

Other than reducing runway requirements we do not expect vertical-rising aircraft to have more outstanding military characteristics than conventional types.

"Vertical-rising aircraft capable of transition to supersonic vertical flight will be a new phenomenon in our skies, and under certain conditions could give the illusion of the so-called flying saucer. The Department of Defense will make every effort within bounds of security to keep the public informed of these developments so they can be recognized for what they are."

Mr. Quarles added: "I think we must recognize that other countries also have the capability of developing vertical-rising aircraft, perhaps of unorthodox shapes. Whether we are satisfied at this time that none of the sightings or so-called 'flying saucers' reported in this country were in fact aircraft of foreign origin."

END

Attachment

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