



CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER

OTTAWA

March 17th, 1965.

Mr. A.R. Bray,
1187 Agincourt Road,
Ottawa 5, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Bray,

Concerning your letter of February 25th, 1965 addressed to Mr. Jules Pelletier, your statement to the effect that unidentified flying objects are no longer of interest to the Canadian Government is somewhat of an over simplification of the problem. To be sure unidentified flying object reports do not create the excitement that they did a few years ago, because all reports to-date have been assessed as posing no threat to national security. However, each report that cannot immediately and definitely be related to some natural phenomenon or man-made object is investigated and an assessment made of any threat to national security.

No final report on unidentified flying objects has been made by any Canadian Government agency for a variety of reasons. One of the reasons is that unidentified flying object publicity of any kind, even negative publicity, stimulates a rash of reports which in the past have proven to be figments of over-active imaginations, and which have been costly to investigate and have served no useful purpose. Another reason is that any detailed report would infringe upon the privacy of correspondence between the citizens reporting and the Department of National Defence. Probably the most important reason is one of security where what was reported as an unidentified flying object was actually our own or allied equipment and disclosure of the incident would be detrimental to our national or international interests.

The recent lull in publicity for unidentified flying objects has been matched by a decline in reports in Canada. Such reports as we have received have been checked out