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30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10112

Room 5600

(212) 649-5600

November 1, 1995

11-1-95
JHG.
Skip
Johns

Dear Jack,

Attached are: (1) A draft letter to the President which Laurance has been discussing with Mrs. Clinton and her staff; and, (2) A draft report on the "best evidence" about UFOs.

Laurance thinks that it is perhaps timely to send a letter to the President. We think the "best evidence" report, although we haven't reviewed it in detail or analyzed it, is a good piece of work.

Laurance would like to discuss these items by telephone, perhaps on Thursday, November 2 between 11:30 and 12:30, if this is convenient for you.

Sincerely,

Henry (signed in absence)

Henry L. Diamond

Doctor John H. Gibbons
Assistant to the President for
Science and Technology
Old Executive Office Building
Room 424
Washington, D.C. 20500

Enclosures
Via Federal Express

DRAFT

Dear President Clinton,

Re: Lifting Secrecy on Information About
Extraterrestrial Intelligence as Part
of the Current Classification Review

For some time in connection with my concern for human values, I have been interested in the enhancement of spirituality and holistic healing as well as the development of a new paradigm of consciousness. This involves an appreciation of the close relationship between science and religion and the wisdom of approaching them together rather than separately.

As a result of extensive conversations with researchers in these areas, as well as my own informal study, I have come to believe that the question of life elsewhere in the cosmos is of paramount importance. Your initiative in bringing greater openness to government through the current review of the classification of government documents to eliminate unnecessary secrecy, offers an extraordinary opportunity to advance our knowledge of this question.

This letter is to request that, as part of this reassessment, you personally and specifically direct a review of current government information policy concerning Extraterrestrial Intelligence (ETI), including Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). It is widely believed that various agencies of the federal government have substantial information concerning the existence or non-existence of UFOs, and that it has been unnecessarily withheld from the public as classified for reasons of national security. If this information were released, it would be received as evidence of a new spirit of partnership between government and its citizens.

The current classification review is a good step. However, Mr. President, from past experience there is every reason to believe that without your personal initiative available information of ETI and UFOs will not be released in a meaningful way. This is to urge you to expand and accelerate the important movement towards openness you have initiated. We would like to suggest the following steps:

DRAFT

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1. Direct that information about ETI and UFOs be given priority in the current classification review.

2. Appoint a coordinator for government information about ETI and UFOs to bring together information from all federal agencies involved, such as the Department of Defense, the Air Force, NASA, the CIA and other parts of the intelligence community. Your Science Advisor, Jack Gibbons, might well be the right person for this role.

3. Make it known through federal agencies, such as those named above, that anyone having information about ETI or UFOs will be granted amnesty from relevant oaths or other government constraints.

These steps, I respectfully suggest, would further not only the cause of scientific inquiry and knowledge, but also that of public confidence in government and international good will. The timing is particularly propitious because, as our first post-Cold War President, you have an opportunity to take this important step without many of the national security constraints that have limited government candor with the American people in the past.

As an interested and concerned citizen, I stand ready to assist in whatever I can do that you might find useful.

Sincerely,

Laurance S. Rockefeller

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500