

UNCLASSIFIED

The Ohio State University has contracted with Air Materiel Command to supply astronomical services in an effort to identify meteors, planetoids and associated phenomena. Professor Hynes, Ohio State University Astro-Physicist and Head of the University Observatory has undertaken to review the incident survey sheets. With this survey has not yet been completed, Professor Hynes has reported verbally that he is "satisfied" that a number of the reported observations represent astronomical phenomena.

Members of the Scientific Advisory Board to the Chief of Staff, USAF, who have provided consultant services to Project "Sign", include Dr. Iovine Lemaistre, Chief, General Electronics Research and Dr. G. N. Valley of MIT.

A preliminary type of interview has been held between Dr. Lemaistre and personnel of Project "Sign" during early stages of the project. It is intended to consult further with Dr. Lemaistre in an effort to supplement present technical efforts toward identifying the reported objects.

Dr. G. N. Valley has displayed an active interest in Project "Sign", to the extent of reviewing the reported incidents and writing an overall type of analysis in which he groups the various objects and then analyzes each group from the standpoint of scientific feasibility. This analysis is provided as Appendix (C) to this report.

Inasmuch as various surmises have been advanced that some of the reported observations may have represented "space ships" or satellite vehicles, a special study has been initiated with the Rand Corporation, under the Rand Project, to provide an analysis from this standpoint and also to provide fundamental information pertaining to the basic design and performance characteristics that might distinguish a possible "space ship".

As a preliminary undertaking, the Rand Project has submitted a study by Dr. Lipp in which the possibility is explored of any planet in the known universe being in a physical and cultural position to allow the development and use of the "space ship". This study has been prepared in the form of a report that is presented as Appendix (D).

The Weather Bureau Library of the Department of Commerce has supplied information on "ball lightning". This was requested because of the belief by some persons that some of the observations may have represented "ball lightning". It appears that the subject of "ball lightning" occupies an undetermined status and authorities are not at all convinced that such a phenomena actually exists.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has assisted Project "Sign" in a number of instances, both by investigations of the character and reliability of witnesses of incidents and by providing other investigative services.