security. As of 30 June 1959, after 12 years of investigating and analyzing every unidentified flying object sighting brought to its attention, the Air Force has accumulated a file of 6152 cases. The total reports received number better than 8000, for many objects were reported from more than one source (TAB-A). From this vast experience with UFO's, the Air Force has not had the slightest evidence that these objects are a threat to national security or are space vehicles controlled by man or aliens from another world. This same experience has not revealed any scientific and/or technical information which would be beneficial to the United States.

B. The UFO program, far from its original intent of determining the intelligence and scientific and/or technical value of these objects, has seemingly acquired a primary objective of providing public information. This distortion, of what was a lesser objective, is probably due to the fact that public interest in the UFO has appeared to gain momentum each year since 1947. In the ZI there are 50 private UFO organizations whose members exploit unidentified flying objects for financial gain, or religious, or other more devious reasons (TAB-B). There have been instances when members of these organizations have actually competed with the Air Force during the investigation of a case. When not satisfied with Air Force handling, these private investigators have, on occasion, incited the witness to complain to their Congressmen. These complaints have resulted in Congressional hearings, unfavorable publicity, and an increase of the work load imposed upon ATIC (TAB-C).

C. The UFO project requires manpower and resources which ATIC might use more constructively on other programs. ATIC presently has a staff of three people who work full time on the UFO project, and several others who must allocate part of their time. In addition to these full time, or nearly full time people, there are a great number in the field who must meet the problems of this program on a day to day basis (TAB-G). Since 1948 the project has contracted the services of a scientific consultant

in the person of Dr. J. Allen Hynek. The annual average for Dr. Hynek's services has been \$1500. In 1952 a statistical study of the program was performed by a civilian contractor. This study cost the Air Force approximately . In addition to the foregoing expenses, the operating costs which can be directly attributed to the UFO program must be added.

III. DISCUSSION:

A. Several solutions to the problem of proper orientation of the UFO program are as follows:

1. Retain the program at ATIC and direct the major efforts associated with the program toward accomplishment of the original objectives. The major advantage of this solution is that the project has been assigned to the intelligence community since its birth and all Air Force experience in handling the program belongs to ATIC. There would be no requirement to establish new lines of communication and/or liaison. This solution would require no new directives and the sub-divisions of the Air Force are familiar with the present method of operation and know their responsibilities to the program. This solution has several disadvantages. The public tends to exaggerate the importance of any operation which is in any way associated with military intelligence. The UFO program is more or less open to public inspection, and the association of such a wide-open project with ATIC has a tendency to reduce the prestige of the intelligence community. The project requires manpower and resources which might be used more constructively on other programs.

2. Transfer the UFO project from the intelligence community to another agency of the Air Force which has a scientific and technical capability; i.e., Air Research and Development Command. Such a change would allow a fresh approach by an organization which would not be burdened by problems which are bred from familiarity. The scientific objectives of the project, in the absence of evidence that UFO's pose a threat to national security could possibly take on greater stature, and association with an agency such as ARDC could enhance this possibility. The UFO program would not suffer any loss of prestige due to its disassociation with the scientific capabilities of ATIC. There are certain disadvantages which could result from the reassignment of the UFO program. There would be a requirement for establishing new lines of communication and/or liaison, new directives, and for the sub-divisions of the Air Force becoming familiar with new operating procedures and responsibilities.

3. Transfer the UFO project to one of the sub-divisions of SAFIS. This solution would effect the transfer of the project to an agency which is presently responsible for the public information aspects of the program. Responsibility for the full program could probably be accomplished by expansion of the present office. The project would be assigned to an agency which has some familiarity with the program. A program of public education on the UFO program could best be conducted by SAFIS. There are some disadvantages however, since extensive coordination would be required

between the UFO office and AFCIN, ADC, and ARDC in order to accomplish the primary objectives of the project. There would also be a requirement for new directives, and the sub-divisions of the Air Force would have to become familiar with new responsibilities and a new method of operation. In addition, the UFO program could lose prestige due to its association with an agency which has no scientific capability.

B. Elimination of the direct association between the intelligence community and the UFO project would be mutually healthy. The intelligence community should not be burdened with this program which has such strong overtones of public relations. Also, it has been pointed out more than once during the 12 year life of this project that positive steps should be taken to strip this program of its aura of mystery. The disassociation with intelligence would do much to accomplish this aim because of the public's cloak and dagger attitude toward military intelligence. The UFO program to date has revealed no evidence which indicates these phenomena are a threat or potential threat to our national security. In the absence of such evidence the only possible positive gain from this project would be the scientific and/or technical knowledge which might be available. This objective would be within the scope of the normal mission of ARDC. If this project was moved to SAFIS, the primary objectives would be further subjugated and in time the UFO project would probably degenerate into a complete public relations program.

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. Assignment of the UFO project to an agency with a scientific capability; i.e. ARDC, is the most logical orientation of the program within the Air Force structure. When the UFO project was conceived in 1947, a major consideration was national security; therefore, its assignment to intelligence was very logical. Experience to date with the UFO has not revealed any evidence that these phenomena are a threat to national security, and their only possible value to the Air Force is scientific information. To enhance the success of this reassignment, the scientific objectives of the project should be more clearly defined.

V. ACTION RECOMMENDED:

A. It is recommended that this study be approved and the necessary steps taken for possible implementation. Such approval should be acknowledged by authentication of the draft document which is Attachment #1 to this study.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCL

TAB-A Object Sightings 1947-30 June 1959
TAB-B UFO Organizations
TAB-C Fitzgerald Case (CONF) *withdrawn*
TAB-D History
TAB-E Graph of Sightings 1947-30 June 1959
TAB-F Statistics for Calendar Years 1956, 1957 & 1958
 & 1 Jan-30 June 1959
TAB-G Manpower Estimates

(This page is unclassified; however, it is stamped
CONFIDENTIAL in keeping with the classification
of TAB-C (Fitzgerald Case))

If inclosure *TAB C* is withdrawn (or
not attached), the classification of this cor-
respondence will be downgraded to *UNCL* in
accordance with *AFR200-1*.

UNCL
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

D R A F T

SUBJECT: UFO Program

TO: AFCIN (General Walsh)

1. In 1947 the Air Force, and more specifically the ATIC, assumed responsibility for a program designed to determine if unidentified flying objects were a national threat. This program at its inception was designed to determine first, if UFO's were hostile, and second, had any possible scientific value. A tertiary objective was to determine the nature of each of these objects. With the passage of time, the absence of positive indication that these objects were hostile or had any scientific value, and the coming of the private UFO organizations, the third objective began to take on more stature. Today this objective has grown to such an extent that we are fast reaching the point where the tail may wag the dog. This is damaging to Air Force prestige and has a detrimental effect upon intelligence operations.
2. The attached study offers as a solution transfer of the UFO project to an agency with a scientific capability. I concur with the views outlined in the study that such a move would be beneficial to both the intelligence community and to the UFO program. Disassociation with intelligence would do much to strip the aura of mystery from the UFO program, and the same disassociation would eliminate a project from intelligence which is more or less open to public inspection.
3. It is recommended that the attached study be approved and the necessary steps taken to effect transfer of the UFO project to ARDC.

CHARLES B. DOUGHER
Major General, USAF
AFCIN-4

1 Atch:
Study by AFCIN-4E4

A

TAB - A

OBJECT SIGHTINGS
1947 - 1959

<u>YEAR</u>	<u># OBJECTS SIGHTED AND REPORTED</u>
1947	79
1948	143
1949	186
1950	169
1951	121
1952	1,501
1953	425
1954	429
1955	404
1956	778
1957	1,178
1958	590
1 Jan - 30 June 1959	<u>159</u>
TOTAL	6,162

B

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0100975
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2521220

UFO ORGANIZATIONS AND CLUBS IN THE UNITED STATES

1. Aerial Phenomena Research Organization
\$3.00 per year
2. Borderline Sciences Research Associates
Supposedly non-profit. Has bi-monthly publication.
3. Celestial Vehicle Investigation Committee
Little known re this organization.
4. Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects
Publication 50¢ monthly. Claims 5000 members.
(Stringfield's organization)
5. Civilian Saucer Intelligence
Membership \$1.00. Dues 50¢ for bulletin
6. Civilian Saucer Investigation
Quarterly bulletins - 50¢ per copy
7. College of Universal Wisdom
Religious fanatical. Bi-monthly publication \$1.50 per copy.
8. Cup and Saucer Net
Little known re this organization.
9. Detroit Astronomical Society
Little known re this organization.
10. Essenes of Kosmon
Religious fanatical. Monthly report 50¢ per copy.
11. Extra-Terrestrial Research Organization
Claims to be non-profit.
12. Fate Magazine (Club)
Monthly magazine 35¢ per copy.
13. Flying Saucer Club of Detroit
Claims membership of over 2000.
14. Flying Saucer Investigative Associates
Little known re this organization
15. Flying Saucer International
Los Angeles organization. Claims 10,000 membership.
Monthly report 25¢
16. Flying Saucer News
\$2.00 per year subscription.

17. Flying Saucer Researchers
Subscription and 5 copies \$1.00. 700 members.
18. Flying Saucer Research Society
Little known re this organization.
19. Fortean Society
Oldest society. Philosophical and metaphysical.
20. Gravity Foundation
Little known, but active.
21. Great Lakes UFO Association
Little known. Attempting to organize better.
22. Holloway School of Philosophy, Health and Religion
Four publications from 50¢ to \$1.00.
23. International Flying Saucer Bureau
Very little known.
24. Interplanetary News Digest
South California group. Little known.
25. Library Research Group
Little known, but active.
26. Little Listening Post
Little known.
27. Orgone Energy Institute (W. Reich Foundation)
Director now before Supreme Court for defrauding government.
28. The 71 Research Association
Headed by individual claiming trip in flying saucer.
29. Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society
Little known.
30. Saucer Research Foundation of Los Angeles
Little known.
31. Saucer Phenomena and Celestial Enquiry
Little known.
32. Saucer Sentinel
Little known.
33. Spheres, Incorporate (Los Angeles)
Rabble rousing type of organization.

34. The Roundhouse
Little known, but active.
35. UFO Research Organization
Claim to be scientists, but indicates low-level of education.
36. Waterbury Saucer Center
Publisher of (extremely sensational) quarterly, 50¢ per copy.
37. Wixcels Labs of the Chemcraft Science
Claims to be non-profit.
38. Space Observers League
Newly formed. Little known.
39. Flying Saucer Council of America
Claims 2000 members.
40. Amarillo Flying Saucer Sighting Center
Newly formed.
41. Saucer Research Bureau
Little known re this organization.
42. Telonic Research Center
Quarterly bulletin 50¢ issue.
43. Satellite Science
Membership \$2.00 per year.
44. Institute of Interplanetary Arts and Sciences
The director of this impressive sounding organization is not a scientist, but a night watchman! !
45. UFO Research Council
Have written to President Eisenhower. Active, but few details.
46. NICAP (National Investigative Committee on Aerial Phenomena)
Cleverly organized. Man "behind the scenes" is Keyhoe.
Soliciting well-known personalities as members.
47. Pacific Lemurian Society. Founder and Director - W. Gordon Allen
Periodical: "Space-Craft Digest".
48. National Committee for Investigation of UFO's
Director - K. T. Pflock.
49. Saucer Research Bureau of Rockville Center, N. Y.
50. Interplanetary Intelligence of Unidentified Flying Objects
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Associate Director: Hayden Hewes.

2

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE ATIC - AFCIN	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS Attached hereto is letter of complaint and report on the recent Fitzgerald case. The only thing that bothers me is the charge of "sloppy" investigation procedures. Please prepare a basis for reply for General Fisher as soon as possible as the suspense date on this item is 17 Dec. 1958.			
FROM NAME OR TITLE		DATE 12 Dec 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		TELEPHONE 74966	

DD

FORM
1 FEB 50

95

Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

168-10-74067-1 GPO

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE SAFIS	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3		X	NECESSARY ACTION
	ALL INCLS		NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS			
SUBJECT: CONC: UFO'S Inquiry by Mr. Fred A, Kirsch ACTION: Req memo w/proposed reply per HOI 10-20 and indicate AO name & ext on ret memo SUSPENSE: ASAP - not later than 18 Dec 58 SAFLL: 75805 (Gen Fisher) INCLS: Ltr fr Mr. Kirsch dd 7 Dec 58 to Gen Fisher prev corres file (SAFLL 63453) prev corres file (SAFLL 69306) Inclosure to Mr. Kirsch's ltr of 7 Dec is a folder re Fitzgerald sighting.			
FROM NAME OR TITLE		DATE	
WILLIAM C. VAN DYK Major, USAF		11 Dec 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		TELEPHONE	
Material & Operations Branch Congressional Division		78692	

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95

Replaces DA AGO Form 908, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

16-74087-1 GPO

28 September 1959

USAF UFO PROGRAM

I. Brief History.

A. In the fall of 1947 the United States Air Force took official notice of reports of unidentified flying objects, the so-called "flying saucers," because they represented a possible threat to national security, and has become a subject of public concern. The Air Force was designated the responsible agency due to the fact that most of the objects were reported to be flying.

B. On 30 December 1947, the Air Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio was directed to establish a project to collect and evaluate all available facts concerning sightings of unidentified flying objects. The objectives of this project to be as follows:

1. Determine if these objects constitute a threat to national security.
2. Determine if any scientific and/or technical information was available from the sightings.
3. Identify and/or explain all UFO sightings.

C. From 1947 until February 1949, the program was identified as Project "Sign". In February 1949, the name of the project was changed to "Grudge," remaining so until March 1952, when it was further changed to "Blue Book," the present identification. In the summer of 1952, when the intelligence department of AMC took its first step toward growing into what is now the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC), the program was reviewed at the request of Headquarters, USAF. Recommendations which resulted from the review were that the reporting, investigation, and analysis procedures be improved where possible.

D. As of 30 June 1959, after 12 years of investigating and analyzing every unidentified flying object which was brought to its attention, the Air Force has accumulated a file of 6152 cases. The number of reports received number more than 8000, for many objects were reported by more than one witness, and from different sources. While the general trend of the number of sightings over the past three years has been downward, the totals for the more recent years are still far above the totals for the initial years of the program (TAB-E). The breakdown of the cases since 1 January 1956, is shown in TAB F. Another factor which adds to manpower requirements is that individual cases are being given more attention by the public, and balloon into a major problem for the Air Force.

The Unidentified Flying Objects Research Committee

P. O. Box 5242 - Akron 13, Ohio

December 7, 1958

Major General W. P. Fisher
Director, Legislative Liaison
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D.C.

Dear General Fisher:

Inclosed is a complete report of a UFO sighting. It includes a description of the sighting, the Air Force investigation, the conclusion of ATIC as given in your letter to Congressman Baumhart, and an analysis of the Air Force conclusions and investigation.

In the analysis of the Air Force treatment of the case our group has charged the investigation team with criminal mishandling. We feel that this case is typical of all UFO cases and that our charges apply generally to the Air Force UFO project.

You have answered many inquiries from members of the U.S. Congress with statements to the effect that the Air Force is conducting a fair, honest, and scientific investigation of the UFO reports. Therefore, we are presenting you with this report which proves that your statements have been false and misleading. The original documents are available for your inspection if that should be necessary.

After reading the enclosed report, please send us your answer to the following questions:

- (1) What action will be taken to discipline the ATIC investigation team which handled this case?
- (2) What action will be taken to make a proper investigation and evaluation of this particular report (Fitzgerald, 21 Sept. 1958)?
- (3) What action will be taken to insure that all future reports of unidentified flying objects will be properly investigated and evaluated?

A copy of this letter is being sent to Senator John W. Bricker. I request that you send a copy of your reply to the above three questions to Senator Bricker.

Sincerely,

Fred A. Kirsch
for the UFO Research Committee

UFO

SUBJECT

UFO

CONGRESSMAN

BRICKER, John Sen

CONTROL NUMBER

FRED A. KIRKSH req info relating him to the AF investigation of unidentified objects.

DATE RECEIVED	REFERRED TO	DATE FORWARDED	FINAL SIGNATURE	INTERIM SIGNATURE	ACKNOWLEDGED SIGNATURE
1 Aug 58	N/A	1 Aug 58			
1st fr Sen to Sen Fisher, 31 Jul 58 1st fr Mr. Kirksh to Sen, 25 Jul 58			DATE RECEIVED IN BRANCH	ACTION OFFICER	
			DATE	TO	DUE DATE
			4 Aug 58	52815	11 Aug 58
			DATE	TO	DUE DATE
			DATE	TO	DATE SIGNED
					5 SEP 1958

AFRO FORM 0-60 JAN 57 Previous editions of this form are obsolete

Dear Mr. Kirsch:

Your inquiry to Senator John W. Bricker concerning unidentified flying objects has been referred to the Air Force for a direct reply.

The Air Force investigation of all reported sightings of unidentified flying objects has revealed no evidence or data to substantiate the existence of interplanetary spaceships.

The formal report of the scientific panel referred to has not been fully declassified. The classified portion of the panel's formal report deals with other matters of intelligence which affect the National Security and not specifically with UFO's. This report did not recommend that the Air Force quadruple its UFO investigative effort or that it should release all UFO information to the general public.

The United States does not possess a flying saucer such as you describe. However, many devices which we do possess could be mistaken for unidentified flying objects under unusual conditions.

MR:

Red LL 1 Aug/Fwded 4 Aug to SAFIS
w/ce of 11 Aug. Returned to SAFIS
for more responsive reply on 14 Aug.
Finl ltr prep/fwded 4 Sept based on
draft of ltr fr Maj Tacker/SAFIS/73328/
per Back Slip dd 6 Aug 58.

CORRES: ltr fr Sen to Gen Fisher
dd 31 Jul and ltr fr Mr.
Kirsch to Sen 26 Jul 58.

NOTE: Ctrsy cy of ltr sent to Sen
Mr. Fred A. Kirsch
1309 Forest Glen Drive
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Sincerely yours, CC: COORD

COMBK

SAFIS

STAYBACK

W. P. FISHER

Major General, USAF

Director

Legislative Liaison

per his request.

OFFICE SYMBOL

DATE

OFFICE OF

COORDINATING

OFFICERS

AF Smith

DRAFT

Dear Mr. Kirsch:

12-14-58

Your letter, dated 26 July 1958, addressed to Senator Bricker on the subject of unidentified flying objects has been referred to this office for reply.

The report referred to in your first question is non-existent. The Air Force has continually stated that there is a complete lack of evidence to substantiate the existence of interplanetary space ships.

The formal report of the scientific panel referred to in your second question has not been fully declassified for security reasons. However, the classified portion of the Panel's Formal Report does not deal specifically with UFO's but on other matters of intelligence significance which affect the national security. The releasable portion of the report which you already have does deal with unidentified flying objects.

Also, I can assure you that the Formal Report of the Panel does not recommend that the Air Force quadruple its UFO investigative efforts and release all UFO information to the general public.

Your third question is rather difficult to answer. The United States does not possess a flying saucer as such. However, as you mentioned in your letter, many devices which we do possess, such as weather balloons, jet aircraft and missiles, can be mistaken for an unidentified flying object under unusual circumstances.

DRAFT

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE SAFIS	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION ☒
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS			
SUBJECT: Congressional Inquiry Unidentified Flying Objects ACTION: Request memo w/proposed reply per HOI 20-10 and indicate action officer's name and tel number SAFLL 63453 (Sen John Bricker) SUSPENSE: ASAE - no later than 11 Aug 58 INCLOSURES: Ltr fr Sen to Gen Fisher Ltr to Sen fr Mr. Kirsch			
FROM NAME OR TITLE		DATE 4 Aug 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		TELEPHONE 78692	

DD FORM 95
1 FEB 50

Replaces DA AGO Form 866, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ
Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

o58-10-74007-1 GPO

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
TITLE SA'S		INITIALS	CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		DATE	COORDINATION
2			FILE
3			INFORMATION
4			NECESSARY ACTION X
			NOTE AND RETURN
			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS SUBJECT: Congressional Inquiry Unidentified Flying Objects ACTION: Request memo w/proposed reply per HOI 20-10 and indicate action officer's name and tel number SAFLL 63453 (Sen John Bricker) SUSPENSE: ASAP - no later than 11 Aug 58 INCLOSURES: Ltr fr Sen to Gen Fisher Ltr to Sen fr Mr. Kirsch 24 AUG 58 001			
FROM NAME OR TITLE		DATE	
WILLIAM C. VAN DYKE		4 Aug 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION		TELEPHONE	
10-13, 1st Air Force Branch		78692	

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95

Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

658-16-74087-1 GPO

UNITED STATES SENATE
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
WASHINGTON, D. C.
20540

United States Senate

CLERK OF THE SENATE
INTERNATIONAL AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

July 31, 1958

Maj. General W. P. Fisher
Director, Legislative Liaison
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Fisher:

The enclosed letter was recently received in my office from Mr. Fred A. Kirsch of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, requesting information relating to the Air Force investigation of unidentified objects.

I would very much appreciate your writing direct to Mr. Kirsch in answer to his question and would be interested in seeing a copy of your letter.

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

JWB:frd

cc: Mr. Fred A. Kirsch
1309 Forest Glen Drive
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

015/1221

1309 Forest Glen Dr.
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
July 26, 1958

Senator Bricker-Ohio
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Bricker:

Could you make an inquiry to the U.S. Air Force Intelligence department for me? The questions I wish answered concern the Air Force investigation of Unidentified flying objects - "flying saucers."

Question 1

In his book "The Report on Unidentified flying Objects" Captain Ruppelt tells of a "top secret estimate of the situation", compiled by intelligence officers who preceded him on the ufo project. According to Ruppelt, this report stated that the ufo are interplanetary spacecraft. This report was written sometime in Late 1948, and Ruppelt says that he read it several times.

Was there such a report?

Question 2

In the book referred to above, Ruppelt describes the calling together of a panel of scientists to study the ufo reports which had been declared "unknown" by AF investigators. This meeting took place in January of 1953.

Ruppelt says that the panel recommended (1) that the then existing ufo project be quadrupled in size, (2) that means be established to gather definite physical evidence of the existence of ufo, and (3) that the public be given all the facts in the ufo mystery, including reports etc.

The "Report of the scientific panel on unidentified flying objects" released April 19, 1958 by A.F. Major L.J. Tacker contains no hint of these recommendations described by Ruppelt. The panel's conclusions as listed by this release are in direct contradiction to Ruppelt's description.

Question 2 cont.

Is the released report complete, or has Ruppelt fabricated the information in his book (and G.16) ?

Question 3

Does the U.S. have a device which could be responsible for the flying saucer reports received by the Air Force during the last ten years ? Would you please answer this "yes" or "no" ?

Let me make this question clear. I don't mean U.S. weather balloons, conventional aircraft, etc. I mean a device which is capable of performing at roughly the reported speeds and accelerations attributed to the ufo, and having a circular or elliptical shape. By "reported speeds and accelerations" I do not mean "no mass and infinite acceleration" as in General Sanford's statement in 1952. These qualifications should be sufficient for you to give me a yes or no.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Fred A. Kirsch

II. Method of Operation.

A. The method of operating the UFO program has been generally the same since its birth; reporting, investigating, analyzing, and public relations. It is only in which agencies of the Air Force have performed each of these functions, and to what extent, that the program has changed. The program as presently conducted under the provisions of AFR 200-2, dated 14 September 1959, is as follows:

1. Reporting - nearest Air Force or other government or military facility submits reports to the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center. Some reports are forwarded directly to the Air Force by civil agencies or by private citizens.

2. Investigations are conducted by the air base or station nearest the scene of the sighting; either upon receiving the report, or upon being notified of the sighting by the ATIC. In the more unusual or seemingly important cases the investigation, upon ATIC request, is conducted by the 1127th F/A Group, an intelligence organization. In some rare instances the investigation is conducted by the ATIC.

3. Monitoring the program, analysis, and maintaining the records is the responsibility of the ATIC.

4. The release of all information pertaining to UFO's, which is for public consumption, is the responsibility of the Secretary of the Air Force's Information Services (SAFIS).

B. The Program Today.

1. The present efforts extended in the conduct of the UFO project are directed toward specific goals:

- a. To explore each sighting thoroughly for possible intelligence and/or scientific information.

- b. To eliminate the defensive attitude which has been allowed to creep into the program's public relations philosophy (the attitude of trying to prove that each object sighted is not a space vehicle of some type).

- c. To inform the public that a specific program, such as the UFO project, to evaluate each and every sighting is not essential to national security. The USAF, in the conduct of its overall mission, will consider each and every report of an unidentified flying object, and those which indicate a need for further exploitation, due to possible intelligence and/or scientific value will receive this added attention.

- d. To strip the shrouds of mystery from the program, the haze through which many innocent people are duped by those who are using the UFO for personal gain, by a program of public education. This public

DFS

UFO

SUBJECT

UFO

CONGRESSMAN

BAUMHART, A. D. Rep

CONTROL NUMBER

RE: object that came down in the yard of MRS. WILLIAM
FITCH FITZGERALD, 21 Sep 58

DATE RECEIVED	REFERRED TO	DATE FORWARDED	FINAL SIGNATURE	INTERIM SIGNATURE	INTERIM SUSPENSE DATE	FINAL SUSPENSE DATE	ACKNOWLEDGED SIGNATURE
3 Oct 58	N/O	3 Oct 58					

RS fr HLO to SAVLL, 3 Oct 58
ltr fr Rep HLO, 2 Oct 58
oy ltr fr Mrs. Fitzgerald to Rep
29 Sep 58

DATE RECEIVED IN BRANCH	ACTION OFFICER		
DATE	TO	DUE DATE	RECEIVED
6 Oct	SAFIS	14 Oct	
DATE	TO	DUE DATE	RECEIVED
DATE	TO	DATE SIGNED	
		31 OCT 1958	

APPRO FORM 0-66 JAN 57 Previous editions of this form are obsolete CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY DATA

SAFLL-1/Maj Van Dyk/mlf/78692/29 Oct 58
SAFLL 69306

Dear Mr. Baumhart:

I refer to your inquiry concerning the interest of Mrs. William Fitzgerald of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, concerning an unidentified flying object she allegedly saw on 21 September 1958.

Air Force investigators arrived in Sheffield Lake on 3 October, communicated with Mrs. Fitzgerald and also initiated other phases of an investigation to possibly evaluate this sighting.

The investigation revealed that a railroad track ran near the home of Mrs. Fitzgerald. The night of Mrs. Fitzgerald's sighting, a train passed the house at approximately the same hour of the reported sighting. The train had a rotating headlight which, under some conditions, would produce unusual effects. Contact was also made with Chief Boon Mate William Schott of the Coast Guard Station, Lorain, Ohio. Chief Schott reported that he was using his spotlight in an attempt to attract the attention of another ship, and that the light was directed toward shore in the general direction of Mrs. Fitzgerald's house. The time and date of this incident coincide with those reported by Mrs. Fitzgerald. Mrs. Steward of Lorain, Ohio, a witness listed in Mrs. Fitzgerald's report, could not recall anything unusual on the night of the reported sighting. Mr. Grego of Lorain, another witness, was not available for interview. The weather at the time of the incident was a misty rain with haze and smoke.

The conclusion of Air Force investigators was that the combination of moving lights, noise of the train and prevailing weather account for the illusion experienced by Mrs. Fitzgerald. The Air Technical Intelligence Center, after evaluating the evidence in this case, concurred with the conclusion of the investigators.

NR:

Red LL 3 Oct/Fwded 6 Oct to SAFIS.
Final ltr prep.fwded 29 Oct based on
draft of reply prep by Maj Tacker/
73328.
CORRES: ltr fr C/M to L&L 2 Oct 58
w/photocopy ltr Constl to C/M
dd 29 Sept 58.

Sincerely yours, CC: COORD
COMB
SAFIS
STAYBACK
HLO

M. P. FISHER
Major General, USAF
Director
Legislative Liaison

Honorable A. B. Baumhart, Jr.

House of Representatives

OFFICE SYMBOL	1. SAFLL-1	2. SAFLL	3.	4.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS	<i>At Smith</i>			

DRAFT

Dear Mr. Baumhart:

I refer to your inquiry concerning the interest of Mrs. William Fitzgerald of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, concerning an unidentified flying object she saw on 21 September 1958.

Air Force investigators arrived in Sheffield, Ohio, on 3 October 1958, contacted Mrs. Fitzgerald and also initiated other phases of an investigation to possibly evaluate this sighting.

Investigation revealed that a railroad track ran near the home of Mrs. Fitzgerald. The night of Mrs. Fitzgerald's sighting a train passed the house at approximately the same hour of the reported sighting. The train had a rotating headlight which under some conditions would produce unusual effects. Contact was also made with Chief Bosun Mate William Schott of the Lorain Coast Guard Station. Chief Schott reported that he was using his spotlight in an attempt to attract the attention of another ship, and that the light was directed toward shore in the general direction of Mrs. Fitzgerald's house. The time and date of this incident coincide with those reported by Mrs. Fitzgerald. Mrs. Steward of Lorain, Ohio, a witness listed in Mrs. Fitzgerald's report, couldn't recall anything unusual on the night of the reported sighting. Mr. Grego, another witness of Lorain, Ohio, was not available for interview. The weather at the time of the incident was a misty rain with haze and smoke.

Conclusion of Air Force investigators ^{was} ~~was~~ that the combination of moving lights, noise of the train and prevailing weather account for the illusion experienced by Mrs. Fitzgerald. The Air Technical Intelligence Center, after evaluating the evidence in this case, concurred with the conclusion of the investigators.

For your information, I am inclosing the latest Department of Defense fact sheet on the subject of unidentified flying objects, dated 6 October 1958. This fact sheet clearly outlines the Air Force position with respect to unidentified flying objects.

Sincerely,

Inc 1

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE SAFIS	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
		INCL	NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS			
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY (Object landed in yard of Mrs. William Fitzgerald - Sheffield, Ohio) SAFLL: 69306 (C/M A. D. Baumhart) SUSPENSE: ASAP - not later than 14 Oct 58 ACTION: Req memo w/proposed reply per HOI 10-20 and indicate AO name & telephone number. INCL: ltr fr C/M to AF L&L 2 Oct 58 cy ltr fr Mrs. Fitzgerald to C/M 29 Sept			
FROM NAME OR TITLE WILLIAM C. VAN DYK Major, USAF		DATE 6 Oct 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Military & Operational Branch		TELEPHONE 78692	

DD FORM 95
1 FEB 50

Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

16-48487-4 GPO ☆

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

DATE _____

Compt. Interest _____

TO SAFLL, Attention:
_____ Airmen Branch
_____ Officer Branch
_____ H&O Branch

HLO Interest:

_____ Col Jack A. Sims
_____ Lt Col Albert H. Burleigh
_____ Maj Zane Corbin
_____ Capt Ann Brien
_____ June Griffith
_____ Edith Johnson
_____ Virginia Kocur

_____ Acknowledged by HLO
_____ Interims through HLO
_____ Finals through HLO

REMARKS OR OTHER GUIDANCE FOR SAFLL AO:

HOUSE LIAISON OFFICE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

October 2, 1958

Office of Congressional Liaison
United States Air Force
538, Old House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Major Corbin

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed a thermafax copy of a letter I have received from my constituent, Mrs. William Fitzgerald of Sheffield Lake, Ohio.

I am forwarding this to you in accordance with the instructions you gave me and trust you will find this enclosure self-explanatory.

I would appreciate your advice, and assurances that attention and consideration will be given to Mrs. Fitzgerald's summary so that I may properly advise her.

Sincerely yours,

A. D. Beaumont, Jr., M. C.

ADB:bv
Enclosure

Ind #1

DIS/1496

D

28 September 1959

USAF UFO PROGRAM

I. Brief History.

A. In the fall of 1947 the United States Air Force took official notice of reports of unidentified flying objects, the so-called "flying saucers," because they represented a possible threat to national security, and has become a subject of public concern. The Air Force was designated the responsible agency due to the fact that most of the objects were reported to be flying.

B. On 30 December 1947, the Air Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio was directed to establish a project to collect and evaluate all available facts concerning sightings of unidentified flying objects. The objectives of this project to be as follows:

1. Determine if these objects constitute a threat to national security.
2. Determine if any scientific and/or technical information was available from the sightings.
3. Identify and/or explain all UFO sightings.

C. From 1947 until February 1949, the program was identified as Project "Sign". In February 1949, the name of the project was changed to "Grudge," remaining so until March 1952, when it was further changed to "Blue Book," the present identification. In the summer of 1952, when the intelligence department of AMC took its first step toward growing into what is now the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC), the program was reviewed at the request of Headquarters, USAF. Recommendations which resulted from the review were that the reporting, investigation, and analysis procedures be improved where possible.

D. As of 30 June 1959, after 12 years of investigating and analyzing every unidentified flying object which was brought to its attention, the Air Force has accumulated a file of 6152 cases. The number of reports received number more than 8000, for many objects were reported by more than one witness, and from different sources. While the general trend of the number of sightings over the past three years has been downward, the totals for the more recent years are still far above the totals for the initial years of the program (TAB-E). The breakdown of the cases since 1 January 1956, is shown in TAB F. Another factor which adds to manpower requirements is that individual cases are being given more attention by the public, and balloon into a major problem for the Air Force.

II. Method of Operation.

A. The method of operating the UFO program has been generally the same since its birth; reporting, investigating, analyzing, and public relations. It is only in which agencies of the Air Force have performed each of these functions, and to what extent, that the program has changed. The program as presently conducted under the provisions of AFR 200-2, dated 5 February 1958, is as follows:

1. Reporting - nearest Air Force or other government or military facility submits reports to the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center. Some reports are forwarded directly to the Air Force by civil agencies or by private citizens.

2. Investigations are conducted by the air base or station nearest the scene of the sighting; either upon receiving the report, or upon being notified of the sighting by the ATIC. In the more unusual or seemingly important cases the investigation, upon ATIC request, is conducted by the 1127th F/A Group, an intelligence organization. In some rare instances the investigation is conducted by the ATIC.

3. Monitoring the program, analysis, and maintaining the records is the responsibility of the ATIC.

4. The release of all information pertaining to UFO's, which is for public consumption, is the responsibility of the Secretary of the Air Force's Information Services (SAFIS).

B. The Program Today.

1. Today one of the major aims in the conduct of this program is to eliminate the defensive attitude which has been allowed to creep into the program's public relations philosophy (the attitude of trying to prove that each object sighted is not a space vehicle of some type). These aims to be accomplished by a program designed to educate the public. Inform the public that a specific program, such as the UFO project, to evaluate each and every sighting is not essential to national security. The Air Force, in the conduct of its overall mission, will consider each and every report of an unidentified flying object, and that those which indicate a need for further exploitation; due to possible intelligence and/or scientific value will receive this added attention. To strip the shrouds of mystery from the program, the haze through which many innocent people have been duped by those who are using the UFO for personal gain. Other methods used in an attempt to accomplish this goal have been to form a panel of experts to advise on the various aspects of the program. This panel is composed of experts in the following areas:

Physicist
Chaplain
Psychologist
Astronomer
Public Relations

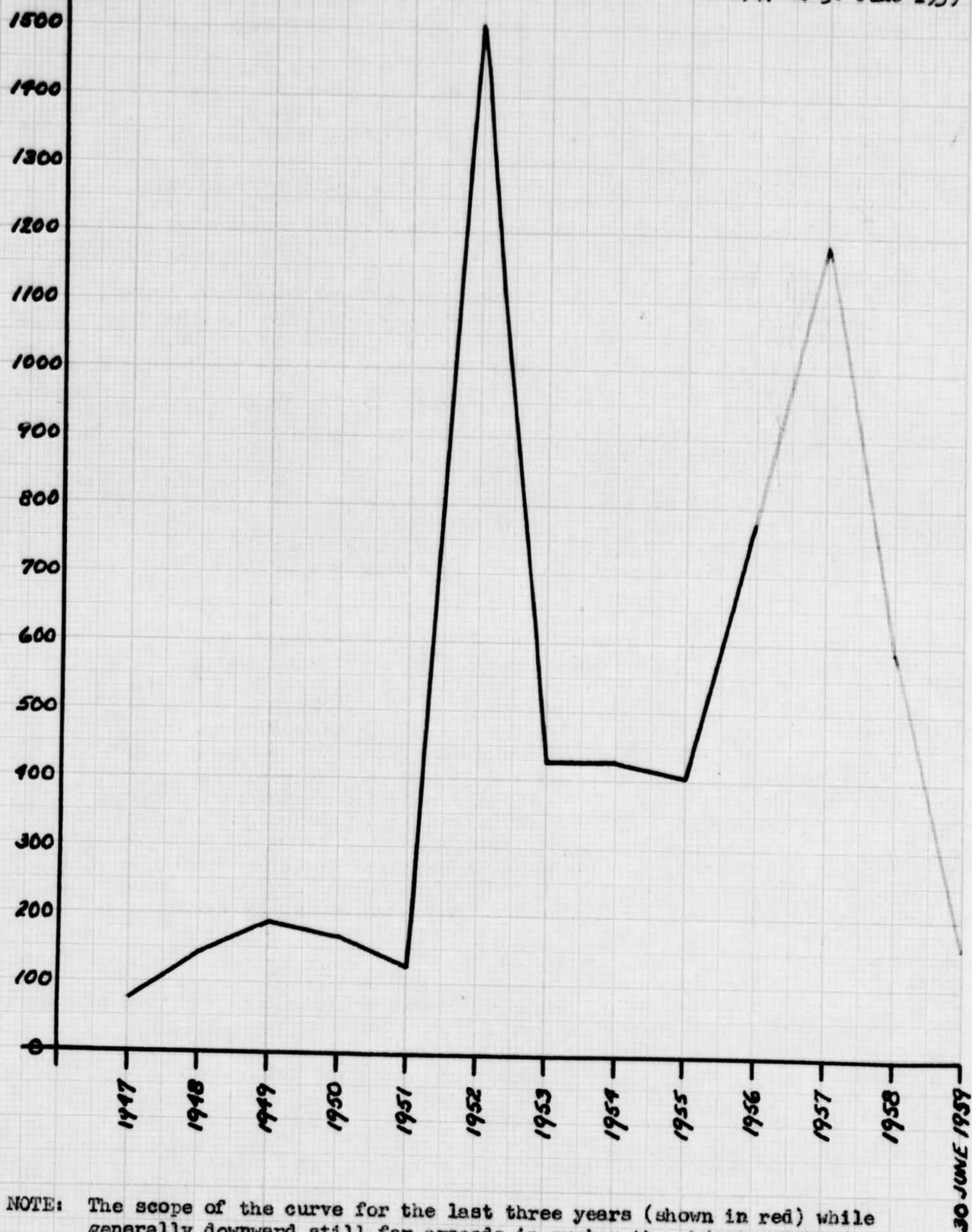
education program, using the media of the newspapers, to inform the public of the probable causes for those sightings which receive widespread publicity and other general information on the program.

2. To heighten the probability of accomplishment of these specific goals, the Air Force directive AFR 200-2, dated 14 September 1959, governing this project has been rewritten. The new directive should improve the reporting procedures and investigation techniques of the responsible field organizations. A study program has been established which is designed to publish a sequel to "Project Blue Book" (Special Report #14), a statistical study of the program covering the years 1947-1952. A panel of experts has been formed to assist with the study program, the analysis of the more stubborn cases, and to make suggestions as to how the project could be generally improved. This panel is composed of experts in physics, psychology, astronomy, religion, and public relations. The members of the panel, who volunteer their time, are from ARDC, WADC, and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

These men volunteer their time to this panel. A program is also in the mill to publish a sequel to Special Report #14. The information to be contained in this report is all directed toward the aims outlined above.

L

Graph of objects sighted and reported to the ATIC from 1947 to 30 June 1959



NOTE: The scope of the curve for the last three years (shown in red) while generally downward still far exceeds in number the objects sighted during the initial years of the program. Extrapolation of the sightings for 1959 through the end of the year would indicate an approximate total of 3/8 sightings.

F

STATISTICS - 1 January 1959 - 30 June 1959

	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Astro	14	10	15	10	9	7	65
Aircraft	3	5	4	4	4	5	25
Balloon		3		1	3	1	8
Other	5	2	6	4	4	4	25
Insuff Data	5	5	3	4	4	13	34
Unidentified	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> 2 </u>
	27	25	29	24	24	30	159

During this reporting period the Aerial Phenomena Group instituted a policy of automatically including all reports of only one witness in the insufficient data category. This is in keeping with good intelligence and scientific precepts - if substantiation cannot be found, this decreases in value the information.

UFO STATISTICS FOR CALENDAR YEARS 1956, 1957, 1958

	1 Jan - 31 Dec 1956		1 Jan - 31 Dec 1957		1 Jan - 31 Dec 1958		TOTAL	<u>%</u>
	# OBJ	<u>%</u>	# OBJ	<u>%</u>	# OBJ	<u>%</u>		
Astro	205	26.3	326	27.7	197	33.4	728	28.50
Aircraft	192	24.6	286	24.2	110	18.6	588	23.00
Balloons	203	26.0	209	17.7	68	11.5	480	19.12
Insuff Data	109	14.1	169	14.4	104	17.6	382	14.96
Other	52	6.8	168	14.3	95	16.1	315	12.33
Satellites					11	1.9	11	0.44
Unidentified	<u>17</u>	2.2	<u>20</u>	1.7	<u>5</u>	.9	<u>42</u>	1.65
	778		1178		590		2546	

6

28 September 1959

TIME AND RESOURCES CHARGED TO PROJECT 5771 (BLUE BOOK)

1. While no accurate measure can be made of the manhours charged to this program, the following is a reasonable estimate gauged on a day to day basis. These estimates were based on known figures locally and on estimates for field allocations to each report received. This estimate was kept for the six months period from 1 January 1959 to 30 June 1959:

Manhours -

Military (Administrative and Scientific)	6861
Civilian " "	<u>3538</u>
Total	10,399

If we assume that this rate continues, then we have 20,798 manhours directly attributed to the UFO program during a year.

2. The other additions to overhead which are directly attributable to the UFO program are beyond measure, but to mention a few:

- a. TDY funds for investigators.
- b. Utilization of Air Force equipment during investigation (cars, etc).
- c. Facilities used for analysis of material reported as part of a space craft.
- d. Telephone calls and TWX's.
- e. Military aircraft for intercept, transport of personnel, and/or equipment.

3. Scientific consultant for the program - the annual average for consultant services has been \$1500 per year for a period of 11 years, or a total of \$26,500.

4. As a supplement to the program the Air Force had a statistical study conducted by a civilian contractor in 1952. This study cost the Air Force approximately \$100,000.

28 September 1954

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TAB - A

OBJECT SIGHTINGS
1947 - 1959

<u>YEAR</u>	<u># OBJECTS SIGHTED AND REPORTED</u>
1947	79
1948	143
1949	186
1950	169
1951	121
1952	1,501
1953	425
1954	429
1955	404
1956	778
1957	1,178
1958	590
1 Jan - 30 June 1959	<u>159</u>
TOTAL	6,162

STATISTICS - 1 January 1959 - 30 June 1959

	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
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