

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)  
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



11 OCT 1968

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF:

TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT:

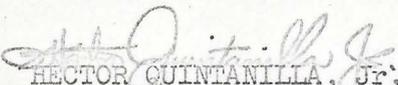
National Electronics Conference Panel on UFOs

TO:

Dr J Allen Hynek

1. I have just read the "Electronic News" article of September 30, 1968, with regards to the National Electronics Conference panel on UFOs. The article states that you and three other gentlemen will appraise the current status of UFOs and review the latest findings, including those of the Condon committee. I wish to inform you that under no circumstances will you review the findings of the Condon Committee as an official Air Force Consultant. The review of the findings of the Condon committee will be undertaken by the National Academy of Sciences, therefore, the Air Force is not going to involve itself with Dr Condon's report until the National Academy releases the document to the Secretary of the Air Force and the general public.

2. As your project monitor, I would appreciate it if you would refrain from identifying yourself as an Air Force consultant when participating in pseudo-scientific panels of this type.

  
HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr; Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

20 November 1967

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomenon Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: Major H. Quintanilla, Jr.

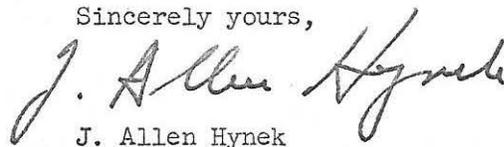
Re: Report on UFO sighting of  
19 April 1967, Burney, Calif.

Dear Major Quintanilla:

I recommend that The evaluation be changed from ionized plasma to unidentified since there is nothing in the data to support "a charged ice particle plasma". In the first place, the term "ice particle plasma" is meaningless to a physicist. I, at least, do not know of any ice particle plasma that is glowing white, travels slowly and is visible for approximately 10 minutes. This appears to be a purely ad hoc evaluation and is open to the severest criticism.

Since this case has also been submitted to the University of Colorado, I suggest that we request an evaluation from them.

Sincerely yours,

  
J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp

20 November 1967

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomenon Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: Major H. Quintanilla, Jr.

Re: Sighting of 17 April 1967  
from Saigon

Dear Major Quintanilla:

As reported, this case is completely unidentified and much additional information is called for. It is inconceivable that military intelligence would not have looked further into this case and, therefore, I should like to request that any further information garnered in this case be forwarded to Project Blue Book. Saigon must certainly have 24 hour radar coverage: were these objects picked up by radar?

Witness indicates that jet interception may have been involved, although objects were traveling "at least five times faster than any jet-powered aircraft I have ever seen". The objects were oval in shape and were traveling in a vertical aspect. In view of the fact that the witness "was known as a stable, mature member of the 524th Military Intelligence Attachment," it appears that all persons concerned in this sighting should be further interrogated. I further suggest that a copy of this sighting be transmitted to the University of Colorado group.

Since the source of this information was himself a member of a military intelligence detachment, it appears all the more incomprehensible that this incident was not followed up in considerable detail.

Sincerely yours,

J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp

Encl. (4)

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

17 November 1967

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomenon Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: Major H. Quintanilla, Jr.

Re: UFO of 18 December 1966, Bear Mt.  
State Park, New York. Evaluated  
originally as hoax.

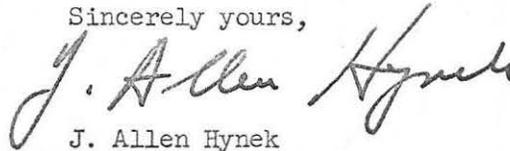
Dear Major Quintanilla:

On re-examination, I find no substantiation for the evaluation of hoax, particularly in view of the photo-analysis report, No. 67-10, dated 20 February 1967, which contains no information upon which a hoax can be based. To the contrary, the report states that close examination of the negative has negated double exposure and/or retouching. The photographs appear genuine insofar as content is concerned, however, no satisfactory explanation of the unidentified object could be made. The lack of a satisfactory explanation of the unidentified object does not constitute sufficient reason to declare it a hoax. Further, the interviewer considered the witness to be a "reliable source."

After examination of the print by myself and by Mr. Fred Beckman of the University of Chicago, we feel that the original negative should be requested for further examination. Mr. Beckman, a qualified photo-analyst, disagrees with the photo analysis presented in the report as to the distance of the object. He points out that the depth of field extends much farther than indicated in the report. It will be noted, from the print, that the focus is poor in the entire periphery of the picture regardless of the distance; only in the center of the picture is the focus good, and this good focus extends essentially to infinity. Consequently no judgment can be made as to the real size of the object, if this judgment is based solely on the quality of focus.

My recommendation is, therefore, that the evaluation be changed from hoax to unidentified.

Sincerely yours,

  
J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp

CORRALITOS OBSERVATORY

ASTRONOMY DEPARTMENT

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

P.O. DRAWER 1120

LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO 88001

AC505 524-8471

Jan. 27, 1968

Dear Hector:

I am out here for about two weeks, working on our supernova program and a number of other things. The BBC came out here to film a bit of me for their "do" on UFO's. I will see them again in London in March. I am making a trip--at my own expense--to Prague, Paris (to see Jacques), and to London to see some UFO people there. I will be gone two weeks, from Mar. 12 to Mar. 26.

The Doubleday people have finally persuaded me to do a book, to be called "Varieties of UFO Experience"--an obvious take-off on William James famous book, "Varieties of Religious Experience"--he was the Harvard psychologist, as you know.

The book commits me to no theories or interpretations---simply "the facts, m'am". I will point out that in astronomy there were fine observations of planetary motions (but for centuries the wrong theory and interpretation)--for years there were the facts about meteorites (but the wrong theory)--and in physics there were observations on the aurorae (but the wrong theory)--so what comes first are the observations--let theories wait. Certainly I won't get myself in a trap on ETI or plasma or anything else, as far as that goes.

I have also bought ( at my own expense) a fine transcription tape recorder, which not only allows me to tape phone conversations easily--but to have a secretary take them off easily--it has a back spacer, so it's just like a dictaphone. So now I will be able to furnish you with the transcripts of the various ( and interesting) phone interviews I have been having all around the country.

Now to get to the things you want. The delay in reporting on many of the cases you have asked me about is due simply to the fact that I needed more facts, and I have been calling people up, and until now there was no way to transcribe them from the tape.

CASE: 5 Nov. 1967 Farmersville, Ohio Roger McDowell.

corrections

Clearly a case of the moon. When one makes ~~calculations~~ for the longitude of Farmersville west of the 75 th meridian, and corrects for the difference from the meridian of Greenwich, one comes out to moonset for Farmersville at 20:21 EST. Since the sighting time is given as 20:00, duration 5 min., and the moon had a southern declination,--and the fact that he didn't mention the moon when the nearly quarter moon was plainly there, makes it very likely that the moon was the culprit. The moon, of course, was not 20 degrees in elevation---more like 4-8 degs, but that is normal exaggeration. The moon ~~was~~ also ~~was~~ somewhat farther south than observer indicated his object was, but I do not think this ~~was~~ is serious. Also, he said he thought it might be the moon, but the "moon wouldn't be visible". Well, it was.

Thank you for sending the resume of case listings for which I am to send you written comments. I was not aware you wanted comments on the 1952 cases--those which Mr. Sweeney so kindly had duplicated for me. I wanted those just to complete my own files. But if you want comments, you shall certainly have them.

If there is any question about the appropriateness of my using the Xerox

machine while I am visiting you, would my bringing my own Xerox paper with me ease the situation. I can easily bring a box of it with me, since we also use it at the observatory. No criticism could then be made that I am using up FTD supplies. It is clearly most inefficient for me to have to dictate material into a dictaphone and then have my secretary spend hours transcribing it. I wouldn't think of wasting my time like that back at the university---quite unthinkable for a department chairman to spend his time doing hack work. Yet, my contract reads that I am to find out whether there is anything of scientific value in UFO reports. Clearly then I must have free access to such reports as I deem might be of value, and copies of whatever unclassified material I feel it is important for me to have. Otherwise there is no point to having me as a consultant. Perhaps you, Mr. Sweeney and I can talk this out the next time I visit---which is now scheduled for Feb. 15 and 16.

A reporter from Amarillo called me yesterday to brief me on the flap they have been having in Wellington, Texas---many independent witnesses---Exeter type cases--animals disturbed, etc.--but they have not reported to the Air Force. None of them want publicity or ridicule. I will follow some of this by phone, as an individual,--but even the Condon Comm. doesn't have this report.

Well, enough for now.

Sincerely yours,

*Allen*  
Allen

P.S. The manuscript of the book is not due to be delivered for two years--so much can happen between now and then.

On my way home from here, I have been asked to stop by Houston and regale the astronauts about UFO's. Well, well!!

When I asked the BBC people if they were going to film Menzel, they replied, "Menzel is irrelevant" Ho, ho.

Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.  
Page 2

30 November 1967

But be that all as it may, this does not concern me directly. My job as called for in the contract is to continue to see whether I can find anything of scientific value in UFO reports. This task I am pursuing. I try diligently to avoid "looking under the bed" techniques. I will leave such matters to people trained to do such things and try to concentrate solely on the scientific aspects of the work, whatever those may be.

Sincerely yours,



J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp

cc: Dr. Cassiopo  
Mr. J. Sweeney

Rob Mercer

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

30 November 1967

Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.  
FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomenon Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Dear Major:

I herewith return the Burney, California case. I was not aware that this was the original copy, but now upon examination I see that it apparently is. Had I realized this before I would have made a xerox of it before bringing it with me from Dayton.

At any rate, I wrote to Mr. Forrester, Shasta City Deputy Sheriff, to tell him that on Sunday, November 26 at 7:00 P.M., I would call him for further information. (This is part of my regular plan now; I write in advance to witnesses I wish to interrogate, telling them that I will place a phone call to them at a given time and asking them to be in readiness) I found that Mr. Forrester had been killed in an auto accident just three weeks ago. Very ironically, he had quit his sheriff's job in Burney, California, "because he wanted to get away from its hazards" and accepted a job with the Los Angeles Police Department whereupon just a few days after he joined them, he was killed in an auto accident.

The case is still a good one, however, and our only chance of tracing down what this "ice particle plasma" might be is to check with the radar squadron in Red Bluff, Oregon. Since this is a military installation, I think it would be better if we placed an autovon call to them next time I visit Blue Book.

I must apologize for walking off with the Saigon "For Information Only" case, but the original has been returned. As far as I know I do not have any other original reports here, unless they inadvertently got mixed up with a batch of xerox copies. Rest assured that any original copies, should there be any, will be promptly returned to your files.

I am still surprised that no further investigation was made of the Saigon case. It is cases like this, I am sure you must realize, that spawn the rumors that "the Air Force knows all about it" since to the average citizen it is inconceivable that so striking a reported happening would go uninvestigated.

DEARBORN OBSERVATORY  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

January 13, 1966

Major Hector Quintanilla USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio 45433

Dear Major:

This is to report to you that Sergeant Moody and I are hard at it for these three days. I think that we will be able to clean up all of 1965.

As I go over the 900 or so cases of '65, I am once again impressed by the inadequate quality of the data upon which the evaluations must be based. In some cases the term "insufficient data" is really a misnomer; there is enough data but it is of such poor quality that the cause of the sighting is unidentifiable rather than unidentified. To use the category "insufficient data" overly much weights the statistics so that our critics then say that this is just a handy catch-all to which we put everything that we can't find a ready explanation for. On the other hand, to say the case is "unidentified" is even worse because this is interpreted by our reading public to mean that something really mysterious is going on. The reason for its being unidentified is that the data do not permit any logical explanation. I would prefer the term "unidentifiable" or, better, "unidentifiable because of poor data" to either of the terms "insufficient data" by itself, or "unidentified" by itself. I rather agree with public opinion that the term "unidentified" should be reserved for those cases which really do puzzle us even though we have reasonably good data, by which I mean largely that there was more than one observer, and that we have some time-space sequence of the reported events.

Should there ever be any official inquiry from the Pentagon about the conduct of our Project, I think it might be well to bring up the above points. I have for years, as you know, pleaded for immediate capability in the gathering of data so that evaluations could be placed on a much firmer foundation than they have been in the past, not because of any inherent incompetence in the evaluating office but, simply because of the inherent paucity of the data.

Sincerely yours,



Director

JAH:ar

TDPT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/12Dec67 12 December 1967

UFO Case Files

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. Reference your requests for specific UFO case files. The following reports are forwarded for your study and comments.

- a. 26 February 1966, Bartlett, New Hampshire
- b. 7 July 1966, Centerville, Ohio
- c. 31 July 1967, Indianapolis, Indiana
- d. 21 June 1967, Las Vegas, Nevada

2. Our letter of 7 November 1967 forwarded twenty-five cases for your study and comments. To date we have not received them. If possible, would you please bring your written comments with you on your next trip to Wright-Patterson AFB. We are attempting to close out the first ten months of 1967 and would like to add your comments to our files. Thank you for your assistance in bringing our files up to date.

*Rector Quintanilla, Jr.*  
RECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr., Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

4 Atchs  
a/s

January 7, 1966

Major Hector Quintanilla USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio 45433

Dear Major:

I am happy to inform you that the iron sample you sent me recently has been analyzed by our staff and found to be a meteorite. The sample was polished by our instrument maker and then acid-etched, revealing the Widmanstaetten figures, characteristic of iron meteorites. This appears to be an octahedrite. It further shows impact markings in that the Widmanstaetten figures, which are a pattern formed by very large crystals, shows signs of having been melted and rapidly re-cooled, thus destroying the crystal pattern which arises from very slow cooling in the interior of the meteorite.

I believe it would be an excellent idea to obtain the entire meteorite from your source. I should be much interested in obtaining it for the Observatory here for scientific purposes if this were to be at all possible.

It is always rewarding to find a sample that turns out to be an actual meteorite, considering the great number of specimens we have received over the past several years which have turned out to be nothing more than furnace slag, concretions, etc.

Sincerely yours,

J. Allen Rynok  
Director

JAR:ar

*Widmanstaetten  
figures*

DEARBORN OBSERVATORY  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

January 13, 1966

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Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
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Sincerely yours,



Director

JAH:ar

TDEF/UFO

Request for UFO Case Files

NOV 7 1967

Dr. J. Allen Hynek  
Dearborn Observatory  
Evanston, Illinois 60201

1. Reference your requests for specific UFO case files and copies of incoming messages on unidentified flying objects. These case files have been reproduced and are forwarded to you for your study on the observations.
2. Request your comments on the attached sightings; comments may be in letter form. Request you include your reasons for believing that cases need additional investigation, why you feel a sighting is or is not a star, satellite or other evaluation, and please state what additional information you have from witnesses or other sources on these particular sightings.
3. By providing the above information, you will enable this office to be better prepared to meet with congressmen, the news media, and other scientific investigators. Your written comments will prove to be most valuable in substantiating your scientific and investigative research on UFO sightings.

Sincerely,

 HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch

25 Atchs

1. Listing of UFO Cases
- 2.- 25. Cases as listed in Atch #1

*L. M. ... copy*

NOV 28 1967

TDPT (UFO) Maj H Quintanilla/70916/mhs/28 Nov 67

UFO Observation, 2 September 1967

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference the attached unidentified flying object report from Mrs. Catherine Manter on her observation of 2 September 1967, at Boulder, Colorado. Request your comments as to a possible cause for this sighting.

*H*  
DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
a/s

*reply rec.*

Rob Mercer

TDPT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/12Dec67 12 December 1967

UFO Case Files

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

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*Hector Quintanilla, Jr.*  
HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

4 Atchs  
e/s

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

6 December 1967

Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.  
FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Dear Major:

In reference to your request for comments on the observation of Mrs. Catherine Manter made on 2 September 1967, at Boulder, Colorado, I would say that the evidence clearly points to the planet, Saturn. The "dead giveaway", I believe, is given in item 26: "A star, but with no rays". The planet Saturn would be quite bright, but would not twinkle as stars do.

The fact that the object was in view for one hour and forty-five minutes, appeared as a "star but with no rays" and that the night was essentially clear, leads me to consider Saturn to be the stimulus for this report. I discount the statement that the object moved in several directions since nothing is said of the magnitude of this motion, and could easily be ascribed to the well-known illusion which arises from watching a point source of light for a protracted time.

The report has several minor inconsistencies in it but, all in all, there is nothing in the report that would seriously contradict the evaluation of the planet Saturn. The statement that the elevation was  $35^\circ$ , whereas Saturn was approximately  $20^\circ$  elevation is, I believe, another example of the general tendency of people to estimate horizontal angles greater than they actually prove to be.

Sincerely yours,



J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp  
encl.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

30 November 1967

Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.  
FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomenon Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Dear Major:

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The case is still a good one, however, and our only chance of tracing down what this "ice particle plasma" might be is to check with the radar squadron in Red Bluff, Oregon. Since this is a military installation, I think it would be better if we placed an autovon call to them next time I visit Blue Book.

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Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.  
Page 2

30 November 1967

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Sincerely yours,



J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp  
cc: Dr. Cassiopo  
Mr. J. Sweeney

Rob Mercer

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

20 November 1967

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomenon Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: Major H. Quintanilla, Jr.

Re: Report on UFO sighting of  
19 April 1967, Burney, Calif.

Dear Major Quintanilla:

I recommend that The evaluation be changed from ionized plasma to unidentified since there is nothing in the data to support "a charged ice particle plasma". In the first place, the term "ice particle plasma" is meaningless to a physicist. I, at least, do not know of any ice particle plasma that is glowing white, travels slowly and is visible for approximately 10 minutes. This appears to be a purely ad hoc evaluation and is open to the severest criticism.

Since this case has also been submitted to the University of Colorado, I suggest that we request an evaluation from them.

Sincerely yours,

*J. Allen Hynek*  
J. Allen Hynek

JAH:lp

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)  
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO  
ATTN OF:

TDPT (UFO)

18 January 1968

SUBJECT:

Request for Comments on UFO Observations

TO:

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. Reference the attached report from Roger McDowell of Farmersville, Ohio, on his unidentified observation of 5 November 1967. Mr. McDowell also had sightings on 29-30 October 1967 which were evaluated as possible aircraft. The witness has not provided additional information on his sighting of 5 November. However, we would appreciate your written comments as to the possibility of Mr. McDowell observing the moon on his latest observation.

2. Attached is a copy of a letter from the 1st Aerospace Control Squadron regarding the visibility of retrograde satellites. Their listing of visible satellites was obtained from the Smithsonian. Please note that several satellites on this list are not contained in the information provided by the Smithsonian on satellites observed by Moonwatch prior to 1 January 1968.

3. As of this date, we have not received your written comments on the sightings forwarded to you on 7 November 1967 and 12 December 1967. Also, we have not received your comments on reports given to you on 17 November 1967 and the cases which Mr. Sweeney duplicated for you on 19 December 1967. In the event that you have misplaced your listings on these cases we are providing you with a list that combines all the cases that were forwarded to you for review on the above dates.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

3 Atchs  
1. Sighting, 5 Nov 67  
2. List of Retrograde Satellites  
3. Listing of UFO Cases for Comment

*Rec. 27 Jan. 68*

30 or 31 July 67

By *Mason*  
copy

TDPT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/30 Jan 68

UFO Observation, 30 or 31 July 1967

31 JAN 1968

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. Reference the attached unidentified flying object report from Kernville, California which occurred on 30 or 31 July 1967. Request your written comments as to the possibility of this being an astronomical observation. If you feel that Mr. Petyak did not observe an astronomical body, please make a statement to that effect.

2. Thank you for your assistance on this case.

Rec. 8 Feb 68

①  
#  
DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Athh  
a/s

TDPT (UFO) OFFICIAL FILE CY

Rob Merrett

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

8 February 1968

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

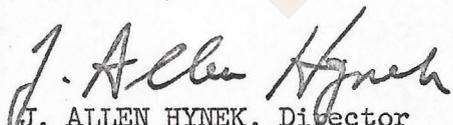
Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: UFO Observation, 30 July, 1967, 10:15 P.D.T.

To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. There is nothing in the data supplied by Mr. Petyak to indicate that he had been observing an astronomical body. Saturn had not quite risen at the time of his first observation. Further, he indicated the elevation as being approximately half-way to the zenith.

2. From the evidence presented by Mr. Petyak it does not appear potentially profitable to pursue investigation of this case further, as the likelihood of obtaining anything of scientific value from this sighting seems improbable. This sighting takes its place with hundreds of others which end in a blind alley and yield nothing of scientific value.

  
J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Department of Astronomy  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

TDPT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/23 Feb 68

26 FEB 1968

8 mm Film, Sighting 9 March 1967

Dr. J. Allen Hynck

In reviewing the Quad City area, Illinois sightings of 6 - 11 March 1967, we noticed that the 8mm film taken by Police Officer William Fisher of Moline, Illinois, was not in the official file. Your voucher of 21 December 1967 indicates that the Air Force paid for the processing of this film. We would appreciate it if you would forward the film to the Aerial Phenomena Office in order that the film can become part of the official record.

*Q*  
DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

*Rec film*

Rob Mercer

TDPT (UFO) OFFICIAL FILE CY

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

28 February 1968

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: Sighting of 17 June 1967, Phoenix, Arizona,  
enclosed with your letter of 19 February 1968

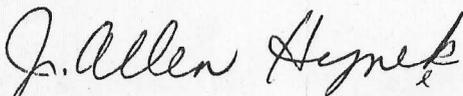
To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. I find that there is not enough information to attempt a firm evaluation. Information on the "light curve" would be specifically needed. This might be obtained through interrogation of the witness, but since the witness is a 12-year old boy his subjective impressions of the event may color the objective facts to such an extent that we still will not get firm data.

2. If you authorize it, I will be happy to make a phone call to Mr. Perry and attempt a further evaluation of the facts.

3. From the limited data at hand, a meteor explanation seems to be the most likely even though five seconds is too long a time to cover the limited arc indicated. His time estimate may be in error as well as the arc covered. He speaks of "great speed" and this too is in contradiction with the relatively short arc covered in five seconds.

4. I would recommend that the phone call be made.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Department of Astronomy  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

Lt M's  
cy

TDPT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/12 Mar 68

13 MAR 1968

Alleged Transfer of Data to Rand Corporation

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. This replies to your letter of 7 March 1968 with regards to an Associated Press news article which reported that the Air Force had turned over accumulated UFO data to the Rand Corporation.
2. I don't know where Mrs. Arleen Abrahams got her information from, however, I can categorically state that I have not turned over any data to the Rand Corporation. I can also state that I have no official or unofficial knowledge that such a transfer of data is to take place in the future. It appears, to me, to be just another rumor and there is no truth in it whatsoever. I personally think that if such a transfer was being contemplated, I would be right in the middle of it.
3. Thank you for calling my attention to the article and if you do track down this alleged source of information, I would appreciate a copy of the correspondence.

**H**  
MAJOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

MAR 18 1968

*N.A.R.*

TDFT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/16 Mar 68

Observation of February 25, 1968

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

The attached letter from Mr. John A. Marshall, regarding his observation of February 25, 1968 at Elk Grove Village, Illinois, is forwarded to your office due to your interest in meteor observations.

MAJOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
Ltr, J. A. Marshall,  
Feb 26, 1968

Rob McGee

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MAR 18 1968

MAR 18 1968

TDFT (UFO)

Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/16 Mar 68

UFO Observation, 31 July 1967, Indianapolis, Indiana

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. Reference the attached unidentified flying object (UFO) report of 31 July 1967, Indianapolis, Indiana. Additional information has been received from the witness, Larry Battson.
2. The sighting had been carried as unidentified and you were given copies of the report. The case has been re-evaluated as conflicting data despite the fact that this observer said it looked like a meteor and that three satellite decays occurred on 1 August 1967 at 1200Z plus or minus twelve hours.

*wrote about case 8 April 68*

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
AF Form 117 fm L. Battson

*by  
WAB*

Rob Mc...

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

1 April 1968

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)  
Subj: Mr. R. W. Bland's sighting of 8 February 1968, Groveton, Mo.  
To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. In accordance with your letter of 26 March 1968 requesting that I contact Mr. and Mrs. Bland, Groveton, Missouri with reference to Mr. Bland's UFO sighting, I have the following to report.
2. Mr. Bland is in the hospital with a kidney stone so I first talked with Mrs. Bland, who, however, did not experience the sighting. I wanted to evaluate her manner of speaking and thinking. The conversation revealed that she is a matter-of-fact, down-to-earth individual who has lived in that community all her life. The Blands own their own farm and raise registered cattle for breeding purposes. Nothing in my conversation with Mrs. Bland would indicate that she is excitable or any other than a common sense person.

The following day I called Mr. Bland at the hospital and had an extended talk with him. No other significant facts concerning the sighting itself emerged from the conversation. His letter, as you note, was articulate and concise and covered the basic facts. Mr. Bland does not wish to fill out our questionnaire. He feels that little could be added, and he pointed out that he nearly didn't write his letter in the first place but did so only because he felt the matter might be of some interest to the government. I questioned him on such matters as duration, angular sizes, acceleration, and trajectory. The object did not pass in front of any object but he thought it may have passed somewhat behind two walnut trees. He stated that it had been completely stationary close to the ground for about ten times as long as the duration of takeoff and disappearance.

Mr. Bland's whole manner of speech was careful and he made no attempt to embellish his story, or to do anything other than stick to the facts. He does not desire publicity and has not mentioned the incident to anyone other than his wife. He feels no good could come from talking about it. I would have to give Mr. Bland a very good rating as to stability and unexcitability.

1 April 1968

He is, however, nearsighted and although he tells me he can drive without glasses he rarely does. Had he had his glasses on he feels he could have observed more details than he did.

3. This case must be evaluated as unidentified. Since it is a one-witness case (if we exclude the cows as witnesses) we are up the familiar blind alley with the question as to whether there was an actual image on Mr. Bland's retina at the time of his sighting. There is always the possibility that this could have been a vivid dream or an outright hallucination. We do not understand under what conditions such hallucinations occur but in my recent visit in London I spoke at great length with a well-known psychiatrist who is doing research in hypnosis and he tells me the following:

One out of 20 people appear to be capable of deep trance hypnosis. In some five cases in which he had hypnotised the people who have had spectacular UFO sightings he has found that in all cases these people were capable of deep trance hypnosis. Deep trance subjects are capable of hallucination under suggestion by the hypnotist. The question remains whether they are also capable of hallucination without the aid of hypnotist. This is an interesting possibility and might go a long way toward explaining many of the single witness cases.

I questioned Mr. Bland as to whether he had ever been hypnotised and he said that he never had and that "sort of stuff was out of his field".

If we do not accept hallucination, and there is no a priori reason to accept it, we are faced with the generally unpalatable conclusion that Mr. Bland did indeed see what he said he saw. I find no ordinary artifact, weather condition, aircraft, or mirage, etc., which would serve to explain this sighting.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Department of Astronomy  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

27 May

TDPT (UFO)

3 APR 1968

Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/2 Apr 68  
Proposed Visit to Wright-Patterson AFB

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. Reference your letter of 27 March 1968 in which you inclosed a schedule of lectures for your spring quarter. The dates of April 18, 19, 20 and May 16, 17, 18 will be planned for your visit.
2. On your forthcoming visit to Wright-Patterson, we hope that you will be able to bring your comments on the cases that we have forwarded to you previously and on the other cases that you said you would provide comments on. We have many reports in our pending file that are awaiting your remarks and we would like to make an evaluation on them.
3. It has come to our attention that you have not submitted any vouchers for January, February or March 1968. As a close audit is made on the remaining funds, we would appreciate your forwarding any vouchers that you have not filed as yet.

DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
 Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
 Aerospace Technologies Division  
 Production Directorate

8 APR 1968

TDPT (UFO)

Major Quintanilla/70916/aha/8 Apr 68  
Fort Moresby, New Guinea, 23 August 1955

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

1. Reference your letter of 2 April 1968, subject "Port Moresby Movies." Mr. T. C. Drury's case appears to have been declassified sometime ago. There are no photographs or films attached to the case and there is no indication that Mr. Drury's films were ever received at Wright-Patterson. Mr. Tomas's statement with regards to sending the films to Wright-Patterson, is not substantiated by any correspondence in the case file.
2. According to the information contained in a report to the regional director of Port Moresby, Mr. Drury felt that the object "appeared to me, to be some type of very high speed aircraft." Since this incident occurred outside the continental limits of the United States, Project Blue Book does not intend to pursue this sighting any further.
3. There is no objection to your reviewing Mr. Drury's case file.

MAJOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

Cy to: TDGS - Dr. Cacloppo  
Mr. Sweeney

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

8 April 1968

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: UFO Sighting, 31 July 1967, Indianapolis, Indiana

To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. If I have looked at this case once I have certainly looked at it more than a dozen times. Each time I looked at it I have put it down with a sense of frustration. Before the second Battson report came in there was very good agreement among the three observers. How much of this was due to collusion, of course, we do not know. Even so, the frustration curtain could be lifted only by an interview with the three boys at the site of the sighting, and in view of the youth of the observers I hesitate to suggest such an expenditure of time and money.

2. Now report No. 2 from Battson comes in, made a good half year after the sighting and apparently made in a hurry and certainly not comparing in thought or detail to the reports of the other observers. Some items are left blank and, all in all, it gives the impression that this young lad filled the questionnaire out in a hurry under pressure to get it over with. Was this the case?

3. The attached table compares some basic items in the various reports. In the direction of travel all early reports agree but the Battson No. II indicates the thing came from a higher altitude to a lower. As far as duration is concerned, the Battson II report says both one minute and ten seconds, the former agreeing with previous reports. The only mention of moonlight is made in Battson II and this is understandable since if I were to ask any of my students whether there was moonlight or not on the first day of their vacation last year I doubt that any would remember. There is general agreement as to partial to full cloudiness and in the manner of disappearance of the object.

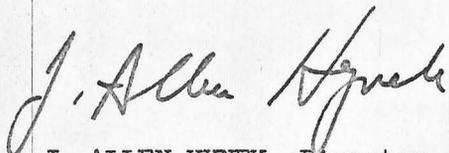
8 April 1968

The basic description and the drawings of the first three reports are in good agreement, if one allows that two soup bowls attached might resemble two rolls of toilet attached. The apparent sizes in the first three reports agree but this was left blank in the Battson II report.

Although there is some conflict between the Battson I and Battson II reports, I feel the conflict arises from both faded memory and a sloppy filling out of the second report.

4. My own preference for an evaluation would be "insufficient and somewhat conflicting data". Since the insufficiency can be removed only by further, and personal, interrogation I think this is a good evaluation. The sighting certainly cannot be evaluated as a meteor nor as a re-entry because the object in no case was described as giving off smoke or changing brightness. The duration for a meteorite is too long and is at the limits of what might be allowed in a re-entry. If I were a lawyer I would disregard the Battson II report on the basis of lack of quality in comparison to the previous three reports.

Nonetheless, an interesting case and we must ask once again, what was the stimulus that gave rise to the report?



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Department of Astronomy  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

	Battson I (15)	Battson II (15)	R. Young (16)	J. Young (12)
Direction of Trav.	Below clouds to above clouds	High ---- low	Low --- high	Low --- high
Duration	50 sec. - one (1) minute	1 Minute 10 Seconds	50 seconds	1-1/2 -- 2 min.
Moonlight	Meteors, Venus, but not the moon	Bright	---	None
Detail in Drawing	Good	None	Good	Good
Sky	Partly cloudy	Partly Cloudy	cloudy	cloudy
Disappearance	Behind cloud	Suddenly	Behind cloud	Behind cloud
Resembled	-----	Meteorite	2 soup bowls	2 rolls of toilet paper
Date of Report	-----	Feb. 13, 1968	July 17, 1967	Nov. 30, 1967
Size	Larger than dime at arm's length	-----	Larger than dime at arm's length	Dime at arm's length

*Cy for Lt M*

26 MAR 1968

TDPT (UFO) Maj Quintanilla/70916/mhs/25 Mar 68

UFO Observation, 8 February 1968

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference the attached report from Mr. R. W. Bland of Groveton, Missouri, Conservation Acres Ranch on his unidentified observation of 8 February 1968. Please contact the Bland's and let us know of your evaluation on this observation.

*QH*  
DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

*Rec. 1 April 68*

**Rob Mercer**

2 MAY 1968

TDPT (UFO) Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/mhs/2 May 68

UFO Observation, 14 September 1967

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference the attached UFO report from the Indiana area for 14 September 1967. This report is forwarded for your information and files.

①  
DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
UFO Case File,  
14 Sep 67, Indiana Area

TDPT (UFO) OFFICIAL FILE CY

Rob Mercer

TDPF (UFO) Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/mhs/15 May 68

16 MAY 1968

Request for UFO Case Files

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference your request for specific UFO cases. These reports have been reproduced and are attached; they are for your comments or information. The case of 3 March 1968, from Mrs. G. W. Reichardt is for OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
4 Jan 49	Hickam Field, Hawaii	Comments or Info
18 Oct 67	Oelwein, Iowa	Info
6 Feb 68	Payetteville, North Carolina	Comments or Info
3 Mar 68	Nashville, Tennessee	Info
6 Mar 68	Amarillo, Texas	Comments or Info
19 Apr 67	El Cajon, California	Comments or Info

*H*  
DIRECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

6 Atch  
a/s

24 May 1968

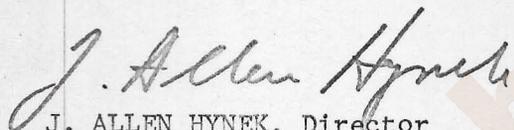
FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: Visit to Dayton, June 11, 1968

To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. If it is agreeable with you, I should like to come to Dayton for just one day in June. It would be Tuesday, June 11, and staying over on Wednesday if the work demands it.
2. I will be staying at the Dayton Inn, arriving there Monday night, and will get out to the field early Tuesday morning.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

cc: A. J. Cacioppo  
J. J. Sweeney

Read in TDP71

*A M's ey*

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

4 June 1968

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: UFO Investigation

To: Lt. Col. Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

Reference: I. Your letter 22 May 1968, subject, UFO Investigations,  
I have the following comments on all the cases you have  
listed, in the order they were listed.

1. 7 January 1952, Palmer, Alaska.

I have rated this case  $\Sigma 3 C7$ , meaning that as far as strange-  
ness was concerned, the stimulus giving rise to this report could  
have been something quite ordinary or it could have fallen into the  
category of "cigar-shaped Ufos" reported from many countries and  
which have no ready explanation. In this instance, there is not  
sufficient information to go on. The report we have states,  
"Alaska Air Command informed and will take further investigative  
action," and, "additional data will be forwarded when available".  
To the best of my knowledge the further data were never transmitted.  
This plus the fact that it was reported by one woman out of 4 or 5  
(not 45 as the original report stated) and the fact that it was  
observed at the time of the setting sun, leads me to think that  
the sighting might have had a meteorological origin. Thus, "possibly  
meteorological, but data insufficient for firm evaluation" is my  
recommendation for this classification.

2. 14 April 1952, LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

I originally asked to review this case in the hopes that un-  
known to me some additional followup had been made. I found that  
despite the fact that a captain of commercial airliner and others

4 June 1968

had witnessed this, no followup whatever was made. It is that sort of thing in this case, and in a great many others, that has led to the facetious, but somewhat deadly remark by someone that Project Blue Book might be called, not the "Society for the Investigation of Unexplained", (Ivan Sanerson's organization) but rather, "Society for the Explanation of the Uninvestigated". Since 1947, because of lack of funds and adequate personnel, a formidable number of cases were not adequately followed up. I had often pointed out, both to officials in Dayton and in Washington, that a day of reckoning might some day come when the Air Force might be asked to show cause why proper investigations were not made. In this case, for instance, no attempt apparently was made even to find out who "the others" were who had made this sighting. How many? Were they passengers? Were they members of the crew? No attempt even was made to find out the duration of the sighting. In view of all this, it is patently impossible to form any sort of a valid judgement as to what the stimulus that gave rise to this report might have been. To list it as "insufficient information" is incorrect, but it should really be listed as "insufficient information because of lack of followup". A store of information may have been available, but this store was never tapped. Incidentally, how is the case presently carried, unidentified, or insufficient information? The latter would certainly be more appropriate.

3. 4 June 1952, Stuttgart, Germany.

I have rated this a Σ3 C6 meaning puzzling but possibly explainable case of credibility 6, since there were two witnesses technically trained. One witness was a Lieutenant Colonel who was shortly thereafter assigned to the Directorate of Intelligence, Headquarters, United States Air Force. It seems unlikely that they would have been misled into a misidentification of an F84, and reported instead a very bright light that crossed in front of their aircraft, made fairly tight turns, and then have turned their own aircraft to follow it. Of course, it is entirely possible that it was a gross misidentification on the part of these two experienced pilots and therefore the evaluation of possible aircraft is justified. It is unjustified, however, in the statistics for the year to call it an unquestioned aircraft. To be fair, one might also have designated it "possibly unidentified" and at the end of the year have listed it as "unidentified". I have long inveighed against the unacceptable (and this is to any good statistician) statistics employed by Blue Book over the years in transforming "possibles" and "probables" into firm actualities.

4 June 1968

Should the files of Blue Book ever be thoroughly examined by competent scientists, this incorrect statistical procedure will surely be pointed out as being most unscientific. Though more cumbersome, the proper thing to do is, of course, to carry in the statistical records the number of, let us say, aircraft, probable aircraft, and possible aircraft cases as separate entries.

4. 5 June 1952, Lubbock, Texas.

Properly classed as unknown. It would be straining things to call these possible aircraft in view of the experience and reliability of both observers. I feel, however, much more information could have been extracted from the original observers. For instance, what did they mean by "lights appeared to be spherical and six inches in diameter?" They estimated the objects to be 40,000 feet high. Did they mean six inches at arm's length, etc? Very obvious information bits have been repeatedly overlooked in these cases. It is obviously too late to go back for this information in 1952 cases, etc., but in view of the continued interest in the UFO phenomenon in this and other countries, it behooves us to correct the mistakes of the past in the investigation of the truly puzzling cases of the present. The great handicap that Project Blue Book works under arises not only from lack of staff in Dayton, but far more importantly, in the gross lack of support at the originating airbases. Also, what is meant by "two objects were approximately 100 yards apart?" At 40,000 feet, this would mean a subtended angle of approximately one-half degree. Things like this could have been checked out by an intelligent interrogation officer.

5. 12 June 1952, Wichita, Kansas.

23 C6. The past evaluation, "probably balloon" has a low probability, even though a piball was reportedly launched 10 minutes earlier in that general area. There were two witnesses and with the wind 25 miles per hour from the southwest it is unlikely that a balloon could perform the maneuvers as reported. It was stated that the object remained almost motionless for 10 to 15 seconds then moved southwest at a fast rate (against the wind) whereupon it stopped, made several maneuvers, reversed its field until it reached its original position, stopped and took off directly east at an estimated speed of 400 miles per hour, at which time the object changed from globular to saucer-shaped. Observers stated that the object was moving faster than

4 June 1968

T33's that were flying in the immediate vicinity of the observers. To have such apparent motion the piball balloon would have to be very close by, at which time it would have been recognized as such, and even then could hardly have flown directly against a surface wind of 25 miles per hour.

Proper interrogation by competent persons at the time might have cleared up the situation. As it is, the only logical evaluation is "unidentified".

6. 12 June 1952, Ft. Smith, Arkansas.

Agree with present evaluation, "unidentified", and classed as  $\Sigma 3$  C7. Sighting can have a rational explanation if there were extremely high-flying jets in 1952. Observation took place near sundown at which time the jet might be brilliantly reflecting sunlight and the contrail likewise. It would appear odd that a lieutenant colonel and a major both observing with binoculars for 10 to 15 minutes would not have identified a high-flying jet in that interval of time. Were there very high flying jets in 1952? There would have been better followup in this case also.

7. 13 June 1952, Middletown, Pennsylvania

I give this single-witness case a  $\Sigma 3$ , C4. The witness had the good sense to hold a penny out at arm's length to judge the size and noted that it was slightly smaller than the penny. This means that the object was larger by about a factor of two, than the full moon.

This could have been a balloon on its way down. No upward motion was detected only downward and horizontal. Although the man had experience as a control tower operator, his statement that he has "some knowledge of astrology" and that he thought it was an exploded star does not rate him high in my book as a competent witness. I believe insufficient information would be a better classification than unknown in this case.

8. 23 June 1952, Iowa.

I do not have in my files.

9. 24/27 June 1952, Michigan,

I do not have in my files.

4 June 1968

10. 25 June 1952, Japan/Korea area.

This is not a single report but a collection of 13 radar reports which occurred in 1951 and 1952. No adequate explanation has been given by the radar expert for any of them and therefore I pass as far as any judgement as to their cause. This is one strictly for the radar experts.

11. 22 July 1952, Maxwell, Texas.

Evaluation as possible meteor is not tenable if object was seen to climb from 8,000 feet to 14,000 feet, then to hover, then to drop at an angle of 45 degrees, continue hovering, and fly south at 5,000 feet. It was reported by four air police and a staff sergeant. This is clearly a case which should have been followed up further. Proper classification: insufficient followup, or insufficient information.

12. 22 July 1952, Uvalde, Texas.

This is an interesting case, with two witnesses. Chief witness was the weather observer for Trans-Texas Airlines who was thoroughly familiar with planes, weather balloons, etc. Object covered an arc of approximately 100 degrees in 45 seconds, had no visible aerodynamic features, had a bright afterglow and a gyrating movement. No sound. Object seemed to climb higher every second and move from in front of a cumulus cloud to in back of it, thus giving some estimate of distance. Object observed in broad daylight. It is too bad that this one was not much more thoroughly investigated since there were two adult witnesses and one 14-year old witness. It must be carried as unknown. I have rated it as  $\Sigma 4$  C7.

13. 24 July 1952, Carson Sink, Nevada.

Sighting just three to four seconds in duration, too short a time to make any definite observations. Witnesses were two lieutenant colonels flying a B25 at 11,000 feet. In view of the fact that there were two qualified witnesses, case must be carried as unidentified (limited data).

14. 28 December 1953, Marysville, California.

A one-witness case. Even though observed by a fairly qualified witness it is very strange that there were no other witnesses since

4 June 1968

it occurred at a small airport and the duration was one and one-half minutes. Followup should have been made to determine whether there were other potential witnesses. Since it occurred at midnight on December 28, it is possible that there were no other witnesses available. Must be carried as unidentified, single witness.

15. 12 August 1965, Ramona, California.

One witness, duration of sighting only 15 seconds. Witness was a 67 year old lady. Sighting occurred at 9p.m. daylight saving time in the middle of August, and thus the sky should still have been reasonably bright. Witness said sighting occurred at night and sky very blue. Perhaps she thinks that anything after 6 p.m. is night. Must be listed as unknown (meager data, single witness, very short duration).

16. 26 February 1966, Bartlett, New Hampshire

I have in my files for 26 February 1966, Manchester, New Hampshire. I do not seem to find a Bartlett, New Hampshire case. See attached supplemental sheet A.

17. 17 July 1966, Centerville, Ohio.

Temporarily not in file. Will study this case when I visit Dayton.

18. 9 February 1967, Odessa, Delaware.

Since by an admitted breakdown in communications the Dover Air Force Base delayed some five months in investigating this case, all I have is the NICAP report. Evaluation pending my getting a copy of the Air Force investigation of same. Based on NICAP report, the sighting is obviously unidentified.

19. 12 February 1967, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

I have only the card on this case, but judging from it there seems to be a possibility that this one-witness case was caused by low-flying birds reflecting light. The sighting lasted 4 to 10 seconds, and witness mentions a high-pitched chirping noise.

20. 1 April 1967, Wellington or Loco, Texas.

I had a great personal involvement in this case, much of it

4 June 1968

independent of official Project Blue Book business. The case was very involved and I feel must be classified as psychological and hoax unless other data turns up to change this, which I think is unlikely.

In synopsis form: because of my interest in any purported photograph, I called Mr. Carroll Watts of Wellington, Texas, and had a long taped interview with him. He sounded simple and straightforward, in fact so simple that I feel a complicated contrived hoax would be beyond his capabilities. The pictures were sent up and examined by Mr. Fred Beckman and me. There is nothing on the picture to suggest that it was not a hoax, and we did not spend too much time in any detailed analysis. There were no reference marks, for instance, which made it impossible to judge distances, etc., and the object photographed could very well have been a small object at very close range.

I had also taken the precaution of calling the sheriff in Wellington and getting a rundown on Mr. Watts. The sheriff described him as living, with his wife, in an isolated, flat section of Texas, as a cotton farmer, and as a man that had no knowledge of photography whatever. The sheriff volunteered the information that - to make a long story short - the man was not too bright, and from his standpoint alone a photographic hoax seemed unlikely. He volunteered, however, that if a hoax were involved, Mrs. Watts would be the more likely engineer of such a hoax.

Shortly thereafter two reporters from Amarillo called. Apparently the story had leaked and Watts had told them that he would have no story for them until he had confirmation of the pictures from me. This, of course, he never got. I told the reporters how I felt, but that they might have a good story of the perpetration of a hoax if they looked into it. This they did, and following my suggestion, had a lie detector test administered to Mr. Watts. This he flunked and he was generally discredited in the papers, as is well known. I then had a phone call from a commercial artist from his ranch some distance from both Amarillo and Wellington, to tell me that he had earlier become interested in this case, and himself had hypnotised Mr. Watts in order, as he put it, to get more information, and to see whether the information given under hypnosis was the same as given consciously by Mr. Watts. This unsolicited phone call surprised me but I considered it just another one of the oddball things in this oddball case.

4 June 1968

Shortly thereafter, I learned that Mr. Watts had stated that the whole thing was a hoax, that he had been put up to it under hypnosis by this very artist-hypnotist who had called me up some days earlier. The story then went something like this.

The hypnotist had appeared out of a clear sky (maybe I shouldn't use that expression in this context!), had given Mr. Watts the set of pictures, one of which included the head of one of the purported occupants of the craft), and under hypnosis had given Mr. Watts the story he was to tell later. By this time, I wanted nothing further to do with the case, but I wasn't off the hook yet. One of the original reporters called up, quite incensed, and asked whether I couldn't get the Air Force to prosecute this hypnotist for unethical practices, etc., for having made a dupe of Mr. Watts and subjected him to public ridicule. I told him that first of all the Air Force did not prosecute in such cases, and that furthermore in such lawsuits it is the injured party who brings suit and that I hardly felt that the Air Force or I had been injured by the purported hypnotist's actions.

This would seemingly have ended it, except that I remembered that the hypnotist when he had first called me, had mentioned just in passing that he had done some work with the physics department at the University of Colorado (no connection whatever with the Condon Committee), and had mentioned a Dr. Rantz. Now it so happens that Dr. Rantz took his Master's Degree with me a good many years ago at Ohio State University. I thought a phone call to him might be in order. This I did and was surprised to learn that the hypnotist (whose name I do not recall at the moment, but the entire story is on tapes which I can have my secretary transcribe if needed) has a daughter that had worked for Dr. Rantz in his laboratory for the past year or so, and that he himself had visited the studio and home of the artist and only part-time hypnotist. He had found him a thoroughly honorable and upstanding citizen. He could not conceive that this man could have perpetrated such a hoax and made such a dupe of Mr. Watts. In fact, he considered it improbable in the extreme.

I relayed this information to the reporters, largely out of a sense of duty, since they were rapidly losing interest in the case. But the sequel to this was that Watts then changed his story once again. He now stated that he had flunked the lie detector test on purpose, but on his way to take the lie detector test, his car had been accosted by two men who scuffed him up and warned him that if he passed the lie detector test, he would never make it home alive. I do not know whether it is possible to deliberately flunk a lie detector test, but the fact remains that he did.

4 June 1968

The puzzling thing about the entire case is how Mr. Watts came into possession of the rather remarkable color polaroid photographs. What were the circumstances under which the photographs were taken, and how were they contrived? Somebody went to a fair amount of trouble, but why? I questioned both the sheriff and asked the reporters to find out also, whether Mr. Watts was ever known to have bought photographic supplies in the local stores, and whether he knew anything about photography himself. The reply to this as far as could be determined, was negative. If one had the time, this would make a very interesting, but not terribly significant detective story. I would suggest it as a psychology master's degree thesis!

It should be pointed out that the Watts sighting was by no means the only case reported in that area. There followed quite a spate of reports, apparently all through the year, and even as late as November 3, 1967, when a Mrs McKinney, made a typical close encounter, luminous body sighting. "It was big enough to drive a car in", Mrs. McKinney said, "it was shaped like a cigar - one end was round."

I believe there is a moral to be drawn from the Wellington case. Had the Altus Air Force Base reacted promptly and done a good investigation on this case, very early in the game, and in particular, had found out how Mr. Watts had come into possession of said pictures, a lot of later trouble could have been saved. We still don't know how the pictures came into being.

21. 2 April 1967, Shively, Kentucky.

The evaluation "possible aircraft" seems okay. The sighting fits a pattern of the unusual, but we do not know how much the young boys "read into" what might have been a perfectly ordinary sighting. They are familiar with UFO literature and could have given a highly preferential interpretation to their sighting. The sighting was of short duration and the telescopic sighting was 20 seconds or less, hardly enough time to make a cold appraisal at a time of high excitement. Proper investigation at the local level could have easily determined how much of this was interpretation and how much was fact.

22. 3 April 1967, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The evaluation "aircraft" on this is ludicrous, if any credence whatever is given to the sanity and reliability of the observer. If it was an aircraft, then it created in the mind of the observer an entire fantasy, because as the observer stated, "there is no object I've ever seen similar to this object I saw. Or could even compare to it."

4 June 1968

Statement, included at Blue Book, to the effect that the "object was not moving except when the witness would travel in the car", is absolutely incorrect, if the witness is to be believed at all. Witness stated that the object suddenly sped up and rushed away and "when it was approaching me it had only vibrant red light that was visible". With respect to the light, witness stated, "there is nothing I know of, or that I've ever seen with red lights that were as vibrant or as brilliant".

Finally, witness became frightened because object appeared so close directly over her car, and yet said there was no sound at all. Unless one is willing to call this an absolute hallucination, and that there was no physical outfit present whatever, the evaluation "aircraft" simply won't hold up.

This case is sufficiently interesting for me to interview the witnesses, as there were two rather than one as stated. They were independent and talked about it only after each had seen it separately.

I will make this personal investigation and report later.

23. 3 April 1967, Roseville, Michigan.

I would agree with the evaluation of possible birds, but I suppose to be fair we should also add, possible unidentified (data insufficient, no followup). The card indicates one object, and the report, however, clearly indicates that 10 to 12 lights were observed flying in V formation. This actually strengthens the "possible birds" evaluation.

24. 4 April 1967, Wheeling, W. Virginia.

This is not in my files.

25. 5 April 1967, Westminster, Colorado

Since the 164 was not returned the evaluation "insufficient data", I suppose, is entirely correct, but the case itself is interesting in that there were 15 witnesses. Here is one case the Condon Committee should have looked into, since it was right at their back door. They should have looked into it particularly since there were 15 witnesses. Also the object was visible for 15 minutes, and it was observed through a telescope. Even at this late date this might be worth a call. As a matter of fact, when I am in Boulder this July I will look into it myself, but for the statistics, the evaluation "insufficient data" certainly holds.

4 June 1968

26. El Cajon, California, 19 April 1967.

We have another blind alley case here. A tossup between possible aircraft and possible unidentified, but since there is no possible way of finding out, unless we could determine whether there were 7 or 8 jets in afterburner condition up there at that specific time, the result must remain ambiguous. There were four witnesses, however, and these lights were seen in a shallow V formation. No sound was heard, and the principal witness, quite familiar with aircraft, was certain that many aircraft would have been heard. This is a case in which the "possible" in the "possible aircraft" should be retained because all the evaluation can be is "possible aircraft".

It might be of interest in my discussions with Dr. Peter Millman, to whom the National Research Council of Canada has given the responsibility for handling Canadian UFOs, that he suggested to me while he was down here recently discussing the general problem with me, that in this matter of statistics, it is indeed most unfair to rate a positive identification of aircraft, balloon, etc., with a probable, or especially with a possible evaluation of that type. He said that he intends to use a designation, for instance aircraft a, b, or c. Aircraft a would mean positive identification, no question whatever that it was aircraft, but positive identification was not made, and aircraft c, would mean that the description of the sighting is not entirely at variance with evaluation aircraft, but that such an evaluation is very far from certain and that it could have been conceivably several other things instead. He pointed out, as any good statistician would, that one cannot and should not equate aircraft or balloon a with aircraft or balloon c. They simply are not in the same statistical universe.

27. 22 April 1967, Tom's River, New Jersey.

The evaluation here should be changed from possible satellite to insufficient and conflicting data. My own feeling on this case is that it may have been a reflection since the quite short observation was made through a windshield. Judging from the many other inaccuracies in the report, it is likely that the duration has been grossly overestimated. Furthermore, four others in the car saw nothing.

Now as to the inaccuracies: the moon rose that day about 4:30 p.m., with Mars very close to the east of the moon. However, at 6:30 in the evening on that date, the sky would not yet be dark, the sun would just be setting and Mars would not yet be visible. However, at that time, the moon was in the southeastern part of the sky. The boys indicated that they were traveling west, yet they say that the sun

4 June 1968

was in back of them. They say the object was moving from north to south, yet their diagram shows the object moving from south to east. The fact that the object had the same color as the moon, and seemed to travel around the moon, leaves me to think that as they were traveling (60 miles per hour) they may have come to a turn in the road, changing the angle of the windshield to the moon, causing a traveling reflection to be seen. Obviously, I cannot prove this, but in view of the tremendous number of inconsistencies in the report, the youth of the two observers, the fact that the other four in the car did not see it, and the short duration of the sighting leads me to this conclusion. However, I think insufficient and conflicting data would be best.

28. 25 April 1967, Port Chester, New York.

Not in my current file. Apparently misplaced. Will do in Dayton.

29. 26 April 1967, Preston, Iowa.

Even though this has five witnesses, the report contains insufficient information for a meaningful evaluation. Weather data is missing, and witnesses were adolescents. Case could be classified as possible aircraft, or possible balloon, or possible unknown.

30. 29 June 1967, Scotts Plain, New Jersey.

Several attempts to get in touch with the original witnesses have proved futile. The man, Damon Brown, truck driver, has not telephone listed, and I received no response to letters sent to him. He may be an itinerant and not traceable. His passenger, Mrs. Shirley Winn, also was not traceable. No phone listed and letter to address listed was returned.

Yet despite this, original report stated that there were many corroborating witnesses. Apparently the Air Force interrogator didn't locate any of these, or give any leads as to how they might be located.

The report has a strangeness of  $\Sigma 4$ , but relatively low reliability. Also there is an inconsistency. The report states that the object appeared at one time about 100 feet from the observer and at another time the object was circling an aircraft. No time-motion sequence established. I would recommend that in view of the fact that it was impossible to get any additional information, the case be carried as insufficient information, possible unknown. Yet the original report was so bizarre and so suggestive of something strange that there should have been immediate and comprehensive followup.

4 June 1968

31. 10 July 1967, Azalea, Mississippi.

See attached supplemental sheet B.

32. 11 July 1967, Macon, Georgia.

Temporarily misplaced. Check to see whether this has any relation to the sighting the previous day in Azalea, Mississippi.

33. 25 July 1967, Manchester, New Hampshire

The only Manchester, New Hampshire case I have is for a different date.

34. 12 October 1967, Ocalaosa County, Florida.

Although this had four witnesses, the data are very poor. A balloon is ruled out because of wind at all levels. Two objects, one trailing the other, nighttime observation, went from the northern to the southern horizon in three minutes. Anyone of three evaluations: (1) insufficient data (2) probable aircraft (3) possible unknown.

35. 31 October 1967, Denver, Colorado.

Do not have in my files. Will do in Dayton.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

4 June 1968

16. 26 February 1966, Bartlett, New Hampshire.

Three witnesses. Has been evaluated as possible aircraft. Even after a phone call to these people the case remains indeterminate. Mr. and Mrs. Trecarten of Bartlett, New Hampshire, are farm people who are not very articulate when it comes to description of things. However, after two years after the original report, the main outlines of the case remains the same. They say the usual thing in such cases, "I never saw anything like this before" and apparently they haven't seen anything else like this since. There are a few inconsistencies. In the original report they said that the moon was out and setting in the west, and in the phone conversations they said there was no moon. In fact, now they think it was cloudy, but outside of its being dark they can't be sure.

I originally called because of the reported action of the dog. However, this came to naught since they admitted that the dog had behaved this way before and since. However, they said the dog's actions were similar to those which occur when a dog hears one of these high-pitched dog whistles inaudible to humans. Mr. Trecarten said the he "figured dogs knew something we didn't". He said the light was very bright, something like a large yard light. The duration was about ten minutes, all told. He also stated that the dog whined a lot before the sighting and that he had been uneasy all evening. This, of course, proves nothing. At closest, Mr. Trecarten thought it was about a quarter of a mile away, just at the edge of his farm. Original sighting was made by Mrs. Trecarten who woke Mr. Trecarten up and said, "There is a flying saucer in the y ard." This sort of statement occurs quite frequently and indicates how ready people in all walks of life seem to accept the existence of flying saucers and indicates also that they are not too startled when they apparently see one!

As far as evaluation is concerned, present evaluation as "possible aircraft" is one possibility, along with possible unknown. There are no airports within 50 miles according to Mr. Trecarten and a very bright red light, white around the edges, apparently grew brighter and then dimmer over a course of ten minutes without appreciable cross, or tangential, motion hardly fits the description of aircraft, and particularly at that time of night at a place far from an airport. I would be much more inclined to call this possible unknown rather than possible aircraft. It could also be evaluated as insufficient information, because even after my phone call, the actual number of information bits still remains woefully meager.

4 June 1968

10 July 1967, <sup>4</sup> Azalea, Mississippi.

The proper evaluation in this case is "unidentified (one witness)." The Air Force interrogator should be complimented on doing an excellent job of followup, but, despite this, little else could be learned. This case, however, brings to focus many of the intangibles that come up in this business, and the case serves as a very good example for discussion. We have here an ostensibly stable, reliable person of good repute in the community, a golf professional, and hence apparently stable enough and presentable enough to deal amicably with people on a day to day basis. He is driving along and for a few seconds has an experience. The experience takes the form of what has now become a typical UFO experience, except in this case even more so. It is a report that could have come from almost any country and at any time of day or night. This happened to be a daytime sighting and the report, taken at face value, states simply that apropos of nothing at all the witness's car suddenly coasted to a stop and the radio went silent, and thus we have the familiar EMF effect. As it happened in so many other cases, the witness gets out of the car in an attempt to find out the cause of the trouble when he sights, almost always at quite close range, a silently moving, and generally large luminous object (luminous at night, dome-shaped disc, generally "metallic color"). The witness had the familiar feeling that he was about to observe an airplane crash, but is puzzled by the lack of noise (except in this case, a swishing noise). Characteristic also is the fact that like so many others, he states, "it's flight resembled nothing I have ever witnessed before." Others say the same thing in various forms: I have never seen anything like it before. I can't compare it to any familiar object. I hope I never see anything like it again.

This case has the additional evidence provided by "animal effects". In this case, witness reports that a herd of black angus cattle panicked and ran away.

Likewise characteristic of this type of report, witness states that when object disappeared, the radio came back on, and he was able to start engine again. Another characteristic of these reports is that no independent witnesses at other geographical locations were found, even after a moderate investigation, and also characteristic is the fact that local radars had picked up nothing.

If it were not for the car stoppage, and the animal effect, it would seem logical to ascribe this to a hallucination on the part of the single witness. Of course, we must remember that we have only the witness's word for the fact that the car stopped and the animals panicked.

4 June 1968

We have another characteristic thing here: the lack of desire for publicity. Witness specifically requested no publicity, and that if no corroborative evidence was found, he wished to forget the whole thing.

Also, characteristic of this type of sighting is the statement that the object "tilted upward, accelerated, and disappeared into the clouds" - all in a matter of a few seconds. In our present scientific framework, of course, this is utterly impossible. Our technology knows of no way of accomplishing this soundlessly, or even of accomplishing it. Therefore, we either hide behind the word "unidentified" or in some cases behind "possible aircraft", or "psychological". I would prefer the latter in most single-witness cases simply as a way of pleading ignorance. We have to face the fact that we do not know what causes this class of phenomenon reported so widely from this and other countries the past many years. When instances of this sort have several witnesses, the tempting thing to do is to call it mass hallucination, but this we recognize as simply another label for our own ignorance.

I would recommend that in a number of cases of this sort, possibly even in this one, that the cooperation of the witnesses be obtained and a series of interviews and tests conducted, entirely for scientific purposes and without any fanfare whatever, to determine whether such witnesses exhibit any psychological peculiarities. A competent psychologist in the course of just a few interviews could without doubt establish this fact. It would be far preferable to take a few cases like this and work on them in depth, rather than to pay superficial attention to hundreds of cases. The latter procedure carries little or no scientific potential.

In summary, case should be carried as "unidentified (single witness)" since we have no evidence that this person was mentally unbalanced.

*J. Allen Hynek*

*Lt Macey*

JUL 1968

TDPT (UFO) Lt Col Quintanilla, Jr/70916/mhs/26 Jun 68  
Catalogue, 1949 UFO Reports

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference your request for a catalogue of the 1949 UFO reports.

This has been accomplished and is attached. The report is "FOR  
OFFICIAL USE ONLY" since this report includes the observers names.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
Catalogue, 1949 UFO Rpts

Rob Mercier

*L. M. Mey*

TDPT (UFO)

Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/shs/29 Oct 68  
UFO Sighting, 15 August 1968, Yellow Springs, Ohio

29 OCT 1968

Dr J Allen Hynek

1. Thank you for your transcript of your conversation with the Feggs, relative to their UFO sighting of 15 August 1968. Did you gain any additional information from your personal interview with them in Cincinnati?
2. In the interest of seeing that you receive full credit for your efforts on this case, we would like you to complete the inclosed Project Card, to include your evaluation.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
FTD Form O-329

*Rob Mercer*

19 Nov 67

6 MAY 1968

TRPT (UFO)

Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/mhs/3 May 68

UFO Case Files

Dr. J. Allen Hyack

1. Reference the attached UFO report from Duluth, Minnesota, for 19 November 1967. You may want to call Mrs. Johnson on her observation. As it stands right now, the case will probably have to be evaluated as unidentified.

2. If you do not intend to take any action on the 19 Nov 67 case, please inform us so that we may take the report out of the pending category.

3. Attached is a copy of the card you requested on the 18 October 1967, Oelwein, Iowa sighting. The other reports you requested are at reproduction and will be forwarded to your office upon their return.

*JH*  
LTCOL QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

2 Atch

1. Case File, 19 Nov 67, Duluth, Minnesota
2. Card on case, 18 Oct 67, Oelwein, Iowa

JHM's  
cy  
9 MAY 1968

TDPT (UFO) Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/mhs/9 May 68

9 MAY 1968

25 February 1967, UFO Observation

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference the UFO Observation of 25 February 1967, Fargo, North Dakota which was forwarded to you previously. To date, we have not received any additional data from the witness. We are returning your photograph of the case. Also attached is the weather data for this case.

*J*

MAJOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

2 Atch

1. Photograph (Polaroid)
2. Weather Data

Info only  
NO ANS. REQ.

Rob Mercer

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

3 April 1968

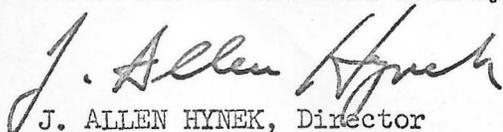
FTD (TDETR)  
RESEARCH AND AERIAL PHENOMENA DIVISION  
WRIGHT PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE  
OHIO 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: Agenda for Proposed Visit April 18, 19, 20.

To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. In accordance with the discussions with Dr. Cacioppo I should like to propose the following agenda for my forthcoming visit to Project Blue Book, for which I hereby request official authorization.
2. Examination of current cases selected by Major Quintanilla as requiring immediate attention.
3. Review for background purposes of all current cases received since my last visit in December, 1967.
4. Re-examination of the Port Moresby case and viewing of film copy, and of other co-relative cases suggested by their similarity to current cases.
5. Verbal report to Dr. Cacioppo, Major Quintanilla, and Mr. Sweeney on my unofficial trip to Prague, Paris and London, and to report on informal discussions with the United Nations Outer Space Affairs Committee on the possibility of exchange of UFO information with other countries.
6. Unofficial report on recent activities of Condon Committee.
7. I have cleared my calendar to make available all of April 18 and 19 and as much of April 20 as may be required to finish the backlog of material which has accumulated from my last visit.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

JAH:lp  
cc: A. J. Cacioppo, J. J. Sweeney

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

#) A

30 April 1968

FTD (TDETR)

Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

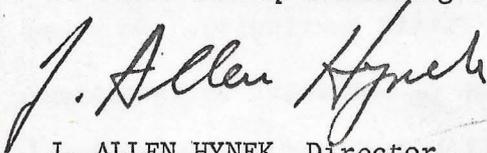
Subj: Dayton Visit

TO: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

1. May turns out to be a very crowded month, but I very much want to come to Dayton as I definitely feel that there is work in all of Dr. Cacioppo's three categories to make a visit productive. I plan to be in Dayton on Thursday, May 16, and until noon on Friday, the 17th. It so happens that I have a speaking engagement at Carleton College on the evening of the 17th which means I will have to leave Dayton at noon on Friday. This engagement was made quite sometime ago and I feel obligated to honor it.

I feel that a full day and a half should suffice, and indeed, it must, because with my classes this turns out to be the only available time I have during the month.

2. Sometime during my visit I should like to discuss with all parties concerned; Dr. Cacioppo, Major Quintanilla, and Mr. Sweeney, the implications of the Fuller article in LOOK. Perhaps we could set up a meeting sometime on the 16th if agreeable to all.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

cc: A. J. Cacioppo,  
John J. Sweeney

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

6 May 1968

FTD (TDETR)  
Research and Aerial Phenomena Division  
Wright Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio 45433

Attn: TDPT (UFO)

Subj: Recommendation for Action to Project Blue Book

To: Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.

Reference: Priorities assigned by Dr. Cacioppo to Project Blue Book's  
Scientific Consultant

- I. Investigation of current cases deemed of significance by Project Blue Book's Director.
- II. Study of correlative cases, deemed of significance by Project Director and/or by Scientific Consultant.
- III. Initiation of a series of technical reports from Project Blue Book concerned with specific investigative efforts.

With reference to Priority II, it is recommended that the catalogue of reports which have been submitted to Blue Book and its predecessor projects, and their evaluation, be completed. This requires only that the year 1949 be included, since all other years up to 1967 are presently in the catalogue. This relatively minor step should be taken immediately to make the whole catalogue available for statistical and other studies, and for quick reference. It is requested that a copy of the catalogue pages referring to the year 1949 be made available to the Scientific Consultant.

With reference to Priority III, it is recommended that

- a. A separate file be kept of all UFO reports that have remained in the Unidentified category for a period of a year or more,

6 May 1968

and that the Scientific Consultant be asked to prepare a report on the general nature of these reports, pointing out any patterns or similarities that such reports may reveal. This recommendation is made looking toward both the assessment of such cases for their possible potential scientific value, and secondly, in anticipation of requests for such lists which may arise from political quarters.

- b. A study be made of all cases in the UFO report catalogue which involve definite animal reactions. The disturbance of animals under such circumstances may provide a vital lead in the study of the UFO phenomenon since animal reaction is presumably not subject to the same interpretative aberrations and hallucinatory effects which plague human reactions to unexplained sightings in the sky and near the ground. Secondly, it is recommended that the Scientific Consultant, working with Project Blue Book's personnel, prepare a briefing on this category of "animal cases" noting, if such exist, similarities in patterns of animal behavior under such circumstances.



J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director  
Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center  
Northwestern University

JAH:lp

cc: A. J. Cacioppo  
J. J. Sweeney

1 JUL 1968

TDPT (UFO)

Lt Col Quintanilla/70916/mhs/27 Jun 68  
UFO Observation, 4 February 1968, Redlands, California

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Reference your telephone conversation of 25 June 1968 with 2d Lt  
Carson Marano, this office. As requested, a copy of the 4 February  
1968 sighting at Redlands, California, is forwarded for your infor-  
mation.

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office  
Aerospace Technologies Division  
Production Directorate

1 Atch  
Cy of case, 4 Feb 68

FTD (TD-ET/UFO )  
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO 45433

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Dr. J. Allen Hynek  
Dearborn Observatory  
Northwestern University  
Evanston, Illinois 60201

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

LINDHEIMER ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH CENTER

10 July 1968

Dr A. J. Cacioppo  
Department of the Air Force  
Headquarters Foreign Technology Division (AFSC)  
Wright-Patterson AFB , Ohio 45433

Dear Dr. Cacioppo:

I have signed my consultantship contract for the coming year and look forward to my continued work with Project Blue Book. It may not be an entirely pleasant year, however, inasmuch as I anticipate some possible rather rough going. The coming year may well be a critical one in the history of the UFO phenomenon; there are many warning signs on the horizon and I would be remiss in my role as advisor to Project Blue Book not to call to your attention particularly, since you hold the major scientific responsibility in these matters, what I consider are some very strong storm warnings. In my travels around the country, in my talks to various groups, and particularly in my discussions with fellow scientists, I find a growing ground-swell of dissatisfaction with the manner in which the UFO problem has been handled, particularly by the Air Force, and this is particularly disturbing when this comes from fellow scientists. Whereas a few years ago none of my colleagues would do more than condescendingly smile when the subject of UFOs was brought up, now I have found on many occasions a willingness on the part of these same people to discuss the matter seriously. The feeling among these people seems to be generally that we can no longer summarily dismiss the mounting evidence, poor and anecdotal as it may be, since it continues to come in from many sources and many countries. I wish to remind you that Project Blue Book today gets a widow's share of the "UFO wealth" available to any serious investigator. I myself receive many letters, some of which ask me not to transmit the information to the Air Force, for fear of ridicule. In a sense, the Air Force has cut off its own source of supply of raw data.

The Air Force has never come off well from a public relations standpoint in this matter; it was possible to shrug aside criticism as long as the Air Force critics were lay citizens, but I now warn you that an increasing number of scientifically trained people, and people in positions of political responsibility, have become a part of this ground-swell of dissatisfaction with Project Blue Book and, as Scientific Consultant to Project Blue Book more of my scientific colleagues are turning to me to ask what my opinion really is and what the inside workings of Project Blue Book are really like. Whereas I would not speak of such matters to the general public, I have a real scientific responsibility to call the shots as I see them to my scientific colleagues, as I am sure you would agree is good professional procedure.

I must tell them that Project Blue Book is not, and has never been, a scientific project in the sense that sufficient funds and staff were available for adequate "immediate capability" and "Quick reaction capabilities" for field study and laboratory study, of UFO reports. I must point out that at best, Project Blue Book has been a holding effort, exhibiting virtually no far-reaching scientific curiosity about the global UFO phenomenon. My role as scientific consultant has been the subject of some question directed at me. I am obliged to tell my colleagues that as scientific consultant I am not responsible for policy, methods, and ways and means. I must point out that I have acted only as a consultant and not as a policy-setter. My own curiosity about the UFO phenomenon has kept me associated with the project as an astronomical consultant, even though I have frequently had to shoulder the blame for unwarranted astronomical evaluations of cases made either in Washington or in Dayton. I have been sufficiently interested in the possible scientific implications of the UFO phenomenon on a global basis to accept my very secondary role in Project Blue Book. Furthermore, the longer I stayed with the project the more reluctant I was, and still am, to destroy the continuity I have had with the work for the past 20 years. I hope some day to document for posterity this era, and it would be purblind to me to terminate this continuity. I am, willy-nilly, in a truly unique position as regards to this problem, having been associated with it when present project officers were hardly aware that the UFO problem or Project Blue Book existed.

We do not know as yet what the Condon report will say, but whatever its findings, it is likely that new and very probably adverse attention will be focused on Project Blue Book. It is likely that the Condon report will add to the growing ground-swell of dissatisfaction rather than ameliorate it as many fervently hoped it would do. The question will be asked again and again, but this time by people of higher caliber, "regardless of what is at the bottom of all this UFO business, how is it that the Air Force has discharged its responsibility so poorly? How is it, that if the problem is a scientific one, the Air Force scrupulously avoids many contacts with reports not made through official channels?" This would be akin to my saying that I will not accept any astronomical observations unless they are made only at our national observatory. And, again, they may ask "How is it that there has been no adequate follow-up of unidentified cases?" The Pentagon handout states that no UFO reports contain anything that is not explainable by present day science. How can this statement have scientific credence as long as there are unidentified cases? One may well say that there was no opportunity to follow up and properly investigate an unidentified case, but why not, if the Air Force has been given this responsibility? As definitely stated in AR200-2, one of the objectives or Project Blue Book is to see whether there is anything of scientific value in the UFO reports, and how can this be done unless adequate study is given to the particularly puzzling cases? Why, for instance, is not one unidentified report carefully compared with others, and from sources other than the Air Force itself?

Some time ago the then chief scientist at the Pentagon, Dr. Bob Lowey, asked me how much longer we were "going to look at this stuff". I answered, "what

do you mean, how much longer we haven't really looked at it yet!" Years ago I recommended that the Air Force UFO data be put in machine-readable form. This was summarily rejected. My recommendation that far better field investigations be made by providing for "immediate reaction capability" was praised but not acted upon. Now when I ask that the animal reaction cases, for instance, be collected and intercompared, I am told that this takes a great many man hours to accomplish. I am not impressed with that statement; had our data been routinely put into machine-readable form, it would take but a few dozen milliseconds to isolate animal cases, and few more milliseconds to print out their geographical, diurnal and seasonal distribution, the correlation with specific sounds, colors, durations, weather conditions, and numbers of witnesses, for example. Such capabilities exist. We are doing it daily in astronomy, and in medicine, and in the business world. Why in Project Blue Book must we employ an archaic 1880 filing system, a mere collection of reports, letters, and odd size papers? For any subject which has commanded as much national and international attention as the UFO problem has, it seems incredible that our responsibility has not been discharged in far more exemplary manner. On the contrary, when I went to see the chief scientist just before Bob Lowey (Winston Markey) and asked him about the possibility of pursuing a few important cases further, or perhaps enlisting some trained intelligence officers, he told me later that he had taken my request "to very high levels" and was told to tell me "not to pursue the matter further". What sort of an answer is that for a scientist?

Other governments and other national organizations have looked to Blue Book for guidance and leadership. They are under the impression that Blue Book is a scientific undertaking and I was told at the British Air Ministry (and I've learned that the feeling is identical in the French Air Ministry) that since the United States Air Force is looking into the matter, there is little need for them to do it also.

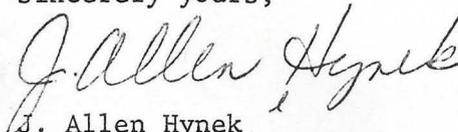
Much does depend on the content and wording of the Condon Report. But in any event we may be in for some stormy weather this coming year for the manner in which project Blue Book has been handled, irrespective of the cause of UFOs. There are two separate issues: the cause of UFO reports, and the manner in which the problem is handled. Regardless of the first, we have a responsibility in the second. The fact is, that as long as we have unidentified cases (and we do have despite the egregiously poor statistical techniques employed by Project Blue Book, which any statistician would tell us we should increase the number of unidentifieds, since, "possible balloon" or "possible aircraft" at the year and become "balloon" or "aircraft". To be fair, one should also have a classification of "possible unidentified". The fact is that as long as we have unidentifieds, we do not know their cause, by definition! Classification "unidentified" should not be considered a terminal classification - it should be considered a challenge to our scientific curiosity and an open invitation to intense inquiry.

Dr. A J Cacioppo

Page Four

I trust that we can have the opportunity of discussing these matters further personally. Nonetheless, despite the above, I do look forward with working with Project Blue Book for another year.

Sincerely yours,



J. Allen Hynek  
Director

JAH:ar

cc: Mr. John J. Sweeney

Rob Mercer