

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE
ATTN: Col T. R. Johnson

1. Forwarded herewith are copies of correspondence referred to this office by the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, from Congressman J. E. Moss, Chairman of the House Sub-Committee on Government Information. Congressman Moss' letter is self-explanatory.

2. It is requested that this office be furnished information upon which to base a reply to questions set forth by Congressman Moss. Further, request that all questions contained in the above mentioned correspondence be answered in detail so far as possible.

3. Necessary coordination is requested as provided in paragraph 4d, HOI 11-2.

4. Suspense, 1600 hours, 25 June 1956.

5. Any additional inquiries may be addressed to Major E. L. Secrest, SAFLL-3, Ext. 5-3531

/s/ Harry E. Morrill
Lt Colonel, USAF
Deputy Chief of Investigations Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

may James
P10
Pentagon.
75131

84th Congress
Congress of the United States House of Representatives
Government Information Sub-Committee
of the Committee on Government Operations

Honorable Donald A. Quarles
Secretary of the Air Force
Department of Defense
Pentagon
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It is the understanding of the House Government Information Sub-Committee that the Air Force's "full report" on unidentified flying objects entitled, "United States Air Force Project, Blue Book, Special Report No. 14," was issued in October 1955. The Sub-Committee has received complaints that this report, while not classified, is not available to the public except at considerable expense of time and money, since individuals must personally visit the Pentagon in order to read the report.

In view of this fact, could you tell us exactly ^① how many copies of this report were printed and to whom these copies went? ^② Could you also tell us how many requests you have received for Special Report No. 14? Also, ^③ how many individuals went to the Pentagon to read ^④ the report after its release.

^⑤ Since our information is to the effect that far more requests have been made than there are copies available, can you tell us what the Air Force has done to satisfy these requests?

^⑥ If the information in the report is being withheld from the public for any specific reason, we would like to know that reason. ^⑦ If the Air Force claims any statutory authority for withholding information in the report, will you please cite such statutory authority. ^⑧ If the information is being withheld under specific Air Force rule or regulation, would you please cite such rule or regulation and provide copy.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ John E. Moss
Chairman

✓

M/R: Ltr fr Congr Moss dtd 17 Jun 56, to Secy of AF re info concerning Blue Book
recd SAFLL-3 20 Jun 56 w/sus 22 Jun 56. Memo to Dir of Intel Req info upon which
to base a reply prep'd by Inv. Div 21 Jun 56 w/sus 1600 hrs, 25 Jun 56. LL-3 recd
~~memo from ATIC by way of buckslip from Intel sgd by Lt. Col~~
Johnson dtd 27 Jun 56. LL-3 prep & fwd fnl reply to Chmn Moss 28 Jun & retyped
29 Jun 56

JUL 5 - 1956

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in reply to your letter of 17 June 1956 in which you requested information concerning the report on unidentified flying objects.

On 5 May 1955 the Air Force declassified its special study, Project Blue Book, Report Number 14, "Analysis of Reports of Unidentified Aerial Objects", and on 25 October 1955, the Air Force publicly released a summary of this report. The full report, consisting of over 300 pages, is not available for widespread distribution because of prohibitive costs. It has been estimated that the cost of printing enough copies for distribution to the public through such outlets as libraries and academic institutions would be between \$10 and \$15 per copy. The summary entitled "United States Air Force Summary of Events and Information Concerning the Unidentified Flying Objects Program" and an Air Force Press Release on Unidentified Flying Objects are available upon request in any quantities desired. Inclosed are copies of the summary and the press release.

In reply to your specific questions, the Air Force printed 100 copies of the report and these were distributed in accordance with the normal Air Force distribution list. The Air Technical Intelligence Center has received 8 inquiries concerning this report - 2 of these inquiries requested copies of the report and the remaining 6 asked for information as to where to go in order to read the report. The Department of Defense, Office of Public Information, has received from 300 to 350 requests for information concerning this report - most of these inquiries came from students in elementary schools, high schools and colleges, and between 8 and 10 individuals visited the Pentagon to read the report after its release. The Air Force has counted on the summary and the press release previously mentioned to satisfy the demand for information. In addition, the various press associations and prominent periodicals have covered the subject thoroughly. Requests for information are handled, first by replying to the specific question asked, second by enclosing a copy of the summary and press release, and finally by referring the writer to the nearest available report. The report is available for examination by the general public at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., at the Air Force Section, Office of Information Services, Room 470E - 110 East 45th Street, New York 17, New York, and at the Air Force Section, Office of Information Services, Room 1408 - Federal Building, Los Angeles, California. In rare cases of obvious need a copy of the report is made available on loan for reproduction. As an example, one state university has requested and been granted permission to reproduce this report at their own expense.

DISTRIBUTION: SAFLL-1, AFOIN, AFCAV, SAFIS, SAFGC, SAFS, OFFICE OF SIGNATURE

SAFLL-3

SAFLL

Note: ATIC memo dtd 25 Jun Sgd John C. Eriksen, Col, USAF
Fwd by Intel (See buckslip sgd Lt. Col. Johnson)

AFOIN-X

Ltr to Gen Moss, Subcmte on Government Information (Cont)

The Air Force has no intention of withholding this information from the public. On the contrary, the Air Force has made a very definite effort to make this information available through all possible and reasonable means without undue expense to the government.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Donald A. Quarles

Inclosures Summary Rpt & AF Press Release

Honorable John E. Moss
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Government Information
Committee on Government Operations
House of Representatives

AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

74 2 08 38 52

JUN 25 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE

ATTN: Lt Col T.R. Johnson, AFOIN-X

SUBJECT: Proposed Reply by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Letter from The Honorable John E. Moss, Chairman, Government Information Sub-Committee of the Committee on Government Operations

1. The following is the suggested material for Secretary Quarles' reply to the subject letter:

a. Although the "full report" (over 300 pages) on unidentified flying objects entitled "United States Air Force Project Blue Book, Special Report Nr. 14" is not available for wide spread distribution because of prohibitive costs, there is a Summary entitled "U.S. Air Force Summary of Events and Information Concerning the Unidentified Flying Object Program" and there is also a copy of the Air Force Press Release on Unidentified Flying Objects by the Department of Defense, Office of Public Information, which are available on request in any quantity desired.

b. In reply to the questions asked in the second paragraph of subject letter, the following information is submitted:

- (1) One hundred copies of Project Blue Book Special Report Nr. 14 were printed by the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) and sent out in accordance with the normal Air Force distribution list, including the Department of Defense, Office of Public Information, which distributed needed copies to its East and West Coast Offices.
- (2) The Air Technical Intelligence Center has received eight inquiries concerning this report - two of these inquiries requested copies of the report and the remaining six asked where to go in order to see it. The Department of Defense, Office of Public Information has received from 300 to 350 requests for information concerning Special Report Nr. 14; most of these inquiries came from students in elementary schools, high schools and colleges. Very few requests have come from scientists or other conscientious researchers; however, one State University has requested and been granted permission to reproduce Special Report Nr. 14 at their own expense.

Subject closed

Presented to Col General R. Jorgensen

SAFIC - 15 D924 (77114)

sent Comair and initially

Ref. Bldg. in 1500

Active - Reals called to presentation

to 1500 with...

has called all types to hearings with Mrs. Foxworth - SAFIC will hand out with covering remark re declass. 14

Memo for D/I, Subj: Proposed Reply by the Secretary of the AF to the Ltr from The Honorable John E. Moss

(3) Between eight and ten individuals went to the Pentagon to read the Report after its release.

c. Replying to the third paragraph of subject letter it may be stated, in partial repetition of the previous statement, that:

(1) ATIC has printed and distributed 100 copies of the Report.

(2) The total number of requests for the actual Report or for information thereon is as follows: 350 requests to the PIO, 8 requests to ATIC and 10 visits to the Pentagon to see the Report (the actual percentage in these requests for copies of the full report is extremely small, probably less than 1%).

Because of the technical nature and length of the Report, only the required number of copies for official distribution were printed. The cost of printing enough copies for distribution to the public, through such outlets as public libraries, academic institutions and so forth, would be prohibitive (from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per copy, depending on the quantity). In view of this the AF has counted on the Summary and the Press Release, mentioned earlier, to satisfy the demand for information. Requests for information are handled, first, by replying to the specific questions asked; second, by inclosing a copy of the Summary and the Press Release and finally, by referring the writer to the nearest available Report Nr. 14 for perusal. In rare cases of obvious need, ATIC forwards a copy of the Report, on loan, or makes it available for reproduction.

d. Replying to the last paragraph of subject letter, the AF has released Project Blue Book Special Report Nr. 14 to the public, under the authorization of AF Regs. 200-2 and 190-16. Marked copies of these are inclosed. The AF has no intention of withholding this information from the public. On the contrary, the Air Force has made a definite effort to get this information to the public; at a press conference held in the Pentagon, on 25 August 1955, the Secretary of the Air Force presented a Summary of Special Report Nr. 14 and a press release. In addition to this, a sufficient number of copies of the Report was made available for study at this meeting.

e. In conclusion it is believed that all possible and reasonable means of keeping the public informed, without undue expense to the Government, are being utilized. The various Press Associations and at

**Memo for D/I, Subj: Proposed Reply by the Secretary of the AF to the Ltr
from The Honorable John E. Moss**

least one prominent national periodical have covered the subject thoroughly;
this fact may account for the relatively small number of inquiries on this
Report received by the Air Force.

4 Incls

1. AF Reg. 200-2
2. AF Reg. 190-16
3. USAF Summary
4. USAF Press Release

JOHN G. ERIKSEN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Commander