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17 December 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: Assistant Director, Scientific Intelligence
FROM: Chief, Physics and Electronics Division, SI
SUBJECT: Current Status of Unidentified Flying Objects
(UFOB) Project.

1. In accordance with the verbal request of Mr. Brent, Exec/SI, on 30 November, the following resume of the current status of unidentified flying objects activities has been prepared.

2. P&E Division assumed responsibility for the OSI project on unidentified flying objects as a result of your memorandum of 27 May 1953. The project has been confined to maintaining awareness of the activities of other agencies (notably the USAF) in the unidentified flying objects business and to maintenance of files.

NOTE:

(3 pgs. deleted for illustration purposes. W.L.M.)

5. Results of OSI Panel Recommendations. The consultants who considered this problem in January 1953 recommended that UFOBs be stripped of special status and aura of mystery and that policies on intelligence, training and public education pertinent to true indications of hostile intent or action be prepared.... Two recent books ("Flying Saucers from Outer Space" by Kehoe and "Flying Saucers Have Landed" by Leslie and Adamski) take full advantage of "official" UFOB reports released by the Air Force to develop a central theme that UFOB's are extraterrestrial in origin. Fortunately, the latter book is so nonsensical and obviously fraudulent that it may actually help calm down public reaction. These books do, however, illustrate the risk taken by the present policy. There are no other as yet apparent results of these recommendations.

TODOS M. ODARENKO

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Retyped - Original copy of very poor quality.