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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 "Star Search". The attached information sheet gives a short explanation of the project to date. AFM 206-2 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 records disposition. With forwarding of the report, the responsibility for release of information regarding the sighting is transferred to U. S. Air Force Headquarters.

A part of the program is the release of information to the public. This is carried out in an unclassified and factual report issued periodically, called the "Star Sheet". So far about 200 have been 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 Star Book in 1954.

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 substantiated or discovered by the Air Force that unidentified sightings represented technological developments or principles 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 the first eight months of 1963 almost completed, several significant changes in the evaluations from a statistical point are apparent. For the first time Astronomical sightings are taking a back seat. With the return observers of the winter season (usually Dec 3-15 being the largest annual shower) this category could well regain its place of prominence, yet at the present rate this seems unlikely. A reduction in Star/Flight sightings was expected since Jupiter is the lone planet of any great magnitude visible. The astronomical sighting category holds one of the most publicized cases of the year. A summary of the Fairfield, Illinois sighting of 3 Jan 1963, is attached to illustrate an evaluation of this category. The case is also included in the evaluation, as is Jupiter. Two sightings of man dogs comprise the "Other Astronomical" aspect of this category. The most outstanding sector of the period was the 6 March 1963 case observed in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas. The sector was witnessed by ground observers, seen from military and civilian aircraft and was picked up on Radar. Another sector observation, made on 3 April 1963, at Dutch Flats Island, created a storm stir in various UFO publications.

Heading the list is our friend the Satellite, with ECM contributing more than 50% of all Satellite sightings. Increase in evaluation of UFO's as Satellites

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