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So, from the end of July 1947, the FBI were working together with the U.S. Army³ on the UFO Problem, but we have already seen how prickly and difficult J. Edgar Hoover was over the slight to his man in Louisiana! Evidently this edgy relationship between the two parties continued, and after only about one month of such collaboration we find the following amusing Circular Letter being issued to all Air Force Commanding Generals by the Air Defence Command Headquarters at Mitchell Field, New York, on September 3, 1947:—

TO: Command Generals, First, Second, Fourth,
Tenth, Eleventh and Fourteenth Air Forces.
ATTENTION: Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2.

1. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has agreed to assist Air Force Intelligence personnel in the investigation of "flying disk" incidents in order to quickly and effectively rule out what are pranks and to concentrate on what appears to be a genuine incident.
2. It was the original intent of the AC/AS-2, Headquarters, Army Air Forces, that whereas the ADC Air Forces would interview responsible observers whose names would be furnished by AAF, the FBI would investigate incidents of so-called "disks" being found on the ground. The services of the FBI were enlisted in order to relieve the numbered Air Forces of the task of tracking down all the many instances which turned out to be ash can covers, toilet seats, and whatnot.

3. It is requested that each A-2 informally coordinate and co-operate with the FBI, generally keeping the FBI informed of any proposed calls Intelligence personnel will make on this subject. Very shortly, with the separation¹ of the AAF from the War Department, a firm policy will be established to clarify the liaison arrangements between A-2's and FBI Special Agents. Presently, it is considered inadvisable to promulgate a formal interim policy only to have it replaced in a month or so by another.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT
GENERAL STRATEMEYER:
/s/ R. H. Smith
R. H. Smith, Colonel,
GSC Asst.
Chief of Staff — Intell.

FLYING DISKS — Effective immediately, the Bureau has discontinued its investigative activities as outlined in Section B of Bureau Bulletin No. 42, Series 1947, dated July 30, 1947.

All future reports connected with flying disks should be referred to the Air Forces and no investigative action should be taken by Bureau Agents.

This did *not* mean, however, that the FBI would stop receiving UFO reports, and it continued to do so, including much very remarkable material, as the book CLEAR INTENT shows most graphically. It meant simply that actual *on-site* investigations by the FBI were terminated. Nevertheless, in the immediately following years, 1948, 1949, and thereafter, the FBI still accumulated bulky UFO report files, and this went right on until 1977 as CLEAR INTENT shows (Chapter 11.)

AN FBI MEMO OF MARCH 22, 1950, SECURED FROM THE FBI UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT BY DR BRUCE S. MACCABEE

To: DIRECTOR, FBI
From: GUY HOTTEL SAC WASHINGTON
Subject: FLYING SAUCERS — INFORMATION
CONCERNING

An investigator for the Air Forces stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. They were described as being circular in shape with raised centers, approximately 50 ft. in diameter. Each one was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only 3 feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of very fine texture. Each body was banded in a manner similar to the blackout suits used by speed fliers and test pilots.

According to Mr. informant, the saucers were found in New Mexico due to the fact that the Government has a very high-powered radar set-up in that area and it is believed that the radar interferes with the controlling mechanism of the saucers.

No further evaluation was attempted by SA (.....) concerning the above.