[redacted]

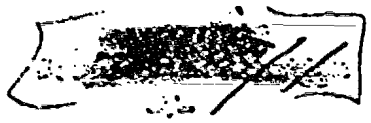
[illegible] was requested (as have been others) [illegible] the lack of sound data in the great majority [illegible] also, in the face of openly hostile [illegible] Air Force facilities of the ATIC section [illegible] with [illegible] of unidentified sightings discussed in [illegible]

Hillsdale, Ohio (2 August 1952); Syracuse, Utah (2 July 1952); Great Falls, Montana (5 August 1950); Enid, Oklahoma (3 September 1952); Washington, D. C. area (19 July 1952); and Kenai A.F.B., Japan (5 August 1952), Iron River, Michigan (29 July 1952); and Bonners Ferry, Idaho (31 October 1952).

After review and discussion of these cases (and about 25 others, in brief detail), the Panel concluded that reasonable explanations could be suggested for most sightings and fly detailed and coherent [illegible] could be included (given additional data) that other cases might be explained in a similar manner". The Panel pointed out that because of the brevity of some sightings (e.g. 2-3 seconds) and the [illegible] of the witnesses [illegible] themselves clearly (sometimes) that conclusive explanations could not be expected for every case reported. Furthermore, it was considered that, normally, it would be a great waste of effort to try to solve most of the sightings, unless such action would be part of a training and educational program [illegible]. The sightings at Charles Town were referenced to show

[illegible] Lubbock, Texas (2 August 1952); Evanston, Utah (2 July 1952); Mount Vista, Spokane (13 August 1952); Rock, Kentucky (1 September 1952); Washington, D. C. area (29 July 1952); and Kenosha, Wisconsin (5 August 1952); West Bend, Michigan (29 July 1952); and Twenty Nine Palms, California (23 October 1952).

After review and discussion of these cases (and about 25 other cases), the Panel concluded that reasonable explanations could be suggested for most sightings and fly detailed and calculable studies could be induced (given additional data) that other cases might be explained in a similar manner. The Panel pointed out that because of the brevity of some sightings (e.g. 2-3 seconds) and the unreliability of the witnesses' memories themselves clearly (sometimes), that conclusive explanations could not be expected for every case reported. Furthermore, it was considered that, normally, it would be a great waste of effort to try to solve most of the sightings, which such action would be like a training and educational program (see [illegible]). The sightings at Chanute Base were referenced to show



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[illegible] things in the sky" had been reported for hundreds of years. It appeared obvious that there was no single explanation for a majority of the things seen. The presence of radar and certain specialists on the Panel proved of value at once in their scientific recognition of phenomena related to their fields. It was apparent that specialists in such additional fields as psychology, astronomy, aerodynamics, ballistics and military air operations would extend the ability of the Panel to recognize many more categories of investigated phenomena.

CONCLUSIONS

The Panel concluded unanimously that there was no evidence of a direct threat to national security in the objects sighted. Reference to "Foo Fighters" were cited. These were unexplained phenomena sighted by aircraft pilots during World War II in both European and Far East theaters of operation wherein "balls of light" would fly near or with the aircraft and maneuver rapidly. They were believed to be electrostatic (similar to St. Elmo's fire) or electromagnetic phenomena or possibly light reflections from ice crystals in the air, but their exact cause or nature was never defined. Both Robertson and Alvarez had been concerned in the investigation of these phenomena, but David T. Griggs (Professor of Geophysics at the University of California at Los Angeles) is believed to have been the most knowledgeable person on this subject. If the term "flying saucers" had been popular in 1943 - 1945, these objects would

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[illegible] in mind. It was interesting that in at least two cases members felt that the objects sighted were categorized by Robertson and Hynek as possibly "Sky Hooks", to date unexplained but not dangerous; they were not happy then to dismiss the sightings by calling them names. It was their feeling that these phenomena are not beyond the realm of present knowledge of physical science.

[redacted]

It was the Panel's opinion that some of the Air Force reported cases U.F.O.'s (notwithstanding Air Defense Command anxiety over Soviet tactics) was probably caused by public pressure. The result today is that the Air Force has established a fine channel for receiving reports of hardly anything anyone sees in the sky and fails to understand. This has been particularly encouraged in popular articles on this and other subjects, such as space travel and science fiction. The result is the mass receipt of low-grade reports which tend to overload channels of communication with material quite irrelevant to possible objects that might some day appear. The Panel agreed generally that this mass of poor-quality reports containing little, if any, scientific data was of no value. Quite the opposite, it was possibly dangerous in having a military service foster public concern in "nocturnal housekeeping lights". The implication being, since the interested agency was military, that these objects were thought to potential direct threats to national security. Accordingly, the need for deemphasization made itself apparent. Comments on a possible educational program are enumerated below.

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In [illegible] the opinion of Lt. Robertson that the "human" problem [illegible] to be different in nature from the detection and [illegible] of German V-1 and V-2 guided missiles prior to their employment, via in World War II. In this 1943-1944 intelligence operation (CROSSBOW), there was excellent intelligence and by June 1944 there was material [illegible] use of the evidence of "human" sightings that worked well [illegible] in England. This evidence gave the [illegible] a basis upon which to operate. The chances of any "sightings" resulting from unexplained U.F.O. sightings [illegible] a "hit" similar [illegible] to the AMC problem. The results of these investigations, to date, strongly indicate that no evidence of hostile acts or danger exists. Furthermore, the current reporting system would have little value in the case of detection of enemy attack by conventional aircraft or guided missiles; under such conditions Pentagon would be available aloft at once.

[illegible] OF INTERPLANETARY CRAFT

It was interesting to note that none of the members of the [illegible] were loath to accept that this earth might be visited by extra-terrestrial intelligent beings of some sort, some day. What they did not find was any evidence that related the objects sighted to space travelers. Mr. Bennett, in his presentation, showed how he had eliminated each of the known and probable causes of sightings leaving him "non-correctable" as the only one remaining in many cases. Bennett's background as an aeronautical engineer and technical intelligence

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...Project Sign, [redacted] could not be ...ight. Moreover, the Panel could not accept any of the cases ...ed by him because they were very, unevaluated reports. ...ssible explanations of the sightings were suggested in some ...ses and in others the time of sighting was so short as to cause ...sion of visual impression. It was noted by Dr. Goudsmit and ..., that extraterrestrial artifacts, if they did exist, are no ...re to Army, Navy, or Air Force than they are in the realm of natural phenomena ...bject to scientific study, just as cosmic rays were at the time ...r their discovery 20 to 30 years ago. This was an attitude in ...hich Dr. Robertson did not concur, as he felt that such artifacts ...would be of immediate and great concern not only to the U. S. but ...to all countries. (Nothing like a common threat to unite people!) ...Dr. Page noted that present astronomical knowledge of the solar ...system makes the existence of intelligent beings (as we know them ...) elsewhere than on the earth extremely unlikely, and the ...concentration of their attention by any controllable means confined ...to any one continent of the earth quite preposterous.

[redacted] SIGHTS

This once was considered significant because of the excellent ...documentary evidence in the form of Kodachrome motion picture films ...(about 1600 frames). The Panel studied these films, the case history, ...their interpretation, and received a briefing by representatives of ...the Air Photo Interpretation Laboratory on their analysis of the ...film. This team had enlarged (at Air Force request) approximately

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... [illegible] of professional and subprofessional view in the ... [illegible] of each photo of individual frames of the film, show... dynamic and relative motion of objects and variation in their light intensity. It was the opinion of the P.I.I. representatives that the objects sighted were [illegible] birds, balloons or aircraft, with [illegible] reflections because they were so blinding while passing through 60° of arc and were, in fact, "[illegible]". Plots of motion and variation in light intensity of the objects were displayed. While the Panel members were impressed by the evident enthusiasm, industry and talent of others of the P.I.I. team, they could not accept the conclusions reached. Some of the reasons for this were as follows:

a. A semi-spherical object can readily produce a reflection of sunlight without "blinding" through 60° of arc thereof.

b. Although no data was available on the "albedo" of birds or polyethylene balloons in bright sunlight, the apparent motion, size and brightness of the objects were considered strongly to suggest birds, particularly after the Panel viewed a short film showing high reflectivity of seagulls in bright sunlight.

c. While description of the objects sighted as "circular, [illegible]" in color would be expected in cases of specular reflections of sunlight from convex surfaces where the [illegible] of the reflection would obscure other portions of the objects.

[redacted]

a. U.F.O. in the Great Falls case were believed to have probably been aircraft, and the bright lights such reflections.

b. There was no valid reason for the attempt to relate the objects in the Savannah sighting to those in the Great Falls sighting. This may have been due to misunderstanding in Washington. The objects in the Great Falls sighting are strongly suspected of being reflections of aircraft known to have been in the area.

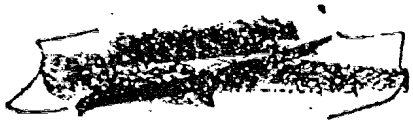
c. The intensity change in the Savannah lights was too great for reflection of the U.F.O. hypothesis that the apparent pulsed and changing intensity of the lights indicated extremely high speed in small orbital paths.

d. Apparent lack of guidance of investigators by those familiar with U.F.O. reports and explanations.

e. Analysis of light intensity of objects made from duplicate rather than original film. The original film was noted to have a dark lighter background (indicating relative brightness of objects) and the objects appeared much less bright.

f. Method of obtaining data of light intensity appeared faulty because of unreliability of objects and questionable susceptibility to making errors of readings.

g. No data had been obtained on the sensitivity of television units to light of various intensities using the same camera type as the ones here sighted.



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[redacted]

c. [illegible] (which is the [illegible] part of [illegible] film) was not [illegible] from the place of the "single [illegible]" at the end of the film.

d. The Panel believed strongly that the data available on this sighting was sufficient for positive identification if further data is obtained by photographing polyethylene "pillow" balloons released near the site under similar weather conditions, checking bird flight and reflection characteristics with competent ornithologists and calculating apparent [illegible] of objects from their apparent tracks. It was concluded that the [illegible] of such tests would probably lead to creditable explanations of value in an educational or training program. However, the Panel noted that the cost in technical manpower effort required to follow up and explain every one of the thousand or more reports received through channels each year ([illegible] in [illegible]) could not be justified. It was felt that there will always be sightings, for which complete data is lacking, that can only be explained with disproportionate effort and with a long time delay, if at all. The long delay in explaining sightings tends to aid [illegible] intelligence [illegible] training program should have as a major purpose the elimination of the popular feeling that every sighting, no matter how poor the data, must be explained in detail. Attention should be directed to the requirement among scientists that a new phenomenon, to be accepted, must be completely and convincingly documented. In other words, the burden of proof is on the sighter, [illegible].

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[illegible]

The Panel Members were in agreement with O/SI opinion that, although evidence of any direct threat from these sightings was wholly lacking, related dangers might well exist resulting from:

a. Misidentification of actual enemy artifacts by defense personnel.

b. Overloading of emergency reporting channels with "false" information ("noise to signal ratio" analogy--Berkner).

c. Subjectivity of public to mass hysteria and greater vulnerability to possible enemy psychological warfare.

Although not the concern of CIA, the first two of these problems may seriously affect the Air Defense intelligence system, and should be studied by experts, possibly under ADC. If U.F.O.'s become discredited in a reaction to the "flying saucer" scare, or if reporting channels are saturated with false and poorly documented reports, our capability of detecting hostile activity will be reduced. Dr. Page noted that more competent screening or filtering of reported sightings at or near the source is required, and that this can best be accomplished by an educational program.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS OF UNEXPLAINED SIGHTINGS

The map prepared by ATIC showing geographic locations of officially reported unexplained sightings (1952 only) was examined by the Panel. This map showed clusters in certain strategic areas such as Los Alamos. This might be explained on the basis of 24-hour watchful guard and

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[redacted] scientific satellites were much lower. On the other hand, there had been no sightings in the vicinity of scientific satellites in establishments while there were considerably multiple sets of unidentified sightings in non-strategic areas. Furthermore, there appeared to be no logical relationship to population centers. The Panel could find no ready explanation for these clusters. It was pointed out, however, that if terrestrial artifacts were to be observed it would be likely that they would be seen first near foreign areas rather than near U. S.

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The Panel was of the opinion that the present ATIC program to place 100 inconspicuous 35 mm. stereo cameras in the hands of various airport control tower operators would probably produce little valuable data pointed to U.F.O.'s. However, it was recognized that such action would tend to allay public concern in the subject until an educational program had taken effect. It was believed that preoccupation of these centers was partly the result of public pressure in July 1952. With the poor results of the year-long Project [redacted] program of 24-hour instrumentation watch (two frames of [redacted] showing nothing distinguishable), a widespread program of skywatching would not be expected to yield much direct data of value.

There was considerable discussion of a possible "sky patrol" by rotating instruments (Ryan) and by wide-angle cameras (Baker). Dr. Page and Dr. Robertson pointed out that at present a considerable fraction

[illegible] for many years under surveillance [illegible] which is now a widely and [illegible] observing programs as well as by ongoing programs of the various institutions listed below. [illegible] the evaluation of these observations is largely directed [illegible] additional radius from unidentified objects, in case of any [illegible] unidentified object is known to Dr. Hynek or Dr. Hynek. Such [illegible] would most obviously be reported if found on patrol flights.

[illegible] also given there an astronomer advised to interrupt his [illegible] in order to photograph an alleged sighting in a different part of the city. This led Dr. Hynek to say that, if a program of visibility could be an adjunct of planned astronomical programs, little [illegible] would be involved [illegible] the routine astronomical personnel [illegible] photographic sighting of an unidentified object.

The location of each of these programs and their directors are believed to be:

a. Harvard University [illegible] Meteor (meteor patrol)--Hynek

Maguire.

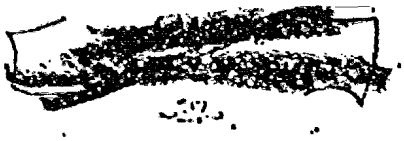
b. Perkes Observatory, University of Chicago and Fort Davis, Texas (several programs)--Whitnel (surveys), Kuiper (asteroids), Morgan (wide angle camera).

c. University of Alaska, Fairbanks (aurorae)--Elvey

d. Dearborn Observatory, Ottawa (meteors)--Williams

e. Lick Observatory, California (sky map)--Wilkinson

f. Mount Observatory, California (sky map)--Shane



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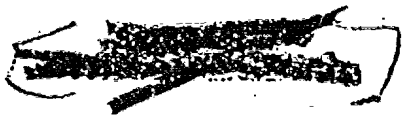

It was agreed by the Panel that no government-sponsored program of guided missile development is warranted at the present time, and that the encouragement of serious endeavors to achieve such a goal might have the adverse effect of over-emphasizing "flying saucer" studies in the public mind. However, the idea of radar-beacon controlled vehicles certainly possesses value which could serve several purposes, including the better understanding of radar techniques as well as identification of U.F.O.'s.

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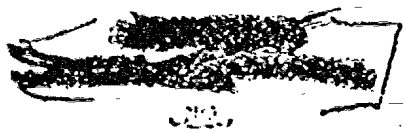
This unidentified problem of radar operation shows the pulse signal (of approximately the same frequency) from station A may be picked up on the screen of station B and show as a high-speed track or series of dots was recognized to have probably caused a number of U.F.O. reports. This problem was underlined by information received indicating AD2 course in solving this problem of signal identification before service use of very high-speed aircraft or guided missiles (1952-1953). Dr. Luboff believed that one answer to this problem was the use of a "coupled pulse" in the receiving circuits. Dr. Alvarez suggested that the problem might be better solved by the use of a "recirculating pulse" wherein the operator receiving "very fast tracks" (on the order of 2000- 20,000 m.p.h.) might operate a circuit which would alter slightly his station's pulse frequency rate. If the signal received on the screen had been caused by mutual interference with another station, the track would now show itself as a different distance



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... the nature of the answer, if it still appeared at all. Dr. Alvarez felt that a technical solution was simpler and would cost much less than "[illegible] efforts".

[illegible]

Two unrelated cases were combined: one at Palomar Mountain, California, in October 1949, when cosmic ray counters went "off scale for a few seconds" apparently while a "V" of flying saucers was observed visually; and two, a series of observations by the "Los Alamos Bird Watchers Association" from August 1950 to January 1951, when cosmic ray coincidence counters behaved queerly. Circuit diagrams and records were available for the latter, and Dr. Alvarez was able quickly to point out that the recorded data were undoubtedly due to instrumental effects that would have been recognized as such by more experienced observers.

The implication that radioactive effects were correlated with unidentified flying objects in these two cases was, therefore, rejected by the Panel.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Panel's concept of a broad educational program integrating efforts of all concerned agencies was that it should have two major aims: training and "debunking".

The training aim would result in proper recognition of unusually illuminated objects (e.g., balloons, aircraft reflections) as well as natural phenomena (meteors, fireballs, mirages, noctilucent clouds). Both visual and radar recognition are concerned. There would be many

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levels in each direction than enlisted personnel to control and see such personnel. Relative emphasis and degree of explanation of different programs would correspond to the categories of duty (e.g., radar operators; pilots; control tower operators; Ground Observer Corps personnel; and officers and enlisted men in other categories.) This training should result in a marked reduction in reports caused by misidentification and resultant confusion.

The "debunking" aim would result in reduction in public interest in "flying saucers" which today evokes a strong psychological reaction. This education could be accomplished by mass media such as television, motion pictures, and popular articles. Basis of such education would be actual case histories which had been puzzling at first but later explained. As in the case of conjuring tricks, there is much less stimulation if the "secret" is known. Such a program should tend to reduce the current gullibility of the public and consequently their susceptibility to clever hostile propaganda. The Panel noted that the general absence of Russian propaganda based on a subject with so many obvious possibilities for exploitation might indicate a possible Russian official policy.

Members of the Panel had various suggestions related to the planning of such an educational program. It was felt strongly that psychologists familiar with mass psychology should advise on the nature and extent of the program. In this connection, Dr. Hadley Cantril (Princeton University) was suggested. Cantril authored "Invasion from

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[redacted] study in the psychology of panic, written about the Orson Welles radio broadcast in 1938) and has some professional education [redacted] studies in the field of psychology. The names of Dan Mogelka (University of Michigan) and Joe Rachow were mentioned as possibly suitable as consultant psychologists. Also, someone familiar with mass communication techniques, perhaps an advertising expert, would be helpful. Arthur Godfrey was mentioned as possibly a valuable channel of communication reaching a mass audience of certain levels. Dr. Bulmer suggested the U. S. Navy (ONI) Special Devices Center, Sands Point, L. I., as a potentially valuable organization to assist in such an educational program. The teaching technique used by this agency for aircraft identification during the past war [redacted] as an example of a similar educational tool. [redacted] the Sam Houston, which made World War II training films (motion pictures and slide strips) was also suggested, as well as Walt Disney, Inc. animated cartoons. Dr. Hyak suggested that the Mormon communities in the U. S. might be a potential source of enthusiastic talent "to spread the gospel". It was believed that business clubs, high schools, colleges, and television stations would all be pleased to cooperate in the showing of documentary type motion pictures if prepared in an interesting manner. The use of true cases showing [redacted] the "psychology" and then the "explanation" would be forceful.

To plan and execute such a program, the Panel believed was no small task. The current investigatory group at AFSC would, of necessity, have to be closely interpreted for support with respect to not only the

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[illegible] photographing of "[illegible]" at different distances [illegible] weather conditions at the site.

The help of one or two psychologists and artists and a subcontractor for the training films would be necessary in addition. The Panel felt that ATIC's efforts, temporarily expanded as necessary, could be most useful in implementing any action taken as a result of its recommendations. Experience and records in ATIC would be of value in both the public educational and service training program envisaged. Dr. Robertson at least, was of the opinion that after public gullibility lessened and the service organizations, such as ATIC, had been trained to sift out the more readily explained spurious sightings, there would still be a role for a very modest-sized ATIC section to cope with the residuum of items of possible scientific intelligence value. This section should concentrate on energetically following up (perhaps on the advice of qualified Air Force Scientific Advisory Board members) those cases which seemed to indicate the evidence of unconventional enemy artifacts. Reports of such artifacts would be expected to come mainly from Western outposts in far closer proximity to the Iron Curtain than Lubbock, Texas!

F. CIVILIAN INVESTIGATING GROUPS

The Panel took cognizance of the existence of such groups as the "Civilian Flying Saucer Investigators" (Los Angeles) and the "Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (Wisconsin)". It was believed that such organizations should be watched because of their potentially

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R. C. DURANT III

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[illegible]

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	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]on	[illegible]	[illegible]
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[illegible]er	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] problems
[illegible]	[illegible] of Research [illegible] University	Astronomy, [illegible] physics
[illegible]		
[illegible]	Ohio State University	Astronomy
[illegible]	[illegible] D. [illegible], Inc.	Rockets, guided missiles
[illegible]		
[illegible] N. [illegible]	Commanding General, [illegible]	Scientific and technical intelligence
[illegible]	Assistant Director, [illegible] CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence
Mr. Ralph [illegible] Clark	Deputy Assistant [illegible], O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence

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TAB B

[illegible] PANEL ON

[illegible] FLYING OBJECTS

[illegible] - 17 January 195[illegible]

[illegible]

1. [illegible]-two case histories of sightings 1951 - 1952 (selected by [illegible]).

2. [illegible] Progress Reports of Project GRUDGE and Project [illegible] (code name for ATIC study of subject).

3. [illegible] Reports of Project [illegible] [code name for [illegible]] [illegible] (with supporting [illegible]).

4. [illegible] Report of Sightings at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.

5. [illegible] of USAF Research Center, Cambridge, Mass., Investigation of [illegible] Phenomena (Project TWINKLE).

6. [illegible] of Investigation of U.F.O.'s Prepared by [illegible] (Project [illegible]).

7. [illegible] Sightings at Tremonton, Utah, 2 July 195[illegible] [illegible] Great Falls, Montana, August 1950.

8. [illegible] cases of sightings of various [illegible] ([illegible] Lights, Hovering, etc.).

9. [illegible] of manuals "How to Make a [illegible]", prepared at ATIC.

10. Chart Showing Plot of Geographic Location of Unexplained Sightings in the United States during 1952.

11. [illegible] Showing Balloon [illegible] Areas in the United States.

12. [illegible] Showing Selected [illegible] Balloon Flight Paths and Relation [illegible] Reported Sightings.

13. [illegible] Showing Frequency of Reports of Sightings, 1948 - 1952.

14. [illegible] Showing Categories of Explanations of Sightings.

15. [illegible] of Polyethylene Film Balloons in Bright [illegible] Light [illegible].

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OAB 1

[illegible] photos of vapgills in [illegible] showing high reflectivity.

[illegible] Air Force Reports [illegible] to U.S.S.R. Research in U. S. Sightings.

[illegible] of Similar UFO Reporting Forms and Copies of Pertinent [illegible] Army and Navy Groups Referring to Subject.

Single Polarchylite "Filter" Lenses (24 inches square).

Publications on Flying Saucers, JANP 146 (Naval Intelligence manual specifically Unclassifiable of Service value).

Miscellaneous official letters and foreign intelligence reports dealing with subject.

Copies of popular published works dealing with subject (articles in periodicals, newspaper clippings and books).

[redacted]