

report, August 25, 1952, and the West Palm Beach, Florida report, August 20, 1952). This Status Report is the source of Ruppelt's claim⁸ that the roots of the grass which was supposedly under the UFO reported by the scoutmaster on August 20 were charred, an effect which presumably could only be accomplished by induction heating.

The seventh Status Report (November 10, 1952) stated that analysis was continuing and that the large influx of reports in July 1952 would require more time than had been planned because "reports are now in more detail and often consist of sightings of one object by more than one individual."

The seventh Status Report was the last formal report from Battelle to PBB, even though the contract ran for about another year. In December 1952, and in January and February 1953, Mr. William Reid, the supervisor of Stork, wrote single page letters describing the ongoing analysis of UFO reports and the coding of the reports onto IBM cards. After February 23, 1953, there are no further documents from Battelle in the public record.

According to a PBB Operations Report dated April 20-24, 1953, Air Force personnel visited Battelle and "were impressed by the thoroughness of the job being done and [are confident] that the subject study will afford many answers to problems heretofore unsolved." According to PBB Report #11 of May 31, the final Battelle report was expected August 15. PBB Report #12 of September 30, the last status report on PBB, says that a representative from Battelle visited PBB on August 20 to explain the status of the project. The representative stated that the statistical analysis should be completed by September 1. At this meeting, "It was agreed that all unsolved reports should be reviewed by Project Stork before the final study is completed," and the end of the project was set for October 15, 1953.

However, apparently the project did not end then, because as the summary at the beginning of SR 14 shows, analysis of reports continued up to May 5, 1955. That is the date of