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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,240

Welcome to America's town meeting from New York City.

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00:00:06,240 --> 00:00:11,840

Tonight's subject, flying saucers, fact or illusion.

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00:00:11,840 --> 00:00:17,660

Our speakers are Major Donnelly Keough, author of Flying Saucers from Outer Space and Jonathan

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00:00:17,660 --> 00:00:29,000

N. Leonard, science editor of Time Magazine and author of Flight Into Space.

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00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:34,760

For scores of generations, civilized men have recorded astonishing descriptions of atmospheric

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00:00:34,760 --> 00:00:39,400

phenomena and awesome things hovering in the skies above them.

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00:00:39,400 --> 00:00:45,960

Mysterious floating objects, flashes and fireballs, and luminescence manifestations of every description

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00:00:45,960 --> 00:00:51,600

are recounted in the annals of western civilization as far back as Rome and Tyre.

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00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:56,640

Speculation as to their origin was, of course, largely conditioned upon the degree of scientific

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00:00:56,640 --> 00:00:59,640

knowledge at the disposal of the observer.

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00:00:59,640 --> 00:01:06,880

Generally, however, they were isolated instances, unrelated, and devoid of organized study anywhere.

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00:01:06,880 --> 00:01:11,800

Against this historic background, the controversy which has developed in the United States since

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00:01:11,800 --> 00:01:19,120

1947 over the so-called flying saucer sightings are absolutely without precedent or parallel.

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00:01:19,120 --> 00:01:25,040

An oppressive accumulation of approximately 800 unexplained reports has not only been

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00:01:25,040 --> 00:01:30,480

recorded the widest possible publicity, intriguing the public everywhere and taxing the credibility

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00:01:30,480 --> 00:01:37,000

of many, but has by now enlisted on a national scale the ingenuity of some of our top airmen,

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00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:39,440

scientists and military experts.

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00:01:39,440 --> 00:01:44,200

Curiously enough, it is said that more than 18% of these sightings were reported by trained

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00:01:44,200 --> 00:01:50,800

military personnel and some 11% were reported by Air Force pilots aloft.

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00:01:50,800 --> 00:01:59,080

Of all sightings recorded, somewhat less than 15% are reported to be classified as unexplained.

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00:01:59,080 --> 00:02:03,440

To delve into the mystery of these unexplained phenomena, the resources of the United States

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00:02:03,440 --> 00:02:09,480

and other nations have mastered as strategic points, scores of special cameras, radar installations

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00:02:09,480 --> 00:02:14,040

and other detected devices, meant by trained personnel.

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00:02:14,040 --> 00:02:19,920

Meantime, the controversy rages unabated, between those who believe that the so-called

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00:02:19,920 --> 00:02:25,200

flying saucers are facts and those who dismiss them as an illusion.

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00:02:25,200 --> 00:02:31,360

Tonight, Town Hall is proud to present two distinguished exponents of each of these viewpoints.

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00:02:31,360 --> 00:02:37,920

Our first guest is Major Donald E. Kehoe, author of Flying Saucers from outer space.

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00:02:37,920 --> 00:02:43,520

Born in Iowa, Major Kehoe attended the United States Naval Academy and was commissioned

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00:02:43,520 --> 00:02:46,880

with the rank of lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

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00:02:46,880 --> 00:02:51,800

The following year, he finished a training course for naval aviators at Pensacola.

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00:02:51,800 --> 00:02:56,520

From 1925 to 7, he was chief of information of the Arnaud X branch of the Department of

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00:02:56,520 --> 00:03:02,880

Commerce and was assigned as manager of the U.S. tour of the Josephine IV North Pole plane,

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00:03:02,880 --> 00:03:06,680

which flew around the country with Floyd Bennett and Bert Blanchen.

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00:03:06,680 --> 00:03:13,400

In 1949, Major Kehoe was assigned to investigate the Flying Saucer mystery for True Magazine.

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00:03:13,400 --> 00:03:16,960

The Flying Saucers are real was his first book on this subject.

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00:03:16,960 --> 00:03:22,720

It was followed by Flying Saucers from outer space, published in November of this year.

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00:03:22,720 --> 00:03:25,720

Town Hall is proud to welcome Major Kehoe.

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00:03:33,720 --> 00:03:39,040

In 1948, like many other pilots, I scoffed at the Saucer reports.

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00:03:39,040 --> 00:03:43,320

Now, after a five-year investigation, I believe they are real.

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00:03:43,440 --> 00:03:46,360

There's only one way to decide this question fairly.

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00:03:46,360 --> 00:03:51,720

By examining the official reports, neither my opinion nor Mr. Lennart says any value

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00:03:51,720 --> 00:03:54,080

unless it is backed by the evidence.

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00:03:54,080 --> 00:03:59,240

In the last five years, I've seen hundreds of Air Force reports covering worldwide sightings.

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00:03:59,240 --> 00:04:04,680

The official records cleared for me have included the most baffling cases and intelligence files,

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00:04:04,680 --> 00:04:08,600

cases used in the secret briefing of high government officials.

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00:04:08,600 --> 00:04:13,240

These reports were made by Air Force Navy, Marine Corps, and airline pilots.

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00:04:13,240 --> 00:04:17,720

By expert radar man, guided missile tracker, and other trained observers.

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00:04:17,720 --> 00:04:21,560

The official conclusions were released to me by Air Technical Intelligence.

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00:04:21,560 --> 00:04:24,880

Since Mr. Lennart cannot be expected to know these hundreds of reports,

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00:04:24,880 --> 00:04:29,560

I shall refer mainly to official cases from my book, which he has reviewed.

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00:04:29,560 --> 00:04:35,280

I repeat, these are Air Force intelligence reports certified by official documents in the book.

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00:04:35,280 --> 00:04:39,360

They are not from anonymous sources as Mr. Lennart mistakenly stated.

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00:04:39,360 --> 00:04:45,200

These sightings were analyzed by intelligence officers or by scientists under secret contracts.

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00:04:45,200 --> 00:04:50,560

In case after case, pilots and radar men insist that the objects maneuvered under intelligent control

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00:04:50,560 --> 00:04:53,080

open at fantastic speeds.

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00:04:53,080 --> 00:04:56,280

In the last two months, reports have rapidly increased.

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00:04:56,280 --> 00:05:00,680

As a result, new orders have been given to pilots, which I shall explain later.

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00:05:00,680 --> 00:05:02,920

Other governments have also taken new steps.

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00:05:02,960 --> 00:05:09,000

In Canada, a special observatory has been set up to track sources and learn their means of propulsion.

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00:05:09,000 --> 00:05:12,800

Mr. W. B. Smith, the official in charge, with a frankness unknown here,

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00:05:12,800 --> 00:05:16,840

publicly admitted that sources are probably from outer space.

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00:05:16,840 --> 00:05:20,520

In our Air Force, only one intelligence officer, Colonel William C. O'Dell,

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00:05:20,520 --> 00:05:24,520

has been allowed to make such a statement and then without use of his rank.

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00:05:24,520 --> 00:05:28,360

But this conviction is privately shared by many in the Air Force.

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00:05:28,360 --> 00:05:31,240

Certain airline pilots, after sighting strange machines,

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00:05:31,240 --> 00:05:36,280

have publicly announced their belief that the sources are observation devices from another planet.

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00:05:36,280 --> 00:05:39,240

The advanced race is making a long survey of the Earth,

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00:05:39,240 --> 00:05:45,840

delaying contact until they understand every phase of our life and can gauge our probable reaction.

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00:05:45,840 --> 00:05:50,720

On the basis of the evidence, I believe this is the answer, fantastic as it may seem.

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00:05:50,720 --> 00:05:52,720

Thank you.

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00:05:52,720 --> 00:05:54,720

Thank you.

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00:05:54,720 --> 00:05:56,720

Thank you.

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00:05:56,720 --> 00:05:58,200

Thank you, Major Kehoff.

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00:05:58,200 --> 00:06:03,160

Our next guest is Jonathan Norton-Lennett, science editor of Time Magazine.

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00:06:03,160 --> 00:06:08,360

Mr. Lennett joined the weekly news magazine staff as far news writer in 1943.

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00:06:08,360 --> 00:06:12,080

He became Time Science Editor in 1945.

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00:06:12,080 --> 00:06:18,680

Born in some of the Massachusetts, he attended public schools there and entered Hollywood University in 1921.

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00:06:18,680 --> 00:06:22,040

Originally, with the New York Times, he became a freelance writer.

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00:06:22,040 --> 00:06:25,440

And for the next ten years, turned out innumerable books and articles,

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00:06:25,520 --> 00:06:32,400

including the enjoyment of science, crusades of chemistry, and his most recent book, Flight Into Space,

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00:06:32,400 --> 00:06:40,320

a philosophical but factual view of the fact and fancies of spaceflight, which was published in October of this year.

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00:06:40,320 --> 00:06:43,840

We are proud to welcome Mr. Jonathan Norton-Lennett to America's Town Meeting.

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00:06:43,840 --> 00:06:59,200

The question, do you believe in flying saucers has come to mean, do you believe that flying saucers are spaceships from a foreign planet?

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00:06:59,200 --> 00:07:03,040

I do not believe it because I have seen no evidence for it.

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00:07:03,040 --> 00:07:07,040

All I have seen is reports of strange sights in the sky.

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00:07:07,040 --> 00:07:11,040

Most of them have been explained in unsensational ways.

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00:07:11,120 --> 00:07:16,080

And most of the rest were so poorly reported that no conclusion is possible.

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00:07:16,080 --> 00:07:22,640

But even if many unexplained saucers had been seen, they would not necessarily be spaceships.

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00:07:22,640 --> 00:07:27,680

To call them spaceships is jumping to an extremely unlikely conclusion.

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00:07:27,680 --> 00:07:32,480

It is explaining a small mystery by pinning it on a big mystery.

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00:07:32,480 --> 00:07:35,680

The ancient Greeks could not explain lightning.

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00:07:35,680 --> 00:07:39,240

So they gave up and called it a weapon of the God Zeus.

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00:07:39,240 --> 00:07:41,640

This was no explanation at all.

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00:07:41,640 --> 00:07:45,240

The flying saucer cutists are doing the same thing.

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00:07:45,240 --> 00:07:50,360

To explain a few puzzling reports, they are dreaming up spaceships.

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00:07:50,360 --> 00:07:55,720

And they give them a godlike ability to violate all known physical laws.

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00:07:55,720 --> 00:07:57,560

The world is full of mysteries.

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00:07:57,560 --> 00:08:01,640

And the way to solve them is to observe them and study them carefully.

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00:08:01,640 --> 00:08:04,040

This is what the Air Force has been doing.

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00:08:04,040 --> 00:08:08,720

And it says that it has no evidence that flying saucers are spaceships.

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00:08:08,720 --> 00:08:14,640

People who say that the Air Force is lying about this and that it is deliberately concealing

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00:08:14,640 --> 00:08:20,080

a threatened invasion from space are accusing it of something close to treason.

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00:08:20,080 --> 00:08:22,880

I do not think that they are justified.

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00:08:22,880 --> 00:08:25,920

Spaceships are not impossible theoretically.

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00:08:25,920 --> 00:08:28,960

The human race can build them if it makes the Air Force.

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00:08:28,960 --> 00:08:32,880

And there may be races in space that have already done so.

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00:08:32,880 --> 00:08:36,720

At least I cannot prove that there are not.

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00:08:36,720 --> 00:08:43,040

But to say that flying saucers are spaceships, just because a few of their reports are hard to explain,

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00:08:43,040 --> 00:08:45,680

is naive and primitive thinking.

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00:08:45,680 --> 00:08:49,760

It is like explaining lightning by calling it the weapon of a god.

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00:08:55,200 --> 00:08:57,280

Thank you very much, Mr. Linit.

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00:08:57,280 --> 00:09:03,360

Major Kehoe, before we go into our exchange of views, and I know they're going to be sharp this evening,

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00:09:03,440 --> 00:09:07,840

I was intrigued by a statement which you made in your opening presentation.

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00:09:07,840 --> 00:09:11,200

And I'd like to ask if you might not wish to elaborate on it.

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00:09:11,200 --> 00:09:16,640

You said that during the last two months reports on unidentified flying objects have rapidly increased.

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00:09:16,640 --> 00:09:21,120

And then you said that as a result of this, new orders have been given to pilots.

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00:09:21,120 --> 00:09:22,880

And you would explain that later.

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00:09:22,880 --> 00:09:24,800

I want to go ahead and explain that to us now.

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00:09:24,800 --> 00:09:26,320

Yes, I shall.

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00:09:26,320 --> 00:09:32,560

The Air Force, through the maps intelligence, that is military air transport intelligence,

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00:09:32,640 --> 00:09:34,640

are sent word to all airline pilots.

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00:09:34,640 --> 00:09:38,960

And instead of waiting after they sight an unidentified object in the air,

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00:09:38,960 --> 00:09:42,560

waiting until they land to ride up the report or be interrogated,

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00:09:42,560 --> 00:09:46,880

they are immediately to get on the radio and give a running account of what they see.

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00:09:47,600 --> 00:09:53,280

This was confirmed to me by the Airline Policy Association and also by Air Force Public Information.

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00:09:53,920 --> 00:09:59,440

The same order has been relayed to all military pilots, and presumably to those in the Navy and the Marine Corps.

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00:10:00,240 --> 00:10:03,040

I see. Mr. Leonard, do you have any comment to make on that?

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00:10:03,040 --> 00:10:04,720

Well, I think it's a fine thing. Sure.

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00:10:05,280 --> 00:10:12,320

Why not? It's a lot of controversy on this thing, and Air Force has been accused of concealing evidence.

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00:10:12,320 --> 00:10:15,120

It's a very good thing to tell the pilots to report right off.

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00:10:15,920 --> 00:10:21,040

But this shows a great deal of concern, which the Air Force at the same time disavows.

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00:10:21,040 --> 00:10:23,200

It says we're not concerned, there's nothing to it.

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00:10:23,200 --> 00:10:28,800

And at the same time, they give these orders and tell everybody to get in the information as rapidly as possible.

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00:10:28,800 --> 00:10:33,360

I don't think they're concerned about spaceships. I think they're concerned about the publicity they're getting.

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00:10:33,360 --> 00:10:35,360

They're concerned about the objects.

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00:10:35,360 --> 00:10:38,560

Well, gentlemen, that brings us, I think, to the very first point,

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00:10:38,560 --> 00:10:43,040

which the average American would like to have clarified and discussed this evening.

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00:10:43,040 --> 00:10:48,240

What are the observers seeing in Europe?

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00:10:48,240 --> 00:10:50,640

Are they seeing something or are they seeing nothing?

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00:10:51,360 --> 00:10:55,120

Is it imagination or is it factual that they are seeing something?

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00:10:56,400 --> 00:10:57,360

Want me to answer that?

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00:10:58,320 --> 00:11:03,040

I think they're seeing something. I think that, good many of these people are perfectly sincere.

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00:11:03,600 --> 00:11:11,200

There are some jokers and liars, some drunks, no doubt, but I think good many of them see something.

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00:11:11,200 --> 00:11:13,040

What they see is another question.

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00:11:13,920 --> 00:11:18,720

Do you have your opinion, Mr. Linder, that's actually what they may be actually seeing?

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00:11:19,600 --> 00:11:27,280

I think they see a great variety of things. I think they see all reflections from the tailpin

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00:11:28,320 --> 00:11:32,960

of aluminum airplanes. You can see them at a much greater distance than you can see an airplane.

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00:11:32,960 --> 00:11:39,360

They see weather balloons. I think in the case of the more mystifying reports,

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00:11:39,360 --> 00:11:45,840

they see various kinds of optical effects. They aren't optical illusions anymore than a rainbow is.

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00:11:45,840 --> 00:11:51,200

A rainbow is an effect, an optical effect. It's very real. It's so. We know how it works.

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00:11:51,760 --> 00:11:57,840

And there are a great many other ways that lights can be apparently displaced and made to move.

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00:11:57,840 --> 00:12:04,480

The common mirage of this water in the road is a very common example. Every auto owner knows.

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00:12:05,280 --> 00:12:11,680

You see the sky apparently in the road. And that's true of a great many other optical effects.

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00:12:12,240 --> 00:12:15,040

Major Key, how would you subscribe to that theory?

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00:12:15,040 --> 00:12:20,320

No, I'm afraid I can't. That might be true in many cases of untrained observers.

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00:12:20,320 --> 00:12:24,800

People will be honestly mistaken. But when you take hundreds of airline pilots,

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00:12:24,800 --> 00:12:30,320

radar men, weather bureau observers who are trained to recognize such things, and for

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00:12:30,320 --> 00:12:35,360

year after year they have been reporting these objects, many of which are confirmed by a radar

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00:12:35,360 --> 00:12:41,520

simultaneously, prove that the object was real and that was under intelligent control maneuvering.

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00:12:41,520 --> 00:12:47,760

And many of the cases of which I can only mention a few tonight have so stated that the answer was

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00:12:47,760 --> 00:12:52,160

unknown. And in the analysis, they stated the object seemed to be under intelligent control.

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00:12:52,720 --> 00:12:57,760

Well, Mr. Leonard, I believe you stated at the outset that you felt that there were only a few

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00:12:57,760 --> 00:13:04,000

puzzling reports. Now, Major, I know that you disagree with that. Do you have any idea, however,

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00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:09,040

as to how many reports are puzzling or are unsolved so far?

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00:13:09,680 --> 00:13:14,640

I don't think there are very many. I think there are many reports which are put down by the Air Force

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00:13:14,640 --> 00:13:22,480

as unidentified. And they may be, and in most cases are unidentified because the evidence given

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00:13:22,480 --> 00:13:28,000

is extremely sketchy. I heard of one example, for instance, of a man who called up very excited

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00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:32,640

me and said something like this. He said, I saw something flying by. It looked like a bird,

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00:13:32,640 --> 00:13:37,840

but it was flying a lot faster than any bird ought to fly. What was it? Well, the Air Force put that

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00:13:37,840 --> 00:13:44,320

down as unexplained and listed the thing as a UFO, I think Major Kehoe calls it an unexplained

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00:13:44,720 --> 00:13:51,920

flying object. Major Kehoe, do you agree with that? Well, I would like to give a report by, let us say,

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00:13:51,920 --> 00:13:57,760

someone a little more trained. On October 29th, over Hempstead, Long Island, two jet pilots were

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00:13:57,760 --> 00:14:04,480

on a mission, spotted a very bright, white light, and they tried to close in. And the machine,

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00:14:04,480 --> 00:14:09,920

whatever it was, tightened up. They were unable to get inside this turn, and finally, after trying

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00:14:09,920 --> 00:14:14,400

to match the machine's performance for several minutes, they gave up. Now, here's the statement

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00:14:14,400 --> 00:14:19,120

that the senior pilot gave to intelligence. Based on my experience in fighter tactics,

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00:14:19,120 --> 00:14:24,720

it is my opinion that the object was controlled by something having visual contact with it.

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00:14:24,720 --> 00:14:30,000

The power and acceleration were beyond the capability of any known U.S. aircraft. And below

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00:14:30,000 --> 00:14:35,360

this, the wing intelligence officer added, it is believed this report is based on reliable and

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00:14:35,360 --> 00:14:39,680

verifiable observation that's an efficient intelligence report. How many reports such as

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00:14:40,640 --> 00:14:45,280

Dr. and Dr. Miss Leonard, but how many reports of that type do you feel that there are on the

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00:14:45,280 --> 00:14:51,440

books now, Major? At least 400. I have some of the key cases right here, which prove that the

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00:14:51,440 --> 00:14:56,640

objects are real, that they are under control, and that many of the people who saw them are convinced

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00:14:56,640 --> 00:15:01,200

that there was some kind of revolutionary machine. Mr. Leonard, do you feel there's any pattern in

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00:15:01,200 --> 00:15:06,320

these reports that the Major has cited? Yes, I think there's a pattern. Some of these facts are

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00:15:06,320 --> 00:15:13,840

similar. But I'd like to say a little bit about these trained observers. The pilot, the airline

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00:15:13,840 --> 00:15:20,080

pilot or a fighter pilot, generally a very fine guy, some of my best friends are pilots. But he is

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00:15:20,080 --> 00:15:28,000

very rarely a physicist. He very rarely understands the effects of refraction. I think if you question,

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00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:32,800

you'd find that they know very little about such things. And so when you say a trained observer,

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00:15:32,800 --> 00:15:37,360

you mean that he's been trained to recognize certain definite things. And when he comes up

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00:15:37,360 --> 00:15:43,360

against something, which isn't in the book, he often misinterprets it very widely. And I think

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00:15:43,360 --> 00:15:50,480

is the case in a Major Keohler just cited. But you do feel that he saw something, however what he saw

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00:15:50,480 --> 00:15:55,920

was not any kind of a space machine. No, and I think he jumped to the conclusion that it was

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00:15:56,880 --> 00:16:03,200

intelligently controlled. It was a very, very long jump. Well, speaking of intelligently controlled

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00:16:03,200 --> 00:16:09,920

incidents, I think almost everyone is aware of the so-called citing that Washington several months

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00:16:09,920 --> 00:16:17,120

back. And I wonder if you would care to discuss that as an example of either accidental or perhaps

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00:16:17,760 --> 00:16:23,280

controlled performance. Major, would you like to begin a discussion of that? Yes, I should. I

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00:16:23,360 --> 00:16:29,680

investigated that for six weeks after the two weekend incidents. I talked with all of the

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00:16:29,680 --> 00:16:35,120

radar men who were in the control center with the radar engineer with Dr. John Hagen, the chief radio

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00:16:35,120 --> 00:16:40,960

astronomer of the Navy, with Bonn-Rochney of the Weather Bureau, their radar expert, with the pilot

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00:16:40,960 --> 00:16:46,400

who cited these things in the air, with the radar men at other stations. These things were

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00:16:46,400 --> 00:16:52,560

triangulated from free radar stations. They were seen simultaneously in the air at exactly the

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00:16:52,640 --> 00:16:57,520

point where the radar sets showed them. They showed the same maneuvers, the same speeds,

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00:16:57,520 --> 00:17:04,000

which were reported visually by observers in the air and on the ground. And later on, I was told

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00:17:04,000 --> 00:17:11,360

from Air Force Technical Intelligence Center that this principle applies. The same thing that they

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00:17:11,360 --> 00:17:16,480

added in another similar case, the electronic or visual mirage of meteorological phenomenon is out

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00:17:16,480 --> 00:17:21,120

of the question, is the radar set was on high beam and both were not occurred simultaneously in the

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00:17:21,120 --> 00:17:28,480

same place. Now, this was ruled out completely, although at the Air Force Conference in July,

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00:17:28,480 --> 00:17:34,160

it was suggested that temperature inversion was probably the answer. Later on, I asked the Air

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00:17:34,160 --> 00:17:39,360

Force to designate an official spokesman who would give me what they considered the answer.

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00:17:39,360 --> 00:17:44,240

We went into it, I presented all the evidence and gave him the temperature inversion on that

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00:17:44,240 --> 00:17:50,960

night, which was less than one and a half degrees. This spokesman then told me and allowed me to

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00:17:50,960 --> 00:17:57,280

give it as the official Air Force Force viewpoints. But with such a low inversion, it was impossible

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00:17:57,280 --> 00:18:02,080

for temperature inversion to have been the answer and the case remain unexplained and it still is.

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00:18:02,080 --> 00:18:05,680

Hello, Mr. Leonard, how would you explain the Washington fighting?

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00:18:05,680 --> 00:18:11,360

Well, as Sam said, through time, I got a report on that immediately. In fact, I got

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00:18:11,360 --> 00:18:16,880

a telephone report from the inside of the radar station where the observations were being made.

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00:18:17,840 --> 00:18:23,840

And one of our men was there right on the spot. And I had very great doubts about this. It seemed

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00:18:23,840 --> 00:18:30,480

to be a very curious, panicky situation going on around these boys. And so one thing I did was to

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00:18:30,480 --> 00:18:38,080

ask whether these objects had been seen on radars at a flight distance from Washington. I could

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00:18:38,080 --> 00:18:42,640

find no one, no radar that had seen them except in the media facility of Washington.

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00:18:43,280 --> 00:18:50,160

Then I also asked about, they crawled up jets of course to come down there and defend the White

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00:18:50,160 --> 00:18:56,080

House and Congress and the Federal Reserve Bank and other such things from flying sources. And

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00:18:56,720 --> 00:19:02,000

they just came over from Delaware and they got there pretty soon and they crisscrossed all around

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00:19:02,000 --> 00:19:07,920

Washington. They found those such things. So I decided there wasn't very much to it. And then

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00:19:07,920 --> 00:19:13,920

when Air Force laid out, came out with an official statement on the subject that there wasn't anything

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00:19:13,920 --> 00:19:19,200

much to it. Of course, Major Kehoe says that they didn't, but actually they did come out with a

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00:19:19,200 --> 00:19:24,240

statement that this was caused by temperature inversions. I think they had a lot more information

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00:19:24,240 --> 00:19:29,760

than can be gathered in the newspapers and by talking to individuals who, having seen something,

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00:19:29,840 --> 00:19:36,720

are committed to stand by it. Now before there's any more said about official statements to Air

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00:19:36,720 --> 00:19:42,800

Force, I'd like to read part of a letter. I thought that there would be remarks about the official

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00:19:42,800 --> 00:19:49,280

attitude of the Air Force. So I called up the Air Force and asked them, this is a letter on the

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00:19:49,280 --> 00:19:54,960

station area of the Department of the Air Force, Washington, the office of the secretary. That's

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00:19:54,960 --> 00:20:01,360

the secretary of the Air Force and it's as high as you can get. It's signed by Colonel Max B. Boyd,

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00:20:02,160 --> 00:20:09,440

chief of information division, office of public information. General Smith has told me of your

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00:20:09,440 --> 00:20:14,560

need for a statement from the Air Force concerning flying saucers. The Air Force position concerning

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00:20:14,560 --> 00:20:20,240

the unexplained aerial phenomena has been restated recently in the enclosed fact sheet, which I

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00:20:20,240 --> 00:20:25,600

hope will be useful to you. You may be interested also in another recent Air Force statement which

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00:20:25,600 --> 00:20:30,720

said after reviewing its massive reports and presenting the better documented ones to highly

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00:20:30,720 --> 00:20:36,560

confident scientific advisors, the Air Force has found that there is absolutely no proof in these

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00:20:36,560 --> 00:20:42,560

reports that space travel from another planet is going on. Either of these statements may be

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00:20:42,560 --> 00:20:50,480

attributed to the Air Force or to an Air Force spokesman. Now this is a, if I will read on occasion

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00:20:50,480 --> 00:20:55,760

some of the things from that fact sheet. One of them is about the same sort of thing. It says that

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00:20:56,800 --> 00:21:02,240

no authentic physical evidence has been received establishing the existence of spaceships from

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00:21:02,240 --> 00:21:08,400

other planets. Well Mr. Lundiff, I may interrupt, is there any evidence or any statement by the

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00:21:08,400 --> 00:21:15,920

Air Force which would deny for example that these sightings are sightings of solid objects controlled

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00:21:15,920 --> 00:21:24,880

by intelligent procedure? Well if you, if you ruled out that they were, the Air Force also ruled out

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00:21:24,880 --> 00:21:32,720

that they are their own guided missiles and they ruled out that they are also not guided missiles from

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00:21:32,720 --> 00:21:38,800

foreign countries. And if you ruled those things out and they still say that they are not

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00:21:39,600 --> 00:21:45,360

in the planetary, why they must be something that can be explained in a much simpler way.

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00:21:45,360 --> 00:21:51,440

Well gentlemen do you feel that there is anything being withheld by the Air Force or the Pentagon?

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00:21:51,440 --> 00:21:58,560

Films or photographs or secret analyses perhaps which the public has the right to know? A major

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00:21:58,560 --> 00:22:06,880

keyhole. Well in one specific case the analysis of the motion picture known as the Utah pictures

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00:22:07,440 --> 00:22:13,600

has been withheld from the public. These pictures were taken in July of 52. They were analyzed for

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00:22:13,600 --> 00:22:20,560

a period of four to six months by the Air Force and the Navy. And they were also analyzed by

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00:22:20,560 --> 00:22:25,920

civilian experts who were brought into that purpose. At that time it was decided that the

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00:22:25,920 --> 00:22:31,920

objects could not be explained as any conventional objects of any kind. They were not aircraft,

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00:22:31,920 --> 00:22:38,560

they were not balloons, they were not reflections from birds wings. It was decided then by a group

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00:22:38,560 --> 00:22:42,720

that believed that this should be made public that there would be a showing of this film to the press

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00:22:42,720 --> 00:22:48,880

in Washington and a public statement would be made. A controversy arose over that which lasted

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00:22:48,880 --> 00:22:55,760

for about two months at which time the the plan showing was killed. I was given a copy of the

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00:22:55,760 --> 00:23:02,000

press release which was to be given out at that time and stated emphatically that these were the

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00:23:02,000 --> 00:23:07,840

answers that they did not have any explanations for them. The Air Force therefore would not speculate

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00:23:07,840 --> 00:23:14,240

on what they were but they showed that they were maneuvering at high speeds and as they had been

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00:23:14,320 --> 00:23:22,160

within a five mile distance they could easily have been identified as aircraft or balloons. Later on,

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00:23:22,160 --> 00:23:28,000

about six weeks ago, I had guarded the Air Force if they had any new venture and I was told by the

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00:23:28,000 --> 00:23:33,520

Air Force press desk, by an official on the desk, that there was no suggestion that they might have

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00:23:33,520 --> 00:23:38,720

been migratory birds in spite of the fact that in this analysis which has not been released to the

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00:23:38,720 --> 00:23:44,000

public it says they could not be reflections from birds because their flight source was too

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00:23:44,080 --> 00:23:49,760

intense and no light, no bird wing could be that reflected. I have that statement here tonight

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00:23:49,760 --> 00:23:54,560

and be glad to show it to Mr. Leonard or anyone else. Statements seem to be a little bit confused.

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00:23:54,560 --> 00:23:59,520

Now here is the latest from the Air Force. There have been some misconceptions concerning Air

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00:23:59,520 --> 00:24:05,120

Force handling of flying saucer reports. One of these misconceptions is that the Air Force is either

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00:24:05,120 --> 00:24:10,960

withholding flying saucer information from the public or cloaking it beneath a security classification.

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00:24:10,960 --> 00:24:21,680

This is untrue and they also say that they have been very, let's see, they are, well, only a very

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00:24:21,680 --> 00:24:26,880

few movie type films have been received by the Air Force and they reveal only 10 points of light

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00:24:26,880 --> 00:24:33,600

moving across the sky. The Air Force has been unable to identify the source of these lights. The image

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00:24:33,600 --> 00:24:40,320

is too small to analyze properly. They don't know what they are and I think that's a great many cases.

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00:24:40,320 --> 00:24:47,520

We don't know but the thing that I object to is the vast jump from lack of knowledge to a

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00:24:47,520 --> 00:24:53,280

dogmatic statement that these things are spaceships. Well, Mr. Leonard, before I go into that I would

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00:24:53,280 --> 00:24:59,280

like to read one thing here to show that someone is not stating the truth and I would like to have

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00:24:59,280 --> 00:25:06,320

it brought up. I have invited the Air Force and put me back on active duty and have me court

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00:25:06,320 --> 00:25:12,560

martial for falsifying the Air Force documents if they can prove that anything I said about official

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00:25:13,120 --> 00:25:19,920

sightings or the Utah pictures is false and I repeat that here and now. I have it, I have documents here

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00:25:19,920 --> 00:25:24,960

which prove it. I have proof from the former head of Project Blue Book who cleared all of these

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00:25:24,960 --> 00:25:30,400

documents for me at right field. I have a statement here by the official who gave them to me at the

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00:25:30,400 --> 00:25:35,920

Pentagon who was assigned to do that. I can prove that every case in that book that I say is from

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00:25:35,920 --> 00:25:41,680

the Air Force is an official sighting case that the pictures were taken, they were analyzed and they

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00:25:41,680 --> 00:25:46,880

have not, the analysis has not been released. And still they deny that they have ever any evidence

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00:25:46,880 --> 00:25:51,920

whatsoever that these things are false. That's right, that's two weeks ago. That's right, but here is

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00:25:51,920 --> 00:25:58,960

their, here is what they told me repeatedly. We have no concrete evidence. Now Mr. Finlatter,

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00:25:58,960 --> 00:26:06,320

the former Secretary of the Air Force said when he was briefed by intelligence officers in 1952

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00:26:06,320 --> 00:26:13,600

after a series of sightings, he said there is no evidence yet, no concrete evidence to prove or

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00:26:13,600 --> 00:26:19,520

disprove the existence of flying saucers. However, since we cannot explain a number of the sightings,

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00:26:19,520 --> 00:26:25,600

the Air Force will continue its investigation. He said nothing about spaceships. No, but in many

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00:26:25,600 --> 00:26:31,200

of these sightings, which I can't read here, but some of them are in the book and any that you wish to

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00:26:31,200 --> 00:26:39,200

know, I'll be glad to show it to you. The speeds have been computed and confirmed by radar and

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00:26:39,200 --> 00:26:44,160

intelligence certifies that the speeds were measured at speeds of thousands of miles an hour that the

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00:26:44,160 --> 00:26:49,520

objects were solid. They don't certify any such thing major. I think they're fine. No, they don't.

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00:26:49,520 --> 00:26:55,200

These things have been analyzed by higher sources, higher groups in the Air Force and they're concluded

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00:26:55,280 --> 00:27:00,960

as just what I read to you. For gentlemen of the time, we'll return to that in just a moment.

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00:27:00,960 --> 00:27:06,400

I've seen everywhere from the North Pole up to Greenland, Alaska and in every country that we

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00:27:06,400 --> 00:27:12,240

know of except behind the Iron Curtain and there have been very few cases bought a few from that area.

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00:27:12,960 --> 00:27:19,440

In this country, they have been seen more frequently around Air Force bases and occasionally atomic

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00:27:19,440 --> 00:27:24,400

installations. Now that may be because there is more observation there, but it still remains the

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00:27:24,400 --> 00:27:29,680

fact that they've been seen more frequently and that is where the Air Force has placed the 75

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00:27:29,680 --> 00:27:35,440

new grid cameras which they have distributed around the country and spawned bases abroad

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00:27:36,240 --> 00:27:39,600

to get pictures of these objects and try to resolve the light source.

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00:27:39,600 --> 00:27:44,240

We have to say those cameras have seen nothing. I'm a bit delighted. What is your answer to the

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00:27:44,240 --> 00:27:50,240

question? My answer is that the for sources are most frequently seen when in places where people

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00:27:50,240 --> 00:27:55,840

have read the most about flying saucers. They've also been seen in places where they've had no

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00:27:55,840 --> 00:28:01,360

flying saucer reports at all. They've been seen in Africa or far east and near east by Chinese who

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00:28:01,360 --> 00:28:06,640

can't even read their own language. They've been seen all over the world in places where they've had

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00:28:06,640 --> 00:28:11,280

truly been no communication about flying saucer books, articles or news sites. They've seen in

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00:28:11,280 --> 00:28:18,000

ancient times what they call them dragons and witches. If the Air Force were convinced that what

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00:28:18,000 --> 00:28:23,280

they're telling the public is true, why are they spending money and a lot of money to investigate

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00:28:23,280 --> 00:28:30,720

this? Why have they scrambled jets at least 400 times in the past four years to chase unidentified

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00:28:30,720 --> 00:28:37,760

objects? There is a standing order that any time the existence of a UFO is established on a radar

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00:28:37,760 --> 00:28:43,040

scope that jets must be ordered along to try to intercept it. But I think that's very reasonable

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00:28:43,120 --> 00:28:48,480

thing to do. Why don't they write it all? If the Air Force really believe what they're saying,

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00:28:49,040 --> 00:28:54,160

why are they going to all this trouble? Is there anything, if I may interrupt, is there anything

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00:28:54,160 --> 00:29:00,320

which has occurred lately or any recent theft taken by the Air Force to show that they are now more

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00:29:00,320 --> 00:29:05,440

concerned perhaps before or than they officially admitted about unidentified flying objects?

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00:29:05,440 --> 00:29:11,840

Anything specific? I think not. I think this letter I read to you is that they did December

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00:29:11,840 --> 00:29:16,720

15th and is from the Secretary of the Air Force. Well, we will continue with our discussion in

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00:29:16,720 --> 00:29:22,320

just a moment. Gentlemen, now we have come to the most intriguing portion of America's town meeting

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00:29:22,320 --> 00:29:27,440

where we entertain questions from the audience directed to both of you. I would like to recognize

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00:29:27,440 --> 00:29:32,480

that the outset, the gentleman on my left, for whom is your question intended? I would like to address

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00:29:32,480 --> 00:29:40,320

my question to Major Kehoe. Major Kehoe, I would like to review your question. How possible is it

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00:29:40,320 --> 00:29:47,360

for the flying saucer or the thing seen to be pilotless and to be controlled from the ground

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00:29:47,360 --> 00:29:54,640

by the U.S. or some foreign power? Well, if such a device existed which had those speeds and

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00:29:54,640 --> 00:30:00,400

capabilities, it could be guided by remote control just as we guide our drones or pilotless bombers.

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00:30:02,320 --> 00:30:07,520

The next question, please. This is the letter. Would you tell us who you are, please, and where

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00:30:07,840 --> 00:30:15,440

you are? My name is Paul Matthews. Mr. Leonard, don't you think that the Air Force may not wish

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00:30:15,440 --> 00:30:25,840

to create panic and that is why they're withholding the information that they may have and also that

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00:30:26,720 --> 00:30:31,920

they may have discovered that these visitors are not after all hostile or are to attack us in any way?

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00:30:32,560 --> 00:30:38,160

Well, there's really two questions. I think the first one about they're not wanted to create

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00:30:38,160 --> 00:30:44,000

panic. I think if they're proceeding in that way, they are being very, very remiss in their duty.

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00:30:44,000 --> 00:30:49,200

They're supposed, the Air Force is supposed to protect us and not to allow us to live in a

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00:30:49,200 --> 00:30:55,840

false paradise. And I think that if anyone in the Air Force tried to do that, the higher levels of

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00:30:55,840 --> 00:31:01,360

the government, the president, the secretary of defense would immediately stop them because it

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00:31:01,360 --> 00:31:06,080

would be the worst way to get us in trouble. And this question of having made contact with them

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00:31:06,080 --> 00:31:11,280

and decide they're not hostile, I think in that case, I think they'd be delighted to tell us all about it.

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00:31:12,720 --> 00:31:19,040

May I have the next question, please? Well, lady on my right. My question is addressed to Major Keel.

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00:31:19,040 --> 00:31:22,720

Would you tell us who you are, please? My name is Eunice Sporg, and I'm from Detroit.

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00:31:23,840 --> 00:31:30,080

My question is, is there a possibility, Major Keel, that another planet might be trying to contact

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00:31:30,080 --> 00:31:35,200

the Earth? Well, I think that is part of the answer. Of course, there's no way of knowing

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00:31:35,200 --> 00:31:40,720

which one it might be. It's possible it might be within our own solar system. Perhaps the Mars

00:31:40,720 --> 00:31:47,360

Committee, which has now been established to watch Mars as it nears the Earth, may find some evidence during the coming year.