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took cognizance this year of the many reports of unusual aerial phenomena by including three invited papers on the subject in their otherwise straightforward scientific meeting. One of the invited papers was by Dr. Byrd, entitled "Unusual Aerial Phenomena". The other two papers were by Drs. Hessel and Liddell, of Harvard Observatory and the Woods Energy Commission, respectively.

The papers of Hessel and Liddell, though differing somewhat in content, were identical in spirit. Both papers were characterized by the fact that numerous explanations for unexplained sightings were given without a single reference to a specific sighting in the files of the Air Technical Intelligence Command. Both papers presented a series of well-worn statements as to how jet fighters, meteors, reflections from balloons and aircraft, and optical effects, such as sundogs and mirages, could give rise to "flying saucer" reports. Since there was nothing new in either of the two papers, the trip from that standpoint was unproductive.

The paper by Dr. Byrd, in essence, was to the effect that flying saucers represented a science-public relations problem that when a sighting is made by several people, at least one of whom is an experienced observer, the mutually corroborated reports are submitted to a scientific hearing, rather than ridicule. It stressed the point that here was a subject in which the public has shown great interest. It was recommended that the relatively few well-screened reports be dealt with specifically to see whether any of the cases suggested by Drs. Liddell and Hessel are applicable, and if so, to make this known in these specific instances. On the other hand, if the suggested explanations of Drs. Liddell and Hessel do not explain well-screened cases, this should also be made known and given further scientific study.

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