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INTRODUCTION

This investigation would like to offer three recommendations, one in the general interest of the nation's airman, and two as aids toward more effective investigation of the problem of unidentified aerial objects, if such work is undertaken:

First and foremost, it is definitely recommended that air force personnel be apprised of simple astronomical phenomena like the recurrent brilliance of Venus and the characteristics of a typical meteor, so that such confusion and alarm and even possible tragic consequences can be avoided. If, as seems possible, Lieutenant Burdell met his death while attempting to chase down "drag", certainly the need for such basic education is great.

Second, if Project COMBAT is authorized to extend its present activities, it might be found profitable to interview personally varied trained personnel concerning any unexplained aerial objects which they may have observed in the past. Many competent observers might hesitate to take the initiative in reporting such phenomena for fear of ridicule or criticism, but it is only from such people that accurate and meaningful descriptions can be obtained, reliable on the general points for such observations is almost certain to prove of little value. It would be of considerable aid to know whether (aside from the few cases reported here) experienced pilots, weather observers, and other "watchers of the sky" have ever found unidentified objects there. Even negative results would prove valuable, for they would offer evidence for the belief held by many that the unexplained

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