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a letter from a scientist, not on the
 Panel, who wrote to Panel members he
 knew, asking about the Report, in 1958.

May 20, 1958

Mr. Leon Davidson
 64 Prospect Street
 White Plains, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Davidson:

I received one verbal and one written answer to my query. The written answer was quite definite. The release had been written in "governmentese" purposely, but it was not expected that there would be any release. There was to be no further statement from the group. A second man told me more definitely that he was astonished at the wording of the document that he had, presumably signed. He agreed with me about its indefiniteness and thought that it would do harm. But then he pointed out that no matter what you said the flying saucer people would get you somehow or other.

If I hear of anything more of interest I will keep you informed. I find Ruppelt's letter interesting and certainly it throws light on some of the activities of that agency. In my opinion it further verifies Ruppelt's incompetence for the job that he was given. I mean this not as a criticism, because one cannot always control the assignment and doubtless he did the best he could. But I've never seen a project worse handled than the early stages of the flying saucer program. I had one of those "briefing sessions" and particularly recall one incident.

In my emphasis that these were natural phenomena, say mirages for example, one of the men said "suppose that we granted for a moment, that you are correct. Doesn't it occur to you that we might be able to use this information in reverse?"

"You mean as a counter measure?" I asked.

"Exactly!"

"You mean you would like to use this phenomenon, say, to produce an image of Christ over the Kremlin?"

"Yes that's an excellent example," he said.

"Absolute nonsense!" I replied. I then went on to state emphatically that I was not going to be misled by any considerations of security or secrecy in this development. As I recall, General Sanford was present at these meetings.

As a result, they agreed to open up the Blue Book files to me. In fact Ruppelt was requested to bring them to me so that I could study them. Well, not only did Ruppelt never come, but he further immediately moved in to classify the files and I was not permitted, as Keyhoe and others have indicated, to get this information. On one occasion, however, I was told to come over and see all of the files and they would throw them open.

I went over to the Pentagon where the scientist in charge of this bureau immediately pulled out great drawers of these things and said "now here you can see for yourself exactly what is in them." He said "I know you have security clearance."

I asked him if the files were classified and that if anything that I happen to see in these files and wanted to quote it would be similarly classified. He said yes that I was not permitted to quote. I said "no thank you!" and thus avoided what might conceivably have been a trap to muzzle me.

Sincerely yours,

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Part C: The 1966 Air Force Release on Project Blue Book

Pages C-1 through C-8 comprise the complete text of the document issued by the Air Force in February 1966 as its current "press release" for the public. The only deletions (made necessary by limitations of space) are a "Suggested Reading List" of books on astronomy, atmospheric phenomena, etc., which constituted page 6, and a Fireball Report Form which formed page 10. If desired, these missing pages may be obtained from the publisher (see back cover for address) at a nominal charge to cover reproduction and handling expenses.

The cover letter from the Air Force which accompanied this document is reproduced on page C-4, occupying what was a large blank space in the original document. Pages 4 and 5 of the original document, which were each half-blank, have been combined on page C-5. Pages 6 and 10 have been omitted, as stated above.

PROJECT

BLUE
BOOK

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