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Security Information
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAR 13 1953

13 March 1953

The Honorable
The Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Director of Central Intelligence has asked that you be furnished a copy of the attached report prepared by a panel of scientists on the subject of "Unidentified Flying Objects." This panel was convened at the direction of General Smith, following the recommendation of the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

The conclusions and recommendations may be of interest to you, in that they point out certain potential dangers to national security which are related to the subject and suggest ways of their elimination.

Although this Agency does not consider problems arising from sightings of "flying saucers" primarily its concern, we shall be pleased to assist in any appropriate action that you may deem advisable.

Adm Copies of this report are also being sent to the *Federal Civil Def.* Secretary of Defense and to the Chairman, National Security Resources Board.

Sincerely yours,

Richard D. Drain

RICHARD D. DRAIN
Secretary
Intelligence Advisory Committee

Enclosure

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
MAR 17 1953

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NND 823015
By ERC NARS, Date 1/15/85

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States with the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, USC, Secs. 793 and 794, and transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SecDef. Cont. No. 0264D

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Enclosure

INTELLIGENCE BOARD

RICHARD D. DEWITT

SECRETARY

1953 MAR 17 AM 10 08

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Reference is made to the attached report regarding the activities of the Communist Party, USA, in the United States. The report was prepared by the Intelligence Board and is being submitted to you for your information and guidance.

The Intelligence Board has conducted a thorough investigation of the activities of the Communist Party, USA, and has found that the Party is engaged in a systematic effort to subvert the Government of the United States.

The Intelligence Board has also found that the Communist Party, USA, is engaged in a systematic effort to recruit and train individuals for the purpose of carrying out acts of sabotage and espionage against the United States.

Very truly yours,

Richard D. DeWitt
Secretary of Defense

17 MAR 1953

WASHINGTON, D. C.
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COPY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL
ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Jan 17 1953

MAR 13 1953

1. Pursuant to the request of the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, the undersigned Panel of Scientific Consultants has met to evaluate any possible threat to national security posed by Unidentified Flying Objects ("Flying Saucers"), and to make recommendations thereon. The Panel has received the evidence as presented by cognizant intelligence agencies, primarily the Air Technical Intelligence Center, and has reviewed a selection of the best documented incidents.

2. As a result of its considerations, the Panel concludes:

- a. That the evidence presented on Unidentified Flying Objects shows no indication that these phenomena constitute a direct physical threat to national security.

We firmly believe that there is no residuum of cases which indicates phenomena which are attributable to foreign artifacts capable of hostile acts, and that there is no evidence that the phenomena indicate a need for the revision of current scientific concepts.

3. The Panel further concludes:

- a. That the continued emphasis on the reporting of these phenomena does, in these parlous times, result in a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic.

We cite as examples the clogging of channels of communication by irrelevant reports, the danger of being led by continued false alarms to ignore real

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Re RA 02610

indications of hostile action, and the cultivation of a morbid national psychology in which skillful hostile propaganda could induce hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority.

4. In order most effectively to strengthen the national facilities for the timely recognition and the appropriate handling of true indications of hostile action, and to minimize the concomitant dangers alluded to above, the Panel recommends:

a. That the national security agencies take immediate steps to strip the Unidentified Flying Objects of the special status they have been given and the aura of mystery they have unfortunately acquired;

b. That the national security agencies institute policies on intelligence, training, and public education designed to prepare the material defenses and the morale of the country to recognize most promptly and to react most effectively to true indications of hostile intent or action.

We suggest that these aims may be achieved by an integrated program designed to reassure the public of the total lack of evidence of inimical forces behind the phenomena, to train personnel to recognize and reject false indications quickly and effectively, and to strengthen regular channels for the evaluation of and prompt reaction to true indications of hostile measures.

/s/ H. P. Robertson, Chairman
California Institute of Technology

/s/ Luis W. Alvarez
University of California

/s/ Lloyd V. Berkner
Associated Universities, Inc.

/s/ S. A. Goudsmit
Brookhaven National Laboratories

/s/ Thornton Page
Johns Hopkins University