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STATUS OF PROJECT BLUE BOOK

I. GENERAL STATUS

A. Briefing of the "Civilian Secret Investigations"

On the evening of 2 April 1952, a civilian group who are interested in the investigation of reports of unidentified aerial objects was briefed on all of the unclassified aspects of the project. This group consists of employees of the North American Aircraft, Inc., Aerophysics Laboratory, and several non-technical persons. The organization is not, however, officially affiliated with the aircraft company. The majority of this group are qualified engineers and are working on missile developments.

The purpose of the briefing was to familiarize this group with the past history and present operations of the project. It is believed that these people will possibly receive reports of unidentified aerial objects from civilian sources that might not be reported to the Air Force. They are also in contact with other civilian groups in the United States that are collecting similar reports.

Although this group is financially unable to conduct any large-scale investigations, liaison has been established so that the Air Force will be advised of any noteworthy reports they receive.

B. Visit to [REDACTED]

A group of Read, Inc., personnel were briefed on 4 April 1952. Although Read, Inc., is not associated with the project in any way, some of the scientists are personally interested and have been following the status of the project. After the briefing, various aspects of the project were discussed, among them the use of a diffraction grating camera to obtain the spectrum of objects that may be observed. All of the group concurred that this would be an inexpensive method of obtaining more definite data.

The status of the Read study on the satellite rocket was also discussed.

C. Status of Diffraction Grating Camera

The status of the proposed diffraction grating camera was discussed with Dr. J. Kaplan on 2 April 1952. Dr. Kaplan used a laboratory setup to demonstrate how the grating will function. Suitable gratings have been found and it is believed that they can be reproduced for from \$15 to \$20 each. Although these gratings are not of first quality, they will be good enough to give the results that are hoped for. Tests are now being conducted to determine how inexpensive a lens can be used to give the light gathering power and definition needed to obtain a satisfactory photograph. The intensity of the full moon is being used as "the standard brilliance" for the tests.

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