DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

19 June 1952

Mr. Leon Davidson
604 South Irving Street
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Davidson:

Your letter of June 12 to the Secretary of Defense has been referred by this office to the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Dayton, Ohio, for any action they may deem fitting.

This agency, as you know, is conducting the official investigation into "flying saucer" reports.

The data included in your correspondence may be of interest to ATIC inasmuch as considerable work has already been done on correlating reported sightings.

The Air Force does not concur with the theory outlined in your letter, which although interesting is hardly compatible with the Armed Services Unification Act.

For your information we are enclosing two recent releases which set forth the Air Force position to date on the status of "flying saucer" investigations.

Thank you very much for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Swaim
ROBERT P. SWAIM
Lt. Col., USAF
Chief, Air Force Desk
Press Branch

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(The two releases, enclosed in the letter of 19 June 1952, have been retyped below to enable clear reproduction. They are verbatim copies.)

IN ANSWER TO INQUIRIES ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS: 17 June 1952

Secretary of the Air Force Thomas K. Finletter and other Air Force officials were briefed on May 8 concerning USAF investigations of "flying saucer" reports over the past five years.

The Secretary summed up the briefing, which was conducted by Air Technical Intelligence officials, by stating:

"No concrete evidence has yet reached us either to prove or disprove the existence of the so-called flying saucers.

"There remain, however, a number of sightings that the Air Force investigators have been unable to explain. As long as this is true the Air Force will continue to study 'flying saucer' reports."

To this end, detailed reports and particularly photographs from people who sight unusual aerial manifestations will continue to be welcomed. Reports may be submitted to the nearest USAF installation and, to be of value, should contain as much detailed information as possible.

END

(Author's note: On May 9, 1952, the day after the above-mentioned briefing, President Truman issued a revision to a Confidential memo to Executive Departments concerning public statements about new weapons, revising a memo dating back to 1950.)

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