

Author's Note to Readers of the Fourth Edition

In 1969 the "Condon Report" spelled an end to the U.S. Government's public attempts at "investigating" flying saucers. [See p. E-1 of this edition. The Condon Report is the third document mentioned in the list of UFO Materials on p. E-2.]

However, interest in flying saucers is sure to last for many years, as long as the news media and the publishing trade disseminate reports of unexplained sightings of unidentifiable objects. Scholars and researchers, young and old, will want to learn what might lie behind these reports. I have prepared this book for those having this special interest. My own beliefs and background are given on pages A-1, A-2, D-2 through D-10, and on the inside back cover.

About 23 years ago, in June 1947, flying saucer reports were first mentioned in the press. A whole generation has grown up since then, to whom flying saucers "have always been around." Yet, in fact, anyone who grew up before or during the 1940's will admit to not having ever heard of or read of flying saucers (as commonly understood now) before 1947.

Although "Post hoc ergo propter hoc" is not a valid form of proof, it is interesting that the Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.) was created in May 1947, only one month earlier. More plausible evidence of a connection between the C.I.A. and the saucers is in my articles mentioned on the inside back cover.

The dropping now of saucer "investigations" by the U.S. Government may indicate that saucer stories have outlived their usefulness for internal psychological warfare, and that other grist has been found for the mills of the agencies influencing public opinion. (See my current booklet "The Quiet Campaign to Rewrite the Constitution", published in 1969 by Blue-Book Publishers, 64 Prospect St., White Plains, N.Y. 10606.)

If you are trying for yourself to unravel the mystery of the flying saucers, the following pages will show what was being said and done while the saucer story was relatively new. Flying saucers now occupy a place in popular literature, entertainment, magazines, and reference books, as firmly as lemmings, leprechauns, extra-sensory perception, travel to the moon, Robinson Crusoe, Don Quixote, Confucius, and Othello. Some of those just mentioned were real, some were only fictional, some were once fictional but became real, and some had been real but became legends. They all have meaning for us today, nevertheless, and so do flying saucers, whatever category they belong to.

As long as genuine flying saucers can't be seen in local museums or the Smithsonian, and until they actually land where creditable witnesses can take credible photographs and TV news-films of them, they must be studied from books such as this. This book tells it the way it was originally told, as a source document for serious students of the subject. I wish you well in your research.

September 3, 1970
White Plains, N.Y.

Leon Davidson

COVER: Official U.S. Air Force Sketch of AVRO aircraft. (see p.D-5.)

FLYING SAUCERS: An Analysis of the
AIR FORCE PROJECT BLUE BOOK SPECIAL REPORT NO. 14

By Dr. Leon Davidson

Fourth Edition

consisting of:

- Part A: Early Air Force Press Releases
- Part B: The CIA Panel Report of 1953
- Part C: The 1966 Air Force Blue Book Release
- Part D: Analysis of the Special Report No. 14
- Part E: Final Air Force Summary after closing Project Bluebook in 1969
- Part F: Reprint of Two Articles by Dr. Davidson
- Part X: Air Force Regulation 200-2 (AFR 200-2)

with an appendix consisting of a photo-offset copy of the full text of the Air Force Project Blue Book Special Report No. 14, dated May 5, 1955 and some of the important tables and figures from that report

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Library of Congress Catalog Card Numbers
First Edition 57-2610
Third Edition 66-8897
Fourth Edition 70-138935

Publishing History

Original Air Force Issue (100 copies, restricted distribution)	May 1955
First Edition published by Leon Davidson	1000 copies Dec. 1956
Second Edition published by Leon Davidson	1000 copies Oct. 1957
Third Edition published by Ramsey-Wallace Corp.	2000 copies July 1966
First Printing	2000 copies July 1967
Second Printing	2000 copies
Fourth Edition published by Saucerian Publications	
First Printing	1000 copies Jan. 1971