

The spot study which resulted in this report (Analysis of Reports of Unidentified Aerial Objects, 3 May 1955) started in 1953 to provide the study group with a complete set of files, the information subject data was established as of the end of 1954. It will accordingly be noted that the statistics contained in all charts and tables in this report are designated with the year 1954. In these charts, 3000 cases have been used.

As the study progressed, a constant program was maintained for the purpose of seeking cooperation between the current cases received after 1 January 1955, and those being used for the report. This was done in order that any change or significant trend which might arise from current developments could be incorporated in the summary of this report.

The 1953 and 1954 cases show a general and expected trend of increasing percentages in the finally identified categories. They also show decreasing percentages in categories where there was insufficient information and those where the phenomena could not be explained. This trend had been anticipated in the light of improved reporting and investigating procedures.

Official reports on hand at the end of 1954 totaled 4834. Of these, 425 were produced in 1953 and 429 in 1954. These 1953 and 1954 individual reports (a total of 854), were analyzed on the same basis as were those received before the end of 1952. The results are as follows:

Balloons.....	26	per cent
Aircraft.....	20	per cent
Astronomical.....	25	per cent
Other.....	13	per cent
Insufficient Information.....	17	per cent
Unknown.....	9	per cent

As the study of the current cases progressed, it became increasingly obvious that if reporting and investigating procedures could be further improved, the percentages of those cases which contained insufficient information and those remaining unexplained would be greatly reduced. The way to a higher percentage of solutions appeared to be to rapid "on the spot" investigations by trained personnel. On the basis of this, a revised program was established by Air Force Regulation 200-2, Subjects "Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting" (Short Title: UFRS), dated 19 August 1954.

This new program, which had begun to show agreed results before January 1955, provided primarily that the 4603d Air Intelligence Service Squadron (Air Defense Command) would carry out all field investigations. This squadron has sufficient units and is so deployed as to be able to advise "on the spot" within a very short time after a report is received. After treatment by the 4603d Air Intelligence Service Squadron, all information is supplied to the Air Technical Intelligence Center for final evaluation. This cooperative program has resulted, since 1 January 1955, in reducing the insufficient information cases to seven percent and the unknown cases to three percent of the totals.