

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

There is in the Technical Analysis Branch of ATIC a section which deals with the reports of sightings of unknown objects and this work is carried on under the code name "Project Blue Book." Lieutenant E. Ruppelt, USAF is the officer in charge of this section. This officer disclosed the following information on their current project.

ATIC have a five-year back log of reports which number at least 700. All reports received are studied carefully and checked for the obvious such as meteors, aircraft balloons etc. If further information is required, action is taken to interrogate the observer and to complete a questionnaire. Copy of this questionnaire is attached. The information is then transferred to a project record card (attached) which lists relevant data such as, time of sighting, shape, size, location etc. This information is cross-indexed and then filed. There is a Project Stork at Columbus where scientists assist ATIC in the breakdown of flying saucer data and in the preparation and revision of the questionnaire.

The more reliable sightings have been plotted on a map and it is noted that there are certain patterns of sightings around major port areas, and atomic energy establishments except Hanford, Oregon.

The following statistics on the sightings were noted.

- (a) Twenty-five per cent of all observations were described as a silver sphere in shape; about one half of these objects moved across the sky and the remainder manoeuvred.
- (b) Fifty per cent of all reports described the object as having a "Delta-wing" shape. ATIC advise that a thorough check disclosed that at the time of any of these sightings, there were no USA delta-wing type aircraft airborne.
- (c) Ten per cent of the unknown objects were described as "rocket shaped".
- (d) One per cent were described as a group of lights.
- (e) Five per cent of reports came from scientists at White Sands.
- (f) Fifteen per cent from military pilots.
- (g) Five per cent from civilian airline pilots.
- (h) Two per cent from weather observers.

Lieutenant Ruppelt advised that most of the reports on file over the last four years came from military sources and that reports from civilian sources for the most part are not considered too reliable and are therefore not being used for the present in their analyses. At one time, it was considered that the co-operation of the Observer Corps might be sought but because of the risk of hysteria the idea was dropped.

It was pointed out that flying saucer reports over the last two years have come in peaks and the peaks come at the same time each year (May).