

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

The United States Air Force has the responsibility under the Department of Defense for the investigation of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). The current blue program, which has been in operation since 1948, is Project Blue Book. It has been identified in the past as Project SIGS and Project CRUCIBLE.

Air Force interest in unidentified flying objects is related directly to the Air Force responsibility for the air defense of the United States. Parameters for conducting this program are established by Air Force Regulation 90-61.

The objectives of Project Blue Book are two-fold: first, to determine whether UFOs pose a threat to the security of the United States; and, second, to determine whether UFOs contain any unique scientific information or advanced technology which could contribute to aerospace or technical research. In the course of accomplishing these objectives, Project Blue Book strives to identify and explain all UFO sightings reported to the Air Force.

HOW THE PROGRAM IS CONDUCTED

Reports concerning what is considered to be an unidentified flying object (UFO) should report it as soon as possible to the nearest Air Force base. Persons submitting a UFO report to the Air Force are free to discuss any aspect of the report with anyone. The Air Force does not seek to limit discussion on such reports and does not withhold or change key information pertaining to this unclassified program. The Air Force does not withhold the names and addresses of individuals who report UFO sightings without their permission in order to protect the rights and privacy of the individual and to protect possible embarrassment and undue or unwanted publicity.

The program is conducted in three phases. The first phase includes receipt of UFO reports and initial investigation of the reports. The Air Force base nearest the location of a reported sighting is charged with the responsibility of investigating the sighting. Only those cases that cannot be positively identified by the base are forwarded to Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

If the initial investigation does not reveal a positive identification or explanation, a second phase or more intensive analysis is conducted by the Project Blue Book Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Each case is objectively and scientifically analyzed, and, if necessary, all of the scientific facilities available to the Air Force can be used to assist in carrying out an identification or explanation. All personnel associated with the investigation, analysis, and evaluation efforts of the project view each report with a scientific approach and an open mind.

The third phase of the program is dissemination of information concerning UFO sightings, evaluations, and statistics. The Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Information, is the agency responsible for releasing information to the public and to the news media. In those instances where the sighting has been positively identified at the base, the base commander may release the information to the news media and the public.

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