

This represents a reduction of 40 percent in the number of cases reported. Of the 100 cases reported to the Air Force, 507 have been analyzed and evaluated, and 16 cases are pending awaiting additional data. UFO cases as files are not closed and should additional information be obtained or a later date, it can result in a closed case and/or any change the category previously assigned to the individual sighting (as in the case of a previously unidentified case being changed to the aircraft category). This open end policy on all UFO files results in major changes from time to time in UFO category statistics.

UFO Report, Evaluation - by Category and Percentage Breakdown

-1 July 1959 - 31 December 1965

| | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| Astronomical | 78 | 73.3% |
| Aircraft | 11 | 10.5% |
| Balloons | 18 | 17.2% |
| Inefficient Data | 79 | 75.8% |
| Other (birds, comets, searchlights, etc.) | 25 | 24.0% |
| Unidentified | 4 | 3.8% |
| | 107 | 100% |

*This category includes 37 sightings (34.6%) reported by individuals and in each case there was no supporting witness and no additional information or facts available to allow a substantive evaluation of the sighting. Sightings of this category must be discounted because of a total lack of supporting data. These 37 cases reduce the total number of cases for calendar year 1959 to only 70 with 130 of these evaluations to date. In the case of the other 33 sightings in the insufficient data category, additional data or facts were available but were not sufficient enough to allow a valid conclusion.

Reporting, investigation, analysis and evaluation procedures have improved considerably since the first sighting of a "flying saucer" was made on 24 June 1947. The study and analysis of reported sightings of UFO's is conducted by a selected scientific group under the supervision of the Air Force.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Professor of Astrophysics and Astronomy at Northwestern University, is the Chief Scientific Consultant to the Air Force on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects.

The selected, qualified scientists, engineers, and other personnel involved in these analyses are completely objective and open minded on the subject of "flying saucers." They apply scientific methods of examination to all cases in reaching their conclusions. The strongest identification of the phenomenon observed is generally derived from known impressions and interpretations and not from speculative theories or assumptions. The data in the sightings reported are almost invariably subjective in nature. However, no report is considered acceptable for study and categorization and no lack of valid evidence of physical matter in the case studies is assumed to be "false data," ambiguous than so-called "flying saucers" or interplanetary vehicles do not exist.

General categories of identification are balloons, aircraft, astronomical, other identified data, and unidentified.