

previously unidentified cases being changed to the aircraft category). This open and policy on all UFO files results in minor changes from time to time in UFO category statistics. This also applies to individual reports submitted after the fact. These continuing changes account for additional minor changes periodically made, of course, are not consistent with previously released figures.

The total number of sightings reported to the United States Air Force since 1947 are as follows:

YEAR	REPORTS RECEIVED AND REPORTED
1947	70
1948	143
1949	126
1950	149
1951	121
1952	1504
1953	475
1954	425
1955	424
1956	770
1957	1175
1958	573
1959	54
1960 (through 30 April)	171
	5213

Reporting, investigation, analysis and evaluation procedures have improved considerably since the first sighting of a "flying saucer" was seen on 27 June 1947. The study and analysis of reported sightings of UFOs is conducted by a selected scientific group under the supervision of the Air Force.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Head of the Department of Astronomy and Director of the Observatory at Northwestern University, is the Chief, Scientific Committee 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 attempted identification of the phenomenon observed generally must be derived from human impressions and interpretations because scientific devices or measurements are not available. The data is the sightings reported are almost invariably subjective in nature. However,

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