



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of Public Information
Washington 25, D. C.

21 April 1958

Mr. Joe Sweeney
Box B, 27700 Street
Arlington 3, Virginia

Dear Sir:

Your letter of April 3, 1958 to Col. John M. Schneider, Jr. has been referred to me for reply.

At about 20:30 in the afternoon, a copy of the summary report for your examination of the flying saucer was received in the Office of Public Information. It is being reviewed and the report will be forwarded to you in due time. It is necessary to see this document as it will be present to all you in my way.

I have taken the liberty of including a brief summary of the statement in this subject.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Please feel free to call upon me in regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Quincy S. Smith
Quincy S. Smith
Chief, AF Press Desk

3014.

A4

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of Public Information
Washington 25, D. C.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 1952

11 5-4900, Int. 75351

BE ADVISED TO ENQUIRE

The Air Force has not discontinued the study of unidentified flying objects (popularly known as "flying saucers"). It is true that this study has changed from a special project to a general function. This means that the Air Force placed the examination of these sightings in normal staff channels.

Every attempt is made to investigate sightings reported to the Air Force. In most cases, these sightings have proved to be weather balloons and natural phenomena. Their results, however, a number of reported sightings that cannot be thus explained, and as long as this is true, the Air Force will continue to study the problem. Until Field Commands have been alerted to report unidentified aerial objects in an effort to obtain additional information.

The public should not interpret these continued efforts to mean that few evaluations have been made, or that few conclusions have been reached. This is not the case. Detailed reports and particularly photographs from people who have sightings unusual aerial manifestations will be welcome. Reports may be submitted to the nearest G-2 installation and to be of value should contain as much detail as possible.

E F D

RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM
AIR FORCE DATED APRIL 21, 1952

8



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of Public Information
Washington 25, D. C.

RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM
AIR FORCE DATED APRIL 21, 1952

I am unable to supply you with copies of the press releases on flying saucers issued by the Department of Defense as the demand for these releases has increased so rapidly that the Department's information contained in these releases is exhausted. Below are the official opinion of the Air Force on the subject of flying saucers.

In the fall of 1947 the United States Air Force took official notice of reports of so-called "flying disks" because the reports were being received from a number of sources and the Air Force responsibility for the air defense of the United States.

On December 10, 1947 the Air Force directed its Air Materiel Command, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, to set up a committee to study all available facts concerning reported flying saucer incidents.

To perform this job the Air Materiel Command obtained the services of well known scientists such as astronomer, physicist, and chemist.

On December 27, 1949, after 270 reported sightings had been investigated, it is stated that above normal operations of more than 100,000 aircraft were being conducted in the "flying saucer" project.

The evidence indicated that the reports of unidentified flying objects could be accounted for under three major headings:

- (1) Misinterpretation of genuine conventional objects.
- (2) Natural atmospheric phenomena.
- (3) Flying saucers.

There remain, however, a number of reported sightings that cannot be accounted for by any of the above. The Air Force will continue to study the problem.

As to what the objects were that were sighted by 2-29 crew members over Japan during the night of January 29-30, 1952, no official statement has been made. The Air Force is studying the incident. Incidents of this nature are charged with the responsibility of further investigation.

Air Force sightings for the past year indicate reports on exacting conditions of the objects. These reports are made to the responsible authorities for their study. The Air Force is studying the reports and will make a final report. The Air Force is studying the reports and will make a final report. The Air Force is studying the reports and will make a final report.

The Air Force would like to assure the public that, inasmuch as the air defense of the United States is a serious and vital task, the Air Force is studying the reports of unidentified flying objects through normal military channels any substantial reports of unusual aerial phenomena.

These call on me if I can be of further service.

Sincerely,

Quincy S. Smith
Quincy S. Smith
Chief, AF Press Desk

A5

9