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Rob Mercer

23 Jan 68

O/S  
DLS

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 1

UFO SPEAKERS

The Air Force does not provide speakers on the subject of UFOs. Since we have so few people in the Air Force who are qualified to speak on the subject, and can not honor all of the many requests for speakers which we receive, it is Air Force policy not to provide speakers on the subject.

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DLW

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 2

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL DISCUSSING UFOs

Private individuals or organizations desiring Air Force interviews, briefings, lectures, or private discussions on UFOs will be instructed to direct their requests to SAFOI. Air Force members not officially connected with UFO investigations covered by this regulation will refrain from any action or comment on UFO reports which may mis-lead or cause the public to construe these opinions as official Air Force findings.

23 Jan 68  
D.E.  
DWS

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 3

RELEASE OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES

The Air Force does not release the names and addresses of individuals who report UFO sightings without their permission. This policy must be enforced to protect them from possible embarrassment and undue or unwanted publicity.

238-15  
D.C.  
DLJ

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 4

CENSORSHIP

There is no "policy of censorship" pertaining to Project Blue Book. Our program is completely unclassified. ~~Reports are classified only when they involve national security such as the performance of military equipment (aircraft, radar, mission and location of certain installations).~~

Rob M...

*Johnston C.*

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 5

EVIDENCE OF UFOs

*The Air Force has*

There is no physical evidence which has been or is now in the possession of the Air Force which indicates the existence of "space vehicles" or other forms of extraterrestrial life. Nor is there any reason to believe in the possession of such evidence by others.

We do say that we have no evidence which:

- (1) indicates UFOs are a threat to national security,
- (2) indicates UFOs are extraterrestrial in origin,
- (3) indicates UFOs are intelligently guided objects

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 6

EXISTENCE OF UFOs

The Air Force neither confirms nor denies the testimony of UFO observers; it can only report its findings. We have never denied the possible existence of extraterrestrial life within the universe; however, we have no tangible proof that there is any extraterrestrial life nor do we have any proof that UFOs are interplanetary space vehicles.



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PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 7

SCIENCE FICTION LITERATURE PERTAINING TO UFOs

Books and other literature regarding unidentified flying objects and related subjects abound. The Air Force does not review, indorse, sponsor, sanction or comment on them in any way.

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PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 8

AIR FORCE ATTITUDE OF UFO ORGANIZATIONS

As to the Air Force attitude toward private or commercial UFO organizations, we neither condemn nor sanction them.

23 Jan 68  
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D&S

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 9

CONUS SIGHTINGS

Project Blue Book is responsible for investigating and analyzing UFO reports which occur within the continental limits of the United States. UFO reports emanating outside the CONUS are ~~usually~~ not investigated or analyzed by Project Blue Book.

Rob McElroy

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 10

COPYING AND SEARCHING UFO RECORDS

The Air Force collects fees for copying and searching UFO records. Services and fees are listed in the attachments to AFR 11-6. Such services will be performed by AFDASBA in accordance with HOI 11-32.

"The Air Force possesses only record copies, and thus does not have for distribution outdated reports such as . . . . . Copies of these documents can be made at the expense of the requester at rates prescribed by Air Force directives. Requests should be sent to:

Headquarters, USAF  
AFDASBA  
Washington, D. C. 20330

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 11

RELEASE  
DISCLOSURE OF UFO INFORMATION

It is the fundamental policy of DOD and the Air Force to make available to the public the maximum amount of information and records concerning their operations and activities. In this regard, any identifiable UFO documentary material should be made available on the request of any person. For a record to be "identifiable" it must exist at the time of the request. When the information requested exists in the form of several publications at different locations (i.e. reading rooms, reference libraries), the requester should be referred to that source if gathering the information would generate excess workloads and impair other office functions.

The requestor must be reasonably specific in identifying records they would like made available.

SAFOICC is not required to permit a requester to browse through entire UFO records to find a particular record he may then "identify". If the requester desires copy service, he will be charged a copy fee plus a search fee, where appropriate, in accordance with AFR 11-6.

All inquiries requesting copies of Air Force Regulations, Manuals, Letters and Pamphlets will be referred to the Directorate of Administrative Services, Attn: AFDASBA for action. (SAFOICC will not furnish these publications unless request is internal to the Air Force). Inquiries requesting Air Force documents marked "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" will be informed of this fact and that the publication is not for release outside the Air Force.

See HOI 11-32 concerning public disclosure of unclassified records and the Air Force reference service.

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 12

TELEPHONE INQUIRIES REQUESTING UFO INFORMATION

Telephone queries from the general public concerning requests for UFO information will not be acknowledged by SAFOICC personnel. Requester will be answered courteously and politely asked to send their request to SAFOICC by letter. This policy is necessary in order to preclude information being misquoted and to insure that SAFOICC supplies only that information which the requestor specifies.

For telephone inquiries involving a reported UFO sighting, SAFOICC will obtain persons' name and address and forward Air Force Form 117 requesting it be completed and mailed to FTD for analysis and investigation.

All telephone queries from news media will be referred

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 13

EVALUATION OF UFO SIGHTINGS AT SAFOICC

Investigation and analysis of UFO sightings will not be made by any personnel of SAFOICC. Any individual requesting that SAFOICC personnel analyze or investigate any UFO sighting evidence (i.e. film, drawings, tape recordings, etc.) will be referred to FTD in accordance with AFR 80-17.



PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 14

IMPERSONATION OF AIR FORCE OFFICERS

Information, not verifiable, has reached Hq USAF that persons claiming to represent the Air Force or other Defense establishments have contacted citizens who have sighted unidentified flying objects. In one reported case an individual in civilian clothes, who represented himself as a member of NORAD, demanded and received photos belonging to a private citizen. In another, a person in an Air Force uniform approached local police and other citizens who had sighted a UFO, assembled them in a school room and told them that they did not see what they thought they saw and that they should not talk to anyone about the sighting. All military and civilian personnel and particularly Information Officers and UFO Investigating Officers who hear of such reports should immediately notify their local OSI offices.

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PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 15

CAREER AS A UFO INVESTIGATOR

The Air Force has no career field per se for UFO investigators. We feel, however, that a college degree with a major in the physical sciences (meteorology, astronomy, physics), or a combination of these sciences, as well as past investigative experience are highly desirable <sup>Qualifications</sup> ~~requirements~~. Almost all UFO investigators in the Air Force are company grade officers who perform this duty in addition to their regular assignment; that is, they are only part-time UFO investigators.

SHORT SUMMARY OF USAF SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

AD HOC COMMITTEE'S REVIEW OF

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

A Special Ad Hoc Committee of the U. S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board was formed in March 1966 to review Project "Blue Book." The objectives of the Committee were to review the resources and methods of investigation prescribed by project "Blue Book" and to advise the Air Force of any improvements that could be made in the program to enhance the Air Force's capability in carrying out its responsibility.

The Committee concluded "that the present Air Force program dealing with UFO sightings has been well organized, although the resources assigned to it (only one officer, a sergeant, and secretary) have been quite limited." The Committee further concluded that "there appears to be no verified and fully satisfactory evidence of any case that is clearly outside the framework of presently known science and technology." The Committee recommended that "the present program be strengthened to provide opportunity for scientific investigation of selected sightings in more detail and depth than has been possible to date."

Based upon this recommendation the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, was selected by the Air Force to conduct independent investigation into unidentified flying object (UFO) reports.

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 17

UNIV OF COLORADO REPORT

Advised OASD(PA) Magazine and Book Division that the University of Colorado/Dr. Condon have copyright to the UFO report being done for the Air Force. Praeger Publishers have asked OASD for permission to publish the report. OASD asked us to provide information on which to base a reply. Both OAR (JAG) and General Counsel agree that under the terms of the contract between the Air Force and the University of Colorado, the University has copyright and the Air Force has exclusive license to reproduce copies for its own use--including publishing through the Government Printing Office. Also advised OASD to tell Praeger that publication by GPO is a possibility so Praeger can better evaluate the marketability of the report.

JANUARY 25, 1967  
PUBLIC INFORMATION DIV

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 13

UFO FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

The Air Force has no films or photographs that indicate our planet has been visited by extraterrestrial vehicles. Photographs that have been submitted for evaluation in conjunction with UFO reports have undergone intensive photographic analyses and none have provided evidence that substantiate the presence of extraterrestrial vehicles. Many widely circulated photographs have never been submitted to the Air Force for comprehensive analyses. The Air Force returns all original photographs and negatives to the owners upon completion of analyses.

COST OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS INVESTIGATIONS

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 19

Funds are not appropriated nor specifically identified in budget estimates for the investigation of UFO reports submitted to the Air Force for evaluation. When an UFO sighting is reported, it is the responsibility of whatever Air Force base is nearest the sighting to conduct the initial investigation. If this initial investigation does not yield a definite identification of the object sighted, an additional investigation is conducted by an activity of the Air Force Systems Command (AFSC) located at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The nature of the task is such, that it cannot be readily programmed, therefore, resources available to the Command are temporarily diverted to the effort.

In view of the widely dispersed activities involved, the fact that (1) the effort is accomplished by temporary diversion of resources, and (2) the activity is incidental when compared to the overall command operation, the Air Force has not established a separate accounting system to identify the costs associated with the investigation of UFO reports. Such expenses, which relate to the Military Personnel and Operation and Maintenance appropriations, are relatively minor and do not warrant the expense of establishing a separate accounting system.

RELEASE OF UFO CASE FILES

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 20

Air Force policy does not permit release of case file on any UFO investigation. However, unclassified summaries may be released. Authority for non-release is contained in AFR 11-30, par. 4d(5) and <sup>4e</sup>(2)(g), 27 June 1967.

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PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 22

CONSTRUCTION OF A UFO OR FLYING SAUCER

The Air Force has no scientific or technical interest in attempting to construct a UFO or a flying saucer. Hence, all offers to assist with such a plan must be declined.

Rob Mercer



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PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 23

INSUFFICIENT DATA

Reports categorized as Insufficient Data are those for which one or more elements of information essential for evaluation are missing. Some examples are the omission of the duration of the sighting, date, time, location, position in the sky, weather conditions, and the manner of appearance or disappearance. If an element is missing and there is an indication that the sighting may be of a security, scientific, technical, or public interest value, the Project Blue Book Office conducts an additional investigation and every attempt is made to obtain the information necessary for evaluation. However, in some instances, essential information cannot be obtained, and no further action can be taken. In no instance is the Insufficient Data category ever used as a "cover-up" for those sightings which analysts are unable to identify.

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 26

NUMBER OF UFO REPORTS EACH YEAR

The number of UFO reports vary from year-to-year for a number of reasons. Some factors that influence the number of UFO's reported are: specific technological developments, prevailing weather conditions, news stories, and public interest. For instance, in 1957, there was a significant increase in UFO reports after the launch of the first Sputnik satellite. From August 31 to September 3, 1965, a temperature inversion was responsible for several reports from the Mid-west. News stories and public interest are directly related; these factors were responsible for the great number of sightings in 1952.

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 26

Release of Colorado UFO Report

At the request of the Air Force, the University of Colorado submitted the report of its study directly to the National Academy of Sciences on November 15, 1968. The Academy will provide an independent assessment of the scope, methodology, and findings of the report.

The National Academy of Sciences' review is expected to be completed in about two months. Once the review is completed, the report and the Academy's remarks will be submitted to the Air Force. No copies of the report will be available while the Academy is reviewing it. The Department of Defense will release the report to the public as soon as practicable after the Academy review is complete.

ANS. Questions

- ① Why does The Air Force say That UFO's ARE NOT EXTRATERRESTRIAL CRAFT
- ② Why do we say "No Technology beyond present capabilities"

In January 1953 the Scientific Advisory Panel, composed of well-known respected scientists, met and discussed the problem of unidentified flying objects.

The following is an extract from their report:

The panel . . . has reviewed a selection of the best documented incidents . . . 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. The panel further concludes that the continued emphasis on the reporting of these phenomena does, in these perilous 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 indications of hostile action, and the cultivation of a morbid national hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority.

In December 1951 a private industrial concern was contracted to do an indepth study of the unidentified flying object phenomenon. In 1955 they released their report that is commonly known as Special Report Number 14.

This report reduced and evaluated all unidentified flying objects data held in Air Force files. The conclusions of the scientists who conducted the study were:

It can never be absolutely proven that "Flying Saucers" do not exist. . . . Scientifically evaluated and arranged, the data as a whole did not show any marked patterns or trends. . . . A critical examination of the distributions of the important characteristics of sightings, plus an intensive study of the sightings evaluated as unknown, led to the conclusion that a combination of factors . . . resulted in the failure to identify as Knowns most of the objects classified as Unknowns. An intensive study aimed at finding a verified example of a "Flying Saucer" or at deriving a verified model or models of "Flying Saucers" led to the conclusion that neither goal could be attained using the present data.

It is emphasized that there was a complete lack of any valid evidence consisting of physical matter in any case of a reported unidentified aerial object. Thus, the probability that any of the unknowns considered in this study are "Flying Saucers" is concluded to be extremely small, since the most complete and reliable reports from the present data, when isolated and studied, conclusively failed to reveal even a rough model, and since the data as a whole failed to reveal any marked patterns or trends.

Therefore, on the basis of this evaluation of the information, it is considered to be highly improbable that any of the reports of

unidentified aerial objects examined in this study represent observations of technological developments outside the range of present-day scientific knowledge.

Rob Mercier

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

POLICY STATEMENT NO. 29

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECT BLUE BOOK CASE FILES

Air Force investors of reported unidentified flying objects (UFO's) often have found witnesses reluctant to cooperate, both because they fear being approached by countless other investors and because of the possibility of having their names appear, or even be ridiculed, in the media. To receive the cooperation and candor necessary for thorough investigations, the Air Force has thus followed a practice of confidentiality. Because, as the University of Colorado report noted, identification of witnesses is irrelevant from a scientific standpoint to the facts under study, a uniform practice of omitting names and addresses has been followed in the release of Project Blue Book case files. Air Force personnel are accorded the same consideration.