

● SKY PATROL

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Flying saucer project failed to lift

THE US planned to build an all-powerful fully functioning flying saucer to patrol the skies during the 1950s, it has been revealed.

A memo recently released by the US National Archives shows detailed diagrams and sketches of a craft that was to

reach top speeds of "between Mach 3 and Mach 4, a ceiling of over 100,000 ft. and a maximum range with allowances of about 1000 nautical miles".

Engineers working on the the military initiative, named Project 1794, got so far as initial rounds of product develop-

ment and had begun prototype design.

But, according to wired.com, they had failed miserably to reach the desired 100,000 feet (30km) in altitude. They struggled to get much more than 1.5m off the ground, so the project was axed in 1960.