

25 July 1964

INFORMATION ON THE UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA PROGRAM

Investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects has been assigned to the Air Force by the Congress of the United States. The code name for this project is "Blue Book". The information sheet has given a short explanation of the project to date. AF 800-2 is the regulation which guides the program. Under this regulation the nearest Air Force base to the sighting is charged with investigation of the report. They conduct the initial investigation and forward the data to the office of Aerial Phenomena for further investigation (if necessary), for evaluation, and for remote disposition. With forwarding of the report, the responsibility for release of information regarding the sighting is transferred to U. S. Air Force Headquarters.

A vital part of the program is the release of information to the public. This is carried out in an operational and factual report issued periodically, called the "Fact Sheet". No fact sheet was published for cases in 1962 since the information received did not warrant such a publication. Release of this information does not imply that there has been any change in policy or the conclusions reached by the Air Force, on the contrary, the data received during the past two years has strengthened the present policies and given additional supporting data to the conclusions reached with the publication of Blue Book in 1959.

The general conclusions are: To date, no unidentified aerial phenomenon has given any indication of threat to the National Security; there has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that unidentified sightings represented technological developments or prototypes beyond the range of our present day scientific knowledge; and finally, there has been nothing in the way of evidence or other data to indicate that these unidentified sightings were extraterrestrial vehicles under intelligent control.

With analysis of the cases from 1963 completed, several significant changes in the evaluations from a statistical point are apparent. Astronomical sightings moved out satellites by the narrow margin of 82 - 80; only 108 of the sightings were carried in the astronomical category compared to an eight year average of 246. A reference to Star/Planet sightings was expected since Jupiter was the lone planet of any great magnitude visible during most of the year. The astronomical sighting category holds one of the most published cases of the year. A summary of the Fairfield, Illinois sighting of 3 Aug 1963, is attached to illustrate an evaluation of this nature. The case is also included in the evaluation, as is Jupiter. Two sightings of sub Japs and one observation of an unusual display complete the "Other Astronomical" aspect of this category. The most outstanding aspect of the period was the 4 March 1963 case observed in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas. The meteor was witnessed by ground observers, seen from military and civilian aircraft, and was picked up on radar. Another meteor observation, made on 3 April 1963, at Burn, Utah Islands, created a minor stir in various UFO publications. An exceptional bulid was observed on 30 September 1963 over New Mexico and Texas.