

ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATER
22 January 1958

K243.6012-37
22 Jan 1958

RETURN TO

USAF Historical Archives
ASI(ASHAF-A)
Maxwell AFB, Ala 36112

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1/15/58

ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATRE

#46

JANUARY 22, 1958

Director Aerospace Studies Inst ATTN: Archives Branch Maxwell AFB, Alabama	RETURN TO:	K243,6012-37 22 Jan 1958
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"UFO: THE ENIGMA OF THE SKIES"

* * * * *

WRITTEN BY: IRVE TUNICK

DIRECTED BY: WILLIAM CORRIGAN

PRODUCED BY: ROBERT COSTELLO

JMS

1003852

"UFO: THE ENIGMA OF THE SKIES"

FADE IN: CLOCK (SET 6 SEC. BEFORE

? → 9:30)

SUPER: EDWARDS

EDWARDS:

Good evening everybody, coast to coast. This is Douglas Edwards. Tonight the Circle Theatre goes after a most unusual story: the riddle of the Flying Saucers. Because of the nature of the problem ... and the controversy involved ... we will depart from our usual format. Instead of dramatizing an adventure, we will share one. Instead of merely observing, we ask you to participate. Are UFO ... Unidentified Flying Objects real or imagined? If these so-called Flying Saucers are real ... where do they come from? Are they secret weapons being tested by our own or foreign governments ... or are they ... as many believe ... spacecraft from other planets, invading our atmosphere, observing life on earth?

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

Tonight we're going after this
story ... we're going to the
government files ... to experts
on both sides of the issue. We're
going after facts ...
In just a few minutes ...

DISSOLVE TO: ART CARD

("UFO: THE ENIGMA OF THE SKIES")

SUPER FILM FOR 6 SEC.

... on the Armstrong Circle Theatre!

(GO THRU TO FILM LINE OPENING)

FADE IN:

TELOP ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATRE.

DISSOLVE TO:

(EDWARDS AT HIS DESK)

EDWARDS:

Let me restage a moment of history
for you. The time: 1492. The
place: the port of ...

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #1

(COLUMBUS' FLEET)

... Palos, Spain. Three tiny
ships slip their moorings..and
the great voyage begins!
What lay ahead for the fleet of
Columbus? There were many who ...

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #2

(OF DRAGONS, ETC.)

...prophe sized calamity. The
fleet would surely sail off the
rim of the earth ... great dragons

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

rise from the deep to devour
them ... they would be sucked into
a mighty whirlpool and never be
heard of again. No one knew.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

Today we stand in precisely the
same position.
Already ...

DISSOLVE TO:

(FILM: ROCKET TAKING OFF...THEN
SHOT OF EARTH TAKEN FROM ROCKET)

...with our giant rockets and
man-made satellites...we are
reaching out to the incredible
vastness of outer space.

President Eisenhower has stated
... we are at a 'decisive moment
of history'. What lies beyond
our atmosphere? There are those
who claim that space is not the
emptiness we have long believed.

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

They say that intelligently-guided objects, originating from the moon, or the planets, or even from far-off galaxies, already are in space ... some have even penetrated our own atmosphere to observe life on earth.

True...false? We don't know...

but we intend to find out....

we intend to ..

DISSOLVE TO:

(FILM. ASTRAL EFFECT...SLOW MOVEMENT OF CAMERA THROUGH SIMULATED GALAXIES)

...get the facts...as, together, we probe into the intriguing puzzle of UFO ... Unidentified Flying Objects...better known as Flying Saucers.

(SUPER: CRAWL)

1. TIRLE
2. COSTELLO
3. CORRIGAN

EDWARDS: (OVER)

What do we know of the universe?
A vastness beyond human conception
...distances that defy measure-
ment, literally paralyze the
imagination!

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #3

(OF GALILEO)

It is a bare 350 years since
Galileo invented his telescope
...against the measure of man's
existence, this is a mere blink
of time.

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #3A

(MODERN TELESCOPE)

In this 350 years...always prob-
ing...always studying...this
is what man has come to know of
his universe:

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #4

(OF EARTH AND ITS MOON)

EDWARDS:(Cont'd)

The earth spins on its axis ...
coupled with its one natural
satellite ... the moon.

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #5

(OF SOLAR SYSTEM)

We know that our earth is one
of nine planets circling about
our sun.

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #6

(OF OUR GALAXY)

We know that our sun is only
a single star in a galaxy contain-
ing 100,000 million stars

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #7

(OF HEAVENS SHOWING VARIOUS NEBULAE)

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

...and we know that there are
some 2,000 million galaxies such
as ours swirling through space.

(DISSOLVE TO: EDWARDS)

We know this much about the uni-
verse ... and we know little
else ... for sure...

Is there life on other planets?
Intelligent life ... substantially
like our own?

Scientists tell us that to be-
lieve our earth alone can sustain
life is an absurd conclusion.

Among the billions of planets in
the millions of galaxies, there
must be many that sustain some
type of living creatures.

EDWARDS:

Dr. Harlow Shapley, former director of the Harvard Observatory, tells us that there must be 100 million planets in the universe where intelligent beings...not necessarily like our earthly brand...live and multiply and think.

And some authorities have claimed actual evidence that this type of life does exist on other planets. Here's an example of the evidence they offer.

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #8

(OF MARS SHOWING CANALI)

This is Mars. Telescopes reveal strange geometric lines crisscrossing its surface. 40 years ago, Percival Lowell, a distinguished American astronomer stated that these lines ... the canali ... are true evidence of intelligent life on Mars.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

EDWARDS:

He said Mars was a dying planet
...dying from lack of water ...
and the lines were irrigation
canals the Martians had dug to
bring water from the melting polar
ice-caps into their parched planet.
The moon is our nearest neighbor
in space...

CUT TO: ARTCARD #9

(OF MOON)

...and the only one our powerful
telescopes can carefully survey.

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #10

(OF MOON DETAIL)

For years, astronomers have been
mapping its surface. Some have
seen strange things indeed.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #11

(OF GEOMETRIC PATTERNS ON MOON -
JESSUP, Pg. 172)

EDWARDS:

Here, for example, is a rough
sketch that was supposed to show
streets and avenues in a region
of the moon known as Schroeter's
Valley.

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #12

(OF MOON STREETS - JESSUP 194)

Another rough sketch of what was
claimed to be highways or aque-
ducts, near the region known as
Gassendi's crater.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

And just recently a report was
made...and confirmed...that a

EDWARDS:

gigantic bridge now stretches
across a region of the moon known
as the Mare Crisium.

Scientists charted this region
many years ago...and no such
bridge was in evidence then. But
reliable experts claim it is
there now...and that it appeared
literally almost overnight.

If it is a natural bridge...
created by natural forces of
erosion as we know them on earth
...it would take millions of years
to form. And its presence would
have been noted long before 1953.
If it is a natural object...why
wasn't it seen before?

If it is not a natural object...
then what can it be?

There are those who claim that
its construction proves the ex-
istence of intelligence on the
moon ... not necessarily moon-
people...but beings from outer

EDWARDS:

space who are using the moon as
a space-station for their obser-
vation of earth.

(EDWARDS CROSSES AWAY FROM ARTCARDS
OF PLANETS AND GALAXIES)

How can we find out about this?

Where do we start?

(EDWARDS APPROACHES TABLE CONTAINING
BOOK DISPLAY)

We start with background...his-
tory. Here, collected for us
by the editors of the Encyclo-
pedia Americana, is a selected
list of books covering the ...

CUT TO:

(BOOKS AND PAN ACROSS TO SHOW TITLES)

...whole field of celestial
phenomena ... from ancient sight-
ings...to the latest UFO reports...

(CUT TO EDWARDS. HE TAKES ONE BOOK
FROM THE COLLECTION)

EDWARDS:

For make no mistake about it ...
Unidentified Flying Objects are
nothing new. The Bible gives
us a report of a sighting ...

CUT TO: ARTCARD #13

(OF EZEKIEL'S WHEEL)

... by the - Prophet Ezekiel ...
a "signe" in the Heavens...large,
brilliantly colored, in the shape
of a wheel within a wheel.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #14

(OF FIREBALL, MENZEL, PAGE 257)

In 1554...this mysterious object
flashed across the sky near St.
Chamas, France.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #15

(OF ESSECK - MENZEL PAGE 257)

EDWARDS:

In 1697 ... This molten mass of
roaring flame terrified the popu-
lace of Esseck, Germany ...

CUT TO: ARTCARD #16 -

(NECCADO)

In 1708 ... a flock of strange
phenomena invaded the skies over
Europe ...

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

Today, science explains most of
these ancient sightings in terms
of natural phenomena...such as
fireballs, meteors, shooting stars,
comets...or unusual auroral displays.
But not so easily explained are
some occurrences of not too long
ago ...

CUT TO: ARTCARD #17

(OAKLAND TRIBUNE, NOV. 23, 1896)

EDWARDS:

November 23, 1896. Oakland,
California! A mysterious
object sailed across the sky!
First sighted in the San Francisco
Bay area, a strange cigar-shaped
object, reportedly witnessed by
thousands, sailed across the
sky. Moving slowly, gathering
headlines....

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #18

(NEW YORK HERALD, APRIL 11, 1897)

...the UFO was reported from Salt
Lake City...Denver...Omaha....
Kansas City...and...finally...
Chicago...where it sailed off
the front page...into the un-
known.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

The first few decades of the

EDWARDS:

20th Century brought few sightings...possibly because the UFO took a dim view of the newly-invented earthly airplane suddenly trespassing its private domain. But in 1947 ... Year II of the Atomic Age...the real UFO story began ...

CUT TO:

(ILLUSTRATED MAP OF NORTHWEST - #19)

It began here..the Pacific Northwest...the spectacular country lorded-over....

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #20

(OF MT. RAINIER)

...by the hulk of Mt. Rainier.
Here ... one June morning ten years ago, a C-46 Marine Transport plane crashed. Among the volunteer

EDWARDS:

civilians who aided the military
searchers was ...

DISSOLVE TO:

(PHOTO OF KENNETH ARNOLD - ARTCARD #21)

...Kenneth Arnold, a bush pilot
who had logged thousands of hours
of flying in the area! What he
saw ... and reported...made in-
ternational news!

ARNOLD: (VOICE OVER)

It was while I was searching
for this ...

(DISSOLVE TO: ARNOLD LIVE)

...crashed plane that I noticed
a terrific blue flash go past
thru my airplane. I noticed that
the flash came from very peculiar-
looking objects that were approach-
ing Mt. Rainier at about 107
degrees. The objects were headed
towards a saddle between these

ARNOLD: (Cont'd)

peaks. They were about 9 in number. They looked something like this....

CUT TO:

(SKETCH OF WHAT ARNOLD HAS SEEN

- ARTCARD #22)

This is an artist's concept of what I saw, based on my description. I assumed, at the time, that they were a formation of some new type of jet.

(CUT BACK TO ARNOLD)

But it baffled me because they did not seem to have any tails. I judged their wing-span to be about 100 feet across. I watched them for several minutes. They were traveling from north to south, flying in reversed echelon formation...and as they flew they weaved in and out between the mountain peaks. They had a kind

ARNOLD: (Cont'd)

of a skipping motion as they sailed along.

EDWARDS: (VO)

After the sighting, you landed and reported the incident to the local representative of the CAA...The Civil Aeronautics Administration ...

ARNOLD:

That's right. I didn't make too much of the incident...as I said, I thought they were jets. I said they fluttered like... well, like boats on very rough water...I said they flew like you took a saucer and skimmed it across water. Well, the papers printed a real garbled version. They quoted me as saying they looked like saucers. I didn't say that at all. I said they flew in a saucer-like fashion.

EDWARDS: (VO)

That was an historic misquote.

ARNOLD:

I guess so. Because that's how the name 'Flying Saucers' came to be.

EDWARDS: (VO)

Have you ever seen these so-called Flying Saucers since?

ARNOLD:

Yes I have. I've seen strange objects in the sky on at least three different occasions. And I know some regular airline pilots who have made more than a dozen sightings. But we don't talk much about it. Making a Flying Saucer report is like opening your living room to a bob-cat. You get clawed, scratched and spit on. You're either a real fruitcake or you're out to get publicity by spreading lies. I saw what I saw...and I reported it to the proper authorities.

EDWARDS: (VO)

Well...let's get your own personal opinion of what you saw....

ARNOLD:

The Air Force investigated at the time and said no jets were flying near that area that day. I feel that if these objects were not made by our science and flown by our Air Forces, then I'm inclined to believe that you've got to say they were of extra-terrestrial origin.

EDWARDS: (VO)

Extra-terrestrial...from another world, another planet?

ARNOLD:

That's right.

EDWARDS: (VO)

That's saying a lot.

ARNOLD:

I know it. I'll tell you this much. All of us who have made sightings...I'm not talking about crackpots now...but reliable people who can be depended on ...well, none of us have appreciated being laughed at. We made our reports because we

ARNOLD: (Cont'd)

believed it was our duty to do so. I don't know what's going on in the sky. I don't think it's anything for people to get hysterical about. But there's something going on besides Sputnik, I'm sure of that. It's something we see but we can't explain. Now that's my frank opinion!

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

(EDWARDS HOLDS THE DRAWING OF THE OBJECTS ARNOLD HAS SEEN)

EDWARDS:

Kenneth Arnold's sighting of objects he claimed looked something like this ...

(TURNS SKETCH TO CAMERA)

... was the beginning...June 24, 1947 ... Mt. Rainier, Washington. And it may have been quickly forgotten...a news oddity...except that within the next 30 days, there were 53 more reports of so-called Flying Saucers. There was the usual quota of crackpots climbing on the bandwagon.

EDWARDS:

A Chicago housewife saw one ...

CUT TO: ARTCARD #23

(CARTOON SAUCER WITH LEGS)

HOUSEWIFE: (VO)

I was out hanging the wash.

It was Monday, y'know. And there

I saw it ... big... with legs!

CUT TO: ARTCARD #24

(CARTOON OF FLYING WASHTUB)

EDWARDS: (VO)

A Spokane woman...

WOMAN: (VO)

It wasn't exactly round...or

flat...it was... well, it was

like a washtub.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #25

(CARTOON - SAUCERS PARADING THROUGH
YARD)

EDWARDS: (VO)

And a remarkably calm Midwest
observer...

MAN: (VO)

I don't know why everybody's
getting so excited. They came
through our yard all the time.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

EDWARDS:

But...making all allowances for
illusion, delusion, hoax and
hallucination...there remained
enough incredible reports by
credible observers to set people
... many people...thinking.
They came from every section of
the country.

CUT TO: MAP #26

(OF UNITED STATES - SAN FERNANDO
VALLEY OF CALIFORNIA.)

EDWARDS:

San Fernando, California. A commercial airline pilot ... saw an elongated object, with port-holes along its side.

(PAN TO: BOULDER CITY, COLO.)

Boulder City, Colorado. A Superintendent of Schools ... spotted a strange cigar-shaped object that moved at incredible speed.

(PAN TO: WASHINGTON D.C.)

Washington, D.C. A Signal Corps Intelligence Officer ... saw this spherical object flowing in the sky.

(PAN TO: GREENWICH POINT, L.I.)

Greenwich Point, Long Island ... a management sales consultant reported ... a round object with jet pods underneath ...

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

EDWARDS:

And if anyone was less than serious

EDWARDS:

about Flying Saucers...the tragic Mantell incident at Godman Field, Ft. Knox, Kentucky, gave them real cause to reflect.

On January 7th, 1948, early in the afternoon Kentucky State police reported an unidentified flying object, circular in appearance, moving westward 'at a good clip'.

DISSOLVE TO:

(FILM: CONTROL TOWER - GODMAN AIR
BASE)

Godman checked, found no experimental aircraft in the neighborhood. The UFO was sighted by the Commanding Officer of the field.

(FILM - F-51s)

Just at this time a flight of F-51s headed from Marietta, Georgia to Louisville, Kentucky neared the field. The flight ...

DISSOLVE TO: ARTCARD #27

(OF MANTELL)

.....under the command of Captain Thomas Mantell, a veteran combat pilot was immediately vectored in on the strange spherical-shaped object.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

What happened then depends upon what version you read. There were seven witnesses in Godman Tower...and their accounts differ in many details. But this is sure. Captain Mantell...by radio...reported sighting the object above him. He said it was "Metallic and of tremendous size". Mantell's plane was not equipped with Oxygen...

*ask Tunnick
see photostat report
of invest.*

DISSOLVE TO:

(FILM - F-51 ZOOMING UPWARD)

EDWARDS:

...yet he headed upward. One of his wingmen broke off as the climb began. The remaining two stayed with him to 15,000 feet, then broke off. Mantell was in a maximum climb at 22,500, his plane under perfect control.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

From this point on, there is nothing but mystery. Transmission was garbled and attempts to contact Mantell went unanswered.

Mantell's plane began to level off at 30,000 feet...began a gradual turn to the left...then it nosed downward...and....at full power....began to dive. Between 10 and 20 thousand feet, the plane literally tore apart.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #28
(OF MANTELL CRASH)

EDWARDS:

Mantell was killed. Parts of his plane were found more than half a mile from the central wreckage.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

There are questions that must be answered about this tragic incident. Why did an experienced pilot like Mantell break one of the cardinal rules of flying: never go above 10,000 feet without oxygen? What did he see that forced him to throw caution to the winds?

After the Mantell crash, UFO reports continued to pile in. During January and February of 1948 the sightings took on an international flavor. "Balls of Fire, traveling slowly across the sky" were reported from Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Germany. Then Southern

EDWARDS:

Europe chimed in ... then South America.

On July 21, a report came in from Holland of a UFO, rocket-shaped, with two rows of windows along the sides. This might have been fast forgotten, except for what happened just one week later.

On July 24, 1948, a commercial ...

CUT TO:

(MAP - SOUTH EASTERN U.S. - #29)

...airliner flying from Houston, Texas to Atlanta was 20 miles southwest of Montgomery, Alabama. At the controls: Clarence S. Chiles and his co-pilot John B. Whitted.

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

At 2:45 in the morning these veteran flyers saw a light, dead ahead, and closing in fast.

EDWARDS:

Traveling at a speed estimated between 500 and 700 miles an hour, the light bore in on them. The object was brilliantly lighted... it appeared to have two sets of windows..and underneath, from the belly of the ship, there was a sort of blue flourescent glow.

As they watched fascinated, the object flashed by about 700 feet to their right.

On landing, Chiles and Whitted reported the incident to the proper authorities and then each drew a sketch of what he saw.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #30 -

(CHILES SKETCH)

This is the Chiles' sketch.

Double windows, in size about twice the diameter of a B-29.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #31 -

(WHITTED SKETCH)

EDWARDS:

And this is the sketch drawn
by co-pilot Whitted. Same general
shape ... double row of what
appear to be windows....no wings...

(CUT BACK TO EDWARDS)

What was it? To this day...accord-
ing to the two pilots involved...
no logical explanation offered
by scientists, by experts...fits
the bill. People may argue about
what they saw...but they can't
deny that they saw something...
something that these men with
thousands of hours of flying
experience had never seen before
..and haven't seen since!

Is there an explanation....a
reasonable, natural explanation

EDWARDS:

for the mysterious objects seen
by so many credible observers
over the past 10 years?

CUT TO: #30 and #31

For this ...

CUT TO: #22

For this ...

CUT TO: #28

... or this?

To get the official Air Force
point-of-view, we're going directly
to the source...directly to the
Air Force files that have been
thrown open to us.

Can every sighting be reasonably
explained...or must we accept

EDWARDS:

the proposition, the fact...that
at least some of these objects
originate in outer space...and
that our earth is now being ob-
served by creatures from another
world?

FADE OUT

FADE IN FLIP A.C. THEATRE

EDWARDS: (VO)

In just a moment, we will return
to "UFO...THE ENIGMA OF THE SKIES"
on the ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATRE.

FADE OUT

FADE IN: COMMERCIAL

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

(EDWARDS - WORK AREA)

EDWARDS:

Rarely a day passes but that
sightings of flying saucers are
reported. These reports ...

CUT TO:

(THREE SIGHTING PHOTOS - ARTCARDS
#32, #33, #34)

EDWARDS:

come from every corner of the
country ... sightings of strange,
disc-like shapes ... From Italy
... New Zealand ... Brazil ...
from virtually every country on
the globe.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS

EDWARDS:

People are seeing something ..
something is there!
The idea that Flying Saucers are

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

some type of mass hallucination
... a delusion ... cannot be ac-
cepted.

People are seeing objects in the
sky ... unidentified ... but real!

CUT TO: ARTCARD #35

THICK RUDDERED SAUCER.

An employee of a supersonic lab-
oratory saw a thick-ruddered ob-
ject shaped like this

CUT TO: ARTCARD #36

SAUCER WITH LIGHTED PORTHOLES.

A round object, with portholes
and flashing lights was spotted
by two airline pilots.

CUT TO: ARTCARD #37

WINGED SAUCER.

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

A naval aviation student, his wife, and several others attending a drive-in movie saw a winged saucer surrounded by a deep red glow.

CUT TO: LUBBOCK LIGHTS PHOTO -

ARTCARD #38

A group of college professors in Lubbock, Texas saw lights like these ...

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS

World reaction to these sightings ranged from the cynical to the sensational ... from attempts at calm appraisal...

CUT TO BATCH OF MAGAZINES

... to excursions into fantasy,

EDWARDS:

many calculated to create hysteria
and confusion ... to humor ...

CUT TO CARTOON - ARTCARD #39

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS

And charges have flown thick and
fast as the Saucers.

Authorities have been accused of
dropping a paper curtain on the
problem ... issuing statements
hiding the true facts from the
public. On the other hand, the
proponents of Flying Saucers ...
those who say they truly exist
... have been labeled sensation-
alists, hoaxers ... and downright
liars.

What are the facts? Where is the
evidence? Where do we go for our
story?

DISSOLVE TO: FILM

EST. SHOT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR-BASE,
DAYTON, OHIO.

EDWARDS:

... Wright-Patterson Air Force
Base, Dayton, Ohio ... Location
of the Air Technical Intelligence
Center ... *the Air Force* Collecting point for
all UFO sighting reports ... the
outfit charged with the responsi-
bility of analyzing all Flying
Saucer data ... Project Bluebook.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS:

Since January, 1953, the investi-
gation work of Project Bluebook
has had the services of the 4602nd
Air Intelligence Service Squadron
(Air Defense Command) ... a highly
trained field investigation outfit
with ...

CUT TO LOCATION OF FIELD UNITS OF
AISS - ARTCARD #40

... field units scattered around
the country so deployed that they

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

X
can arrive "on the spot" almost immediately after a sighting is reported *to them*.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS

This is the Air Forces setup ...
and here's why they're in business ...

CUT TO CHART SHOWING UFO SIGHTINGS
BY YEAR SINCE 1947 - ARTCARD #41

... over 6,000 reported Flying Saucer sightings since 1947 ...
each sighting investigated and analyzed by specialists and top-notch military and non-military scientific personnel.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS

At Wright-Patterson, we get the promise of full cooperation from the Air Force. Doors are open to us ... files, many of which were hitherto classified are thrown open to us ...

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

And ... to explain the meaning of these files ... explain how the Air Force reaches certain conclusions on certain sightings ...

CUT TO SHOT OF COLONEL WHEDON

... the Air Force has detailed to us Lt. Colonel Spencer Whedon, Chief of the Air Intelligence Office, Air Technical Intelligence Center.

(EDWARDS CROSSES TO COL. WHEDON AND TO TABLE CONTAINING THE FILES)

Here are the raw files ... just as they existed in the office of the ATIC in Dayton ...

(HE PICKS UP ONE OF THE FILES)

colonel
~~Captain~~ ... this is the complete file on the Mantell case ... the tragic incident we talked about before where a Kentucky National Guard pilot crashed to his death while in pursuit of an alleged UFO.

WHEDON:

That's right.

EDWARDS:

Originally, I believe, it was reported that Mantell might have mistaken the planet Venus for a UFO ... flown too high ... blacked out and crashed. But the Air Force no longer holds to that opinion ..

WHEDON:

No, we don't. We still believe that he blacked out from lack of oxygen and crashed ... and this is supported by the findings of the Air Force Accident Investigators, an outfit completely independent of Project Bluebook. But we are now sure that this is what he was chasing ...

CUT TO FILM OF SKYHOOK BALLOON

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

This is a skyhook balloon ... a giant 100-foot balloon used to gather information about the upper

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

west for a while as it climbed. At about 35,000 feet, the balloon would have entered the wind jet-stream flowing south. It would move rapidly south, still climbing. At a point somewhere south or southwest of Godman Field ... here ... it would have climbed through the jet stream into a calm belt ... and then it would slowly drift south or southeast ... directly over the area where the UFO was spotted.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

EDWARDS:

You believe it's possible for trained observers ... pilots like Capt. Mantell ... to see a balloon and not recognize it as such?

WHEDON:

Certainly ... in a period when balloons of that size were rare ...

CUT TO FILM OF BALLOON IN NEAR HORIZONTAL
POSITION.

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

Strong wind currents can send a
balloon into an almost horizontal
position.

Visibility can play tricks. Dur-
ing the day a balloon can look ...

CUT TO PHOTO OF BALLOON IN DAY -
ARTCARD #43

... like this. The same balloon
at twilight or dawn can look ...

CUT TO PHOTO OF BALLOON AT TWILIGHT
- ARTCARD #44

... like this.

Angle of vision is important.

CUT TO PHOTO OF BALLOON FROM GUN

CAMERA - ARTCARD #45

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

This was a reported sighting from over Minneapolis. An F-86 fighter took this picture with its gun camera.

CUT BACK TO WHEDON AND EDWARDS

WHEDON:

Before we had our investigation techniques worked out, we were often stymied because we had no report of any balloons launched in the vicinity of reported sightings. We now know that balloons ... skyhooks particularly ... can appear thousands of miles from the original launching area.

CUT TO MAP POLAR-PROJECTION NORTHERN

HEMISPHERE INKED IN ROUTE FROM JAPAN

TO ATLANTIC - ARTCARD #46

Here's a balloon that was launched in Japan .. tracked by government

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

facilities all the way across the Pacific ... it meandered all over the country before it finally sailed off into the Atlantic. This resulted in literally dozens of UFO reports.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS

EDWARDS:

On that basis, then, some large percentage of Flying Saucers reports are actually nothing but balloons.

WHEDON:

Right.

CUT TO MASTER CHART OF TABULATED UFO REPORT. IT NOW SHOWS: "BALLOONS - 26.4%"

Figures show that balloons account for 26.4% of all recent UFO sightings!

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON.

EDWARDS:

Let's take another case, Colonel.

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

(HE REACHES ON TABLE AND PICKS UP
FILE AND OPENS IT) (HE READS)

Three objects observed. Round-
shaped, steady white light. No
trail or exhaust. Moving slowly
well above horizon, southwest of
Macon, Georgia. Sightings re-
ported from approximately 2045
hours to 2145 hours ...

(HE LOOKS UP)

Translated ... that's 8:45 to 9:45
P.M. (HE READS AGAIN) ... on May 7
and May 8. Weather clear and vis-
ibility unlimited. No meteorologi-
cal activity believed accountable
for sightings observed. Photographs
made and available. No interception
or identification action taken.
No air traffic in general area at
time of sighting.

(HE LOOKS AT WHEDON)

Solve this one, Colonel?

WHEDON:

Very quickly. First thing we did
was to get a map ...

CUT TO MAP OF AREA AROUND MACON,
GEORGIA - ARTCARD #47

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

Here's West Macon, Georgia ...
and here's Ft. Benning. We immediately established that training operations were being conducted at Benning on the nights of May 7th and 8th.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

Part of the operation was the dropping of parachute flares from aircraft ... as well as jet-support for ground operations.

We obtained the photographs mentioned in the report.

Enlargements of the black-and-white pictures gave us no clues.

But we also had received some color slides. Using a new photo-analysis technique, we managed to get some surprising results.

CUT TO MACON SIGHTING (SMALL) -ARTCARD #48

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

The first slide showed little
more than two bright dots ...
with some indefinite green shading
around them.

X fiery?
brilliant?

CUT TO MACON SIGHTING (LARGE) -ARTCARD #49

But ... on further enlargement ..
the wings and body of jets come
into view. The bright object is
the flame from the jet's after-
burner.

CUT TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON.

Case solved.

Conventional aircraft often seem
to be what they are not.

Here's an example.

CUT TO JET IN FOG - ARTCARD #50

WHEDON (Cont'd)

This is a jet flying at high-speed in a foggy, clouded sky. The speed causes a moisture condensation around the wings which gives the appearance of a disc or saucer.

Planes of unusual configuration ... swept wing or delta-jobs ... or ...

CUT TO FLYING PANCAKE - ARTCARD #51

... this radar plane called the Flying Pancake ... give rise to many UFO sightings.

CUT BACK TO EDWARD AND WHEDON

EDWARD

What's the percentage figure, Colonel?

WHEDON

Well, the Air Force figures it pretty high.

CUT TO MASTER CHART TABULATED UFO
REPORT. NOW ADD "AIRCRAFT 28.8%"

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

... based on our latest reports,
the cases where aircraft have
been reported as UFO ^{account for} ~~is~~ 28.8%.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON.

(EDWARDS TAKES ANOTHER FILE FROM
FILE AND FLIPS IT OPEN)

EDWARDS:

Direct from the files of the
Air Technical Intelligence
Center ... another case.

Date: March 9, 1957. A commercial
airliner flying between New York
and San Juan, Porto Rico had an
extraordinary experience. Flying
at 19,000 feet it sighted a large,
bright object that appeared to
be coming directly towards the
liner. It was described as
"a magnesium-flash" in color with
a pale green tint. The pilot
had to swerve his plane violently
to avoid collision.

(EDWARDS LOOKS UP)

(MORE)

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

This sighting caused quite a newspaper stir.

WHEDON:

It did.

EDWARDS:

Well, what does the Air Force have to say about it now?

WHEDON:

A check of military positions in the area ruled out any unusual plane or missile activity.

However, CAB ... the Civil Aeronautics Board did report six other commercial flights over approximately the same area at the time of the sighting. Five of the six planes reported similar sightings. So we plotted out their positions on a map ...

CUT TO MAP OF OCEAN SHOWING PLANES -

ARTCARD #52

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

The plane involved ... Flight 257
was 347 miles southwest of Bermuda
... 705 miles east of Jacksonville.
The other planes are grouped around
it ... the furthest plane that re-
ported a sighting was 175 miles
away.

CUT BACK TO WHEDON

The major clues we had to work on
were the color, the trajectory
and the fact that three of the
planes reported that the object
seemed to split apart in the air.

This description coincides with
the known features of what are
called
~~known as~~ ...

CUT TO SKETCH OF A BOLIDE - ARTCARD #53

... "bolides" or "fireballs" ...
a rather rare astronomical phenom-
enon ... but reported from time to
time, especially from the Southwest.

EDWARDS:

So the Air Force attributes the sighting to a "fireball" ...

WHEDON:

X It was ^{it} ~~not~~ only our findings.

We submitted all the data to a member of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory who confirmed our conclusions completely.

EDWARDS:

Do these astronomical phenomena play a large part in the UFO story?

WHEDON:

X *Pretty large.*
~~Quite a bit.~~ The moon and the planets, observed through haze, light fog or moving clouds can play optical tricks. And then there are the rarer celestial sights: mirages, auroral displays ... or, how about this ...

CUT TO AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBSUN -
ARTCARD #54

WHEDON:

... a beautiful flying disc caught
by an Air Force photographic mis-
sion near Richmond, Indiana.

EDWARDS:

And actually ...

WHEDON:

A subsun effect ... a rare aerial
phenomenon caused by the reflec-
tion of the sun's rays on suspended
ice-particles.

CUT BACK TO WHEDON AND EDWARDS

Strange or unusual weather tricks
not only fool the eye ... but such
supposedly foolproof mechanical
marvels as radar.

CUT TO SHOT OF RADARSCOPE SHOWING
BLIPS CAUSED BY TEMPERATURE INVER-
SION - ARTCARDS #55 & #56

Temperature inversion ... where
a mass of cold air collides with
a layer of warm air ... or even
thunderclouds ... sometimes come

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

up on the radarscope as blips.
Even the most experienced radar
operator can be fooled by these...

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

The Air Force now feels certain
that the well-publicized UFO radar
sightings at the Washington air-
port during 1952 were caused by
this type of unusual radar echo.

EDWARDS:

What percentage of UFO sightings
does the Air Force attribute to
so-called astronomical phenomena,
Colonel?

CUT TO MASTER CHART.

WHEDON:

We attribute 24.4% of current UFO
sightings to astronomical phenomena.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

EDWARDS:

All right ... we'll move on to an-
other case.

*firm?
see Gregory*

EDWARDS:

(EDWARDS TAKES A FILE FROM THE TABLE)

The date: August, 1955. The place: Kentucky. Now ... according to press reports and a coast-to-coast radio broadcast ... an entire family in a little village was besieged for an entire night by goblin-like creatures reported to have emerged from a Flying Saucer that landed nearby.

(HE LOOKS UP)

And ... to make it all more binding ... here is a sketch of one of these extra-terrestrial visitors drawn by a local artist and sworn to as accurate by the family.

CUT TO LITTLE GREEN MAN - ARTCARD #5

EDWARDS:

One of your investigators didn't get to interview him, by any chance?

WHEDON:

No ... but we did interview the family. They had spent the evening ...

CUT BACK TO WHEDON AND EDWARDS.

X? attending a spirited meeting, they had all undergone a tremendous emotional experience which, quite possibly, might account for the incident.

The Kentucky creature, by the way ...

CUT TO BEARDED SPACEMAN - ARTCARD #58

... has a cousin in our files.

CUT BACK TO WHEDON AND EDWARDS

EDWARDS:

Pause I suppose this whole UFO situation is complicated by the crackpots, publicity-seekers and hoaxers who insist on getting into the act.

WHEDON:

It definitely is. One of the roughest areas involves the so-called

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

"contact" sightings. People who claim to have spoken to creatures from Flying Saucers ... some who claim to have ridden in them ... and one, at least, who was whooshed off to Venus and there married in- to Venusian royalty. A whole cult has grown up around these "contact" incidents ... and woe to him ^{who} ~~that~~ dares to question.

EDWARDS:

Doesn't the Air Force question?

WHEDON:

X
Air Force policy is merely to examine the stories for evidence that might be construed as representing a threat to the national security. So far, we have no such evidence. And we don't brush these things ^{off} ~~by~~ ... we really go into them.

CUT TO ARTCARD #59

Now this is an Air Force photo.

(PAUSE) It's not unlike many of the

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

pictures we see that purport to
be Flying Saucers. But it's not...

CUT BACK TO WHEDON

What it is ... very simply ... is
a gadget we photographed made from
the top of a tobacco humidor ...

.

CUT BACK TO ARTCARD #59

... three ping-pong balls ... and
the nipple from a baby's bottle.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

We never go on the assumption
that anything is a fraud. We
put all material sent to us
through the analysis mill.

X Cleverness knows no ~~one~~ end in
this Flying Saucer business.

Here's a beauty ...

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

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X Cleverness knows no ~~one~~ end in
this Flying Saucer business.

Here's a beauty ...

CUT TO LAMP SAUCER - ARTCARD #60

WHEDON:

Enlargement reveals ...

CUT TO ENLARGEMENT OF LAMP SAUCER -

ARTCARD #61

... strange lines coming from the
object ...

CUT TO FURTHER ENLARGEMENT OF LAMP

SAUCER - ARTCARD #62

... and further enlargement show
these lines to be part of the
corner-ceiling of a room. The
saucer ^{turned} ~~turning~~ out to be a light
fixture.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON.

We get all kinds of pranks.

CUT TO FLYING HAT - ARTCARD #63

WHEDON:

Here's a Flying Saucer that turned out to be a flying hat.

(HE REACHES UNDER TABLE AND BRINGS UP THE COPPER BALL)

Here's a lulu ... supposedly a UFO picked up by a science teacher. This had pretty good newspaper and TV coverage ...

EDWARDS:

Looks very formidable. A genuine sputnik, Colonel?

WHEDON:

Afraid not. Whoever made it went to a lot of trouble trying to letter Russian words on the inside ... but they got the letters wrong and forgot to remove the name of the New Jersey manufacturer from the tube. Inside, there's nothing but a hodge-podge of wires ... no real circuits anyplace. To finish it off, to give the effect of this thing having hurtled through space, a blowtorch was used to scorch the sides.

EDWARDS:

Still ... a rather neat job ...
for those of us not up on our
Sputniks.

WHEDON:

The important thing here is that
this type of hoax besides being
a violation of federal law, ^{it is} ~~it's~~
a rather expensive joke. A single
UFO investigation may well cost
the government \$10,000. The per-
petrators of these childish pranks
might think twice about it when
they remember it's their own tax
money that's being wasted ...
money that could go into ...
should go into ^{the} serious research
so badly needed at this time.

EDWARDS:

In the total picture, Colonel,
what percentage of current UFO
reports does the Air Force classify
as hoaxes?

WHEDON:

We lump this category into a gen-
eral heading, along with sightings

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

that turn out to be birds, search-lights, and so on ...

CUT TO MASTER CHART. ADD "OTHER -
6.4%"

... and they add up to 6.4%.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

EDWARDS:

And can ATIC solve all UFO reports referred to it?

WHEDON:

No. Many sightings come to us with insufficient data ...pertinent items of information missing ... Without precise description of size, shape or color of the object ...

X *copy* Without knowing direction and altitude ... time and location ... wind and weather conditions ... we cannot reach a valid conclusion based on legitimate evidence.

The Air Force provides every observer of a UFO with a detailed questionnaire. This

Suggest change to: "The Air Force has a very detailed questionnaire for observers of UFOs - - - - -" *Greg*

No! Ted. We only provide questionnaire to those observers requesting it; as a work sheet when a sighting is phoned in; when observer is interrogated; and when a review of all incident warrants sending them to principals involved.

WHEDON: (Cont'd)

is kept in confidence if it is so desired. But we must have full information if a sighting is to get a complete analysis.

EDWARDS:

In this category ... let's call it "Insufficient Information" ... you fit what percentage of your reports?

CUT TO MASTER CHART. ADD "INSUFFICIENT
INFORMATION ... 12.1%"

WHEDON:

Insufficient Information accounts for 12.1% of all current UFO reports.

CUT BACK TO EDWARDS AND WHEDON

(EDWARDS PICKS UP A DUPLICATE OF MASTER CHART THAT HE HAS ON DESK. HE ALSO PICKS UP A GREASE PENCIL.)

EDWARDS:

Let's do a little arithmetic, Colonel. Adding these percentages

EDWARDS: (Cont'd)

together ... if my mathematics
works out ... comes to ... let's
see ... 98.1%.

(EDWARDS PENCILS IN "98.1%")

That's a large percentage ... but
it's not 100%.

WHEDON:

No. The 1.9% remainder represents
the cases the Air Force classifies
as "Unknown".

EDWARDS:

And this category is different
from "Insufficient Information".

WHEDON:

Yes.

EDWARDS:

In what way ...

WHEDON:

Well, take the Chiles sighting
you mentioned earlier ... two
commercial pilots reported a
cigar-shaped object, glowing,
... with what appeared to be
windows along the side.

This case has all the elements

WHEDON:

we require for investigation. Yet ... after the most careful study and analysis, we cannot fit it into any of our regular categories. It doesn't appear to have been a balloon ... a plane of any kind ... nor does it fit the circumstances of an astronomical phenomenon. In view of this .. sufficient data but no logical explanation ... we classify it as a true "Unknown". This doesn't happen often ... but when it happens, we don't dodge the issue. It's an "unknown" ... and so listed.

EDWARDS:

Thank^s, Colonel Whedon.

WHEDON:

Glad to have been able to be here.

(MOVE IN ON EDWARDS. HE POINTS TO 1.9% FIGURE)

Not too high a figure ... little less than 2%. Two out of a hundred. (HE PUTS THE CHART DOWN)

EDWARDS:

Yet if even only one in a hundred represented an object of inter-planetary origin ... we still would have to call this the biggest news of this or any century.

What about the remaining 2% ... what's the opinion of those who believe in Flying Saucers about that 2% ... or, for that matter ... what about their opinion of the Air Force analysis program .. Project Bluebook?

There are two sides to every story ... you've heard one.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN: FLIP: A.C. THEATRE.

EDWARDS: (V.O.)

We will return in a moment with the final act of "UFO: THE ENIGMA OF THE SKIES" on the ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATRE.

FADE OUT

FADE IN COMMERCIAL

HN58 SAUCERS (TX)

NEW YORK, JAN. 2 --(INS)--A MYSTERY WITHIN AN ENIGMA GAVE A NEW BOOST TODAY TO THE INTERNATIONAL FLYING SAUCER GUESSING GAME. IT GREW OUT OF A SUDDEN STILLING OF THE VOICE OF MAJOR DONALD E. KEHOE (USMC, RET.) DURING A CBS-TV PROGRAM LAST NIGHT DEVOTED TO AN EXPLORATION OF THE HISTORY OF FLYING SAUCERS, AND WHETHER ANY OF THE SIGHTINGS OF UFO'S (UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS) IN THE PAST TEN YEARS INVOLVED MACHINES FROM OUTER SPACE.

THE PROGRAM PROVIDED TWO SIDES TO THE QUESTION--THE AIR FORCE'S EMPHATIC NO! AND MAJOR KEHOE'S EQUALLY EMPHATIC YES! THE LISTENER THEN WAS LEFT TO DECIDE FOR HIMSELF.

BUT AN UNEXPECTED ELEMENT ENTERED THE PROGRAM WHEN KEHOE STARTED TO SAY THAT HE WAS GOING TO "REVEAL SOMETHING WHICH HAS NEVER BEFORE BEEN REVEALED TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC."

AS HE CONTINUED SPEAKING, WITH REFERENCE TO A "SECRET" SENATE COMMITTEE HE SAID HAD BEEN INVESTIGATING UFO'S FOR SIX MONTHS, HIS VOICE FADED OUT. CBS LATER DISCLOSED IT HAD CUT OFF THE AUDIO BECAUSE KEHOE WAS DEPARTING FROM AN AGREED-UPON PREPARED SCRIPT.

THE INCIDENT IMMEDIATELY LED TO SPECULATION ABOUT THE PURPORTED SENATE INVESTIGATION. ACCORDING TO KEHOE, THE SENATE SEEKS TO DETERMINE WHETHER, AS HAS BEEN CHARGED, PILOTS HAVE BEEN "MUZZLED" AND FORBIDDEN TO TALK PUBLICLY ABOUT SIGHTED "SAUCERS."

KEHOE, WHO HAS WRITTEN BOOKS ON THE SUBJECT, SAYS HE REMAINS CONVINCED--DESPITE ALL OFFICIAL DENIALS--THAT SOME OF THE SIGHTED MYSTERY OBJECTS HAVE BEEN INTERPLANETARY SPACESHIPS.

HY952AES

5 January 1961

Dear Mr. Chapman:

This is to acknowledge your request of 31 December 1960 for a copy of the Armstrong Circle Theater program entitled "UFO: The Enigma of the Skies."

I regret that we do not have copies of this script for distribution. However, we do have a file copy on hand and you are welcome to visit this office to read or copy it in whole or in part.

In addition, I am inclosing the latest Department of Defense fact sheet on the general subject of UFOs. This clearly states the position of the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

Sincerely,

Inclosure

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Public Information Division
Office of Information

Mr. J. Chapman
23 Donna Drive
Albany 5, New York

034E
OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES

1201 741 J 15 42
Comeback OI-3d
Reader OI-1

*Script - Run Over
Release + file this letter*

23 Donna Drive
Albany 5, New York
December 31, 1960

Major Lawrence J. Tacker
Office of Public Information
United States Air Force
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

On January 22, 1958, the Armstrong Circle Theater presented a program which dealt with the unidentified flying object. The program was entitled "UFO: The Enigma of the Skies" and was supposed to present both sides of the UFO controversy. The show apparently did not proceed according to plan as some of the individuals scheduled to appear did not—specifically Edward J. Ruppelt, Kenneth Arnold, and Captain C.S. Chiles. The most dramatic segment of the program occurred when Donald E. Keyhoe was cut-off in the middle of a paragraph.

In June of 1958, I sent a letter to Talent Associates requesting a copy of the script used on the program. On July 31, 1958, I received a letter from Mr. C.O. Hess saying that the supply of scripts had been "exhausted." It is indeed hard to believe that the requests for these scripts had so far exceeded the supply that the Armstrong Company did not have a single copy left in their whole organization.

Since the CBS program appeared, a number of articles have appeared concerning 'censorship' of the script for this program and especially in regard to Mr. Keyhoe's section of the show. The way in which my request for a copy of the script was denied by Mr. Hess only supports this charge made by Mr. Keyhoe and others.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could tell me where I could obtain a copy of said script.

Thank you.

Sincerely ,
J. Chapman
J. Chapman

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Mr. Bush, Staff Member of your Subcommittee, informed Major John Torbet of our Senate Liaison Office that your Subcommittee has received a considerable number of letters from Texas expressing concern with the Air Force investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects. These inquiries were stimulated by the Armstrong Circle Theater television show of 22 January 1958. Mr. Bush requested that your Subcommittee be advised of the Air Force position in this matter.

It was unfortunate that the producers of this show had to cut Major Kehoe off of the air when he began to depart from the script which he had beforehand agreed to adhere to. From the producers point of view, however, this was necessary in order to protect the network from possible law suits. The Air Force regrets that the producers were forced to take such action because by so doing they enhanced rather than detracted from Major Kehoe's position concerning his sensational and unsupported claims that Unidentified Flying Objects are real, and that the Air Force is withholding from the public critical information on the subject. People are prone to remember such sensational claims as his rather than the responsible statements of the qualified scientists who disclaimed such charges on the same program.

The allegation that the Air Force has withheld critical information on Unidentified Flying Object reports is entirely in error. We are interested in the truth concerning reported sightings and are fully aware of our obligation to keep the public informed on such matters. Many persons who report sightings to the Air Force do so in confidence and do not want their names, the names of associated people, or some of the circumstantial details made public. Since this information is not considered critical or necessary for proper evaluation, their wishes in this regard are respected.

DISTRIBUTION:

AFCIN-XI
(Maj Byrne)
OFF OF SIG
SAFIS
SAFS FILES

The Air Force is compelled to deal scientifically and objectively with the facts developed during an investigation of an Unidentified Flying Object sighting. We feel certain that the analysis and evaluation of these facts by our qualified scientific personnel are thorough, sound and adequate. Because we have this firm conviction, the Air Force stands ready to give its wholehearted cooperation to any Congressional Committee desirous of holding public hearings on this subject.

SAFLL-3

SAFLL

AFCIN-XI

SAFRD

SAFIS(See
memo dtd 25
Feb Sgd Maj
L.J.Tacker w/draft)

SAF FILE 602-58

Ltr to Chm Johnson re UFO (Cont)

For your information, I am inclosing the latest Department of Defense fact sheet on Unidentified Flying Objects, dated 5 November 1957. You will note that paragraph 18 of the fact sheet should be modified to include Air Force participation in the Armstrong Circle Theater presentation on 22 January 1958.

If I can give you any further aid or assistance in this matter, please feel at liberty to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

Inclosure As stated above

Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Chairman, Preparedness Investigating
Subcommittee
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate

M/R: Cong req for info frm SLO dtd 20 Feb 58; recd LL 21 Feb 58;
LL-3 recd memo dtd 25 Feb frm SAFIS w/draft of proposed
reply in ans to tele req from LL-3; LL-3 prep & fwd fnl rep
to the Chm 28 Feb 58

SAFRD CASE

Dear Mr. Wigglesworth:

You recently requested information concerning Air Force investigations of unidentified flying objects.

The allegation that the Air Force has withheld critical information on unidentified flying object reports is entirely in error. We are interested in the truth concerning reported sightings and are fully aware of our obligation to keep the public informed on such matters. Many persons who report sightings to the Air Force do so in confidence and do not want their names, the names of associated people, or some of the circumstantial details made public. Since this information is not considered critical or necessary for proper evaluation, their wishes in this regard are respected.

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M/R: Recd SAFLL 12 Mar;
Notack or fwded; F/L prep/fwded
12 Mar based on info obtained fr
M&O files and AF Policy; memo
fr AFABF w/incl

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD E. HUNTER
Major General, USAF
Research and Development

COORD
AFCVC
SAFS FILE
OFC OF SI
COMBACK
SAFIS
AFCIN
AFABF
STAYBACK

2 Inclosures 1. Ltr fr Const to Rep W. 2. Fact Sheet re UFO's dtd 5 Nov 57

Honorable Richard E. Wigglesworth

House of Representatives