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The Pentagon's UAP Task Force

Franc Milburn



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Cover image: Screen capture of US Navy footage of an Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon, US Department of Defense

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The Pentagon's UAP Task Force

Franc Milburn

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In June 2020, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence unveiled the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) at the Office of Naval Intelligence—a successor to the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP). This paper dives down the rabbit hole with Defense Department insiders, scientists, and declassified material to find answers to a host of questions: Are mystery craft near-peer adversary platforms or exotic US platforms? What is the technology behind them? What kind of threat do they pose? What are the geostrategic implications? And what are we not being told?

Franc Milburn is a strategic and operational advisor. A former intelligence officer, he is an alumnus of Sandhurst and the London School of Economics. He has previously written for the Middle East Economic Survey, the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, and the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel Aviv University. @FrancMilburn

The Pentagon's UAP Task Force

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THE US SENATE'S UAP REPORT

On August 4, 2020, the Pentagon announced the establishment of the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF). This followed Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Marco Rubio's June 17 report, which was attached to the Senate Intelligence Authorization Act for 2021. Deputy Secretary of Defense David Norquist approved the establishment of the multi-agency UAPTF, which is to be led by the Navy under the "cognizance" of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security (OUSDI).

The task force was created to "[improve] understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAP," with the mission "to detect, analyze and catalog UAP that could potentially pose a threat to US national security." Presumably, "UAP" refers to the same craft that the military, FBI, CIA, DIA, and others have been detecting and analyzing for the past seven decades.

The release stressed the Pentagon's "paramount concern" for "the safety of our personnel and the security of our operations." The Department of Defense [DoD] and military departments "take any incursions by unauthorized aircraft into our training ranges or designated airspace very seriously and examine each report." These incidents appear to now be taken more seriously in public than the much-maligned Project Blue Book, about which one UFO historian commented: "The Air Force baked it, the press served it, and the public ate it."

The Blue Book, which ran from 1952 to 1969 and succeeded projects Sign (1948) and Grudge, summarized its investigations thus:

- No UFO reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force was ever an indication of threat to our national security;

- There was no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings categorized as “unidentified” represented technological developments or principles beyond the range of modern scientific knowledge; and
- There was no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as “unidentified” were extraterrestrial vehicles.

Despite these conclusions, military and scientific interest in UFOs continued in secret after 1969.

The Senate Intelligence Committee currently “supports the efforts [of the UAPTF] at the Office of Naval Intelligence [ONI] to standardize collection and reporting on unidentified aerial phenomena, any links they have to adversarial foreign governments, and the threat they pose to US military assets and installations.” The Committee directed the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), together with other agencies, to submit a report within 180 days of the date of the enactment of the Act to congressional and armed services committees on UAP.

A key question about the UAPTF is this: Why isn't the US Air Force leading it, when the stated mission of the Air Force is to “fly, fight and win...in air, space and cyberspace”? A recent podcast from the To The Stars Academy, which includes former Pentagon, intelligence, and aerospace insiders, suggests that this might reflect lingering stigma over the Blue Book, adding that there is a logic to the Navy's taking the lead in view of its global mobility. Some Navy reports derive from the same areas where the USAF operates.

Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Chris Mellon suggests that the Air Force had difficulty acknowledging “mission failure,” describing it as “a bitter pill to swallow.” Lack of forthrightness might also have played a part. “AATIP did not have the access to sensitive classified Air Force information, [which was] in different stovepipes. Congress is making it very clear they want all hands on deck. They want all these organizations to contribute everything they have regardless of what compartment it's in. They want the full picture.”

Mellon's colleague Louis Elizondo, a TTSA director, former career counter-intelligence officer, and former AATIP director, says:

Everything is a potential threat until one is sure it is not a threat... when you look at what we are seeing from an intelligence perspective, there seems to be key interest in our military capabilities and specifically in our nuclear capabilities. If that's the case and we don't know what they are, we don't know how they work, we don't know who's behind the wheel, we don't know what their intentions are and somehow they can operate with impunity in our airspace, I think it's a safe bet to say... that something with this level of technological capability could be a threat, should it want to be a threat... Anyone who says for sure they know it's not a threat – they don't know what they are talking about.”

Journalist Tom Rogan writes that the Navy “is front and center for a simple reason: its nuclear platforms keep attracting UFOs.” The Committee requires “Identification of any incidents or patterns that indicate a potential adversary may have achieved breakthrough aerospace capabilities that could put United States strategic [nuclear] or conventional forces at risk.” UAPs have regularly appeared at or near nuclear weapon sites ever since the late 1940s. Rogan says, “The ‘potential threat’ here is that the UFOs can detect and intercept these platforms on land, on sea, or undersea, and with impunity.” One particularly alarming claim concerns the destruction in flight of an ICBM by a UFO. Another serious consideration is the possibility of accidental nuclear war through misinterpretation of UFO data.

The Committee alludes to the “stove-piping,” saying it “remains concerned that there is no unified, comprehensive process within the Federal Government for collecting and analyzing intelligence on unidentified aerial phenomena, despite the potential threat. The Committee understands that the relevant intelligence may be sensitive; nevertheless, the Committee finds that the information sharing and coordination across the Intelligence Community has been inconsistent, and this issue has lacked attention from senior leaders.” This is a fairly damning indictment, as information sharing and coordination is essential when it comes to dealing with American adversaries.

Dr. Robert McGuire spent 27 years at the Institute for Defense Analyses and has decades of industry, government, and intelligence community experience. In a recent interview, he said:

If you have all these national assets, the issue is how can we use them to do a better job to figure out what the heck these things [UAP] are and why they are here and where they are going.... each of these assets is operated by an entity. And the entity jealously guards its prerogatives, its budgets and control of the assets it has been given to control. And it determines and distributes the data that comes from that asset...Total stove-piping.

Each of these instruments has exquisite capabilities... People just cannot begin to imagine just how amazing these assets are.

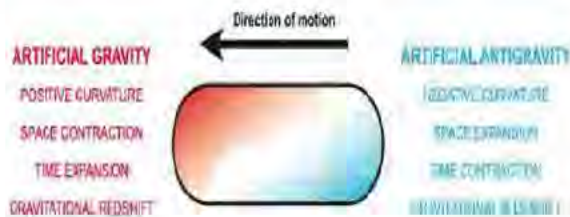
McGuire stressed the necessity to protect capabilities so that adversaries cannot learn how to evade detection. He suggested multi-sensor fusing by algorithm into a single product, and described the problem of instrument “filters” that eliminate unwanted “noise.” UAP may emanate filtered out signatures that need to be add to the filter library. He went on:

Let's suppose a large spacecraft enters our atmosphere and is detected by some camera. Well let's suppose it is moving at high speed and giving off electromagnetics. It's tearing up the atmosphere and we have these sensors all over the world listening... until we fuse all these things together, we don't know how to make them work collaboratively.

In a tweet, he added, “All bodies emit blackbody radiation. If observed platforms use something like the Alcubierre drive, then blackbody photons are shifted according to the general theory of relativity to far field observers into the visible spectrum.” Asked by the author if this means they can be tracked, he responded: “I think yes and one should look for a big shift/change when the things accelerate.”

INTENT TO DECEIVE

Dr. Bruce Cornet, who carried out a nine-year investigation in New York State, told the author that craft he filmed, including a cigar-shaped object that “unfolded” wings and control surfaces that resembled “a black 707,” were emitting “reverse Doppler” and false commercial jet acoustic signatures in a deliberate effort to evade detection. The cigar-shaped object later stopped in mid-air and rotated 180 degrees. “Many times, they tried to mimic conventional aircraft sounds—jet engine sounds—sometimes propeller sounds... but the one thing that they couldn’t do was produce a normal Doppler sound,” he said. Cornet spoke to prominent theoretical physicist Dr. Jack Sarfatti, who told him that according to his theory about how UAP hulls work, their meta-materials used reverse Doppler. “This corroborated his [Sarfatti’s] ideas that the craft were anti-gravity.”



Prediction of Warp Drive Reverse Doppler Effect²

Source: Jack Sarfatti, *Flying Saucers, UAVs, Tic-Tacs, Time Machines*, reprinted by permission of the author

Sarfatti, a futurist, comments on this in one of a number of scientific papers he graciously shared with the author: “Explaining US Navy Close Encounters with Tic-Tac UAV.” This was a commentary on Dr. Hal Puthoff’s groundbreaking 2018 lecture, in which Puthoff (currently VP for science and technology at TTSA) provided hitherto classified details about the DoD’s UAP program. Sarfatti says: “Bruce Cornet claims to have measured this reverse Doppler effect in sound

waves from UAVs [Unidentified Aerial/Aerospace Vehicles]. The strong gravity near field distortions will blend electromagnetic waves bouncing off the Tic-Tac, causing apparent mirage shape-shifting and even stealth cloaking, if desired by the controlling, probably fully conscious AI post-quantum computer (autonomous drone).”

THE PLAYERS

The Senate Committee specifically mentioned data of the following types: geospatial [National Reconnaissance Office and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency], signals, human and measurement and signature intelligence, and “centralized analysis of all unidentified aerial phenomena reporting for the Federal Government, regardless of which service or agency acquired the information.” The FBI was included. Absent from explicit mention was NASA—a key aerospace player—and its contractor, the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI), which, though not a federal agency, has ears to the sky.

The Department of Energy (DoE) also has a stake in UAP, given the latter’s interest in DoE nuclear sites, as do the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board for flight safety reasons. The US Space Force, though under purview of the USAF, also deserves mention. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations will have a data repository on UAP, and Air Force Special Operations Command and Joint Special Operations Command likely have crash retrieval roles. There was no reference to allies, despite the fact that US agencies have been liaising with counterparts from Brazil, Spain, and the United Kingdom for years. There is also no mention of private sector aerospace companies.

OURS OR THEIRS?

The question “ours or theirs?” can be construed different ways. UAP might be exotic American tech, near-peer adversary platforms, or something else entirely. Chris Mellon addresses this in series two of the show *Unidentified: Inside America’s UFO Investigation*. On a podcast, he says: “We know that UFOs exist. This is no longer an issue. The NAVY itself has publicly acknowledged the fact that they

exist, and NAVY pilots—active duty pilots—have gone on the record in *The New York Times* acknowledging the fact that they exist. So, the issue now is: why are they here, where are they coming from, and what is the technology behind these devices that we are observing?”

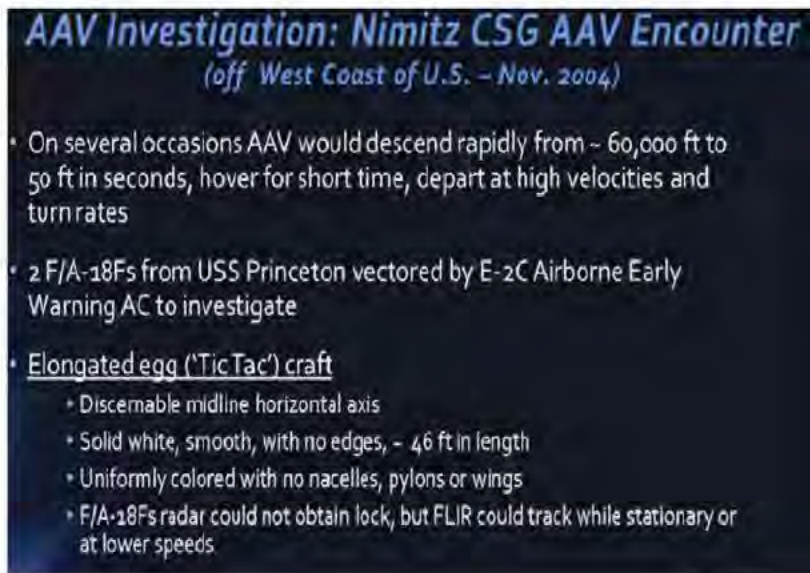
Mellon emphasizes recent military UAP experiences like the 2004 Nimitz/Tie-Tac encounter, which is particularly notable because the witnesses are so credible and the incidents are backed up with sensor information. He believes a breakdown in the UAP reporting system means sensitive installations and locations are being entered on a regular basis but are not being passed up the chain of command. “That’s why we consider this a potential threat, and that’s just not acceptable.”

Key Assessments

- The Anomalous Aerial Vehicle (AAV) was no known aircraft or air vehicle currently in the inventory of the United States or any foreign nation.
- The AAV exhibited advanced low observable characteristics at multiple radar bands rendering US radar based engagement capabilities ineffective.
- The AAV exhibited advanced aerodynamic performance with no visible control surfaces and no visible means to generate lift.
- The AAV exhibited advanced propulsion capability by demonstrating the ability to remain stationary with little to no variation in altitude transitioning to horizontal and/or vertical velocities far greater than any known aerial vehicle with little to no visible signature.
- The AAV possibly demonstrated the ability to ‘cloak’ or become invisible to the human eye or human observation.
- The AAV possibly demonstrated a highly advanced capability to operate undersea completely undetectable by our most advanced sensors.

Source: Tie-Tac Executive Report, 2004

The language in the Senate Committee report was not drafted by Mellon but by congressional staffers. It is clear, however, that Mellon and TTSA had a strong influence on the Pentagon’s release of Navy video evidence, Navy UAP acknowledgement, UAP reporting guidelines, briefings of lawmakers, interviews with military witnesses, and suggestions of intelligence platforms for tasking and driving the investigative agenda forward.



Source: IRVA-SSE 2018 – Department of Defense UAP Program

Senator Rubio said on CBS in July,

The bottom line is that if there are things flying over your military bases and you don't know what they are because they're not yours and they exhibit—potentially—technologies that you don't have at your own disposal, that, to me, is a national security risk and one that we should be looking into... If it's something from outside this planet, that might actually be better than the fact that we've seen some technological leap on behalf of the Chinese or the Russians or some other adversary.... Our perspective is there is someone flying in the airspace that no one else is allowed to fly in and we don't know who it is and it isn't something we have. We need to know what that is.

Dr. Lani Kass, a dynamic, engaging academic, is a senior fellow at the Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies and a board member of the US Air Force Institute of Technology. A former professor of military strategy at the National War College, she has served as special assistant to the Chief of Staff, US Air Force and as senior policy advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. She told the author: "I've always

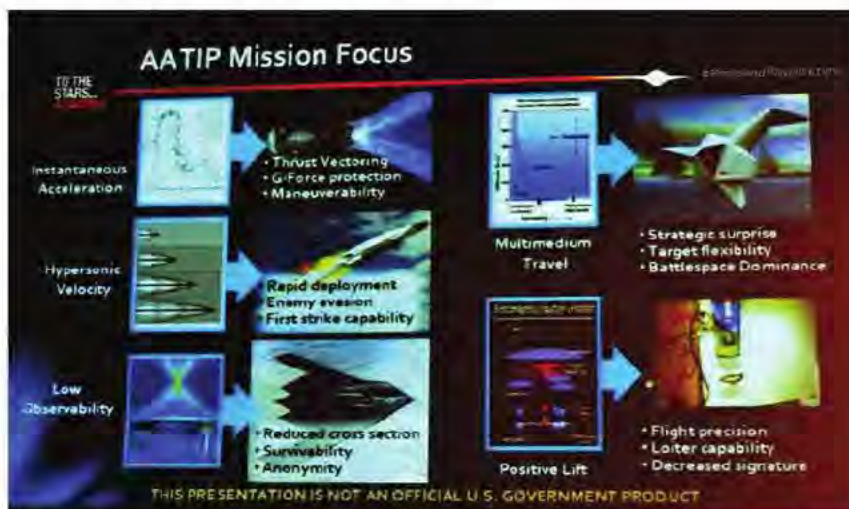
kept an open mind on the subject. Not dismissing ET—it’s idiotic to assume humans are the only intelligent beings in the galaxy, but I tend to focus on horses before zebras when I hear the clacking of hooves.”

She continues: “How much does anyone know about the B21? I’m more inclined to believe it’s terrestrial tech—ours or adversaries’—buried super deep in a compartment very few folks even know to exist—much less what’s in it.” She warns against a Western mindset of complacency and “cognitive dissonance” regarding Chinese tech advances. The key point here is not which theory Dr. Kass prefers, nor what she is willing to divulge; it is that a highly educated, open-minded former advisor to America’s most senior uniformed officers is willing to discuss UFOs on the record. This would have been unthinkable only a few years ago.

THE FIVE OBSERVABLES

One problem with the Chinese tech theory is that much has been stolen from the US or otherwise acquired from Russia, with advanced Chinese fifth-generation aircraft reportedly having issues and requiring Russian engines. As for UAP, there are “five observables” (as well as a sixth, to be described later in this paper). These observables are characteristics captured by sensors and on visuals that don’t easily lend themselves to known or suspected terrestrial platforms. The five observables are instantaneous acceleration, hypersonic velocity, low observability, positive lift, and multimedial travel.

THE TTSA FIVE OBSERVABLES



Source: Skeptic.com

Dr. Puthoff remarked on the Nimitz case, “The F-18s could not obtain lock with their radars because they were stealthy, but Forward Looking Infrared Radar (FLIR) could pick them up to some degree based on their heat signatures. The Advanced Aerospace Vehicle appeared to demonstrate advanced acceleration, aerodynamic, and propulsion capability beyond anything that we knew existed on the planet.”

One scientific study, “Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles,” notes:

Estimated accelerations range from almost 100 G to 1000s of Gs with no observed air disturbance, no sonic booms, and no evidence of excessive heat commensurate with even the minimal estimated energies... In many cases the number and quality of witnesses...and the equipment used to track and record the craft favor the latter hypothesis that these are indeed technologically advanced craft. The observed flight characteristics...are consistent with the flight characteristics required for interstellar travel...if these observed accelerations were sustainable in space, then these craft could easily reach

relativistic speeds within a matter of minutes to hours and cover interstellar distances in a matter of days to weeks, proper time.

The study goes on,

Furthermore, these craft appear to violate the laws of physics in that they do not have flight or control surfaces, any visible means of propulsion apparently violating Newton's Third Law, and can operate in multiple media, such as space (low Earth orbit), air, and water without apparent hindrance, sonic booms, or heat dumps. The nature, origin, and purpose of these UAVs are unknown. It is also not known if they are piloted, controlled remotely, or autonomous. It has been made clear by US officials that if these craft were hostile, then they would pose a serious threat.

If some of these [craft] are of extraterrestrial origin, then it would be important to assess the potential threat they pose. More interestingly, these [craft] have the potential to provide new insights into aerospace engineering and other technologies. The potential of a serious threat, the promise of advancements in science and engineering, evolving expectations about extraterrestrial life, and even a deeper understanding of the acts of misperception and misinterpretation are all important reasons for scientists to seriously study and understand these objects."

Source: Kevin H. Knuth, Robert M. Powell, and Peter A. Reali, "Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles," MDPI

THE PHENOMENA ARE REAL

In *Unidentified*, Mellon says: "The phenomenon is real. These are not American or Russian or Chinese vehicles. If there is another intelligence from another system that is vastly more advanced and sophisticated than we are, and we were able to establish contact and communication, it would be the equivalent possibly of gaining hundreds of thousands or millions of years' worth of knowledge in days, months, or weeks."

Some of the most incredible revelations come from a current Pentagon insider who has been involved in phenomenology research for the best part of a quarter century. In his own words, in communications seen by the author, he was “a DoD-deputized advisor to the Nimitz and Roosevelt investigator under a subcontract to the DoD” and senior scientific advisor to AATIP.

Dr. Eric Davis is currently adjunct professor at the Center for Astrophysics, Space Physics and Engineering Research at Baylor University. His profile includes combined work experience in aerospace physics, astronomy, and astrophysics; experience in national security and DoD, DoE, intelligence community and aerospace industry special projects. He was previously chief science officer for Earth Tech, working for long-term associate Hal Puthoff and Bigelow Advanced Aerospace Studies and the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), conducting phenomenology research and servicing a DIA contract, known as the Advanced Aerospace Weapon System Applications Program (AAWSAP), to generate 38 scientific reports for AATIP, projecting exotic physics and technologies to 2050.

In an interview in May 2020, Davis revealed that AATIP had not ended in 2012 as previously believed but continued under a new name, new leadership, and in a new location—none of which he would disclose, but which we now know to be the UAPTF. Davis did reveal that he is still a consultant to the Pentagon’s UFO program and that it is still under the purview of the OUSDI. “This is an intelligence operation to gather data, analyze and evaluate it and recommend courses of action... and I have a history in this business going back to 1996, so the program director knows me very well, knows my boss very well; knows my former boss very well.”

The following are emails seen by the author that reveal startling revelations about the UAPTF (*all emails in this study are reprinted by permission*):

On Aug 13, 2020, at 3:31 PM, Eric Davis <> wrote:

Sorry, Sid! You’re off on a time-wasting diversion from the facts.

The F-18 FLIR [forward looking infrared] videos are NOT hoaxed. I was a DoD-deputized advisor to the Nimitz and Roosevelt investigator under a subcontract to the

DoD, and I perfectly know the provenance of those videos plus all of the associated Aegis weapon system and other radar, as well as all of the pilot reports. These are the facts and are true. This squeamish little nonsense about being sceptical and considering alternative narratives as a valid hypothesis is a sign of cognitive dissonance.

Regards,

Eric

Eric W. Davis, Ph.D., FBIS, AFAIAA

Adjunct Professor

Early Universe, Cosmology & Strings Theory Group

Center for Astrophysics, Space Physics & Engineering Research

Baylor University

From: Sid <Sid>

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 4:37 PM

To: Eric Davis

Subject: Re: TicTac Video Actually Shows An F18 - my upcoming video with Sid

Thanks Eric. I think everyone would like the videos to be authentic. I cannot comment on the mathematics that Mike speaks of, but if he is correct then it raises different questions. If you are confident about the authenticity of the videos then my question to you then is whether these craft are possibly our own or do you personally feel they are extraterrestrial?

Sid

On Aug 13, 2020, at 4:21 PM, Eric Davis <> wrote:

Mike has no mathematics nor access to the original Navy data. He wasn't a part of the AATIP/AAWSAP or ONI investigations, so he's just putting out false story for whatever reason.

Eric

On Aug 13, 2020, at 5:41 PM, Sid wrote:

So then, Eric, if we can dismiss Mike's contribution then in your opinion are they earth-based technologies or extraterrestrial?

On Aug 13, 2020, at 5:46 PM, Eric Davis <> wrote:

Those craft are off-world as I've told two Senate committees' staff and DoD agencies.

Eric

That (my response of a minute ago, posted below) is not my opinion, but is where the physics and the facts lead.

Eric

It is interesting to speculate on Davis's comment that he was a "DoD-deputized advisor to the Nimitz and Roosevelt investigator." So was this investigator one person or two? Is Davis talking about being an advisor during AATIP days—i.e., from 2007 onward—or pre-2007? If the latter, then what was the name of the program pre-AATIP and which part of the DoD was running it? Navy? Air Force? DIA? Why were Air Force officers taking custody of hard drives from Nimitz group ships and aircraft, and was Davis privy to a 2004 pre-AATIP Air Force investigation?

Col. John Alexander, a legendary Vietnam War Green Beret, has briefed at the highest levels of government, including White House staff, National Security Council, Congress, Director of Central Intelligence, and senior DoD officials. He is a former Pentagon insider and expert on UFOs and the potential use of remote viewing, psychokinesis, and other psychic skills in military operations. Dubbed by Louis Elizondo "a Godfather of everything weird and spooky at the Pentagon," he is a colleague and friend of Davis from NIDS and Skinwalker Ranch days.

Responding to Davis's revelations, Col. Alexander told the author:

In short, I agree with Eric. We worked together when he was with NIDS. Think I referred him to Bob [Bigelow] to get hired. As we discussed [in an earlier interview with the author], the objects are not made by humans. That said, the ET hypothesis is too simple. Trying to raise the complexity issues with [the general public is well beyond their comprehension—so simply stating "not man-made" should meet the needs of most people.

Importantly, there have been sightings for millennia. That excludes the possibility of foreign development. Reports of interactions between humans and sentient non-humans have also been stated since recorded history and in all cultures. That leads me to infer that whatever we are observing, there is no one simple answer and these phenomena (yes, plural) are probably beyond our ability to imagine.

In response to the UAPTF disclosures, Alexander told the author that “While they [UAPTF] may think they have been asked to review UAPs, in reality they have been handed a project with the complexity of cancer.”

VOODOO WARRIORS

In 1985, Alexander formed the Advanced Theoretical Physics Group, so named to evade Freedom of Information requests about UFOs. The group was described by the *Washington Post* as “The Voodoo Warriors of the Pentagon.” Alexander writes:

The ATP project... allowed me to function within acceptable limits while simultaneously pushing the boundaries of traditional credibility. It also required finding the right network of people... Venturing into studies of psi phenomena and UFOs was not seen as career-enhancing.

Membership included people from the Army, Navy, and Air Force, plus...defense aerospace industries and... the Intelligence Community.... at least one representative from the Lockheed Skunk Works was present... There were cases involving military weapon systems that posed a significant threat and should be investigated. Multisensory data supported observations of physical craft that performed intelligent maneuvers that were far beyond any known human capability.

Examples included: extremely rapid acceleration (0 to 4,000 MPH near instantaneously). Speeds that are not achievable by any manned craft today. Very fast, sharp turns (90 degrees or more and producing g-forces that would exceed human

survivability). Abrupt disappearance from radar (long before stealth technology was developed). Interrupting electrical systems without physical damage to them. Study of the UFO data could provide a potential for a leap in technology. This would not require access to a craft, but could be derived from scientific examination of the reports determining the theoretical physics required to achieve such results.”

ATP-AATIP COMPARISON

<u>STUDY COMPARISONS</u>	
<u>ATP</u>	<u>DIA</u>
• Credible Witnesses	• Credible Witnesses
• Multisensory Confirmation	• Multisensory Confirmation
• Unique Materials	• Unique Materials
• Unexplainable Maneuvers	• Unexplainable Maneuvers
• High Strangeness	• High Strangeness
• No Funding	• Very Modest Funding
• Personal Interest	• Personal Interest
• No Institutional Interest	• Limited Institutional Interest
• No Central Authority	• No Central Authority
• No Solutions	• No Solutions (Hints?)

Source: Created by Col. John Alexander, reprinted by permission

If this sounds familiar, then one wonders what the DoD been doing chasing its tail since ATP and reinventing the wheel. If we go back to August 1954, for example, we see that the Air Force updated its AFR 200-2 “Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting” manual, which considered UFOs to be “any airborne object which by performance, aerodynamic characteristics, or unusual features, does not conform to any presently known aircraft or missile type, or which cannot be positively identified as a familiar object.” It lists the objectives of UFO reporting thus: “First as a possible threat to the security of the United

States and its forces, and secondly, to determine technical aspects involved.” It seems not much has changed. The recent revelations beg the questions: why now, and why were we not told all this before?

CRASH RETRIEVALS

In June 2019, Louis Elizondo went on the record admitting that the US Government has debris from a UFO in its possession. *The New York Times* (NYT) quoted Davis in July, saying: “Mr. Davis, who now works for Aerospace Corporation, a defense contractor, said he gave a classified briefing to a Defense DoD agency as recently as March, about retrievals of *off-world* vehicles not made on this earth.”

The same article issued a correction for former senator Harry Reid after writing: “Mr. Reid, the former Democratic senator from Nevada who pushed for funding the earlier UFO program... said he believed that crashes of objects of unknown origin may have occurred and that retrieved materials should be studied. ‘After looking into this, I came to the conclusion that there were reports—some were substantive, some not so substantive—that there were actual materials that the government and the private sector had in their possession,’ Mr. Reid said in an interview.”

The correction read: “An earlier version of this article inaccurately rendered remarks attributed to Harry Reid, the retired Senate majority leader from Nevada. Mr. Reid said he believed that crashes of objects of unknown origin may have occurred and that retrieved materials should be studied; he did not say that crashes had occurred and that retrieved materials had been studied secretly for decades.” Reid did tweet in April 2020: “I’m glad the Pentagon is finally releasing this [video] footage, but it only scratches the surface of research and materials available. The US needs to take a serious, scientific look at this and any potential national security implications.”

Discussing metamaterials, the NYT stated: “No crash artifacts have been publicly produced for independent verification. Some retrieved objects, such as unusual metallic fragments, were later identified from laboratory studies as man-made...in some cases, examination of the materials had so far failed to determine their source and led him [Davis]

to conclude, 'We couldn't make it ourselves.'" The NYT concluded: "The constraints on discussing classified programs—and the ambiguity of information cited in unclassified slides from the briefings—have put officials who have studied UFOs in the position of stating their views without presenting any hard evidence." An excellent interview with the NYT journalists delves further.

The NYT followed with another piece that said:

Current officials are now concerned about the potential threat represented by the very real, advanced technological objects... And if technology has been retrieved from downed objects, what better way to try to understand how they work?... Going from data on a distant object in the sky to the possession of a retrieved one on the ground makes a leap that many find hard to accept and that clearly demands extraordinary evidence. Numerous associates of the Pentagon program, with high security clearances and decades of involvement with official UFO investigations, told us they were convinced such crashes have occurred, based on their access to classified information. But the retrieved materials themselves, and any data about them, are completely off-limits to anyone without clearances and a need to know."



Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program – AATIP

- Twofold nature of threat:
 1. **Current threat:** AAV phenomena of foreign derivation (possibly including off-world), being globally deployed/tested, including in CONUS.
 2. **Future threat:** Potential terrestrial adversaries achieving significant breakthroughs in the development of game-changing disruptive technologies based on evaluations of AAV phenomena from sensor data or crash/retrieved materials.

Source: Dr. Hal Puthoff, IRVA-SSE 2018, Department of Defense UAP Program

The slide above refers to “evaluations of AAV [advanced aerospace vehicles]” from “crashed+retrieved materials.” Coincidentally, veteran UFO researcher Dr. Jacques Vallée and Stanford’s Dr. Garry Nolan are conducting research into three categories of purported UFO-related materials.

Journalist Alejandro Rojas nailed Davis on crash retrievals in April 2019:

There have been crashes, the superpowers on the earth have had their share of crashes and they have recovered the vehicles from their crashes. And so that’s why Jacques Vallée and I agree that even though these things behave like a conscious spiritual psychic energy, they do have an advanced technology, they have hardware, and there’s a craft and there’s occupants or UFO-nauts that he calls them, Jacques Vallée calls them UFO-nauts. So, there is [*sic*] UFO-nauts running these craft. Whatever they may be.

So, they have that technology. We do too. And it’s a very super-sensitive topic because it’s something that your listeners are probably going to be shocked at. People with need to know access authorization and security clearances involved with that type of work are the only ones that know. The vast majority of the rest of the government really doesn’t know. The right hand doesn’t know what the left hand is doing, firstly because of the stove-piping that is going on in compartmentalized programs.

The crash retrieval program is a very small program. It is not a huge government infrastructure. It is a very poorly funded program. I do know that the program was terminated [in] 1989 for lack of progress in reverse-engineering anything that they had—any of the hardware that they had. And they’ll resurrect it maybe every so often—so many years will go by and they’ll try it again. And they may still succeed, but the compartmentalization is a killer. Scientists cannot communicate with other scientists to get help. If you are in the crash retrieval program—or any black program for that matter—and you hit a roadblock, you can’t just call your best buddy or any expert that you don’t know... If your small group of experts is stuck, you are screwed.

The point is that these things [UAP] are operating; they go way outside the envelope of our engineering and physics technologies, and I can guarantee you that no laws of physics are broken whatsoever, it's just that its either the existing laws we have, we haven't extrapolated it further enough or expanded it enough into realms or areas of phase space where we can discover new solutions to these existing physical laws, which would give us advanced propulsion and power, that would produce this type of technology once you have an engineering and manufacturing technology to create these things, so that's where we're at.

Source: YouTube

He expands on this in a recent email: "There's no need to violate the laws of physics, and in this instance, none have been observed to be violated which is in accord with other observational and technological UAP data inputs going back for several decades. Instead, what one observes is a technology that exceeds the most advanced of human thought and engineering capabilities that requires a new frame of reference for understanding a new materials science, a new propulsion physics, and a new power physics. Human science hasn't discovered everything...yet."

Asked in the interview whether it will be possible to develop technology based on observation of the phenomena, Davis replies: "It's really hard to predict. Probably long-term, not near-term.... And these things don't look like anything we can manufacture on earth, so we don't have the manufacturing or industrial technology for it. For example, that's what the 38 papers that the DIA wanted in their [inaudible] to Bigelow Aerospace Advanced Space Studies contract, was to take the physics and engineering of 2009-2022, extrapolate it to 2050, are we going to be able to have the physics and engineering and the technology/industrial base that will produce a vehicle that will match the Tic-Tacs by 2050?"

THE THREAT

Davis opines:

Because *what happens if the Tic-Tacs decide to turn against us; and they used their advanced weaponry—whatever they have—against us and start hurting people, destroying things?* We've seen hints of that in Project Blue Book's investigation into the Northern Tier silo encounters with the giant UFOs that shut down their warheads' navigation systems. And that happened multiple times. It happened in the late 60's and it happened in the mid 70's. And so we know they are quite capable of rendering our warheads and ICBMs useless...which is dangerous, because if the Soviet Union had decided to launch a war right then and there, the damn UFOs [would] have rendered it impossible for us to do a counter-strike, because our goddamn ICBMS up in the Northern Tier were shut down.

And then there's Colares [Brazil], where the box-shaped UFOs were actually killing people and injuring large numbers of people. And they were using beams to do it. So, UFOs have not been benevolent. They have not shown any space brotherly love and peace type movements towards us. It has all been just hide and seek, hide and seek, and we'll use stealth as far as possible so that humans don't see us in the environment and then when we expose ourselves, we expose ourselves, do our little fun games and then take off. They may be testing our technology. They may be testing the US Navy's capabilities when they do this and they have also done this with the Air Force too. What are they doing it for? They are not humans so they don't think like humans. *In case they decide to become aggressive, we're screwed.*

Source: YouTube

Dr. Sarfatti says of Davis: "We disagree on how to explain them [UAP] with physics. I think we agree they are an imminent military threat." Interestingly, Col. Alexander does not see the phenomena as a threat, telling the author that as their tech and other capabilities were so far

ahead of ours, they could have already defeated us (humanity) any time they wanted to and continue to be able to so. He believes that if they did want to destroy or enslave mankind, then they would use some kind of biological agent, as they have no need to use mechanical craft.

Dr. Travis Taylor, an aerospace engineer and astronomer who has worked on various programs for the Department of Defense and NASA, writes in his book *An Introduction to Planetary Defense – A Study of Modern Warfare Applied to Extra-Terrestrial Invasion*: “We would be the Natives if attacked by aliens...Will they be nice or nasty? Do we wish to become extinct as some natives did?...Or will we fight back? Perhaps we should prepare for the worst and hope for the best. Now is the time for preparation before it is too late!”

Referring to unarmed Navy F18s in the Nimitz incident, Davis states: “So that was a test that could not be performed, to see whether you could shoot one down [because the Navy F18s were unarmed]... it’s about planning for potential eventualities and we have to worry about something more advanced that could be overwhelming our military technology, so we’ve got to be able to extrapolate to 2050 will our physics be there, will our engineering be there, will our industrial manufacturing technology be there to produce Tic-Tac-type technology....the military needs to be looking at making the weapons and that’s why we have the 38 papers.”

Some of Davis’s interview comments are confirmed in another intriguing email seen by the author:

On Aug 28, 2020, at 2:35 PM

We (Hal [Puthoff] and I for the AAWSAP) were NOT tasked to explain the Tic-Tac, or UAP, propulsion and power physics plus their other attributes.

Instead, we were tasked to extrapolate 2009/2010 engineering-physics (of a variety of technical topics that were published as 38 Defense Intelligence Reference Document reports) to the year 2050 in order to determine whether American engineering-physics can approach or approximate, or not, the observed characteristics and capabilities of Tic-Tacs / UAPs in a *scenario where the Tic-Tacs/UAPs might become a future threat to the US*. The ground rules and assumptions that were established for the 38 DIRD reports allowed us to speculate when hard empirical data on Tic-Tac/UAPs was unavailable.

You CANNOT EVER definitively explain Tic-Tacs/UAPs unless and until you actually have such a craft in your lab to examine/measure it for the purpose of comparing its measured properties/capabilities with one's theoretical predictions. A speculation or hypothesis is no good in absence of the hard empirical data needed to validate the hypothesis with, and the empirical data must not be limited to the F-18 FLIR videos, surface warship radar, and the pilot reports.

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In an August 2020 email to Sarfatti, Davis comments: "I have no UFO propulsion physics projects to be funded because my new employer doesn't fund that type of research topic. I know that a few USG personnel already know who you are and what you're about, but exotic or UFO propulsion physics research is not in their portfolio. Actual research falls under the purview of the military service labs and the DoE labs... Your UFO propulsion idea will have to stand up to scrutiny by the defense science, military service labs', and DoE labs' review boards/panels."

Col. John Alexander wrote to the author: "In your latest email you address TTSA [To the Stars Academy]. As you might guess I do know most of them. Have seen all the conspiratorial BS about being a covert intel agency. They are not. Yes, they, and maybe you, focus on the threat aspect. When I was running the Advanced Theoretical Physics project in the 1980's, I did the same thing. The reason was funding. I'd do it again now if that was the goal. As I have pointed out before, the Department of Defense responds to threats... The point was, that is how funding could be obtained." Alexander continued: "over 99 percent of Americans" are "near clueless as to how the [U.S. government] functions."

Dr. Davis makes an interesting comment on commercial applications of Tic-Tac tech: “And on the flip-side of that, boy that would be wonderful if we could get there because commercially it would revolutionize transportation and energy on the earth.” Commander David Fravor, the aviator who intercepted the Tic-Tac in 2004, also has things to say about the technology, which was far beyond anything he had seen previously or since—technology that could change the world.

T[^]3 (TIC-TAC TECH) WEAPONS

Theoretical physicist Miguel Alcubierre writes:

It is shown how, within the framework of general relativity and without the introduction of wormholes, it is possible to modify a spacetime in a way that allows a spaceship to travel with an arbitrarily large speed. By a purely local expansion of spacetime behind the spaceship and an opposite contraction in front of it, motion faster than the speed of light as seen by observers outside the disturbed region is possible. The resulting distortion is reminiscent of the “warp drive” of science fiction. However, just as it happens with wormholes, exotic matter will be needed in order to generate a distortion of spacetime like the one discussed here.

Source: Miguel Alcubierre, “The Warp Drive: Hyper-fast Travel Within General Relativity”

Dr. Robert McGuire explains: “The following is a rough analogy. Your spacecraft is a surfboard. You have a machine that generates waves that travel very fast through the water. The water doesn’t move fast but the wave does. You ride the wave and you go fast. The hard part is making the wave machine work.”

Dr. Sarfatti says the technology behind the Tic-Tac UFO (2004 Nimitz incident) is not mysterious at all: it folds space into a warp drive in such a way as to get to where and when it desires with tiny amounts of energy. Sarfatti claims we can build our own Tic-Tacs quickly and that it would be in America’s best interests to do so, as Russia already has a head start. Such spacecraft would render all our conventional weapons obsolete, he explains, particularly if the warp capacity were weaponized.

Sarfatti says high frequency gravity weapons (HFGW) are possible (“TIC-TAC has that weapon I predict”). He told the author that HFGW are “planet destroyers.” He says: “such craft can be manufactured with technology though not yet off-the-shelf in three to eight years depending on the scale of the effort... The smoking gun fact is that Tic-Tac is both a low energy non-FTL [non-faster than light] warp drive fighting machine, making our Top Gun pilots look like Haile Selassie’s cavalry with spears against Benito Mussolini’s tanks, machine guns and airplanes in 1935.”

He describes Tic-Tac as “a weapon that rendered Commander Fravor’s F18 like a mouse played [with] by a giant Schrodinger cat.” Fravor’s wingman, interviewed on *Unidentified*, commented on the intercept: “It was so unnerving because it was so unpredictable. High-G, rapid velocity, rapid acceleration...so you were wondering, how can I possibly fight this?”

“Engineering the metamaterial is the big problem, just like refining the required isotopes at Oak Ridge in Manhattan Project was the big problem that John A. Wheeler managed in WWII,” says Sarfatti, who studied under nuclear physicist Hans Albrecht Bethe—an important contributor to the Manhattan Project who described himself as “the midwife” of the H-bomb.

TIC-TAC VS. F18 COMPARISON



Source: Imgur

Sarfatti says the US military is “at imminent risk of total defeat... no defense against low-power warp/wormhole T^3 [Tic-Tac tech] weapons.” He states that the US needs T^3 in case non-human powers prove unfriendly. He talks of “practical engineering physics solutions to a pressing military security issue.” T^3, he says,

is the manipulation of space and time itself with small amounts of energy... some applications that immediately come to mind are:

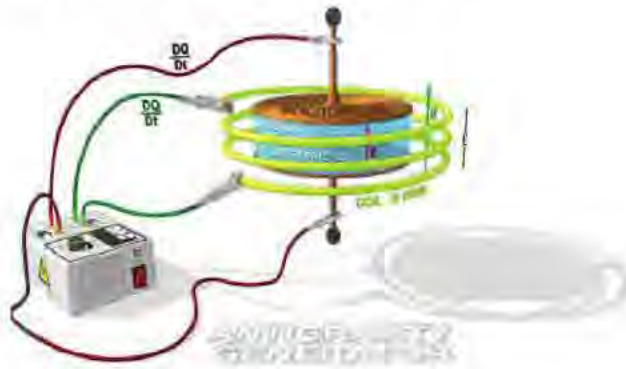
- Effective force shield defending planes, ships, tanks, soldiers from bullets, missiles, explosive debris.
- Corrupting ICBM launch codes (Bentwaters/Rendlesham) creating temporal distortions in the launch circuitry.
- As proven in the actual attempts of the F18s to engage the Tic-Tacs in 2004 and 2015, a good Tic-Tac pilot can easily win in any dogfight with an F18 pilot of equal skill.

Source: Dr. Jack Sarfatti

A recent article recounts: “Lt. Ryan Graves, an F/A-18 Super Hornet pilot who has been in the Navy for a decade has come forward after talking to the Navy and Congress about the events he and his squadron mates witnessed between 2014 and 2015...Graves described how strange craft would appear in their training airspace and persist there not for minutes, but many hours, or even days at a time.” Graves said: “These things would be out there all day... Keeping an aircraft in the air requires a significant amount of energy. With the speeds we observed, 12 hours in the air is 11 hours longer than we’d expect.” Graves also related how the UAP followed his strike group up and down the East Coast for months and then on deployment to the Middle East.

Sarfatti predicts: “Control of the gravitational field with relatively small amounts of energy has many possible weapons applications. For example, a narrow laser-like beam of gravity curvature from Tic-Tac to F18 could do many things depending on its intensity from effective EMP [electromagnetic pulse] to tearing the F18 apart like falling into a black hole.”

TIC-TAC ANTIGRAVITY GENERATOR



My Gedanken Experiment Tic Tac Engine "Rod"

Sources: Dr. Jack Sarfatti and Julien Geffray, reprinted by permission

The *Scientific Coalition for Ufology's* report, "A Forensic Analysis of Navy Carrier Strike Group Eleven's Encounter with an Anomalous Aerial Vehicle," examined the extreme speed, acceleration, and power outputs demonstrated by the Tic-Tac UFOs. By some estimates, the craft reached speeds as high as 104,000 mph and had a parabolic trajectory that contained as much energy per second as the detonation of a tactical nuclear weapon.

[4] Further, all known propulsive methods are reaction type of engines that release this energy by explosion of different types to propel the vehicle through the atmosphere. Exploding the minimum of 220 lb of TNT per second would be quite noticeable in the atmosphere and cause massive sonic and shock wave disturbances, a 639.57 kilotons of TNT released per second is equivalent to a larger than Hiroshima type of nuclear weapon being exploded and would cause massive destruction throughout the entire area. No explosive effects or sounds were observed or any damage done to the planes or the surrounding area, which raises questions about the physics and technology of the observed objects, called "Tic-Tacs" that are beyond current physical explanations.

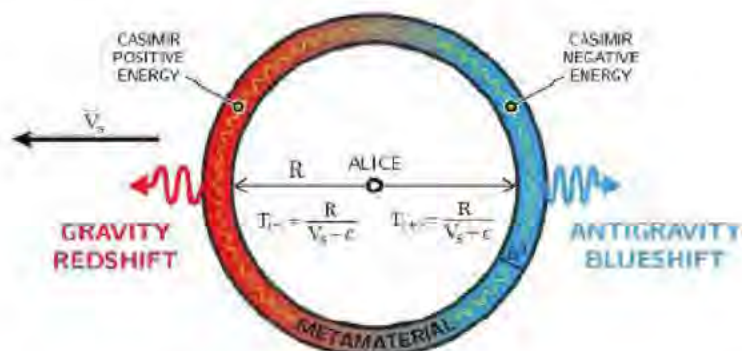
[4] In this paper only the horizontal acceleration and power calculations were made. The CAP point was at 20,000 ft and so there was a vertical component to the energy expenditure that was just as extraordinary, but a similar treatment like this has already been covered in Appendix G which calculates these figures for accelerations from 20,000 ft to 80,000 ft. We could just estimate that this is a little less than four miles and so using the figures for 4.8 miles in Table 3b a rough estimate of the energy released would be between 860 lb and 6.72 kilotons of TNT released per second. The interested reader is referred to Appendix G for further details and will not be treated here.

Source: Scientific Coalition for Ufology

Sarfatti also posits a connection between the infamous Skinwalker Ranch and T³ weapons: "The Skinwalker Ranch star gate portal hovering 1,000 feet over a place on the ranch can easily be a WMD. It

can be controlled to be benign or to fry the area below as seen in the radiation reported on History Channel. The Tic-Tac has dual capability both as a warp drive vehicle as depicted above and as a traversable wormhole portal.”

SPHERICAL GATE STAR PORTAL



Source: Dr. Jack Sarfatti, reprinted by permission

A recent Sarfatti proposal to the European Defence Agency (EDA) concerns “Innovative Solutions/Technologies for the Countering of Swarms of UAVs, specifically on the Protection of Static and Dynamic Land Facilities and Platforms”:

The proposal outlines the design of a craft [“aero-spacecraft”] embodying a multi-level lattice-within-a-lattice metamaterial that both controls the ambient gravitational field with small amounts of energy and acts as a super-AI system for monitoring its environment and providing fully autonomous, conscious decision-making aimed at the creation of a Black Hole weapon or a Stealth Cloak system, or a Force Shield that can protect against Swarms of UAVs and other types of ballistic threats or against any type of impulse weapons.

Source: European Defence Agency

Sarfatti calls this a “Swarm-Hole.”

Advanced Conscious AI

Sarfatti and colleague Maurice Passman have collaborated on what they believe is Tic-Tac's highly advanced conscious AI.

Commander Fravor USS Nimitz Close Encounter 2004 reported Tic Tac under intelligent control.

- Sarfatti predicts the Tic Tac is a conscious AI machine.
- The meta-material fuselage, he says, will be found to have a nano-scale quantum dot artificial neural net, that is as conscious as we are, if not more so, when externally resonantly pumped into the Fröhlich macro-quantum "laser-like" phase of active living matter.
- The quantum dot network emulates our own sub-neural protein dimer ("quantum dot") micro-tubule network (Hameroff).
- This same Fröhlich resonant pumping is essential to the stealthy/cloak low energy/non-FTL warp drive so obvious from the observations.
- "It's a very efficient technology," Sarfatti confidently predicts.

Source: "Understanding Tic-Tac's Conscious AI," Jack Sarfatti and Maurice Passman, reprinted by permission

Sarfatti and Passman's observations are based on interviews with USN pilots who observed Tic-Tac visually and with sensors.

Despite the limitations placed on available information, we have been able to develop a strong case that the F/A-18 engagement that occurred on November 14, 2004 was with an aerial device intelligently controlled, either directly or remotely, and performing maneuvers well beyond the capabilities of any technology in the public domain or in the military witness' experiences.

LCDR Slaght believes the object was either autonomous in control or was externally controlled. He feels it was under some type of "intelligent control." He is not aware of any technology that could maneuver or accelerate in the fashion that this object did on November 14, 2004.¹⁴

Source: "A Forensic Analysis of Navy Carrier Strike Group Eleven's Encounter with an Anomalous Aerial Vehicle," Scientific Coalition for Ufology

The author asked Sarfatti about TicTac's remarkable predictive capabilities: "How did Tic-Tac intelligence know where the CAP [combat air patrol] point was in the Fravor/Nimitz incident? Seems like there are a few possibilities off the top of my head:

- Human agent inside USN vessel or aircraft communicating with Tic-Tac.
- Tic-Tac hard-wired into Navy comms [communications] and navigational systems / technical surveillance / bug).
- Tic-Tac is decrypting Navy comms / reading nav and data systems.
- Some kind of quantum computing capacity and an advanced predictive algorithm.
- Tic-Tac reads minds.
- Tic-Tac is from future, so it knows where CAP is already.
- Tic-Tac understands English and USN comms terms.”

Source: “A Forensic Analysis of Navy Carrier Strike Group Eleven’s Encounter with an Anomalous Aerial Vehicle,” Scientific Coalition for Ufology

Sarfatti replied, “Good analysis Franc. I have had direct contact with Tic-Tac Intelligence is my current assessment of my experiences starting in the 1940s using Bayesian inference. On that basis all your items above can be true. They are not mutually exclusive.”

An aforementioned study estimates that the probability of the Tic-Tac’s selecting the CAP point correctly was minute:

to the *Nimitz*, having insufficient fuel to attempt to pursue the Tic-Tac. On their way back, they received a call from the *Princeton* that the Tic-Tac UAV was waiting precisely at their CAP point. Senior Chief Day noted that this was surprising because those coordinates were predetermined and secret. Given that the CAP point was approximately $R = 60$ mi away, the probability of selecting the CAP point out of all the locations within the 60 mile radius, to within a one mile resolution (slightly more than the resolution of the radar system), is

$$P(\text{hit}) = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} = \frac{1}{11310} = 0.0088\% \quad (16)$$

Source: Kevin H. Knuth, Robert M. Powell, and Peter A. Reali, “Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles,” MDPI

Sarfatti’s EDA proposal states: “Here, a theoretical framework is proposed for a breakthrough energy and gravitational ‘metric engineering’ propulsion system that builds on accepted engineering theory, advances in ‘metamaterials’, as well as consciousness theory, new mathematics and artificial intelligence (AI) technology to permit development of an aerospace vehicle (crewed or un-crewed) with ‘conscious AI capabilities’.”

He says:

In the mid-1990s, the engineering of an Alcubierre-type propulsion system was deemed impossible practically because of the need for unfeasible amounts of energy to fuel it—the equivalent of a Jupiter-sized mass. Advances in metamaterials technology, however, and a new kind of mathematics—provided within this proposal—hold out the promise of an engineering pathway to an aerospace craft that exhibits two essential characteristics: ‘fully conscious AI’ and breakthrough propulsion physics.

In ‘active mode’, the spacecraft realizes the Alcubierre propulsion drive by controlling the way it warps space-time to produce its own zero-G-force geodesic motion...Minimal amounts of energy are required due to the high efficiency of the metamaterial lattice’s electromagnetic susceptibility resonant responses to the Frohlich pump electromagnetic field.” In ‘passive mode’, the craft is...both fully conscious of its surroundings and fully reactive to them in terms of decision-making. If the negative meta-material resonances are suitably designed, the proposed aerospace [vehicle] can generate an exterior anti-gravity universal effective force shield aka a quasi “white hole.”

Source: Dr. Jack Sarfatti

OLD SCHOOL UFO WEAPONS THEORIES

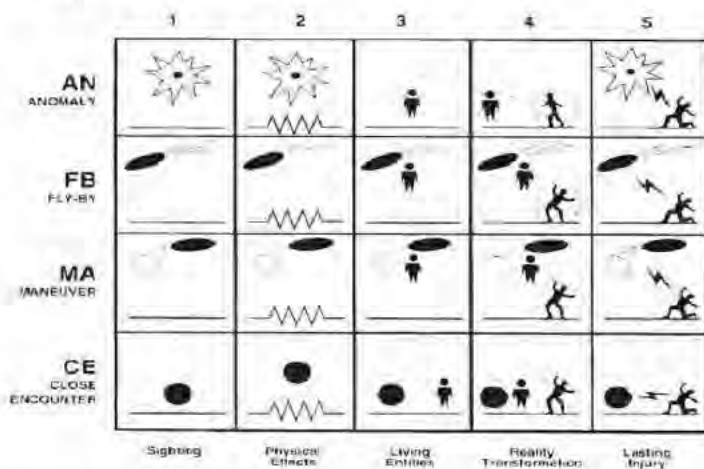
Respected old-school aeronautical engineer Dr. Paul R. Hill began to collect and analyze UFO evidence in the 1950s, but could not publish anything UFO-related while employed as a senior propulsion and aeronautics engineering-physicist by NASA and its predecessor, the National Advisory Committee of Aeronautics. After he died in 1991, *Unconventional Flying Objects* was finally published. Hill knew UFO technology so far exceeded terrestrial technology that UFOs could not be of human design and he favored the extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH):

The advanced technologies relate mainly to vehicle propulsive fields. Being knowledgeable of US Government secrets on propulsion, I have known from the start that UFOs could not possibly be of Earth-technology manufacture. Unconventional objects employ heat beams, paralyzing beams, and force beams as tools and weapons, generally applied in moderation.

The UFO field engine, like our atomic power plants, has the property of being radioactive...UFOs have made enough people sick with the typical symptoms of radiation poisoning...It is concluded that the observer is hit or missed by the radioactive rays depending on his proximity and the sharpness of focus of the harmful rays, as well as whether the UFO tilts so that the rays strike the observer."

Source: Paul R. Hill, *Unconventional Flying Objects*, Hampton Roads Publishing, 1995

This is what TTSA has referred to as a "sixth observable": changes to the body and brain as a result of exposure to the phenomena. Dr. Kit Green—another Davis/Puthoff/Alexander colleague—wrote one of the 38 Defense Intelligence Reference Documents on this entitled: "Clinical Medical Acute & Subacute Field Effects on Human Dermal & Neurological Tissues," which includes a catalogue of "UFO-Related Human Physiological Effects."



Source: Jacques Vallée, Classification Chart for UFO Sightings & Interactions

Hill:

In 1968, Dr. Robert Wood...said people could feel themselves shaken or vibrated by the field...wherein such items as people, walls, cars, and water are set to vibrating. Several witnesses mention the UFO hum or whine as a sound felt as well as heard...If the field frequency is raised to ultrasonic values in a focused beam, this form of internal vibration would amount to a heat weapon. If UFOs use this form of heat weapon, the energy is not transmitted by the atmosphere, but across space by the UFO force field and directly deposited in objects (or people) having a different resistance to the field vibrations than their surroundings or supports. The greatest energy release occurs at the interfaces or contact surfaces, accounting for surface burns.

Many people have concluded that UFOs use ultrasonic vibrations as a weapon. Maybe they do. All that it would require would be a beamed force field with a sizeable cyclic component of the field of appropriate frequency. For this special application possibly, it would be entirely cyclic with no net force. Perhaps the regular UFO power plant can assume the weapon function by raising the cyclic field frequency to ultrasonic values.

Source: Paul R. Hill, *Unconventional Flying Objects*, Hampton Roads Publishing, 1995

Dr. Eric Davis references Hill's contribution in an email: "In his posthumous book, Dr. Paul, who had a close encounter experience in the 1940s, gave a physically precise (non-advanced propulsion physics) explanation for the ultrahigh accelerations and lack-of-sonic booms observed in UAP sightings. He did not know general relativity theory but yet his unique, ingenious physics solution used a key feature of general relativity theory while expressing it using old fashioned jargon to describe what we today would call "artificial spacetime curvature effects" (a.k.a. gravitational forces), i.e., what Hill called "artificial acceleration fields"."

Davis continued, "Hill showed how UAP acceleration field propulsion mitigates the negative aerodynamic effects of ultrahigh speed/acceleration motion through the atmosphere... In the last chapter of

his book, Hill laid out the aeronautical fluid flow expressions and their corresponding data graphs to show how an ‘artificial acceleration field’ (warp bubble) deployed around the structure of a UAP prevents the formation of a compression wave in front of the UAP that turns into a supersonic shock wave.” Davis’s close colleague Dr. Hal Puthoff also favorably reviewed Hill’s work.

A BRITISH INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT

A declassified secret British report was completed in December 2000 by Defence Intelligence 55. DI55 has been described as a “space weapons section” responsible for “assessing the scientific and technical aspects of UFO reports since 1967.” The report, “Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region,” stated that UAP information studied revealed that UFOs—whatever their origin—were of “no defence significance.” Information studied “does not have any significant Defence Intelligence value. However, the study has uncovered a number of technological issues that may be of potential defence interest.”

The report continues:

The close proximity of plasma related fields can adversely affect a vehicle or person. Radiated effects are reported in some very rare instances to be sufficient to cause scorching of human skin and damage to nearby terrestrial objects... Within the influence of the field, and effectively in its near probable near-field discharge path, coupling to vehicle electronic and electrical systems can occur and affect equipment operation. Although this effect has been limited to the temporary malfunction of internal combustion engines and radios within the UK, it is of importance that aircraft equipment could exceptionally be affected for a limited period, according to authoritative open scientific reports from the USA.

Source: “Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) in the UK Air Defence Region,” UK National Archives

The report did reference a 1977 incident in Finland involving military personnel and radio frequency (RF) jamming from UAP exposure. (Interestingly, Commander Fravor claimed radar jamming by Tic-Tac in the Nimitz encounter.)

It was also clear...that this could only be the result of technologies which encompass scientific and engineering attributes which are well beyond even the far-term aspirations of any aerospace industry on earth. For example, attributes and abilities which allow a vehicle and any occupants to: emit “some sort of invisible field, which, when in close proximity, can reportedly cause humans and equipment to respond in unusual ways. At worst, a close range exposure to a UAP can cause some disturbing mental and physical effects and cause electronics and electrics to temporarily malfunction.

The conditions for the initial formation and sustaining of what are apparently buoyant charged masses, which can form, separate, merge, hover, climb, dive and accelerate are not completely understood. Nevertheless, the underlying physics may have some military application in the future in the form of active visual, radar and IR decoys and passive electromagnetic spectrum energy absorbers... The relevance of plasma and magnetic fields to UAP were an unexpected feature of the study. It is recommended that further investigation should be into the applicability of various characteristics of plasmas in novel military applications.

The report assessed:

There is no evidence that any UAP, seen in UKADR, are incursions by air-objects of any intelligent (extra-terrestrial or foreign) origin, or that they represent any hostile intent... Attempts by other nations to intercept the unexplained objects, which can clearly change position faster than an aircraft, have reportedly already caused fatalities. However, there is no indication that deliberate UAP chasing has caused this in the UKADR.

The report recommended, however, that “No attempt should be made to out-manoeuvre a UAP during interception... pilots should be advised not to manoeuvre, other than to place the object astern if possible.” The report also went into some detail about the effects on humans.

DI55 kept an open mind:

In order to take an unbiased approach the possibility of some sort of exotic vehicle, either terrestrial or from space could not be ruled out until all available evidence had been examined. While it is clear that there are no artefacts on which any hands-on technical assessment can be made the possibility of technologies beyond the scope of human engineering and conception could not initially be ruled out. Even if it were discovered that such craft actually exist and were the product of other intelligent beings, any attempt to reproduce the exceptional performance achievements attributed to UAP could only be attempted using existing technology. The effects observed visually, on radar or through the apparent radiating field from UAP might be advantageous, for example as a countermeasure or decoy... any attempt at the description of possible or probable technologies to construct a vehicle would be at the limits of current human understanding and involve technologies which may appear (one day) to be possible.

Source: UAP in the UK Air Defence Region Vol. 3, UK National Archives

THREAD 3

The Soviet Union and Russian Federation had their own experiences with UFOs. Most startling for the Soviets, according to researcher Robert Hastings, an expert on the relationship between UFOs and nukes, was the Byelokoroviche incident, in which

a disc-shaped UFO apparently hovered over a nuclear missile base for an extended period. At one point during the encounter, a number of nuclear missiles suddenly activated—without authorization from Moscow or any action being taken by the missile launch officers—and were preparing to launch!

Had they done so, World War III would have very probably been underway. Fortunately, after 15 seconds, the anomalous activation ceased and the missiles returned to stand-by status. A subsequent investigation by the Soviet government discovered no equipment malfunctions that would have explained the event.

Source: Robert Hastings, "Recent Russian Newspaper Article Discusses UFO Incidents at Soviet and American Nuclear Weapons Sites," National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 2011

It is evident that the Americans were not the only ones losing control over their nukes due to incursions by UFOs over highly sensitive launch sites. The Soviets also lost aircraft, according to Britain's DI55 and pilots considered UFOs "a definite threat."

8. **Former Soviet Union Aircraft Incidents** Sokolov reported: "We had 40 cases where pilots encountered UFOs. Initially they were commanded to chase, then shoot. When our pilots would engage the UFO it would speed-up, our aircraft would give chase, lose control and crash. That happened 3 times and twice the pilots died. After that the pilots we told to observe and change course and get out." "The pilots viewed UFOs as a definite threat". Sokolov says "the military were interested in UFOs including the belief that if the secrets of the UFO could be described they would be able to win the competition against prospective enemies by incorporating the technology". The incidence of 'Foo Fighters' or 'BOLS' (i.e. BOLIDES) is perhaps higher than reported. In Russia, airline crews, it has been suggested, are reluctant to call passenger's attention to these as it is bad for business! (U)

Source: DI55: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region—Russian Aircrew Losses, UK National Archives

Dr. Hal Puthoff referenced Soviet "Thread 3" research, which a respected UFO researcher has also commented on. In his lecture on the DoD UAP program, Puthoff said:

This is a document in the program we dug up out of the Soviet Union [Thread-3]. It's a very thick document. It shows that the Soviet Union had a massive program also trying to get to the root of all of this. In this document a number of research institutes and military institutes are listed. Of course, they had the same concerns we did. Is there a threat from the phenomena or might the Americans make headway before us and that be a threat?



Source: IRVA-SSE 2018 – The Department of Defence UAP Program; YouTube video

The UK's DI55 report noted: “There is evidence from openly-published scientific papers, that scientists in the former Soviet Union have taken a particular interest in UFO Phenomena...and are pursuing related techniques for potential military purposes. For example, very high power energy generation, RF weapons, Impulse Radars, air vehicle drag and radar signature reduction or control, and possibly for radar reflecting decoys.” DI55 quotes a Russian source as saying: “The military were interested in UFOs including the belief that if the secrets of the UFO could be described they would be able to win the competition against prospective enemies by incorporating the technology.”

Sarfatti told the author:

There is no defense against T³ weapons with conventional technology and I am quite sure that Vladimir Putin has been aware of this for about five years or more while our guys scratch their balls. The US Navy Close Encounters with Tic-Tac and anomalies at Skinwalker Ranch are now qualitatively understood by me and a few others, and among other things are a greater military threat than nuclear weapons in the wrong hands because control of space and time itself on a local scale is a weapons

technology for which there is no defense with conventional military weapons systems. Vladimir Putin is allegedly aware of me and this reality I was told by two Russians who track my work... US Space Force is dead in the water without this technology if Russia or China get it first...Putin's physicists know better, I strongly suspect, and they are laughing at us.

Ominously, he divulged in response to a question by the author on how many American/Western adversary scientists follow his work: "Approximately 300 Iranians on LinkedIn... tracking my Tic-Tac weapons-related physics...I have 6,000 contacts on LinkedIn - no time to filter them. I don't know off hand how many Russians and Chinese - fewer than Iranians it seems." The author has examined some of the Iranian contacts, who turned out to be scientists at regime-linked research universities and Iran's space program.

Col. John Alexander is unconvinced that Russia, China, or anyone else already has this tech or will develop it any time soon. This belief is likely based on his years of experience at the Pentagon, high-level contacts, and Davis/Puthoff Green peer group.

SHOOT THEM DOWN?

The author asked Dr. Sarfatti if a Tic-Tac with its surrounding field would be susceptible to directed energy weapons like lasers, EMP devices, air to air missiles, railguns, or nuclear warheads detonated in proximity. He replied, "Perhaps not if the surrounding warp field is strong enough. This is a topic for research. A white hole artificial event horizon generated by the metamaterial prevents anything from entering no matter how powerful the rocket engine."

The author then asked: "Some cases suggest that radar and infrared homing air to air and ground to air missiles are not guaranteed to bring down a craft exhibiting Tic-Tac characteristics. For air to air missiles, the 1976 Tehran episode is a prime example. Cannons like 23mm Gatling type have also been shown to do nothing to UFOs...UFOs very often cause weapon systems on fighter aircraft to fail and avionics... and have effects on ground vehicles and other machinery with electrical circuits. Is this a result only of the field surrounding them, or do you

think they could have some advanced electronic warfare and electronic counter-measures that beat anything terrestrial powers have?”

Sarfatti: “EMP [from Tic-Tac] with low power metric engineering should not be difficult. Again, these are all problems for research.”

Despite unsubstantiated claims of multiple UFOs (up to nine by one count) being brought down by “electromagnetic pulse weapons,” Alexander told the *Huffington Post* in December 2017, “No chance! Zero chance! In the 1980s, I was the guy developing all of the pulse-power weapons systems. We couldn’t have done it then. In the 60s, they had a laser system, but your range was extremely limited, and we didn’t have operational laser weapons in that time frame.”

Alexander expanded to the author:

Would put zero credibility on anything he [the former USAF pilot in the *Huffington Post* article] said. The concept is not new. Corso [Colonel Phillip] claimed that our radar systems of the early 1960s could bring down UFOs. In fact, he told us that in a face-to-face encounter with ET at WSMR [White Sands Missile Range], he had to request the radars be turned off so ET could zip off.

From a straight engineering perspective that doesn’t make sense. If one believes these are ET craft that must transit the galaxy, they would have engineering capable of withstanding a wide variety of radiation threats. Anything we could throw up would be minuscule compared to what they would have encountered getting here. As [the *Huffington Post* article] mentioned, in my last assignment [at the Pentagon]... I had access to all of the tactical DE [directed energy] programs of the Army. The DE, especially HPM [high-power microwave], concepts have taken on mythical proportions—and mostly BS. Even by the late 1980s nothing under development would be a threat to such advanced technology. Chickenpox [as a weapon against ET] may work in a movie script, but there are no extensive vulnerabilities ET would not have remedied.

In his book, Alexander elaborates:

The contention that there were so many possible UFO crashes is puzzling... It appears that ET must have a quality control problem. According to the proponents of these crashed UFO theories, there is an alien civilization, possibly several, which has developed the technology to traverse the universe, visit Earth on demand, and yet they keep falling down. Since some people believe that the Roswell incident happened when two UFOs ran into each other, and UFOs reportedly have hit aircraft on more than one occasion, it would mean that ET has not perfected their collision avoidance systems either. For civilizations that are ostensibly at least a thousand years in advance of our own, it seems surprising that some of their subsystems are not even on par with the current aircraft and automotive technologies of us Earthlings.

Source: John B. Alexander, *UFOs: Myths, Conspiracies, and Realities*, Thomas Dunne Books, St. Martin's Griffin ed. edition, 2011

Another issue would be crash damage, as an email to Jack Sarfatti suggests: "***** seems to agree with you on that point. I asked him how dangerous he thought an Alcubierre style warp drive could be and he seemed to think that in some conditions, a spacecraft could crash without causing a lot of damage, but depending on what you were doing with the spacetime warping, he seemed to think that it could be extremely dangerous."

NON-HUMAN ENTITIES

Who or what are they, where do they come from, and what do they want? These questions are complicated, as there are likely more than one type of Non-Human Entity (NHEs), given the variety of types of craft and occupants reported. Many books have been written on this topic and the answers are known to nobody, or only a very few inside certain US unacknowledged special access programs (USAPS), or black projects of other powers. It is very unlikely that they have all the answers either, as will become apparent below.

Solely based on narrow observation of terrestrial science within our current understanding, NHEs could be biological, biological cloned, synthetic-artificial, or a combination of technology and biology. In his April 2019 interview, Dr. Davis says: “We do know one thing. We know they’re there. We don’t know their origin because they don’t want to communicate that to us.”

Col. Alexander says: “As for the ETH [extraterrestrial hypothesis], I’m not a fan as you know. IMO it is just too simple an explanation. That does not mean there are not real encounters with entities of some sort. My point is that there have been reports of encounters between humans and sentient non-human entities throughout the entirety of human history and in almost all cultures. That they arrive in little tin cans (UFOs) is a relatively new aspect.”

One 1960s biologist and cryptozoologist had ideas about what these uninvited visitors might be and where they come from. David Marler’s excellent work on Triangle UFOs, forwarded by Col. Alexander, concludes: “These are craft of unknown origin. We appear to be confronted with something other than human technology, therefore the implications are profound. The objects may be spatial, temporal, or dimensional in origin.” What is clear is that the first triangles were seen in the early 1890s, which is before the Wright brothers, before the USAF, and before Lockheed Skunk Works, home of exotic and revolutionary platforms like Stealth.

Elizondo says: “AATIP had the required clearances regarding the origin, the issue was no one actually knew the answer. And... let’s not confuse the term ‘extraterrestrial’ with ‘interdimensional,’ ‘superterrestrial,’ or ‘ultraterrestrial’ [*sic*] ...lots of other options than simply ‘them aliens out there’.”

Alexander talks in his book about “precognitive sentient phenomena” (PSP) at Skinwalker Ranch—a kind of poltergeist on steroids—that he was researching alone at night for John Bigelow’s NIDS organization. The mission was to explore UFO sightings on a ranch that “has been a focal point for a wide range of phenomena for at least decades, possibly centuries.” Relating a daylight cattle mutilation incident that

occurred within 300 meters and in the direct line of sight of a rancher, he surmises: “As inconceivable as it seems, the best explanation was that the mutilation actually took place at another location and the body returned. Only two alternatives allow for that scenario: an invisible UFO or interdimensional interaction, and both exceed our understanding. This is a case in which PSP proved to be completely in charge, and absolutely malicious.”

Alexander told the author:

As for the PSP, I’d guess the options are limitless. It was clear at the ranch that the “it” was in control. Brandon [Brandon Fugal, the ranch owner] sees that as potentially dangerous as was evident in the Skinwalker Ranch series. According to him, Tom, the ranch foreman, was seriously attacked. Also, from a UFO perspective, there have been several injuries. The Brazilian case with UFOs zapping people on the island is probably best known example. The concept of the Trickster again is near universal and appears in many myths. I argue we need to look at the panoply of observations, then step back and do macro-pattern analysis.

Your question about spatial, temporal, or dimensional in origin, the answer is both yes and I don’t know. All of the above are possible. IMO there does appear to be a consciousness component. However, that does not mean that some interactions don’t take place in physical reality as we know it. Remember, at the end in my UFO book I indicate that the topic is terribly complex and possibly beyond our (human) capability to imagine. Given the minuscule resources used to research the topics, I don’t expect any breakthroughs soon. BTW I do think we should try.

As for the structure of observed UFOs, that is problematic. We have from little balls of light to hard craft miles in diameter. Then there are thousands of variations in between. IMO it is the variety of observation that is problematic (and argues against the ETH)...I am not familiar with the incidents you mentioned about malevolent NHEs but will look it up. The notion of “remotely induced heart attack” is reminiscent of research in

Soviet use of parapsychology in which KGB defector Kokolov reported such experiments.

Dr. Sarfatti believes T³ derives from future humans: “We are talking time travel to the past, instant travel to moon, Mars, stars.” He is joined here by Dr. Michael P. Masters, a professor of Biological Anthropology with specializations in hominid evolutionary anatomy, modern human variation, archaeology, and biomedicine. In *Identified Flying Objects*, he theorizes that

these aliens—rather than being from a different planet in a distant solar system—may simply be us, from a different time in the distant future.

As I worked toward becoming a professor of biological anthropology...it became increasingly evident that if these “aliens” are in fact real, then they must be part of the hominid lineage, and clearly toward the future end of our current position along the fourth dimension of space time. Additionally, in the same way that we have come to understand the current human condition by examining the morphology and culture of our hominid ancestors, it seemed reasonable that these “aliens of time” may also be working to probe their own evolutionary past, by dint of the much more sophisticated anthropological tool of time travel.

Source: Dr. Michael P. Masters, *Identified Flying Objects: A Multidisciplinary Scientific Approach to the UFO Phenomenon*, Amazon

He calls these travelers “*extratemporal*.”

As for the intentions and objectives of NHEs, if we knew who or what they were, speculation on these could take up a lengthy paper.

Information Requirements

What we are being told, or not being told, by the US Government (USG) and major allies is the subject of wide debate. The author will necessarily restrict comments to what has been presented here. If people working for USG are saying UFOs are real and that they

have conducted retrievals of “off-world” vehicles not made on this earth, then there are a lot of questions to be asked, including (but not limited to) the following: How long has USG had these vehicles? When and where and how did they acquire them? How did the vehicles crash? Where does this leave crash retrieval cases as documented by researchers? Where did these vehicles come from? What was in them? Were any NHEs recovered, and if so, were they alive or dead? Is there ongoing communication with NHEs on earth or elsewhere? Why have UFOs and retrievals been kept from the public, for how long, how, and by whom? What are the full political, economic, technological, and geostrategic implications of the recovered technologies? How much success has there been in understanding these technologies? What else is being covered up? What does the historical UFO presence indicate about the intentions of the intelligence(s) behind them?

An important question, not least for families and comrades of those affected, is how many UFO intercepts have been attempted and what were the losses in crew and aircraft? Were losses the result of deliberate aggression by UFOs or humans, accidental, or the result of interaction with them? Frank C. Feschino’s *Shoot Them Down! The Flying Saucer Air Wars Of 1952* examines the disappearances of large numbers of USAF aircraft and pilots in UFO intercepts. Richard Dolan’s scholarly two-part tome on *UFOs and the National Security State* examines secretive official preoccupations with UFOs and their concealment from the public. In the Nimitz case, witnesses have described what could best be described as a cover-up.

The aforementioned interview with the NYT journalists elicited this: “[E]ven if there are crashes that have been reverse engineered, our sense is that they have not made a lot of progress with that reverse engineering, and I don’t think anybody knows that much about where these craft are from, or all the questions everybody has a desire to understand,” although this assessment is open to question.

Another important question is who is actually running these projects, how they are funded and what illegal acts may have taken place. Are private sector companies running unsupervised black projects? A fascinating case here is the “Wilson Document,” named for Admiral

Thomas Wilson, a career intelligence officer, who was serving as Vice Director for Intelligence to the Joint Chiefs of Staff when the alleged events unfolded. Dr. Eric Davis figures prominently in the story. The affair has all the necessary key words and phrases: intelligence, “unacknowledged special access program [USAP],” aliens, crashes, “aerospace technology contractor.” The words allegedly uttered by Wilson, and reminiscent of the recent NYT article, are: “technology that was not of this Earth—not made by man—not by human hands.”

The author believes it quite possible the affair is true—or elements thereof—based on his knowledge of the researchers involved, including Richard Dolan (who claims to be protecting his source and is thus unable to definitively prove his theory) and long-time intelligence insider Dr. Robert McGuire as well as Dr. Davis, whose statements were already presented. However, their comments do not constitute iron-clad evidence in this particular case; nor does an intriguing five-hour discourse by an anonymous *X-Files* character, however cleverly the supposed dots are connected. Proof requires an indisputably genuine document, recording, or verifiable insider going on the record. Anything else is supposition and theory. Not all researchers believe the document is genuine, but the case is certainly worthy of further investigation.

A very simple system is available to grade sources and information, and ufology would benefit greatly from its application. Source reliability is graded from A (completely reliable) to F (cannot be judged). Information is graded from 1 (confirmed by other sources) to 5 (cannot be judged). If a source chooses to remain anonymous, then neither the source nor the information he or she provides can be assessed in public, so any claim based on either remains theory or supposition. Stating that one knows someone who says X, Y, or Z is not proof.

If the Wilson Document proves authentic and there is a USAP or USAPs studying non-human tech run by private enterprise and outside the purview of senior USG officials and lawmakers, the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the UAPTF will have to identify them, and lawmakers may need to subpoena them. If there has been analysis of craft and occupants for decades and perhaps even interactions with NHEs and/or the civilizations they come from, then any hitherto secret programs would be the place to start the investigation.

DISCLOSURE

Those hiding behind anonymity, with nothing to lose, who call on TTSA members to go on the record about everything they know, risking jail and loss of security clearances and effectively ending lifelong careers based around phenomenology, demonstrate wishful thinking about the classified world and those who keep its secrets. Not everyone is an Edward Snowden. With that said, this does chime with a popular theory that TTSA is a disinformation/deception operation on behalf of some nefarious agency and/or the “gatekeepers” of UFO secrecy.

If true, then it is curious that former AATIP director Elizondo has publicly addressed the conspiracy issue and his own part in it on Twitter:

Disinformation never stands the test of time... This movie [The Phenomenon] reinforces the obvious coverup that I was privy to... and you all were victim... BTW, there is A LOT more than just those videos and photos! I am confident as time progresses more will follow... the truth? now what? imagine being the guy who has all the secrets only to find out later that you really don't? and neither does your boss!... now consider the fact that Chris [Mellon] had the job of “knowing all the secrets”, but this is one secret he wouldn't be allowed to know. Is this illegal? is this unethical? is this rogue?... But... he... [Mellon] seriously decided to pursue the truth doggedly. Until... he found the office he was looking for. Imagine the frustration and anger he must have felt after realizing there was, indeed, a UFO office in the Pentagon?... Chris tried for many years in vain only to run into dead ends. But...persistence paid off, and he finally found what he was looking for. This is probably why he is so motivated to tell people the truth; he was a victim himself at one time...Chris M... is part of disclosure, not the coverup. He has put on the line EVERYTHING, including reputation... either way, the information was suppressed... I still feel those parties are part of the coverup... and maybe one day history [sic] will judge me as having some responsibility of that same coverup. Maybe I could have come out sooner? maybe I could have said more? the list of possibilities is endless...

Source: Twitter, @LueElizondo

Chris Mellon tweeted: “Senator Reid is absolutely correct [going on the record in the documentary *The Phenomenon*], the government has much more information on the #UAP phenomenon than it has shared. The challenge is identifying data that can be shared without compromising capabilities relied upon by our policymakers and military.”

In *The Phenomenon*, Reid declares: “Why the federal government all these years has covered up, put brake pads on everything, stopped it, I think it’s very, very bad for our country.” Director James Fox asks: “Are you saying that there’s some evidence that still hasn’t seen the light of day?” Reid replies: “I’m saying most of it hasn’t seen the light of day.”

Dr. Davis comments:

All this nonsense about planned disclosure or confirmation, that’s all conspiracy theory nonsense and its one of the first order hypotheses...when people are uninformed about what’s going on. The [USG] is such a big and complex organization, multiple organizations I should say. Parts of it are secret, other parts are not secret...and even the parts that are secret don’t talk among themselves...because of compartmentalization... so there is no coordinated anything...as the [USG] is not that coordinated... there is no such thing as a coordinated or uncoordinated, or planned, or unplanned disclosure. That’s all been a salesman’s pitch that was invented by a lot of the more vocal, high profile celebrities in ufology; that’s how they sell their books, that’s how they sell tickets to their special events and that’s how UFO conferences sell tickets.

Source: YouTube

USG disclosure of the full extent of knowledge about UFOs, while desirable for some, may not necessarily be in the national interest. In the event that it were all to come out, how does USG protect tech advances, platforms and capabilities, communications with NHEs, possible current and past illegal activities, other programs that might be running or ran historically—all in such a way as to not compromise America?

Certainly, any secret program should be under the purview of elected law-makers and potential illegal activities accounted for; but this is a far cry from total exposure to the entire world of America's innermost secrets. No sane mind in the defense and intelligence worlds will want a Snowden-Assange-Manning-style meltdown on a cosmic scale that would give advantages to the West's enemies. But this consideration is hard to comprehend (or irrelevant) for those who don't manage national security threats, those with agendas, and all those lacking critical thinking and reasoning skills. In any case, the most interesting reporting by the UAPTF will be in a classified annex where sources, methods, capabilities, and platforms are concerned.

Dr. Davis says of Special Access Programs: "They are extremely costly to maintain, let me tell you this, the cost to maintain information, personnel and physical security for a Special Access Program can be tens of times larger than the cost of the program itself. The purpose of a Black Program with a Special Access Program security wrap is that you've got to limit the information and exposure to the information to as few people as possible in order to produce the maximum security protection against espionage by the enemy."

A POST-QUANTUM REVOLUTION IN MILITARY AFFAIRS

Highest security measures would appear eminently sensible, for whoever deploys T³ first gains undisputed global and regional dominance against any terrestrial adversaries or combinations thereof. Dr. Sarfatti says: "Right now, we are in a war situation. Like the Manhattan Project. This is a real arms race, [and] whoever gets T³ first wins the war. A fleet of metric engineered super Tic-Tacs would change the military balance of power decisively. But who will get them first? There is strong evidence that such a vehicle is of emerging interest to competing blocs (the US, Europe, China, and Russia)—both for its revolutionary 'clean/green energy' and transportation values and its potential for defense military applications."

The DoD's latest report to Congress on "Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China" makes this assessment:

The People's Republic of China's strategy aims to achieve 'the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation' by 2049...a determined pursuit of political and social modernity that includes far-ranging efforts to expand China's national power... and revise the international order...The Chinese Communist Party's leadership has long viewed China as embroiled in a major international strategic competition with other states...in particular, the United States.

China's leaders stress the imperative of meeting key military transformation markers set in 2020 and 2035. These milestones seek to align the PLA's transformation with China's overall national modernization so that by the end of 2049, China will field a "world-class" military... it is likely that China will aim to develop a military by mid-century that is equal to—or in some cases superior to—the US military, or that of any other great power that China views as a threat to its sovereignty, security, and development interests.

Source: "Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China," Annual Report to Congress, US Department of Defense, 2020

The DIA's 38 scientific reports extrapolating engineering-physics to 2050 make even more sense with reference to China, in that the US military must stay ahead of terrestrial foes while trying to counter off-world threats. Former senator Reid, one of the prime movers for establishment of AATIP, said of the program in a 2009 letter to the then DEPSECDEF: "Ultimately, the results of AATIP will not only benefit the US Government, but I believe will directly benefit the DoD in ways not yet imagined. The technological insight and capability gained will provide the U.S with a distinct advantage over any foreign threats and allow the US to maintain its preeminence as a world leader."

Beijing will (in the author's opinion) likely have the same objectives. Given China's interest in stealing US technology and supplanting US military and economic dominance, any American T³ research into platforms that Mellon describes as having "dominant battlespace awareness" and the observables will be irresistible. The Chinese will be following the work of Davis and the UAPTF and have seemingly

already approached Jack Sarfatti, and DI55 noted their interest in UAP two decades ago.

Col. Alexander is unconvinced, however, that the Pentagon will take UAPTF findings seriously. He told the author that he wrote to DEPSECDEF in August, offering “to tell them [UAPTF] what we did over three decades ago... I’ll guess this is not a front-burner issue for them.” In September he wrote: “It has now been long enough to say that there has been no response to my DEPSECDEF UAP/UFO letter. Could mean several things. Most likely is they really don’t care about the topic and will do as little as possible to meet minimum Congressional requirements.”

He continues: “IMHO, it is because it is not important to them. Does not cross the threshold of importance compared to real threats. Remember, [US military] have been at war for two decades. As far as high tech is concerned, look at what has advanced. F-35 is certainly not antigravity. Have seen robotics, flying, crawling and swimming but nothing that suggests a leap. Micro-everything and unfortunately better prosthetics. The question I always ask is “Compared to what?” Funding is zero-sum game and you run out of money long before you run out of important things to fund.”

In another email he says: “In both white and black world there is intense competition for resources (money). There are some places where big bucks can be found and oversight not as good as it could be. But, none have unlimited resources as ***** claims. Black world competition is just as fierce as white.”

UFOs AND DEMONS

Whether the U.S. can translate what it currently knows about UAP into a decisive advantage, may be affected not only by technological hurdles and foreign espionage, but by entrenched interests inside the intelligence community, known to some as “*The Collins Elite*.” Dr. Davis observes: “And the problem is...very biased closed minds where the UFO subject is concerned, especially if you’ve got military and civilian leadership that have been raised and educated as evangelical Christians or other religious cults...where they object to UFOs as being satanic.”

Chris Mellon says: “It would be tragic and ironic if we found out that some of these things were Russian or Chinese and we hadn’t been investigating because someone thought they were demons. That’s just not an appropriate mindset in this context.” Col. Alexander told the author: “I would hope that additional information be released about sightings by USG organizations. Understand that there are legitimate security concerns regarding the operational parameters of the sensor systems or the platforms. Unfortunately, I suspect a lot has to do with embarrassment at not being able to explain the observations. That is further complicated by religious opinions (work of the devil) etc. Both are real problems.”

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- No. 173 The Coronavirus Pandemic: Getting Back to Normal While Controlling the Disease, *Maxi Blum*, April 2020 (Hebrew)
- No. 174 Coronavirus, China, and the Middle East, *Mordechai Chaziza*, June 2020
- No. 175 The Trump Peace Plan: Aiming Not to Make a Deal but to Make a Deal Possible, *Douglas J. Feith and Lewis Libby*, June 2020
- No. 176 The COVID-19- Crisis: Impact and Implications, *Editor: Efraim Karsh*, July 2020
- No. 177 Palestinian Activists at Human Rights Watch, *Gerald M. Steinberg and Maayan Rockland*, July 2020
- No. 178 Israel Versus Anyone: A Military Net Assessment of the Middle East, *Kenneth S. Brower*, August 2020
- No. 179 The EU and Israel as Genuine Strategic Partners, *Florin Pasatoiu and Christian Nitoiu*, August 2020
- No. 180 The Israel-UAE Peace: A Preliminary Assessment, *Editor: Efraim Karsh*, September 2020
- No. 181 The American Public and Israel in the Twenty-First Century, *Eytan Gilboa*, October 2020
- No. 182 Iran Behind the Scenes During the Second Israel-Lebanon War, *Raphael Ofek and Pesach Malovany*, October 2020
- No. 183 The Pentagon’s UAP Task Force, *Franc Milburn*, November 2020

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Sent: August 5, 2021 9:17 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sirs, as per our past conversations and assignment to Special Projects. (b)(7)(E) articles in (b)(7)(E). In addition, I have nearly completed a 20 page issue paper regarding the subject and outlined reporting and training requirements as well. I have also begun working on training material in the form of PPTs and (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) has the exercise I created while in the A2C2 that can be used for UAP.

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Feel free to browse the folder and read or watch the various items contained within.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) I'm not sure I will have time to complete the rest of the projects I had in mind regarding the phenomenon.

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V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 10:28 AM (UTC-04:00)

For the completion of my work.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021, 07:26
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

Thank you Sir, I will generate an After Action Report once the SCU investigation is complete and forward it on to the appropriate stakeholders with the issue paper.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

Thank you Sir!

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More importantly, thank you for your commitment and support to the A2C2. As a senior medic in the USBP, your contributions provided immediate and long-lasting value to our emergency response/search & rescue coordination.

Best,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Special Projects UAP

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V/R

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520-(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 16, 2021 12:10 PM (UTC-04:00)

Sir,

As a pet project, or for fun, do all the research you want. I know the topic is of great interest to you and there's a ton of information to sift through. If you want to dabble in your spare time at work, feel free.

There just isn't an avenue for any formal research or reporting any type of findings or conclusions. It falls outside our purview. Thanks.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Office
520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 6:13 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir...I will abide by the policy and forward the appropriate (Research)information through my chain of command .

V/R

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon sir,

I will not be able to issue a laptop or a tablet to you at this time. I am not able to authorize telework during your (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) I am also going to caution you about labeling research work as sensitive without direct, express authorization or the appropriate clearance to do so. Please be aware that the sharing of sensitive information or recorded media outside of DHS/CBP without written authorization is strictly prohibited by policy.

Additionally, please refrain from emailing (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) A2C2 Directors (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) or (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) . Please observe chain of command unless you are responding to a direct tasking. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) or I will route communications to (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and he will make the determination of what is forwarded to A2C2.

Let me know if you have any questions regarding this email. Thanks.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Office

520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:22 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP

For your SA. Maybe it would be possible for me to continue my work at home due to its sensitive nature. The only thing I would request would be a laptop or tablet.

V/R

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
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(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Special Projects UAP

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V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
52 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Paper
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: September 10, 2021 1:06 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

Test

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: DoD Navy Memo UAP
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov
Sent: August 5, 2021 4:12 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Screenshot_20210626-023943_Instagram.jpg

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. If you feel this is a suspicious-looking email, please report by using the Report Phish button option.

Logged for future reference

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Safer Skies through education
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: March 26, 2021 2:28 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact the [CBP Security Operations Center](#) with questions or concerns.

Paper

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 9:35 AM (UTC-04:00)

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Best,

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
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V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520-

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Date:

Sun Jun 06 2021 16:20:32 EDT

To:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)@cox.net (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)@cox.net>

Cc:

Blank

Bcc:

Blank

Subject:

Safer Skies through Education

Attachments:

Here you go

From:
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: October 3, 2021 5:25 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625.pdf

T4...I apologize, and took The Director of National Intelligence's UAP report seriously about reporting requirements.

V/R

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD
520 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:10 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

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(A)SOS (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520- (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Office
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Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 6:13 AM
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Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
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DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
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520: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

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From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
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V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: UAP activity
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: March 31, 2021 12:03 PM (UTC-04:00)

Sir....Here is more recent activity reported.

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39913/multiple-destroyers-were-swarmed-by-mysterious-drones-off-california-over-numerous-nights>

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Special Operations Detachment
Flight Tasked Mobile Response Team
520: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: UAP Program
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 10:47 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 12:31:19 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: UAP Program

Sir....I have attached a paper for consideration on the topic. It is a rough draft.

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Special Operations Detachment
Flight Tasked Mobile Response Team
520: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: UAP paper
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cox.net
Sent: June 6, 2021 4:21 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

From:
Subject: UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: April 9, 2021 6:55 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

Interesting information

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39913/multiple-destroyers-were-swarmed-by-mysterious-drones-off-california-over-numerous-nights>

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Special Operations Detachment
Flight Tasked Mobile Response Team
520; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 16, 2021 12:10 PM (UTC-04:00)

Sir,

As a pet project, or for fun, do all the research you want. I know the topic is of great interest to you and there's a ton of information to sift through. If you want to dabble in your spare time at work, feel free.

There just isn't an avenue for any formal research or reporting any type of findings or conclusions. It falls outside our purview. Thanks.

(A)SOS (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Office
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 6:13 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir...I will abide by the policy and forward the appropriate (Research)information through my chain of command .

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon sir,

I will not be able to issue a laptop or a tablet to you at this time. I am not able to authorize telework during your (b)(6); (b)(7)(C). I am also going to caution you about labeling research work as sensitive without direct, express authorization or the appropriate clearance to do so. Please be aware that the sharing of sensitive information or recorded media outside of DHS/CBP without written authorization is strictly prohibited by policy.

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Let me know if you have any questions regarding this email. Thanks.

(A)SOS (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
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TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Office

520- (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:22 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP

For your SA. Maybe it would be possible for me to continue my work at home due to its sensitive nature. The only thing I would request would be a laptop or tablet.

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520- (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

Thank you Sir!

I appreciate the level of thought and effort you put into this. Please continue to share any future insights with A2C2 (A) Dir. (b)(6); (b)(7)(C).

More importantly, thank you for your commitment and support to the A2C2. As a senior medic in the USBP, your contributions provided immediate and long-lasting value to our emergency response/search & rescue coordination.

Best,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202) (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Special Projects UAP

Sirs, as per our past conversations and assignment to Special Projects. I have compiled reports, videos, and news articles in (b)(7)(E). In addition, I have nearly completed a 20 page issue paper regarding the subject and outlined reporting and training requirements as well. I have also begun working on training material in the form of PPTs and Mr. (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) has the exercise I created while in the A2C2 that can be used for UAP.

The Rubber Duck Video is being evaluated by the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) and I am awaiting their report to include in the issue paper. Please feel free to browse their credentials. They are also working with (b)(6); (b)(7)(C).

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C) and (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) former Defense Intelligence Officials.

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(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

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(b)(5),(b)(7)(E)

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In June of 2021 The director of National Intelligence came out with the UAP report and in that made it clear on the need for reporting requirements within all government entities.

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Thank you for allowing me this incredible opportunity in both the A2C2 and J3. I look forward to see how the program turns out in the future, what the Patrol changes, and the positive impact it may have on safety and security. Let me know what else I can do to assist.

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic

TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP

52 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Issue paper for Aviation Safety
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: September 13, 2021 12:56 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education-Issue Paper.docx

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: UAPs
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: April 9, 2021 6:57 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

Interesting information regarding the UAP subject.

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39913/multiple-destroyers-were-swarmed-by-mysterious-drones-off-california-over-numerous-nights>

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Special Operations Detachment
Flight Tasked Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 6, 2021 5:59 PM (UTC-04:00)

Good afternoon sir,

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DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
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Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

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(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Arizona Air Coordination Center

Tucson Sector

C: (202) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM

To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>

Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>

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(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic

TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP

520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 10:22 AM (UTC-04:00)

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Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
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Arizona Air Coordination Center
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C: (202) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
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(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 16, 2021 12:28 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625.pdf

T4...I apologize, and took The Director of National Intelligence's UAP report seriously about reporting requirements.

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

J3/SOD

520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:10 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

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Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
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Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
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520: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

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Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 6, 2021 5:59 PM (UTC-04:00)

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Let me know if you have any questions regarding this email. Thanks.

(A)SOS (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Office
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:22 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP

For your SA. Maybe it would be possible for me to continue my work at home due to its sensitive nature. The only thing I would request would be a laptop or tablet.

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

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(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Arizona Air Coordination Center

Tucson Sector

C: (202) (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) <@cbp.dhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM

To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) <@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) <@CBP.DHS.GOV>

Cc: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) <@CBP.DHS.GOV>

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(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

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V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic

TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP

520 **(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)**

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Sent: August 5, 2021 10:26 AM (UTC-04:00)

Thank you Sir, I will generate an After Action Report once the SCU investigation is complete and forward it on to the appropriate stakeholders with the issue paper.

V/R

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
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Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 10:28 AM (UTC-04:00)

For the completion of my work.

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520-(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021, 07:26
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(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

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520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 9:35 AM (UTC-04:00)

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V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520-(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 16, 2021 12:28 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625.pdf

T4...I apologize, and took The Director of National Intelligence's UAP report seriously about reporting requirements.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

J3/SOD

520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:10 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir,

As a pet project, or for fun, do all the research you want. I know the topic is of great interest to you and there's a ton of information to sift through. If you want to dabble in your spare time at work, feel free.

There just isn't an avenue for any formal research or reporting any type of findings or conclusions. It falls outside our purview. Thanks.

(A)SOE (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 6:13 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir...I will abide by the policy and forward the appropriate (Research)information through my chain of command .

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

J3/SOD/MRT

520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
Importance: High

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DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
52G (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
52G (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

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Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
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Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
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Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
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(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Date: Sun Jun 06 2021 16:20:32 EDT
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cox.net; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cox.net>
Cc: Blank
Bcc: Blank
Subject: Safer Skies through Education
Attachments:

Here you go

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 9:17 AM (UTC-04:00)

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V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: UAP Issue
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: March 26, 2021 5:46 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Safer Skies through Education.docx

Sir....Here is something you might be interested in. It lays out a possible path.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Special Operations Detachment
Flight Tasked Mobile Response Team
520-(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 16, 2021 9:13 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sir...I will abide by the policy and forward the appropriate (Research)information through my chain of command .

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon sir,

I will not be able to issue a laptop or a tablet to you at this time. I am not able to authorize telework during your (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) I am also going to caution you about labeling research work as sensitive without direct, express authorization or the appropriate clearance to do so. Please be aware that the sharing of sensitive information or recorded media outside of DHS/CBP without written authorization is strictly prohibited by policy.

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DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Office
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) G-Cell

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Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:22 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP

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V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM

To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
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More importantly, thank you for your commitment and support to the A2C2. As a senior medic in the USBP, your contributions provided immediate and long-lasting value to our emergency response/search & rescue coordination.

Best,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202); (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

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Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
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Subject: Special Projects UAP

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(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: August 5, 2021 10:26 AM (UTC-04:00)

Thank you Sir, I will generate an After Action Report once the SCU investigation is complete and forward it on to the appropriate stakeholders with the issue paper.

V/R

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
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520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

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Tucson Sector
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(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP

520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Document ID: (b)(7)(E)
From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP
Date: Thu Aug 05 2021 10:22:29 EDT
Attachments:

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(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
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Arizona Air Coordination Center

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(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Document ID: (b)(7)(E)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cox.net>

To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: DoD Navy Memo UAP

Date: Thu Aug 05 2021 16:11:34 EDT

Attachments: Screenshot_20210626-023943_Instagram.jpg

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. If you feel this is a suspicious-looking email, please report by using the Report Phish button option.

Logged for future reference

Document ID: (b)(7)(E)
Owner: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) @cox.net>
Filename: Screenshot_20210626-023943_Instagram.jpg
Last Modified: Thu Aug 05 16:11:34 EDT 2021



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

JUN 25 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Assessments

A recent report from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) highlights the current challenges associated with assessing Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) occurring on or near DoD training ranges and installations. It is critical that the United States maintain operations security and safety at DoD ranges. To this end, it is equally critical that all U.S. military aircrews or government personnel report whenever aircraft or other devices interfere with military training. This includes the observation and reporting of UAPs.

The report also confirmed that the scope of UAP activity expands significantly beyond the purview of the Secretary of the Navy, who heads the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF), and suggested process improvements to ensure timely collection of consistent data on UAP. Consistent with these recommendations and to improve partnership with the ODNI and other non-DoD organizations, I direct the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security to develop a plan to formalize the mission currently performed by the UAPTF. The plan should:

1. Establish procedures to synchronize collection, reporting and analysis on the UAP problem set, and to establish recommendations for securing military test and training ranges.
2. Identify requirements for the establishment and operation of the new activity, to include the organizational alignment, resources and staffing required, as well as any necessary authorities and a timeline for implementation.
3. Be developed in coordination with the Principal Staff Assistants, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretaries of the Military Departments, and the Commanders of the Combatant Commands and with the DNI and other relevant interagency partners.

All members of the Department will utilize these processes to ensure that the UAPTF, or its follow-on activity, has reports of UAP observations within two weeks of an occurrence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen H. Hicks".

(b)(5); (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5); (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5); (b)(7)(E)

NO VIDEO RECORDING

On 02/09/2021, while assigned to the Air Support Unit as a Tactical Flight Officer, I was working with [REDACTED] who was acting as Pilot in Command. We had just been cleared from a call when [REDACTED] advised me that a Custom's Air and Marine helicopter that had just taken off from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base had a near miss with an Unmanned Aircraft System just west of the base. We responded to the area to assist in attempting to locate the aircraft [REDACTED] (b)(7)(E)

(b)(7)(E)

(b)(7)(E)

I attempted to track it utilizing my night vision

goggles but I was not able to observe the lone position light that I had seen, even when looking at the correct position in space, also using goggles

I was not able to see the actual craft in order to try and get an estimate of its size.

(b)(7)(E)

(b)(7)(E)

I would provide updates on the location to

[REDACTED] who relayed it to air traffic control and the CBP helicopter. (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen H. Harris", is located at the bottom right of the page.

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

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(b)(5); (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5); (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ECEBCF4856324C708CBAD9337FB8FB09; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)]
Sent: 6/25/2021 10:30:14 PM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a49b07ea36c04a2eabeeae2bd5eb4147; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)]
CC: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4683ec8d73d84481afc50c221c54a42e; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)]
Subject: Fwd: (TUC)+(02/10/2021)+(Class H)+(AS350/H-125 - AIR)+(b)(7)(E)+(Near midair collision wit)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C) mentioned that you were interested in our SUAS near mid air incident back in February. Below is the safety report which was filed here in Tucson. Hope this finds you well. Be safe.

Regards,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

AIA
Safety Officer / Accident Investigator
Tucson Air Branch

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 3:05 PM

To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Cc: AMO SWR SAFETY REPORTS; AMO HQ SAFETY REPORTS

Subject: (TUC)+(02/10/2021)+(Class H)+(AS350/H-125 - AIR)+(b)(7)(E)+(Near midair collision wit)

Safety Report has been submitted to PM

Safety Date: Wed Feb 10 05:25:00 UTC 2021

SR#: (b)(7)(E)

TUCSON AIR BRANCH (TUC)

Title: TUC | 02/09/2021 | H | AS350/H-125 - AIR | (b)(7)(E) (TUC) | INCIDENT | Near midair collision with sUAS Quadcopter.

Mission#: (b)(7)(E)

Timezone: Mountain Standard Time

Event Type: INCIDENT

Class: H

Asset Type: AS350/H-125 - AIR

Tail/Fleet#: (b)(7)(E)

Event Category: NEAR MISS

Event SubCategory:

Causal Factor: OTHER

Injuries: N

Initial Narrative:

While departing KDMA via the (b)(7)(E) the crew of (b)(7)(E) had a near midair collision with a

sUAS quadcopter near Banner South Hospital at 3500ft MSL. The SAM observer was the first to see the sUAS pass across the nose within 30-50ft from right to left at the same altitude. The pilot was talking to ATC as the sUAS passed and requested a 180 degree turn to track the sUAS. ATC approved the request, and the crew tracked the sUAS to KDMA where it started a loiter pattern on the north side of the base. The sUAS appeared to be a quadcopter 3-5ft wide with a single green blinking green LED light on the bottom. Tucson (b)(7)(E) contacted Tucson PD helicopter Air-2 to assist in the tracking of the sUAS. Within 5-6 minutes Air-2 arrived on scene. The crew of (b)(7)(E) coordinated with Air-2 and continued to track the sUAS around KDMA. Within a few minutes it appeared that the sUAS operator became aware that the sUAS was being tracked and started a climb away from KDMA to the north east. Air-2 and (b)(7)(E) stayed with the sUAS in the climb to altitudes above 10,000ft MSL. The sUAS started to fly circles around Air-2 while the crew of (b)(7)(E) was trying to acquire the sUAS (b)(7)(E). The crew of (b)(7)(E) followed Air 2 approximately 1-1.5 miles behind them and continued the attempt to acquire the sUAS with the IR camera. The sUAS started to conduct evasive maneuvers in a attempt to break visual contact with Air-2 and (b)(7)(E). Both aircraft continued to track the sUAS as it turned northwest bound and departed Tucson Class C airspace near Marana Airport at 12000-13000ft MSL. The sUAS continued to climb to approximately (b)(7)(E) into the clouds above and (b)(7)(E) and (b)(7)(E) between Marana Airport and Silver Bell Mine. Air-2 then broke off and returned to KTUS. The crew of (b)(7)(E) descended to a lower altitude and conducted a search for a possible recovery crew within the area of the last visual sighting. The crew of (b)(7)(E) searched for approximately thirty minutes and was unable to find any personnel or vehicles parked in the area. No injuries were reported as a result of this incident.

Comments:

Nothing further to update. The airforce is considering their investigation secret and have not provided TAB with further info on their findings.



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-5100



JAN 16 2019

U-18-2148/FAC-2A1 (FOIA)

Mr. Steven Aftergood
Federation of American Scientists
1112 16th Street NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Aftergood:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated August 15, 2018, that you submitted to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) for information concerning *a copy of the list that was recently transmitted to Congress of all DIA products produced under the Advanced Aerospace Threat and Identification Program contract*. I apologize for the delay in responding to your request. DIA continues its efforts to eliminate the large backlog of pending FOIA requests.

A search of DIA's systems of records located (1) document (5 pages) responsive to your request. Upon review, I have determined that some portions of the document must be withheld in part from disclosure pursuant to the FOIA. The withheld portions are exempt from release pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6). Exemption 6 applies to information which if released would constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of other individuals.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you may contact the DIA FOIA Requester Service Center, as well as our FOIA Public Liaison at 301-394-5587.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. You may contact OGIS by email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770, toll free at 1-877-684-6448 or facsimile at 202-741-5769; or you may mail them at the following address:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001

You may also exercise your right to file an administrative appeal by writing to the address below and referring to case number 0239-2018. Your appeal must be postmarked no later than 90 days after the date of this letter.

Defense Intelligence Agency
7400 Pentagon
ATTN: FAC-2A1 (FOIA)
Washington, D.C. 20301-7400

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Jenkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "J".

Brian L. Jenkins
Chief, Records Management and Information Services

Enclosure



~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC 20340-2100



U-18-0001/OCC1

JAN 09 2018

The Honorable John McCain
Chairman
The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman McCain and Ranking Member Reed,

(U//FOUO) Based on interest from your staff regarding the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)'s role in the Advanced Aerospace Threat and Identification Program (AATIP) please find attached a list of all products produced under the AATIP contract for DIA to publish. The purpose of AATIP was to investigate foreign advanced aerospace weapon threats from the present out to the next 40 years.

(U//FOUO) There are 38 reports associated with DIA's involvement in the program documented in the list. All are UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY except for attachment 37 which is a SECRET//NOFORN version of attachment 38 *State of the Art and Evolution of High Energy Laser Weapons*. All are available for Congressional staff access on the Capitol Network (CapNet) except for attachments 12 and 15, respectively titled *Field Effects on Biological Tissues* and *An Introduction to the Statistical Drake Equation*. We are also happy to provide them directly upon request.

(U) Should you have any questions, please contact my Congressional Operations Lead, (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Sincerely,

Christine Kapnisi
Chief

DIA Congressional Relations Division

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

CC:

Majority Leader, US Senate

Speaker, US House of Representatives

Minority Leader, US Senate

Minority Leader, US House of Representatives

Majority Whip, US Senate

Minority Whip, US Senate

Majority Whip, US House of Representatives

Minority Whip, US House of Representatives

House Armed Services Committee

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

Subcommittee on Defense, Senate Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee on Defense, House Appropriations Committee

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

(U) List of Attachments

1. *Inertial Electrostatic Confinement Fusion*, Dr. George Miley, Univ. Of Illinois (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
2. *Advanced Nuclear Propulsion for Manned Deep Space Missions*, Dr. F. Winterberg, Univ. of Nevada – Reno (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
3. *Pulsed High-Power Microwave Technology*, Dr. James Wells, JW Enterprises (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
4. *Space Access*, Dr. P. Czysz, HyperTech (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
5. *Advanced Space Propulsion Based on Vacuum (Spacetime Metric) Engineering*, Dr. Hal Puthoff, EarthTech International (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
6. *BioSensors and BioMEMS*, Dr. Bruce Towe, Univ. of Arizona (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
7. *Invisibility Cloaking*, Dr. Ulf Leonhardt, Univ. of St. Andrews (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
8. *Traversable Wormholes, Stargates, and Negative Energy*, Dr. Eric Davis, EarthTech International (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
9. *High-Frequency Gravitational Wave Communications*, Dr. Robert Baker, GravWave (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
10. *Role of Superconductors in Gravity Research*, Dr. George Hathaway, Hathaway Consulting (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
11. *Antigravity for Aerospace Applications*, Dr. Eric Davis, EarthTech International (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
12. *Field Effects on Biological Tissues*, Dr. Kit Green, Wayne State Univ. (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
13. *Positron Aerospace Propulsion*, Dr. Gerald Smith, Positronics Research (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

14. *Concepts for Extracting Energy from the Quantum Vacuum*, Dr. Eric Davis, EarthTech International (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
15. *An Introduction to the Statistical Drake Equation*, Dr. Claudio Maccone, International Academy of Astronautics (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
16. *Maverick Inventor Versus Corporate Inventor*, Dr. George Hathaway, Hathaway Consulting (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
17. *Biomaterials*, Dr. Bruce Towe, Univ. of Arizona (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
18. *Metamaterials for Aerospace Applications*, Dr. G. Shvets, Univ. of Texas – Austin (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
19. *Warp Drive, Dark Energy, and the Manipulation of Extra Dimensions*, Dr. R. Obousy, Obousy Consultants (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
20. *Technological Approaches to Controlling External Devices in the Absence of Limb-Operated Interfaces*, Dr. R. Genik, Wayne State Univ. (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
21. *Materials for Advanced Aerospace Platforms*, Dr. J. Williams, Ohio State Univ. (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
22. *Metallic Glasses*, Dr. T. Hufnagel, John Hopkins Univ. (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
23. *Aerospace Applications of Programmable Matter*, Dr. W. McCarthy, Programmable Matter Corporation (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
24. *Metallic Spintronics*, Dr. M. Tsoi, Univ. of Texas - Austin (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
25. *Space-Communication Implications of Quantum Entanglement and Nonlocality*, Dr. J. Cramer, Univ. of Washington (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

26. *Aneutronic Fusion Propulsion I*, Dr. V. Teofilo, Lockheed Martin (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
27. *Cockpits in the Era of Breakthrough Flight*, Dr. G. Millis, Tau Zero (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
28. *Cognitive Limits on Simultaneous Control of Multiple Unmanned Spacecraft*, Dr. R. Genik, Wayne State Univ. (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
29. *Detection and High Resolution Tracking of Vehicles at Hypersonic Velocities*, Dr. W. Culbreth, Univ. of Nevada – Las Vegas (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
30. *Aneutronic Fusion Propulsion II*, Dr. W. Culbreth, Univ. Of Nevada – Las Vegas (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
31. *Laser Lightcraft Nanosatellites*, Dr. E. Davis, EarthTech International (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
32. *Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) Air Breathing Propulsion and Power for Aerospace Applications*, Dr. S. Macheret, Lockheed Martin (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
33. *Quantum Computing and Utilizing Organic Molecules in Automation Technology*, Dr. R. Genik, Wayne State Univ. (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
34. *Quantum Tomography of Negative Energy States in the Vacuum*, Dr. E. Davis, EarthTech International (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
35. *Ultracapacitors as Energy and Power Storage Devices*, Dr. J. Golightly, Lockheed Martin (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
36. *Negative Mass Propulsion*, Dr. F. Winterberg, Univ. of Nevada – Reno (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
37. *State of the Art and Evolution of High Energy Laser Weapons*, J. Albertine, Directed Technologies (Product is classified ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~)
38. *State of the Art and Evolution of High Energy Laser Weapons*, J. Albertine, Directed Technologies (Product is classified UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Special Projects UAP
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 10:24:21 AM
Attachments: [Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625.pdf](#)

Sir,

Please see the attached email communications dated Friday, 6 AUG 2021, and Monday, 16 AUG 2021 with retired Agent (b)(6),(b)(7)(C). Thanks.

(A)SOS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

T4...I apologize, and took The Director of National Intelligence's UAP report seriously about reporting requirements.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:10 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir,

As a pet project, or for fun, do all the research you want. I know the topic is of great interest to you and there's a ton of information to sift through. If you want to dabble in your spare time at work, feel free.

There just isn't an avenue for any formal research or reporting any type of findings or conclusions. It falls outside our purview. Thanks.

(A)SOS: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 6:13 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir...I will abide by the policy and forward the appropriate (Research)information through my chain of command .

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon sir,

I will not be able to issue a laptop or a tablet to you at this time. I am not able to authorize telework during your (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) I am also going to caution you about labeling research work as sensitive without direct, express authorization or the appropriate clearance to do so. Please be aware that the sharing of sensitive information or recorded media outside of DHS/CBP without written authorization is strictly prohibited by policy.

Additionally, please refrain from emailing (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) A2C2 Directors (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) or (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) . Please observe chain of command unless you are responding to a direct tasking. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) or I will route communications to (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) and he will make the determination of what is forwarded to A2C2.

Let me know if you have any questions regarding this email. Thanks.

(A)SOS: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:22 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP

For your SA. Maybe it would be possible for me to continue my work at home due to its sensitive nature. The only thing I would request would be a laptop or tablet.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

Thank you Sir!

I appreciate the level of thought and effort you put into this. Please continue to share any future insights with A2C2 (A) Dir (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

More importantly, thank you for your commitment and support to the A2C2. As a senior medic in the USBP, your contributions provided immediate and long-lasting value to our emergency response/search & rescue coordination.

Best,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov> (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>

Cc: [REDACTED]@CBP.DHS.GOV>

Subject: Special Projects UAP

Sirs, as per our past conversations and assignment to Special Projects. I have compiled reports, videos, and news articles in [REDACTED]. In addition, I have nearly completed a 20 page issue paper regarding the subject and outlined reporting and training requirements as well. I have also begun working on training material in the form of PPTs and Mr. [REDACTED] has the exercise I created while in the A2C2 that can be used for UAP.

The Rubber Duck Video is being evaluated by the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) and I am awaiting their report to include in the issue paper. Please feel free to browse their credentials. They are also working with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] former Defense Intelligence Officials.

Feel free to browse the folder and read or watch the various items contained within.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I'm not sure I will have time to complete the rest of the projects I had in mind regarding the phenomenon.

Please feel free to assign someone to continue this special project in my absence.

During this research and while conducting interviews, I found hundreds of Agents and dozens of pilots that have witnessed events including a large amount within SOD. Their stories are both credible and amazing. I'm confident you can find one if solicited for the position.

We need to gather this data, catalog it, and document its existence. The Department of Homeland Security could play a pivotal role in the possible early warning of in what former President Ronald Regan deemed "An outside Alien Threat." [REDACTED] especially since we have a significant Aviation role along the Southern Border.

In June of 2021 The director of National Intelligence came out with the UAP report and in that made it clear on the need for reporting requirements within all government entities.

I know the pilots over at TAB feel the same way and look forward to the ability to freely report what they see without ridicule as demonstrated by the February 2021 Event over Tucson. Many Border Patrol Agents also feel the same way, but unfortunately it's still very much taboo.

I know this subject is sensitive in nature and I have taken utmost care to not divulge sensitive or classified information to the SCU folks that pertain to our operational security. They have had me sign a NDA as well and will protect my identity until after I retire.

Thank you for allowing me this incredible opportunity in both the A2C2 and J3. I look forward to see how the program turns out in the future, what the Patrol changes, and the positive impact it may have on safety and security. Let me know what else I can do to assist.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic

TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP

520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: UAP in tucson Sector
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:43:00 AM

(A)SOS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:22 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: FW: UAP in tucson Sector

Assuming you guys have seen this but just in case you haven't...

v/r,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent
Arizona Air Coordination Center (A2C2)
Cell: 480 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 8:00 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>;
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: UAP in tucson Sector

<https://thedebrief.org/incursions-at-the-border-homeland-security-agents-tell-of-encounters-with-uap/>

Respectfully,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Research/Development & Innovation Coordinator
Arizona Air Coordination Center (A2C2)
Border Patrol Agent

(520) **(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)**

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)

UNCLASSIFIED



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

**Preliminary Assessment:
Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**

25 June 2021

UNCLASSIFIED

SCOPE AND ASSUMPTIONS

Scope

This preliminary report is provided by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) in response to the provision in Senate Report 116-233, accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act (IAA) for Fiscal Year 2021, that the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF), is to submit an intelligence assessment of the threat posed by unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) and the progress the Department of Defense Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) has made in understanding this threat.

This report provides an overview for policymakers of the challenges associated with characterizing the potential threat posed by UAP while also providing a means to develop relevant processes, policies, technologies, and training for the U.S. military and other U.S. Government (USG) personnel if and when they encounter UAP, so as to enhance the Intelligence Community's (IC) ability to understand the threat. The Director, UAPTF, is the accountable official for ensuring the timely collection and consolidation of data on UAP. The dataset described in this report is currently limited primarily to U.S. Government reporting of incidents occurring from November 2004 to March 2021. Data continues to be collected and analyzed.

ODNI prepared this report for the Congressional Intelligence and Armed Services Committees. UAPTF and the ODNI National Intelligence Manager for Aviation drafted this report, with input from USD(I&S), DIA, FBI, NRO, NGA, NSA, Air Force, Army, Navy, Navy/ONI, DARPA, FAA, NOAA, NGA, ODNI/NIM-Emerging and Disruptive Technology, ODNI/National Counterintelligence and Security Center, and ODNI/National Intelligence Council.

Assumptions

Various forms of sensors that register UAP generally operate correctly and capture enough real data to allow initial assessments, but some UAP may be attributable to sensor anomalies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The limited amount of high-quality reporting on unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) hampers our ability to draw firm conclusions about the nature or intent of UAP. The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) considered a range of information on UAP described in U.S. military and IC (Intelligence Community) reporting, but because the reporting lacked sufficient specificity, ultimately recognized that a unique, tailored reporting process was required to provide sufficient data for analysis of UAP events.

- As a result, the UAPTF concentrated its review on reports that occurred between 2004 and 2021, the majority of which are a result of this new tailored process to better capture UAP events through formalized reporting.
- Most of the UAP reported probably do represent physical objects given that a majority of UAP were registered across multiple sensors, to include radar, infrared, electro-optical, weapon seekers, and visual observation.

In a limited number of incidents, UAP reportedly appeared to exhibit unusual flight characteristics. These observations could be the result of sensor errors, spoofing, or observer misperception and require additional rigorous analysis.

There are probably multiple types of UAP requiring different explanations based on the range of appearances and behaviors described in the available reporting. Our analysis of the data supports the construct that if and when individual UAP incidents are resolved they will fall into one of five potential explanatory categories: airborne clutter, natural atmospheric phenomena, USG or U.S. industry developmental programs, foreign adversary systems, and a catchall “other” bin.

UAP clearly pose a safety of flight issue and may pose a challenge to U.S. national security. Safety concerns primarily center on aviators contending with an increasingly cluttered air domain. UAP would also represent a national security challenge if they are foreign adversary collection platforms or provide evidence a potential adversary has developed either a breakthrough or disruptive technology.

Consistent consolidation of reports from across the federal government, standardized reporting, increased collection and analysis, and a streamlined process for screening all such reports against a broad range of relevant USG data will allow for a more sophisticated analysis of UAP that is likely to deepen our understanding. Some of these steps are resource-intensive and would require additional investment.

AVAILABLE REPORTING LARGELY INCONCLUSIVE

Limited Data Leaves Most UAP Unexplained...

Limited data and inconsistency in reporting are key challenges to evaluating UAP. No standardized reporting mechanism existed until the Navy established one in March 2019. The Air Force subsequently adopted that mechanism in November 2020, but it remains limited to USG reporting. The UAPTF regularly heard anecdotally during its research about other observations that occurred but which were never captured in formal or informal reporting by those observers.

After carefully considering this information, the UAPTF focused on reports that involved UAP largely witnessed firsthand by military aviators and that were collected from systems we considered to be reliable. These reports describe incidents that occurred between 2004 and 2021, with the majority coming in the last two years as the new reporting mechanism became better known to the military aviation community. We were able to identify one reported UAP with high confidence. In that case, we identified the object as a large, deflating balloon. The others remain unexplained.

- **144** reports originated from USG sources. Of these, **80** reports involved observation with multiple sensors.
 - Most reports described UAP as objects that interrupted pre-planned training or other military activity.

UAP Collection Challenges

Sociocultural stigmas and sensor limitations remain obstacles to collecting data on UAP. Although some technical challenges—such as how to appropriately filter out radar clutter to ensure safety of flight for military and civilian aircraft—are longstanding in the aviation community, while others are unique to the UAP problem set.

- Narratives from aviators in the operational community and analysts from the military and IC describe disparagement associated with observing UAP, reporting it, or attempting to discuss it with colleagues. Although the effects of these stigmas have lessened as senior members of the scientific, policy, military, and intelligence communities engage on the topic seriously in public, reputational risk may keep many observers silent, complicating scientific pursuit of the topic.
- The sensors mounted on U.S. military platforms are typically designed to fulfill specific missions. As a result, those sensors are not generally suited for identifying UAP.
- Sensor vantage points and the numbers of sensors concurrently observing an object play substantial roles in distinguishing UAP from known objects and determining whether a UAP demonstrates breakthrough aerospace capabilities. Optical sensors have the benefit of providing some insight into relative size, shape, and structure. Radiofrequency sensors provide more accurate velocity and range information.

But Some Potential Patterns Do Emerge

Although there was wide variability in the reports and the dataset is currently too limited to allow for detailed trend or pattern analysis, there was some clustering of UAP observations regarding shape, size, and, particularly, propulsion. UAP sightings also tended to cluster around U.S. training and testing grounds, but we assess that this may result from a collection bias as a result of focused attention, greater numbers of latest-generation sensors operating in those areas, unit expectations, and guidance to report anomalies.

And a Handful of UAP Appear to Demonstrate Advanced Technology

In **18** incidents, described in **21** reports, observers reported unusual UAP movement patterns or flight characteristics.

Some UAP appeared to remain stationary in winds aloft, move against the wind, maneuver abruptly, or move at considerable speed, without discernable means of propulsion. In a small number of cases, military aircraft systems processed radio frequency (RF) energy associated with UAP sightings.

The UAPTF holds a small amount of data that appear to show UAP demonstrating acceleration or a degree of signature management. Additional rigorous analysis are necessary by multiple teams or groups of technical experts to determine the nature and validity of these data. We are conducting further analysis to determine if breakthrough technologies were demonstrated.

UAP PROBABLY LACK A SINGLE EXPLANATION

The UAP documented in this limited dataset demonstrate an array of aerial behaviors, reinforcing the possibility there are multiple types of UAP requiring different explanations. Our analysis of the data supports the construct that if and when individual UAP incidents are resolved they will fall into one of five potential explanatory categories: airborne clutter, natural atmospheric phenomena, USG or industry developmental programs, foreign adversary systems, and a catchall “other” bin. With the exception of the one instance where we determined with high confidence that the reported UAP was airborne clutter, specifically a deflating balloon, we currently lack sufficient information in our dataset to attribute incidents to specific explanations.

Airborne Clutter: These objects include birds, balloons, recreational unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), or airborne debris like plastic bags that muddle a scene and affect an operator’s ability to identify true targets, such as enemy aircraft.

Natural Atmospheric Phenomena: Natural atmospheric phenomena includes ice crystals, moisture, and thermal fluctuations that may register on some infrared and radar systems.

USG or Industry Developmental Programs: Some UAP observations could be attributable to developments and classified programs by U.S. entities. We were unable to confirm, however, that these systems accounted for any of the UAP reports we collected.

Foreign Adversary Systems: Some UAP may be technologies deployed by China, Russia, another nation, or a non-governmental entity.

Other: Although most of the UAP described in our dataset probably remain unidentified due to limited data or challenges to collection processing or analysis, we may require additional scientific knowledge to successfully collect on, analyze and characterize some of them. We would group such objects in this category pending scientific advances that allowed us to better understand them. The UAPTF intends to focus additional analysis on the small number of cases where a UAP appeared to display unusual flight characteristics or signature management.

UAP THREATEN FLIGHT SAFETY AND, POSSIBLY, NATIONAL SECURITY

UAP pose a hazard to safety of flight and could pose a broader danger if some instances represent sophisticated collection against U.S. military activities by a foreign government or demonstrate a breakthrough aerospace technology by a potential adversary.

Ongoing Airspace Concerns

When aviators encounter safety hazards, they are required to report these concerns. Depending on the location, volume, and behavior of hazards during incursions on ranges, pilots may cease their tests and/or training and land their aircraft, which has a deterrent effect on reporting.

- The UAPTF has 11 reports of documented instances in which pilots reported near misses with a UAP.

Potential National Security Challenges

We currently lack data to indicate any UAP are part of a foreign collection program or indicative of a major technological advancement by a potential adversary. We continue to monitor for evidence of such programs given the counter intelligence challenge they would pose, particularly as some UAP have been detected near military facilities or by aircraft carrying the USG's most advanced sensor systems.

EXPLAINING UAP WILL REQUIRE ANALYTIC, COLLECTION AND RESOURCE INVESTMENT

Standardize the Reporting, Consolidate the Data, and Deepen the Analysis

In line with the provisions of Senate Report 116-233, accompanying the IAA for FY 2021, the UAPTF's long-term goal is to widen the scope of its work to include additional UAP events documented by a broader swath of USG personnel and technical systems in its analysis. As the dataset increases, the UAPTF's ability to employ data analytics to detect trends will also improve. The initial focus will be to employ artificial intelligence/machine learning algorithms to cluster and recognize similarities and patterns in features of the data points. As the database accumulates information from known aerial objects such as weather balloons, high-altitude or super-pressure balloons, and wildlife, machine learning can add efficiency by pre-assessing UAP reports to see if those records match similar events already in the database.

- The UAPTF has begun to develop interagency analytical and processing workflows to ensure both collection and analysis will be well informed and coordinated.

The majority of UAP data is from U.S. Navy reporting, but efforts are underway to standardize incident reporting across U.S. military services and other government agencies to ensure all relevant data is captured with respect to particular incidents and any U.S. activities that might be relevant. The UAPTF is currently working to acquire additional reporting, including from the U.S. Air Force (USAF), and has begun receiving data from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

- Although USAF data collection has been limited historically the USAF began a six-month pilot program in November 2020 to collect in the most likely areas to encounter UAP and is evaluating how to normalize future collection, reporting, and analysis across the entire Air Force.
- The FAA captures data related to UAP during the normal course of managing air traffic operations. The FAA generally ingests this data when pilots and other airspace users report unusual or unexpected events to the FAA's Air Traffic Organization.
- In addition, the FAA continuously monitors its systems for anomalies, generating additional information that may be of use to the UAPTF. The FAA is able to isolate data of interest to the UAPTF and make it available. The FAA has a robust and effective outreach program that can help the UAPTF reach members of the aviation community to highlight the importance of reporting UAP.

Expand Collection

The UAPTF is looking for novel ways to increase collection of UAP cluster areas when U.S. forces are not present as a way to baseline "standard" UAP activity and mitigate the collection bias in the dataset. One proposal is to use advanced algorithms to search historical data captured and stored by radars. The UAPTF also plans to update its current interagency UAP collection strategy in order bring to bear relevant collection platforms and methods from the DoD and the IC.

Increase Investment in Research and Development

The UAPTF has indicated that additional funding for research and development could further the future study of the topics laid out in this report. Such investments should be guided by a UAP Collection Strategy, UAP R&D Technical Roadmap, and a UAP Program Plan.

APPENDIX A - Definition of Key Terms

This report and UAPTF databases use the following defining terms:

Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP): Airborne objects not immediately identifiable. The acronym UAP represents the broadest category of airborne objects reviewed for analysis.

UAP Event: A holistic description of an occurrence during which a pilot or aircrew witnessed (or detected) a UAP.

UAP Incident: A specific part of the event.

UAP Report: Documentation of a UAP event, to include verified chains of custody and basic information such as the time, date, location, and description of the UAP. UAP reports include Range Fouler¹ reports and other reporting.

¹ U.S. Navy aviators define a “range fouler” as an activity or object that interrupts pre-planned training or other military activity in a military operating area or restricted airspace.

APPENDIX B – Senate Report Accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021

Senate Report 116-233, accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, provides that the DNI, in consultation with the SECDEF and other relevant heads of USG Agencies, is to submit an intelligence assessment of the threat posed by UAP and the progress the UAPTF has made to understand this threat.

The Senate Report specifically requested that the report include:

1. A detailed analysis of UAP data and intelligence reporting collected or held by the Office of Naval Intelligence, including data and intelligence reporting held by the UAPTF;
2. A detailed analysis of unidentified phenomena data collected by:
 - a. Geospatial Intelligence;
 - b. Signals Intelligence;
 - c. Human Intelligence; and
 - d. Measurement and Signatures Intelligence
3. A detailed analysis of data of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which was derived from investigations of intrusions of UAP data over restricted U.S. airspace;
4. A detailed description of an interagency process for ensuring timely data collection and centralized analysis of all UAP reporting for the Federal Government, regardless of which service or agency acquired the information;
5. Identification of an official accountable for the process described in paragraph 4;
6. Identification of potential aerospace or other threats posed by the UAP to national security, and an assessment of whether this UAP activity may be attributed to one or more foreign adversaries;
7. Identification of any incidents or patterns that indicate a potential adversary, have achieved breakthrough aerospace capabilities that could put U.S. strategic or conventional forces at risk; and
8. Recommendations regarding increased collection of data, enhanced research and development, additional funding, and other resources.

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
To:
Subject: RE: UAP in tucson Sector
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 12:01:00 PM

Thanks (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) We hadn't, but shortly after your email the calls started rolling in from DCI

(A)SOS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:22 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: FW: UAP in tucson Sector

Assuming you guys have seen this but just in case you haven't....

v/r,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent
Arizona Air Coordination Center (A2C2)
Cell: 480 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 8:00 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>;
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: UAP in tucson Sector

<https://thedebrief.org/incursions-at-the-border-homeland-security-agents-tell-of-encounters-with-uap/>

Respectfully,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Research/Development & Innovation Coordinator
Arizona Air Coordination Center (A2C2)
Border Patrol Agent

(520) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 1:25 PM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Request for comment - DHS "UAP" Video Released

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

All seems in order. I would only consider:

The last line –

If so, do you know if (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) established reporting requirements for Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs) within the Tucson sector, as reported in this [article](#)?

In the unfinished Issue Paper, he made only preliminary recommendations. No specific reporting requirements were established (that would have to be come from a much higher level than a BPA).

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
U.S. Border Patrol
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Tucson Sector Special Operations

2430 South Swan Road
Tucson, Arizona 85711
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Desk: (520) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cell: (915) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 1:08 PM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: FW: Request for comment - DHS "UAP" Video Released

All,

Please take a quick look at what I summarized below in red for each bullet. Let me know if that sounds correct. From what I gathered it appears that the did a lot of the research on his own. It is unclear if he was assigned by anyone to do so.

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 8:20 AM

To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Subject: Request for comment - DHS "UAP" Video Released

Good morning TCA,

We received the below request from BP Tasking earlier today. We were able to find a (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) in NFC that worked at USBP from January 2008 to January 2022, and his duty location was Tucson Sector. Would you be able to verify the requested information below?

Please let us know by COB tomorrow, June 3, if possible. BP Tasking is requesting the information by Monday, June 6.

Thank you!

Workforce Management

Good afternoon. Can your office confirm if anyone with the name, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) who matches the following descriptions from this news [article](#) worked with the agency?

- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) began his career with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency in January 2008."
 - Confirmed that his EOD was January 31, 2008. He was assigned to SON Station. Retired (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) in January 2022.
- "As a federal law enforcement agent, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) would go on to spend the next 14 years guarding America's southern borders, ultimately earning a spot on the Tucson Sectors Special Operations Detachment Mobile Response Team (MRT.)"
 - Began his MRT detail at SOD on (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) 2016.
- "From 2020 to 2021, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) worked in the newly created Arizona Air Coordination Center, which was to become the brain for Air Operations within the Tucson Sector."
 - While still working on his MRT detail, was assigned to work with the A2C2 from approximately March 2021 to June 2021 to assist with developing/refining Air Support processes due to his extensive experience in the area.
- The article says that after 2017 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) said he began producing an "Issue Paper" in an effort to improve reporting and guidance for agents encountering UAP along the southwest border."
 - He did draft an issue paper that was sent the Acting Director of A2C2. However, there is no indication that this IP went any further. It appeared to be a special project he took on as a research project. His Chain of Command within SOD/MRT did not have a need for him to complete this IP and did not

authorize any formal research on this. He was not afforded a government computer to pursue the IP at home or during his (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) period.

- "In an interview with *The Debrief*, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) recounted how one of the roles he took on as a federal agent with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol's Tucson Sector Special Operations Group involved establishing the reporting requirements for Unexplained Aerial Phenomena within the Tucson Sector."
 - He is assisted with helping develop requirements for developing/refining Air Support requirements. It is unclear if he was specifically tasked to develop UAPs. It appears he did this research on his own.

If so, do you know if (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) established reporting requirements for Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs) within the Tucson sector, as reported in this [article](#)?

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 11:07 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: RE: RFI from HQ due 6/3
Attachments: Safer Skies through Education-Issue Paper.docx; Re: Special Projects UAP; FW: Special Projects UAP; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - MRT Deputy Commander Text Messages.pptx

Good Morning (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Definitely one of the more unique items I have dealt with this week. Ok, in quick snapshot –

Former BPA (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) began his MRT detail at SOD on (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) 2016. From approximately March 2021 to June 2021, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) was assigned to assist in standing up the Air section at the A2C2. This wasn't an official detail, it was more of SOD loaning him to A2C2 to help (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) get some situational awareness on the Air Support processes at the time. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) had extensive experience in this area and was a logical choice to provide valuable assistance in this area. He was already working in the SOD J3 Operations Cell helping with many of the same tasks. On Thursday, August 5, 2021, he sent the attached email to myself and (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (titled Special Projects UAP (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(E) he references in his email is in tact and accessible. I did not respond to this email because the MRT Deputy Commander, upon learning of this email, directed and advised (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) on how to proceed/not proceed with this item (MRT Deputy Commander Email attached, titled Special Projects UAP MRT DCMR). The MRT Deputy Commander advised (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) via email, text message and verbally that this was not official or authorized Government business. Attached are related text messages via PowerPoint. The Issue Paper (draft) in question is also attached. This is the first I have seen this unfinished Issue Paper so I am concluding that it was not forwarded through official channels. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) was not afforded a government computer in which he could pursue this while at home (b)(6),(b)(7)(C).

Former BPA (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) was (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) retired as you have stated. The link below was sent to us at the same time I received your email.

<https://thedebrief.org/incursions-at-the-border-homeland-security-agents-tell-of-encounters-with-uap/>

If there is anything else I can assist regarding this matter, please let me know.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

U.S. Border Patrol

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Tucson Sector Special Operations

2430 South Swan Road
Tucson, Arizona 85711
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Desk: (520) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Cell: (915) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:37 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RFI from HQ due 6/3

All,

We need to confirm the statements below by tomorrow. My team is confirming the start date on the first one. We also confirmed that he was a SON agent that had been assigned to MRT. He retired in January 2022. Can you confirm when he earned the spot on the SOD MRT and the dates he was at A2C2. Also, are the statements below about the IP and the reporting requirements for the Unexplained Aerial Phenomena within TCA true?

- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) began his career with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency in January 2008."
- "As a federal law enforcement agent, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) would go on to spend the next 14 years guarding America's southern borders, ultimately earning a spot on the Tucson Sectors Special Operations Detachment Mobile Response Team (MRT.)"
- "From 2020 to 2021, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) worked in the newly created Arizona Air Coordination Center, which was to become the brain for Air Operations within the Tucson Sector."
- The article says that after 2017 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) said he began producing an "Issue Paper" in an effort to improve reporting and guidance for agents encountering UAP along the southwest border."
- "In an interview with *The Debrief*, (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) recounted how one of the roles he took on as a federal agent with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol's Tucson Sector Special Operations Group involved establishing the reporting requirements for Unexplained Aerial Phenomena within the Tucson Sector."

Thanks.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Division Chief
Mission Readiness Operations
Tucson Sector
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (cell)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

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(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(5), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 10:24 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Special Projects UAP
Attachments: Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625.pdf

Sir,

Please see the attached email communications dated Friday, 6 AUG 2021, and Monday, 16 AUG 2021 with retired Agent

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Thanks.

(A)SOS: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) <[redacted]@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) <[redacted]@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

T4...I apologize, and took The Director of National Intelligence's UAP report seriously about reporting requirements.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) <[redacted]@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 9:10 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) <[redacted]@cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir,

As a pet project, or for fun, do all the research you want. I know the topic is of great interest to you and there's a ton of information to sift through. If you want to dabble in your spare time at work, feel free.

There just isn't an avenue for any formal research or reporting any type of findings or conclusions. It falls outside our purview. Thanks.

(A)SOS: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT

520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 6:13 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP

Sir...I will abide by the policy and forward the appropriate (Research)information through my chain of command .

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
J3/SOD/MRT
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Special Projects UAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon sir,

I will not be able to issue a laptop or a tablet to you at this time. I am not able to authorize telework during your (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) I am also going to caution you about labeling research work as sensitive without direct, express authorization or the appropriate clearance to do so. Please be aware that the sharing of sensitive information or recorded media outside of DHS/CBP without written authorization is strictly prohibited by policy.

Additionally, please refrain from emailing (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) A2C2 Directors (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) or (b)(6),(b)(7)(C). Please observe chain of command unless you are responding to a direct tasking. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) or I will route communications to (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) and he will make the determination of what is forwarded to A2C2.

Let me know if you have any questions regarding this email. Thanks.

(A)SOS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:22 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Special Projects UAP

For your SA. Maybe it would be possible for me to continue my work at home due to its sensitive nature. The only thing I would request would be a laptop or tablet.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
Tucson Sector Mobile Response Team
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

Thank you Sir!

I appreciate the level of thought and effort you put into this. Please continue to share any future insights with A2C2 (A) Dir: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

More importantly, thank you for your commitment and support to the A2C2. As a senior medic in the USBP, your contributions provided immediate and long-lasting value to our emergency response/search & rescue coordination.

Best,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202): (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Special Projects UAP

Sirs, as per our past conversations and assignment to Special Projects. I have compiled reports, videos, and news articles in (b)(7)(E). In addition, I have nearly completed a 20 page issue paper regarding the subject and outlined reporting and training requirements as well. I have also begun working on training material in the form of PPTs and Mr. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) has the exercise I created while in the A2C2 that can be used for UAP.

The Rubber Duck Video is being evaluated by the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) and I am awaiting their report to include in the issue paper. Please feel free to browse their credentials. They are also working with (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) and (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) former Defense Intelligence Officials.

Feel free to browse the folder and read or watch the various items contained within.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) I'm not sure I will have time to complete the rest of the projects I had in mind regarding the phenomenon.

Please feel free to assign someone to continue this special project in my absence.

During this research and while conducting interviews, I found hundreds of Agents and dozens of pilots that have witnessed events including a large amount within SOD. Their stories are both credible and amazing. I'm confident you can find one if solicited for the position.

We need to gather this data, catalog it, and document its existence. The Department of Homeland Security could play a pivotal role in the possible early warning of in what former President Ronald Reagan deemed "An outside Alien Threat."

(b)(5),(b)(7)(E) especially since we have a significant Aviation role along the Southern Border.

In June of 2021 The director of National Intelligence came out with the UAP report and in that made it clear on the need for reporting requirements within all government entities.

I know the pilots over at TAB feel the same way and look forward to the ability to freely report what they see without ridicule as demonstrated by the February 2021 Event over Tucson. Many Border Patrol Agents also feel the same way, but unfortunately it's still very much taboo.

I know this subject is sensitive in nature and I have taken upmost care to not divulge sensitive or classified information to the SCU folks that pertain to our operational security. They have had me sign a NDA as well and will protect my identity until after I retire.

Thank you for allowing me this incredible opportunity in both the A2C2 and J3. I look forward to see how the program turns out in the future, what the Patrol changes, and the positive impact it may have on safety and security. Let me know what else I can do to assist.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 7:26 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

Thank you Sir, I will generate an After Action Report once the SCU investigation is complete and forward it on to the appropriate stakeholders with the issue paper.

V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:35:28 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Special Projects UAP

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Best,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Arizona Air Coordination Center
Tucson Sector
C: (202) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 5, 2021 6:16:48 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Special Projects UAP

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Feel free to browse the folder and read or watch the various items contained within.

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C). I'm not sure I will have time to complete the rest of the projects I had in mind regarding the phenomenon.

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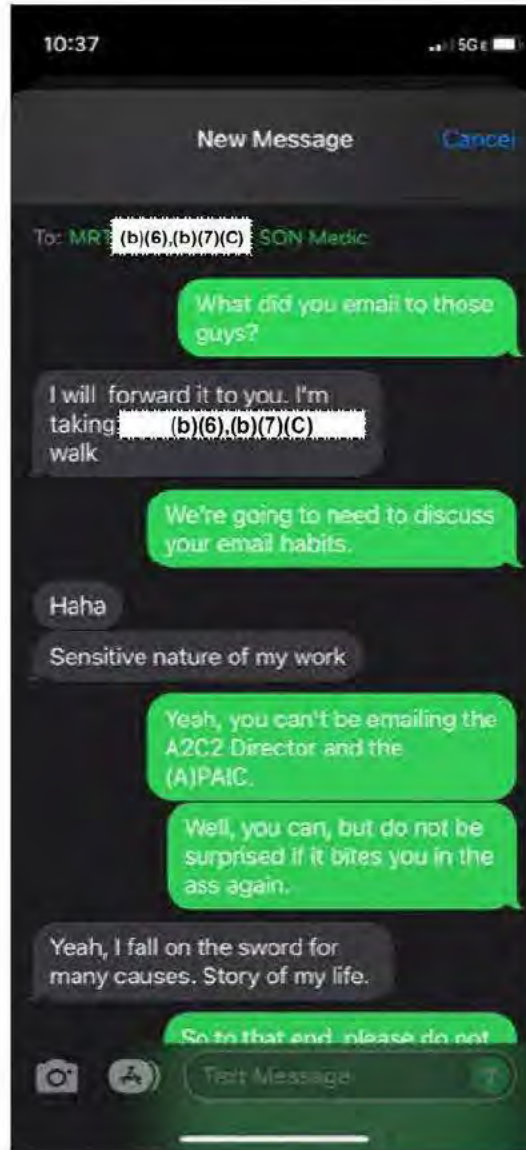
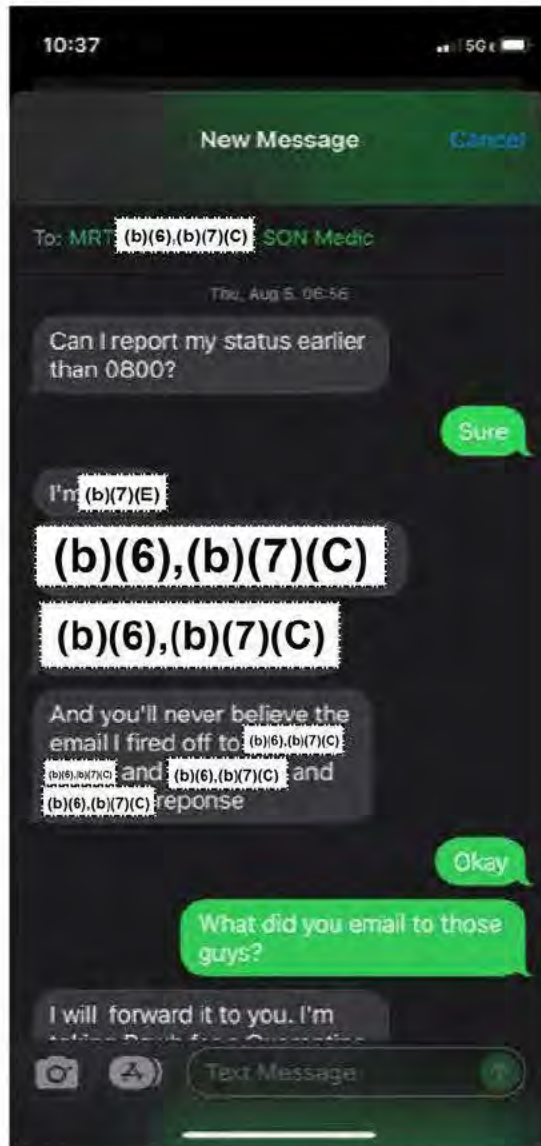
I know this subject is sensitive in nature and I have taken utmost care to not divulge sensitive or classified information to the SCU folks that pertain to our operational security. They have had me sign a NDA as well and will protect my identity until after I retire.

Thank you for allowing me this incredible opportunity in both the A2C2 and J3. I look forward to see how the program turns out in the future, what the Patrol changes, and the positive impact it may have on safety and security. Let me know what else I can do to assist.

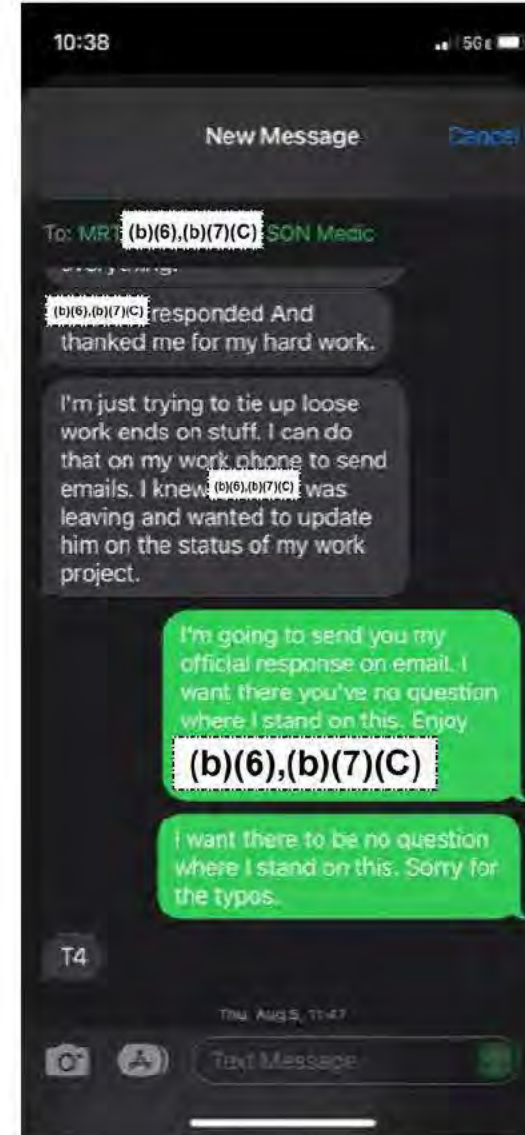
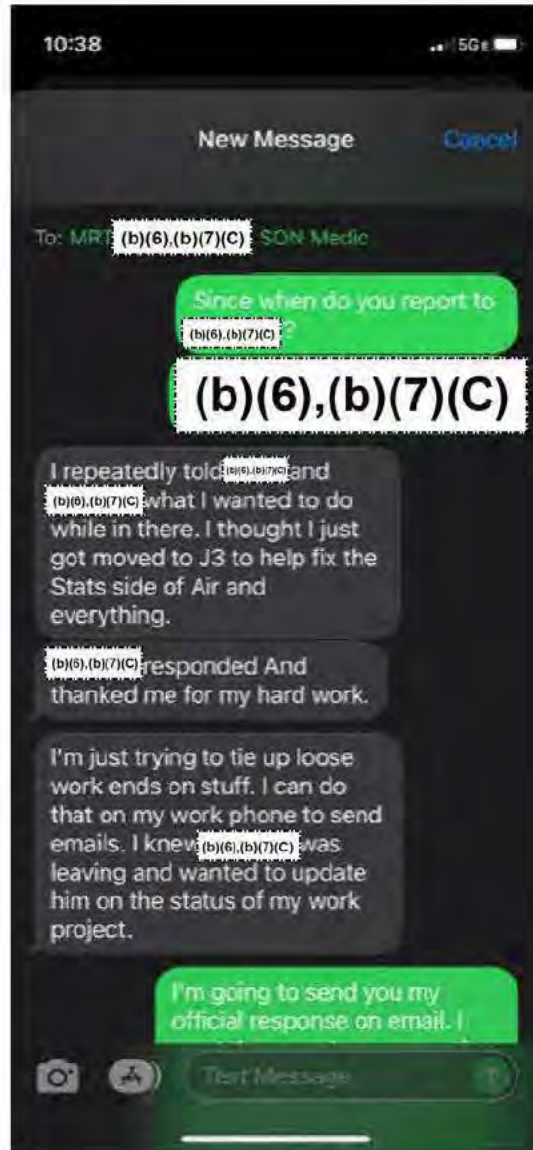
V/R

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Border Patrol Agent/Paramedic
TCA/SOD Special Projects UAP
520 (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

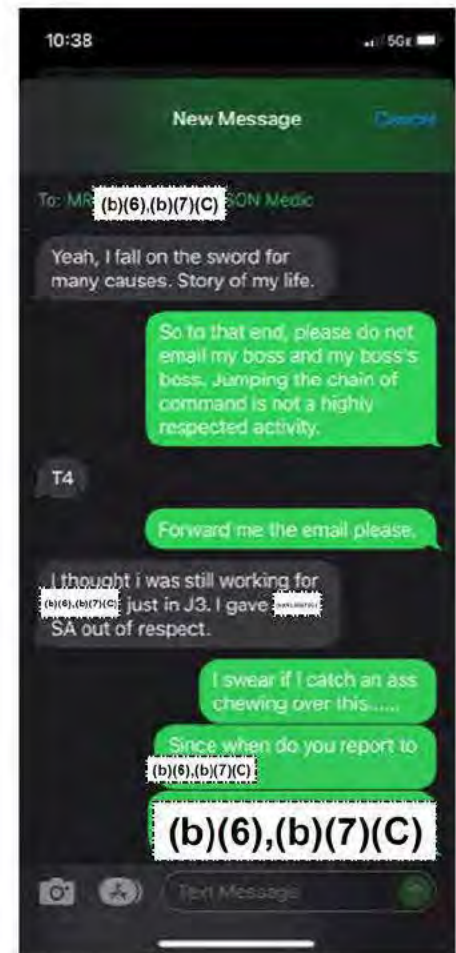
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) texts



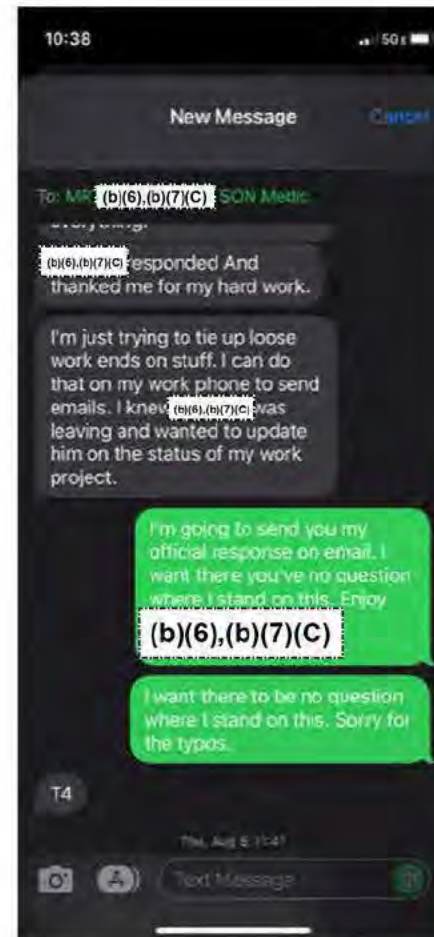
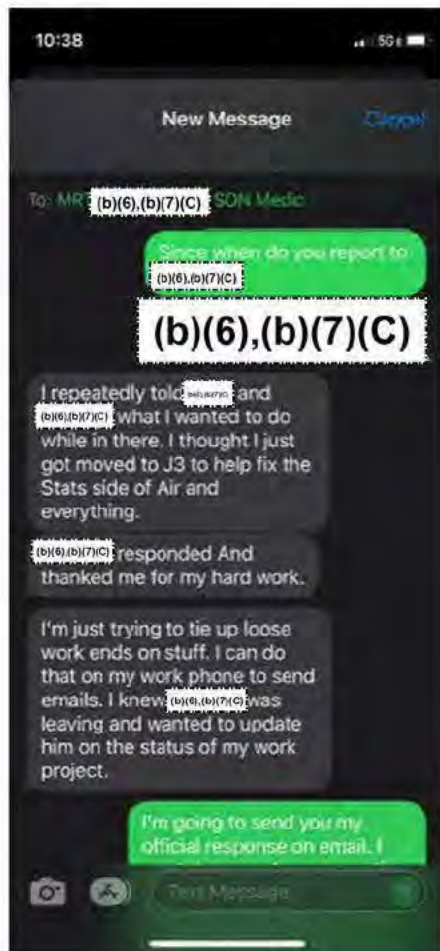
(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) texts



(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) texts



(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) texts



From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Texts
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 11:03:00 AM
Attachments: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - MRT Deputy Commander Text Messages.pptx
Importance: High

Attached PP with text messages.

(A)SOS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
DCMDR MRT
TCA/SOD/MRT
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
520: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) G-Cell

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:43 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: UAP in tucson Sector

(A)SOS (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

DCMDR MRT

TCA/SOD/MRT

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Office
G-Cell

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:22 AM
To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: UAP in tucson Sector

Assuming you guys have seen this but just in case you haven't...

v/r,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Border Patrol Agent

Arizona Air Coordination Center (A2C2)

Cell: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 8:00 AM

To: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Subject: UAP in tucson Sector

<https://thedebrief.org/incursions-at-the-border-homeland-security-agents-tell-of-encounters-with-uap/>

Respectfully,

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Research/Development & Innovation Coordinator
Arizona Air Coordination Center (A2C2)
Border Patrol Agent

(520) (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

<link rel="stylesheet" href="//fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Roboto:400,400italic,500,500italic,700,300italic,300Roboto+Condensed:300,400,700&display=swap">

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Could This Be A UFO Or A TR-3b In The El Paso Sky?

[Veronica Gonzalez](#) Published: February 14, 2019

Getty Images

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Last year in August an El Pasoan noticed something rare in the sky that would concern any human being. Well, that witness began recording what appear to be an incandescent triangle in the sky. After watching the video I started to read some of the comments. Eric Thompson gave us some insight about the triangle being a reflection from inside the car. Then there are similar comments that mention the incandescent light is a Tr-3b. A Tr-3b is a Top Secret Air Force plane which costs at least 3 billion dollars. I don't believe what the witness saw is a reflection as Eric Thompson had mentioned. I do believe in aliens and all that other kooky stuff. After reading a lot of the comments about Tr-3b has me undecided with my decision. If you fast forward one minute into the video you will see the actual footage from the witness. After watching the actual footage place your vote on what you believe the incandescent triangle is below!

Filed Under: [el paso ufo](#), [fort bliss](#), [poll](#), [Tr3b](#), [ufo](#)
 Categories: [Audio](#) / [Videos](#) / [Photos](#), [Local](#) / [El Paso](#)
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Experts Weigh In on Pentagon UFO Report

The vast majority of examined incidents were not caused by U.S. advanced technology programs, the forthcoming report concludes. So what's going on?

- By [Leonard David](#) on June 8, 2021

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❑ Experts Weigh In on Pentagon UFO Report

Still from a video released by the U.S. Department of Defense showing an encounter between a Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet and an unknown object. Credit: [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

Advertisement

For more than a decade, the U.S. Department of Defense has been quietly cataloging and investigating scores of bizarre encounters—most from the U.S. Navy—of ships and fighter jets tangling with, or being tailgated by, unidentified flying objects (UFOs). Beginning in 2017, videos and eyewitness accounts of these weird sightings found their way into [public view](#), ultimately spurring Congress to demand that the Pentagon produce a report summarizing all that the U.S. government knows about so-called unidentified aerial phenomena, or UAPs (an alternate term with considerably less stigma than the much maligned “UFOs”).

Produced under the auspices of a Pentagon group called the UAP Task Force, an unclassified version of the report is expected to be released later this month. Upon establishing the task force, the DOD released an [accompanying statement](#) explaining the justifications for its existence: “The safety of our personnel and the security of our operations are of paramount concern. The Department of Defense and the military departments take any incursions by unauthorized aircraft into our training ranges or designated airspace very seriously and examine each report. This includes examinations of incursions that are initially reported as UAP when the observer cannot immediately identify what he or she is observing.”

Assessing the “Alien” Hypothesis

Meanwhile all this strangeness has garnered considerable media attention, from front-page stories in the *New York Times* to 13,000-word articles in the *New Yorker*, as well as prominent coverage on *60 Minutes* and other prime-time television programs. Through it all, a sizable contingent of true believers have steadily proclaimed, “We told you so,” insistent in their conviction that, whether called UFOs or UAPs, the entities seemingly slipping through our skies are actually alien spacecraft—and have been visiting Earth for a very long time.

Those deeply entrenched public beliefs, paired with the apparent reinvigoration of investigative interest in these incidents at the highest levels of government, can lead to dazzling speculations. Might we be on the verge of a formal disclosure—backed by irrefutable evidence—that humankind is not alone and is indeed being monitored by extraterrestrial civilizations? Or could it be that UAPs are entirely homegrown products of revolutionary and clandestine technological advances, whether by other countries now challenging American airspace or by the U.S. itself as part of some supersecret domestic program meant to detect flaws in the nation’s defenses? The mind boggles.

Although the task force’s unclassified assessment is not expected until June 25, the *New York Times* provided a cursory preview of its contents in an article on June 3. Citing anonymous senior officials familiar with the report’s contents, the story said that the assessment has come up short of explaining what UAPs are and that it [provides no evidence to link them with any putative alien visitation](#)—despite reviewing more than 120 incidents from the past 20 years. The report’s firmest conclusion, it seems, is that the vast majority of UAP happenings and their surprising maneuvers are not caused by any U.S. advanced technology programs.

Lastly, according to the *New York Times* article, the final report includes a “classified annex” of information deemed unsuitable for public release—leaving more than enough room for die-hard UFO advocates to remain convinced that the U.S. government is hiding the truth.

No “Big Reveal”

Andrew Fraknoi, an astronomer at the Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning at the University of San Francisco, echoes the [widely held sentiment among scientists](#) that, for decades, the media has lavished too much attention on sensational claims that vague lights in the sky are actually extraterrestrial spacecraft. “Recently, there has been a flurry of misleading publicity about UFOs [based on military reports]. A sober examination of these claims reveals that there is a lot *less* to them than first meets the eye,” Fraknoi says. Given sufficient evidence (which, arguably, many of the recent reports fail to provide) UFO sightings can essentially always be tied to terrestrial or celestial phenomena, such as lights from human-made vehicles and reentering space junk, he adds.

There is not going to be any “big reveal,” says Robert Sheaffer, a leading skeptical investigator of UFOs. “There are no aliens here on Earth, and so the government cannot ‘disclose’ what it does not have. Some people think that the government knows more about UFOs, or UAPs, than the public, but it’s clear that they know less on the subject than our best civilian UFO investigators, not more.”

The DOD employs some very competent photographic analysts and other technical experts, “none of whom obviously were consulted in this comedy of errors,” Sheaffer says. “The Pentagon has already suffered enough embarrassment from the [apparent] incompetence of its UAP Task Force.” He says it is time to rein in such “rampant foolishness” and ensure that proper experts will shape the task force’s conclusions rather than “clueless, self-important people who don’t even recognize out-of-focus images when they see them.”

Real Issues

Skeptical science writer Mick West has taken on the chore of analyzing the spate of UAP videos released by the U.S. military, steadfastly investigating how some of the incidents could merely be mirages from flaws in newly deployed radar systems, as well as various sorts of well-understood visual artifacts regularly seen in cameras. Despite his work to [debunk](#) the recent claims, West maintains that reports of mysterious aircraft stalking military assets should be taken quite seriously.

“Firstly, there’s a set of very real issues that could be grouped together as ‘UAPs’ or ‘UFOs,’” West says. “Any time something unidentified shows up in restricted airspace, then that’s a real problem that needs solving.” There have been many reports of drones above or near restricted areas, he notes. “We know that drones have been used for terrorist attacks, and drones will very much be a significant factor in future conflicts,” West says. “So we need to figure out how to identify and mitigate such things.”

Another real issue is that pilots sometimes see things that they cannot readily identify, West says, and they may misidentify such objects. Regardless of wha

such pilots actually observe, this is a problem. If something there is hard to identify—like a novel drone—then we need to figure out how to identify it, he says. “If the pilots are making mistakes, then we need to figure out why.”

The “Disclosure” Feedback Loop

“The advocates of alien disclosure are encroaching on these real issues of UAPs,” West says. These believers take mundane videos of incidents that are simply unidentified, he says, then reframe them as evidence of extraordinary technology—which, of course, is intended to mean “aliens,” even if enthusiast for that hypothesis will not explicitly say so. This cultivates credulous media attention, which in turn creates a feedback loop of public interest, more media and then pressure on politicians to “do something.”

“All the while, the military makes no comments, because that’s their modus operandi. Military things are assumed classified by default, and there is nothing compelling them to clear things up,” West says. In the end, he hopes that the forthcoming report represents the views of serious people finally stepping in to clear up what is—and is *not*—going on.

“I expect much discussion and information about the real issues of unidentified flying objects. But I do not anticipate it will have much that will please the UFO enthusiasts,” West says.

Wait and See

One person who is taking a “wait and see” attitude about the upcoming report is Ravi Kumar Kopparapu, a research scientist in planetary studies at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. The history of scientific studies of UAPs in the U.S. is not limited to the recently released video snippets, which is a good reminder to avoid painting the whole phenomenon with one broad brush, he says. Additionally, this is not a U.S.-specific issue, nor is it limited to observations by U.S. armed forces.

“There may not be a single explanation to all such observations. What I would suggest is that we not leap to any conclusions when the findings of the report are made public,” Kopparapu says. “The report would be immensely helpful if the data that informed it are made publicly available so that more experts and scientists can look at it and hopefully reach a scientific consensus on the nature of some of the unexplained events. Otherwise, there will always be conspiracy theories shrouding, and inhibiting, a proper scientific investigation of UAPs.”

A similar view is held by Mark Rodeghier, scientific director of the Center for UFO Studies, who says openness should be prioritized as much as possible in future investigations. “We don’t know whether the UFO problem is an intelligence one, due to foreign adversaries, but we do know, from its long history, that it is absolutely a scientific problem that deserves serious attention,” he says. “In a subject that has been too long ignored, downplayed and ridiculed, the government and scientific community should study UFOs openly and, importantly, with an open mind.”

Wanted: Scientific Inquiry

Harvard University astrophysicist [Avi Loeb](#) says the significance of the UAP Task Force report will depend on the evidence it discloses, which at the moment remains mostly unknown. “But this focus on past reports is misguided,” he says. “It would be prudent to progress forward with our finest instruments rather than examine past reports. Instead of focusing on documents that reflect decades-old technologies used by witnesses with no scientific expertise, it would be far better to deploy [state-of-the-art recording devices](#), such as cameras or audio sensors, at the sites where the reports came from and search for unusual signals.”

Loeb goes a step further, saying he is willing to sign up to [help unravel the UAP UFO saga](#). “Personally, I will be glad to lead scientific inquiry into the nature of these reports and advise Congress accordingly,” he says. “This could take the form of a federally designated committee or a privately funded expedition. Its most important purpose would be to inject scientific rigor and credibility into the discussion.”

History Repeats Itself

For some seasoned investigators, such as William Hartmann, a senior scientist emeritus at the Planetary Science Institute, headquartered in Tucson, Ariz., the current dustup over an influential government report on UFOs is a reminder that, eventually, everything old becomes new again.

Hartmann was a photography consultant and a co-author of the University of Colorado UFO Project’s report [Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects](#). Funded by the U.S. Air Force from 1966 to 1968, that investigative effort was led by physicist Edward Condon, and it had dismal effects on subsequent scientific investigations. The extensive study of UFOs, Condon and his co-authors concluded, is simply not a fruitful field in which to seek major discovery and “probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science will be advanced thereby.”

Reflecting on his work for the project, also called the Condon committee, Hartmann says that none of the photographic evidence he examined could establish anything extraordinary about the observed phenomena. “We proved that some of [the cases], including classic photos still being trotted out, were fake,” he says. “That fact alone makes it extremely difficult to apply straight scientific techniques because we know some, not necessarily all, of the data we were given were carefully prepared to delude us. [That is] not quite like astronomy, where we can assume that the photons coming through our telescope atop Mauna Kea in Hawaii are not put in there by a hoaxer.”

“To put it another way, if you think there could be a real alien spaceship among a pile of photos you are given, but you know that some of the photos are fakes, then it is very hard to prove that any single one of them is proof of an alien visitation,” Hartmann says. “I’d want to see multiple, clear photos or detections by witnesses who don’t know each other, from multiple cities, viewing from multiple directions, before getting very excited.”

Still, he adds that ever since his experience working on the Condon committee, he cannot escape “the feeling that there may be electromagnetic phenomena in the atmosphere that we still don’t understand.”

The Truth Is Out There

[Sarah Scoles](#) is author of the recently published book *They Are Already Here: UFO Culture and Why We See Saucers*. Although the report's full details remain to be seen, she senses it will not be as revelatory as some hope.

"At various times during the 20th century, the military has undertaken studies of UFOs to determine, largely, whether what people are seeing represents a national security threat," Scoles says. "This report doesn't, then, seem seminal, because it's doing a 21st-century version of that same thing."

That said, Scoles feels an unbiased analysis of available data could shed light on the true frequency of UAP observations—and perhaps on the characteristic and possibly identities of these sightings. "One problem with UFO/UAP research is that it often doesn't resemble [traditional scientific research in terms of rigor](#)," she says.

The task force report could quantify and analyze a wide swath of data, Scoles hopes, with the requisite background knowledge of sensor capabilities, current domestic and foreign military capabilities, and so on. If so, that would be a welcome change from previous high-profile studies, she concludes.

Where does this leave us? The truth, of course, is somewhere out there, whether or not it appears in the pages of the UAP Task Force report. But for now, the odds seem to be against the U.S. government knowing what it is, let alone revealing it anytime soon.

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Leonard David is author of *Moon Rush: The New Space Race* (National Geographic, 2019) and *Mars: Our Future on the Red Planet* (National Geographic, 2016). He has been reporting on the space industry for more than five decades.

Credit: Nick Higgins

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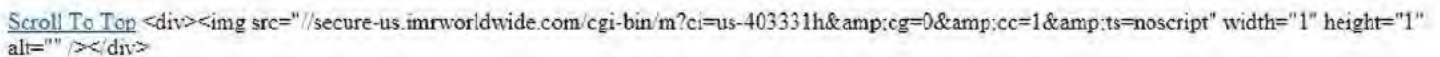
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Pentagon Has ‘Off-World Vehicles Not Made on This Earth’

Bombshell: The government’s once-clandestine UFO program will reveal findings on unexplained materials and crashes

 // BY [ANDREW DANIELS](#) JUL 26, 2020

ufo videos

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

- The Pentagon’s on-and-off-again, [once-covert UFO program](#) is decidedly back on—and will soon reveal some of its findings to the public.
- An astrophysicist who consulted on the UFO program confirms the government possesses materials from [“off-world vehicles not made on this earth”](#).
- The news comes on the heels of the Navy’s official release of [three notorious UFO videos](#).

Update 7/26: We’ve updated this story to include official comments provided by the Pentagon

to *Popular Mechanics*,
as well as a clarification of Senator Harry Reid's original comments in the *New York Times* report.

For years, the U.S. government has repeatedly changed its tune regarding its official involvement with UFO research.

As recently as February, a Pentagon spokesperson told *Popular Mechanics* that, while a government program did investigate unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and other unexplained aerial phenomena for some time last decade, funding dried up in 2012. But when *Popular Mechanics* [thoroughly investigated the covert program](#), multiple sources said it's still ongoing to this day.

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Now, a [new report in the *New York Times*](#) confirms those accounts. The government's UFO unit currently resides in the Office of Naval Intelligence, where it "deals with classified matters," per the report, even though the unit itself isn't classified. The Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force is meant to "standardize collection and reporting" on sightings of UAVs and publicly divulge "at least some of its findings" twice a year, according to the *Times*

Our Exclusive Investigation



[Inside the Pentagon's Secret UFO Program](#)

In a [June Senate Committee Report](#)

, the Senate authorized appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for the task force, supporting its efforts to reveal any links that unidentified aerial phenomena "have to adversarial foreign governments, and the threat they pose to U.S. military assets and installations."

From the report:

The Committee remains concerned that there is no unified, comprehensive process within the Federal Government for collecting and analyzing intelligence on unidentified aerial phenomena, despite the potential threat. The Committee understands that the relevant intelligence may be sensitive; nevertheless, the Committee finds that the information sharing and coordination across the Intelligence Community has been inconsistent, and this issue has lacked attention from senior leaders.

Therefore, the Committee directs the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the heads of such other agencies as the Director and Secretary jointly consider relevant, to submit a report within 180 days of the date of enactment of the Act, to the congressional intelligence and

armed services committees on unidentified aerial phenomena (also known as “anomalous aerial vehicles”), including observed airborne objects that have not been identified.

Senator Marco Rubio, who chairs the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, [told a CBS affiliate in Florida](#) that he’s most interested to learn from the task force who’s responsible for unidentified aircraft spotted over American military bases. Rubio said he hopes “the Chinese or Russians or some other adversary” hasn’t made “some sort of technological leap” that “allows them to conduct this sort of activity.”

“That to me,” Rubio said, “is a national security risk and one we should be looking into.”

While such UAVs may very well come from foreign adversaries, the other possibility, of course, is that we can’t pinpoint their origins from anywhere on this planet. And that’s where the *New York Times* report gets really interesting.

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Harry Reid, the former Nevada senator who was instrumental in funding the original UFO program, told the *Times*

he believes that “crashes of objects of unknown origin may have occurred and that retrieved materials should be studied.” From the article:

“After looking into this, I came to the conclusion that there were reports— some were substantive, some not so substantive—that there were actual materials that the government and the private sector had in their possession.”

(An earlier version of the *Times* article said Reid believed “crashes from other worlds” *had* indeed occurred, and that retrieved materials had been “studied secretly for decades, often by aerospace companies under government contracts.” The *Times* has corrected Reid’s account, and Reid has since [clarified his statements in a tweet](#), below. *Popular Mechanics* has updated this section of the article accordingly.)

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I have no knowledge—and I have never suggested—the federal government or any entity has unidentified flying objects or debris from other worlds. I have consistently said we must stick to science, not fairy tales about little green men. <https://t.co/TcGxcoW43M>

— Senator Harry Reid (@SenatorReid) [July 24, 2020](#)

The astrophysicist Eric Davis, who consulted with the Pentagon’s original UFO program and now works for the defense contractor Aerospace Corporation, told the *Times* that after he examined certain materials, he came to the conclusion that “we couldn’t make [them] ourselves.” In fact, Davis briefed a Department of Defense (DOD) agency as recently as March about retrieving materials from “off-world vehicles not made on this earth.”

Must-Read



[The Long, Strange Truth of the Navy's UFO Video](#)

"As we have said previously, the Department of Defense and all of the military departments take any incursions by unauthorized aircraft into our training ranges or designated airspace very seriously, and examine each report," Pentagon spokesperson Sue Gough tells *Popular Mechanics* in a statement. "This includes examinations of incursions that are initially reported as 'unidentified aerial phenomena' (UAP) when the observer cannot immediately identify what he or she is observing. Thorough examinations of any incursions into our training ranges or designated airspace often involves assessments from across the department, and, as appropriate, consultation with other U.S. government departments and agencies."

Gough continues:

The safety of our personnel and the security of our operations is of paramount concern. To protect our people and maintain operations security, which includes not providing information that may be useful to our adversaries, DOD does not discuss publicly the details of either the observations or the examination of reported incursions into our training ranges or designated airspace, including those incursions initially designated as UAP.

In regards to the Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force mentioned in *Times*, Gough confirms the Department of Defense "is creating a task force to gain knowledge and insight into the nature and origins of UAPs," as well as their "operations, capabilities, performance, and/or signatures."

The mission, Gough says, "will be to detect, analyze, catalog, consolidate, and exploit non-traditional aerospace vehicles/UAPs posing an operational threat to U.S. national security and avoid strategic surprise."

The *Times*

report, and the anticipated public disclosure of findings from Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force, are the latest in encouraging recent developments surrounding UFO research.

Back in April, the [U.S. Navy officially published three videos](#) that show unidentified aerial vehicles are genuine, several years after the notorious clips first leaked online and properly ushered in the [UFO renaissance](#)

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In 2019, the [Navy confirmed the three videos](#), taken by Navy pilots, indeed show "unexplained aerial phenomena," but the service also said the footage

should have never been released to the public in the first place. Then in April, the service dropped the clips on its [Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\) page](#), a repository for documents released under the federal law that allows for the full or partial disclosure of U.S. government information to the public.

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The clips were first released in 2017 and 2018 by *The New York Times* and To The Stars Academy of Arts & Science, a UFO research group from [former blink-182 member Tom DeLonge](#)

“After a thorough review,” a Pentagon spokesperson told *Popular Mechanics* in April

, “the department has determined that the authorized release of these unclassified videos does not reveal any sensitive capabilities or systems, and does not impinge on any subsequent investigations of military air space incursions by unidentified aerial phenomena.”

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DOD released the videos in order to “clear up any misconceptions by the public on whether or not the footage that has been circulating was real, or whether or not there is more to the videos.”

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INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2021

JUNE 17, 2020.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. RUBIO, from the Select Committee on Intelligence,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany S. 3905]

The Select Committee on Intelligence, having considered an original bill (S. 3905) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

CLASSIFIED ANNEXES TO THE COMMITTEE REPORT

Pursuant to Section 364 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-259), the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) publicly disclosed on February 11, 2020, that the request for the National Intelligence Program (NIP) for Fiscal Year 2021 was \$61.9 billion. Other than for limited unclassified appropriations, primarily the Intelligence Community Management Account, the classified nature of United States intelligence activities precludes any further disclosure, including by the Committee, of the details of its budgetary recommendations. Accordingly, the Committee has prepared a classified annex to this report that contains a classified Schedule of Authorizations. The classified Schedule of Authorizations is incorporated by reference in the Intel-

ligence Authorization Act and has the legal status of public law. The classified annex is made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives and to the President. It is also available for review by any Member of the Senate subject to the provisions of Senate Resolution 400 of the 94th Congress (1976).

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION

The following is a section-by-section analysis and explanation of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (the “Act”) that was reported by the Committee.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Section 101. Authorization of appropriations

Section 101 lists the United States Government departments, agencies, and other elements for which the Act authorizes appropriations for intelligence and intelligence-related activities for Fiscal Year 2021.

Section 102. Classified schedule of authorizations

Section 102 provides that the details of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for intelligence and intelligence-related activities for Fiscal Year 2021 are contained in the classified Schedule of Authorizations and that the classified Schedule of Authorizations shall be made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the President.

Section 103. Intelligence community management account

Section 103 authorizes appropriations for the Intelligence Community Management Account (ICMA) of the ODNI for Fiscal Year 2021.

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Section 201. Authorization of appropriations

Section 201 authorizes appropriations for the CIA Retirement and Disability Fund for Fiscal Year 2021.

TITLE III—INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—GENERAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Section 301. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities

Section 301 provides that the authorization of appropriations by the Act shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity that is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

Section 302. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law

Section 302 provides that funds authorized to be appropriated by the Act for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental

amounts as may be necessary for increases in compensation or benefits authorized by law.

Section 303. Clarification of authorities and responsibilities of National Manager for National Security Telecommunications and Information Systems Security

Section 303 permits the National Manager for National Security Telecommunications and Information Systems Security, as designated by National Security Directive 42 (NSD-42), to delegate NSD-42 authorities to a Deputy National Manager, without further delegation. Section 303 further reinforces the National Security Agency's (NSA's) mission regarding authorities and funding programs by ensuring that the National Manager—when carrying out NSD-42 authorities—may supervise, oversee, or execute (directly or indirectly) the Information Systems Security Program (ISSP), but shall not supervise, oversee, or execute any aspect of the National Intelligence Program (NIP) or Military Intelligence Program (MIP), except as necessary to supervise, oversee, or execute the ISSP. Section 303 also provides that, upon such delegation of authority, the Deputy National Manager may supervise, oversee, or execute (directly or indirectly) the ISSP, but shall not supervise, oversee, or execute any aspect of the NIP or MIP, except as necessary to supervise, oversee, or execute the ISSP.

Section 304. Continuity of operations plans for certain elements of the intelligence community in the case of a national emergency

Section 304 requires the Directors of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), NSA, and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) to establish continuity of operations plans for use in the case of certain national emergencies as defined in statute, and share those with the congressional intelligence committees within 7 days of a national emergency being declared. Furthermore, Section 304 requires these agencies to provide the committees with any updates to those plans as the conditions of the national emergency require.

Section 305. Application of Executive Schedule level III to positions of Director of National Security Agency and Director of National Reconnaissance Office

Section 305 provides that the Director of the NRO and the Director of the NSA shall be designated as Level III on the Executive Schedule, the equivalent of an Under Secretary. The Committee recognizes that this provision does not affect the current Director of the NSA's military rank or pay. Section 305 is intended to provide the Committee's view as to the Director's stature in the inter-agency; it is not intended to signal support for a civilian nominee. The Committee further clarifies that this provision shall apply to a successor civilian occupying the position of Director of the NRO.

Section 306. National Intelligence University

Section 306 provides the National Intelligence University (NIU) with the authorities that the Department of Defense War Colleges have regarding faculty member hiring and compensation, and the acceptance of faculty research grants. Section 306 also sustains an

independent, external board of visitors to provide oversight of the NIU.

Section 307. Requiring facilitation of establishment of Social Media Data and Threat Analysis Center

Section 307 provides a requirement regarding Section 5323 of the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020* by requiring that the Social Media Data and Threat Analysis Center be established not later than 180 days after enhancement of this Act.

Section 308. Data collection on attrition in intelligence community

Section 308 requires the DNI to set standards and issue an annual report on the reasons why different categories of Intelligence Community (IC) employees separate from service or applicants to IC positions withdraw from the hiring process after they have been issued a conditional offer of employment. Data on workforce attrition should include demographics, specialties, and length of service. Such reasons may include an alternative job opportunity, a loss of interest in joining the IC, or the length of time to complete the clearance process.

Section 309. Limitation on delegation of responsibility for program management of information-sharing environment

Section 309 stipulates that the President must delegate responsibilities under Section 1016(b) of the *Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004* to an official other than the ODNI on or after October 1, 2020.

Section 310. Improvements to provisions relating to intelligence community information technology environment

Section 310 streamlines current reporting requirements by requiring the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) to develop and maintain a long-term roadmap for the Intelligence Community Information Technology Environment (IC ITE). Section 310 further requires the DNI to develop and maintain a business plan to implement the long-term IC ITE roadmap.

Section 311. Requirements and authorities for Director of the Central Intelligence Agency to improve education in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics

Section 311 ensures that the Director of the CIA has the legal authorities required to improve the skills in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (known as STEAM) necessary to meet long-term national security needs.

SUBTITLE B—INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Section 321. Prohibition against disclosure of whistleblower identity as reprisal against whistleblower disclosure by employees and contractors in the intelligence community

Section 321 adds to prohibited personnel practices a knowing, willful or negligent disclosure that reveals an IC Whistleblower's identifying information without consent. Section 321 further provides an IC Whistleblower with a private right of action if such dis-

closure is taken as a reprisal against the IC Whistleblower for bringing a complaint.

Section 322. Clarification of standards regarding whistleblower complaints and information of urgent concern received by Inspector General of the Intelligence Community

Section 322 clarifies the definition of “urgent concern” regarding whistleblower complaints and ensures that the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) has authority over determining whether a matter falls within the “urgent concern” definition.

Section 323. Clarification regarding submittal of complaints and information by whistleblowers in the intelligence community to Congress

Section 323 clarifies that IC Whistleblowers can give their complaints to the intelligence committees—as long as the complaint is provided to both Chairman and Vice Chairman or Ranking Member or designated nonpartisan staff—regardless of whether they are determined to be urgent concerns. Section 323 further provides new security protocols in the instances where complaints include classified information.

Section 324. Limitation on sharing of intelligence community whistleblower complaints with persons named in such complaints

Section 324 prohibits Federal government agents and employees from sharing an IC Whistleblower complaint that has been submitted to an IC element’s IG with a named subject of the complaint, unless the IC Whistleblower provides written consent or information sharing is required as part of the investigation. Section 324 further provides that any violation is subject to criminal fines and/or two-year imprisonment and requires notification to the congressional intelligence committees.

SUBTITLE C—REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS PERTAINING TO THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Section 331. Assessment by the Comptroller General of the United States on efforts of the Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense to identify and mitigate risks posed to the Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense by the use of direct-to-consumer genetic testing by the Government of the People’s Republic of China

Section 331 directs the Comptroller General to assess efforts in the IC and Department of Defense (DoD) to identify and mitigate the risks posed to the IC and DoD by direct-to-consumer genetic testing by the Government of the People’s Republic of China. Section 331 further requires the report to include key national security risks and vulnerabilities, an assessment of the IC’s and DoD’s identification and mitigation of such risks and vulnerabilities, and recommendations for the IC and DoD to improve identification and mitigation of such risks and vulnerabilities.

Section 332. Report on use by intelligence community of hiring flexibilities and expedited human resources practices to assure quality and diversity in the workforce of the intelligence community

Section 332 requires the DNI to submit a report describing how IC elements are exercising hiring flexibilities and expedited human resources practices afforded under 5 U.S.C. § 3326 and related regulations, including the identification of any obstacles encountered by the IC in exercising such authorities.

Section 333. Report on signals intelligence priorities and requirements

Section 333 requires the DNI to submit a report detailing signals intelligence priorities and requirements subject to Presidential Policy Directive-28 that stipulates “why, whether, when, and how the United States conducts signals intelligence activities.” This report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Section 334. Assessment of demand for student loan repayment program benefit

Section 334 requires the head of each IC element to calculate the number of personnel who qualify for a student loan repayment program benefit, and compare it to the number of personnel who apply for such a benefit. The information provided will include recommendations for how to optimize participation and enhance the effectiveness of the benefit as a retention tool, to identify any shortfall in funds or authorities needed to provide such benefit, and to include such materials with the budget request for Fiscal Year 2022.

Section 335. Assessment of intelligence community demand for child care

Section 335 requires the DNI in coordination with the heads of other IC elements to provide a report that includes: a calculation of the total annual demand for child care by employees at NSA, NGA, DIA, NRO, CIA, and ODNI; an identification of any shortfalls between demand and the child care support by these IC elements; an assessment of options for addressing any such shortfall; an identification of the advantages, disadvantages, security requirements, and costs associated with each option; a plan to meet, within five years after the date of the report, the demand for childcare, and an assessment of specific considerations that impact the alternatives available to these IC elements.

Section 336. Open source intelligence strategies and plans for the intelligence community

Section 336 requires the DNI in coordination with the heads of each IC element, to conduct a survey of the open source intelligence requirements, goals, investments, and capabilities for each element of the IC and to evaluate the usability of the Open Source Enterprise (OSE). Based on such findings, it further mandates the DNI shall develop, in coordination with the heads of each IC element, a strategy for open source intelligence collection, analysis, and production across the IC; create a plan for improving usability of the

OSE; and conduct a risk and benefit analysis of creating an independent open source center.

Using the findings above, Section 336 further requires the DNI to develop a plan for a centralized data repository of open source intelligence. Finally, it mandates the DNI develop a cost-sharing model that leverages the open source intelligence investments of each IC element for the beneficial use of the entire IC. It also requires the heads of ODNI, CIA, DIA, NGA, and NSA to jointly brief the congressional intelligence committees on the progress developing the aforementioned plans.

Section 337. Plan for establishing an element of the intelligence community within the United States Space Force

Section 337 requires the DNI and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, in coordination with the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Space Operations, to submit a plan for establishing an element of the IC within the United States Space Force.

TITLE IV—SECURITY CLEARANCES AND TRUSTED WORKFORCE

Section 401. Exclusivity, consistency, and transparency in security clearance procedures, and right to appeal

Section 401 requires the Executive Branch to publish adjudicative guidelines for determining eligibility to access classified information and makes these guidelines the exclusive basis for granting, denying, and revoking clearances in order to increase transparency and accountability, and ensure due process. Section 401 further codifies the right of government employees to appeal unfavorable eligibility determinations to an agency-level panel. Section 401 also creates a higher level review by a government-wide appeals panel, chaired by the DNI as the government's Security Executive Agent, to review certain agency-level panel determinations involving allegations of constitutional violations or discrimination. This DNI-led panel can remand decisions to the employing agency for reevaluation if the panel finds valid cause.

Section 402. Establishing process parity for security clearance revocations

Section 402 requires an agency, in justifying an adverse security clearance or access determination against a whistleblower, to demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the agency would have made the same security clearance or access determination in the absence of the whistleblower's disclosure. Section 402 establishes parity in the legal standards applied to IC Whistleblower matters.

Section 403. Federal policy on sharing of derogatory information pertaining to contractor employees in the trusted workforce

Section 403 requires the DNI to issue a policy within 180 days of enactment that facilitates sharing of derogatory information the government obtains on cleared contractors (along with any mitigation measures put in place) with Federal contractor employers' chief security officers, to help companies maintain robust insider threat programs. The policy must comport with privacy rights,

allow individuals to verify the information, and stipulate that such sharing is only for purposes of security risk mitigation.

TITLE V—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Section 501. Secure and trusted technology

Section 501 establishes a Communications Technology Security and Innovation Fund to support the development and deployment of open standards-based compatible, interoperable equipment for fifth-generation wireless networks to create a more secure and diverse telecommunications vendor market. It also establishes a Multilateral Telecommunications Security Fund to support the adoption of secure and trusted communications technologies in key markets globally. Section 501 authorizes up to \$750,000,000 for each fund and requires the administrators of each fund to provide annual reports to Congress detailing the use of proceeds.

Section 501 further requires the DNI to submit a report on political influence by adversarial nations within international forums that set standards for fifth-generation and future generations of wireless networks, including International Telecommunication Union (ITU), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), and 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP). Section 501 also requires the DNI and Secretary of Defense to jointly submit a report on developing federal wireless network testbeds for development of fifth-generation technologies for U.S. military and dual-use applications using open interface standards-based compatible, interoperable equipment. This report should include an assessment of efforts by foreign governments to build wireless network testbeds for virtualized telecommunication technologies. Both reports shall be in unclassified form with a classified annex, if required.

Section 502. Report on attempts by foreign adversaries to build telecommunications and cybersecurity equipment and services for, or to provide such equipment and services to, certain allies of the United States

Section 502 requires the CIA, NSA, and DIA to submit to the congressional intelligence and armed services committees a joint report that describes the United States intelligence sharing and military posture in Five Eyes countries that currently have or intend to use adversary telecommunications or cybersecurity equipment, especially as provided by China or Russia, with a description of potential vulnerabilities of that information and assessment of mitigation options.

Section 503. Report on threats posed by use by foreign governments and entities of commercially available cyber intrusion and surveillance technology

Section 503 requires the DNI to submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees on the threats posed by foreign governments and foreign entities using and appropriating commercially available cyber intrusion and other surveillance technology.

Section 504. Reports on recommendation of the Cyberspace Solarium Commission

Section 504 requires the ODNI, Department of Homeland Security (acting through the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis), Department of Energy (acting through the Director of Intelligence and Counterintelligence of the Department of Energy), Department of Commerce, and DoD to report to Congress their assessment of the recommendations submitted by the Cyberspace Solarium Commission pursuant to Section 1652(j) of the *John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2019*, and to describe actions that each agency expects to take to implement these recommendations.

Section 505. Assessment of critical technology trends relating to artificial intelligence, microchips, and semiconductors and related supply chains

Section 505 requires the DNI to complete an assessment of export controls related to artificial intelligence (AI), microchips, advanced manufacturing equipment, and other AI-enabled technologies, including the identification of opportunities for further cooperation with international partners.

Section 506. Duty to report counterintelligence threats to campaigns

Section 506 requires that Federal presidential campaigns must report to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) within one week any offers to contribute, donate, expend, disburse, or solicit as prohibited under 50 U.S.C. § 30121 by the following individuals: a foreign principal as defined in the Foreign Agent Registration Act; a person acting at the direction of a foreign principal; or a person included in the list of specially designated nationals or blocked person by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Control. Section 506 further requires Federal campaigns to establish a policy to retain and preserve records related to reportable foreign contacts for not less than three years, and enacts criminal penalties for willful violations of this section.

Section 507. Combating Chinese influence operations in the United States and strengthening civil liberties protections

Section 507 provides additional requirements to annual reports in 50 U.S.C. § 3237(B) on Influence Operations and Campaigns in the United States by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) by mandating an identification of influence operations by the CCP against the science and technology sector in the United States. Section 507 also requires the FBI to create a plan, in consultation with stakeholders outside the Intelligence Community to increase public awareness and detection of influence activities by the CCP. Finally, Section 507 requires the FBI, in consultation with the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights and the Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer of the Department of Justice, to develop recommendations to strengthen relationships with communities targeted by the CCP and to build trust with such communities through local and regional grassroots outreach.

Section 508. Annual report on corrupt activities of senior officials of the Chinese Communist Party

Section 508 requires the CIA, in coordination with the Department of Treasury's Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the FBI, to submit to designated congressional committees annually through 2025 a report that describes and assesses the wealth and corruption of senior officials of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), as well as targeted financial measures, including potential targets for sanctions designation. Section 508 further expresses the Sense of Congress that the United States should undertake every effort and pursue every opportunity to expose the corruption and illicit practices of senior officials of the CCP, including President Xi Jinping.

Section 509. Report on corrupt activities of Russian and other Eastern European oligarchs

Section 509 requires the CIA, in coordination with the Department of the Treasury's Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the FBI, to submit to designated congressional committees and the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, a report that describes the corruption and corrupt or illegal activities among Russian and other Eastern European oligarchs who support the Russian government and Russian President Vladimir Putin, and the impact of those activities on the economy and citizens of Russia. Section 509 further requires the CIA, in coordination with the Department of Treasury's Office of Intelligence and Analysis, to describe potential sanctions that could be imposed for such activities.

Section 510. Report on biosecurity risk and disinformation by the Chinese Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of China

Section 510 requires the DNI to submit to the designated congressional committees a report identifying whether and how CCP officials and the Government of the People's Republic of China may have sought to suppress or exploit for national advantage information regarding the novel coronavirus pandemic, including specific related assessments. Section 510 further provides that the report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may have a classified annex.

Section 511. Report on effect of lifting of United Nations arms embargo on Islamic Republic of Iran

Section 511 requires the DIA to submit to designated congressional committees a report on the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's plans to acquire military arms if the United Nations Security Council's resolutions' ban on arms transfers to or from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is lifted, as well as the effects such arms acquisitions may have on regional security and stability.

Section 512. Report on Iranian activities relating to nuclear non-proliferation

Section 512 directs the DNI to submit a report on any relevant activities relating to nuclear weapons research and development by the Islamic Republic of Iran and any relevant efforts to afford or

deny international access to related facilities in accordance with international non-proliferation agreements.

Section 513. Sense of Congress on Third Option Foundation

Section 513 expresses the sense of Congress that the Third Option Foundation's work on behalf of the CIA's special operations community and their families is invaluable, such that the Director of the CIA should work with the Foundation to implement section 6412 of the *Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020*, which provided special rules for certain monthly workers' compensation payments and other payments to CIA personnel.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Equitable Treatment of Relocation Costs for Intelligence Community Civilians

As demonstrated in The Intelligence Community Workforce Agility Protection Act of 2020, S. 3675, introduced by Senators Burr and Warner, the Committee strongly supports IC personnel who must make a permanent change of station to accept an IC position. The Committee recognizes such relocations pose significant financial hardships for the IC civilians who move their families to serve their country. Current law provides military members with exemptions from effective tax penalties for such relocations, but IC civilians have no similar exemptions, thus undermining the IC's ability to recruit and maintain a highly qualified and motivated workforce. The Intelligence Community Workforce Agility Protection Act of 2020 would provide equitable tax treatment for IC civilians who are subject to similar permanent change of station orders. The Committee looks forward to expeditious congressional action on this matter.

Advanced Aerial Threats

The Committee supports the efforts of the Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force at the Office of Naval Intelligence to standardize collection and reporting on unidentified aerial phenomenon, any links they have to adversarial foreign governments, and the threat they pose to U.S. military assets and installations. However, the Committee remains concerned that there is no unified, comprehensive process within the Federal Government for collecting and analyzing intelligence on unidentified aerial phenomena, despite the potential threat. The Committee understands that the relevant intelligence may be sensitive; nevertheless, the Committee finds that the information sharing and coordination across the Intelligence Community has been inconsistent, and this issue has lacked attention from senior leaders.

Therefore, the Committee directs the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the heads of such other agencies as the Director and Secretary jointly consider relevant, to submit a report within 180 days of the date of enactment of the Act, to the congressional intelligence and armed services committees on unidentified aerial phenomena (also known as "anomalous aerial vehicles"), including observed airborne objects that have not been identified.

The Committee further directs the report to include:

1. A detailed analysis of unidentified aerial phenomena data and intelligence reporting collected or held by the Office of Naval Intelligence, including data and intelligence reporting held by the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force;
2. A detailed analysis of unidentified phenomena data collected by:
 - a. geospatial intelligence;
 - b. signals intelligence;
 - c. human intelligence; and
 - d. measurement and signals intelligence;
3. A detailed analysis of data of the FBI, which was derived from investigations of intrusions of unidentified aerial phenomena data over restricted United States airspace;
4. A detailed description of an interagency process for ensuring timely data collection and centralized analysis of all unidentified aerial phenomena reporting for the Federal Government, regardless of which service or agency acquired the information;
5. Identification of an official accountable for the process described in paragraph 4;
6. Identification of potential aerospace or other threats posed by the unidentified aerial phenomena to national security, and an assessment of whether this unidentified aerial phenomena activity may be attributed to one or more foreign adversaries;
7. Identification of any incidents or patterns that indicate a potential adversary may have achieved breakthrough aerospace capabilities that could put United States strategic or conventional forces at risk; and
8. Recommendations regarding increased collection of data, enhanced research and development, and additional funding and other resources.

The report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Coordination of Security for Domestic Military Installations and Other Facilities

The Committee is concerned that, as a result of several recent incidents of attempted unauthorized access to Naval Air Station Key West and Fort Story, Virginia by Chinese nationals, several security vulnerabilities have been discovered. Foreign adversaries may be systematically probing military installations and facilities, and it is important that the Department of Defense take responsibility for ensuring security measures are adequate, unauthorized accesses are tracked, and uniform reporting requirements for attempted unauthorized accesses are established.

Therefore, the Committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security (USD(I&S)), in coordination with the DNI and the Director of the FBI, to establish within the Office of the USD(I&S) a designee responsible for coordination of security for domestic military installations and other domestic military facilities. Specifically, the designee's responsibilities shall include tracking unauthorized incursions into domestic military installations and facilities and attempts at such incursions.

The Committee further directs that, within 180 days of enactment of this Act, such individual shall develop a strategy for security and counterintelligence collection that defines the capability requirements, responsibilities, and processes for security and counterintelligence for domestic military installations and other domestic military facilities. In addition, not less frequently than once each year, the Under Secretary shall, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate elements of the DoD and the IC, brief the intelligence and armed services committees on the:

1. Activities of the designee; and
2. Current and anticipated trends and developments in connection with security for domestic military installations and other domestic military facilities.

Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination Modernization and Integration Efforts of the Algorithmic Warfare Cross-functional Team of the Department of Defense

The Committee is concerned with the intelligence silos that have resulted from isolated procurement programs that store data in individual repositories, each with its own set of cataloging procedures and proprietary technologies. This, in turn, potentially limits advantageous communications among databases, causes vital intelligence to go undetected, and causes duplication of separately-located analysts' efforts in reviewing other, less vital, intelligence information.

Therefore, the Committee directs the head of the Algorithmic Warfare Cross-Functional Team, as established in the Department of Defense by memorandum dated April 26, 2017, to submit to the congressional intelligence and armed services committees within 180 days of enactment of the Act, a report that includes:

1. Recommendations for the delineation of efforts between the Team and the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center, especially with respect to data labeling, testing and evaluation;
2. Recommendations for resource sharing across the intelligence community for test and evaluation as Project Maven transitions its independent lines of effort;
3. The plan of the Team to integrate unsupervised artificial intelligence algorithms (e.g., algorithms that learn from data without being trained, allowing the artificial intelligence to self-improve) into Project Maven;
4. The plan of the Team to incorporate independent data repositories located across the intelligence community, irrespective of the element providing the data or the domain they are resident to, into Project Maven; and
5. The plan of the Team to ensure that development of Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination technology that will facilitate and enhance the capability of analysts to rapidly search across near real-time sensors, leverage historical data, and identify valuable intelligence is incorporated into the Defense Intelligence Agency Machine-assisted Analytic Rapid-repository System.

Plan for Assessing Government Agency Counterintelligence Programs

Adversary intelligence and security service efforts to monitor, access, penetrate, and/or manipulate government facilities, personnel, networks, and supply chains have become increasingly more sophisticated, as described in the National Counterintelligence Strategy of the United States. Many national security agencies, to include those in the DoD and IC, have mature and robust counterintelligence programs to preserve the integrity of their systems. However, many agencies' programs lag behind, either because they do not believe they are at risk or because of internal funding challenges. Therefore, the Committee directs the Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center to develop a plan within 90 days of enactment of this Act for assessing the effectiveness of all government agency counterintelligence programs. This plan should address the standards and methods of assessment that may apply for different categories of executive agencies; phasing of implementation over a five-year timeframe to cover all government counterintelligence; the periodicity for updated assessments; and annual costs to conduct these assessment and any recommendation for a cost recovery mechanism.

Security Clearance Procedures and Rights to Appeal

Section 401 of the Act provides appeal rights and procedures for security clearance eligibility determinations. This provision is not intended to impede agency decisions regarding access to classified information for a limited purpose or duration (e.g., regarding an election or one-time read-ins for a specific event or threat). The Committee does, however, expect agencies to keep Congress fully and currently informed of any limited purpose or duration grants of access. Finally, the Committee expects the DNI-level appeals panel to exercise judgment and review only those appeals that the panel concludes have evidentiary and jurisdictional merit.

Supporting Industry during Coronavirus

Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) in March 2020 to provide necessary assistance to the American economy during the coronavirus pandemic. An important element of that Act was Section 3610, which provided agencies authorities to modify contracts for companies supporting the government. This provision was critical to the defense industrial base. The Committee believes that consistent interpretation of Section 3610, particularly as it relates to work conducted at contractor facilities, cost reimbursement methodology, adjustments in payment plans, and adjustments in contract periods of performance, is essential to reducing uncertainty and sustaining a vibrant national security sector. The Committee looks forward to working with the IC elements in identifying if any additional authorities or resources are necessary and identifying lessons learned for any future national emergency.

Efficient Use of Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities

The Committee is concerned that there are unnecessary challenges to the utilization of Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) spaces by multiple programs among IC and Depart-

ment of Defense components and their appropriately cleared government contractors. These challenges result in inefficient use of SCIFs and classified networks. The Committee finds that it is important to support collaboration and related efficiencies by sharing SCIF spaces.

Therefore, the Committee directs the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, to issue, within 180 days after enactment of this Act, revised guidance authorizing and directing government agencies and their appropriately cleared contractors to process, store, use, and discuss sensitive compartmented information (SCI) at facilities previously approved to handle SCI, without need for further approval by agency or by site. This guidance shall apply to both IC-controlled access programs and DoD special access programs.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On June 3, 2020, a quorum being present, the Committee met to consider the bill and amendments. The Committee took the following actions:

Votes on amendments to the committee bill and the classified annex

By unanimous consent, the Committee made the Acting Chairman and Vice Chairman's bill, together with the classified annex for Fiscal Year 2021, the base text for purposes of amendment.

By voice vote, the Committee adopted *en bloc* three amendments to the classified annex, as follows: (1) a second-degree amendment by Acting Chairman Rubio; (2) an amendment by Acting Chairman Rubio; and (3) a second-degree amendment by Senator Sasse.

By voice vote, the Committee adopted *en bloc* five amendments to the bill, as follows: (1) an amendment by Senator Burr and cosponsored by Vice Chairman Warner, to improve provisions relating to the IC Information Technology Environment; (2) an amendment by Senator Risch and cosponsored by Senator King, to require reporting on Cyberspace Solarium Commission recommendations; (3) a second-degree amendment by Acting Chairman Rubio and cosponsored by Senators Risch, Blunt, Cotton, Cornyn, and Sasse, to improve Section 322; (4) an amendment by Senator Bennet and cosponsored by Vice Chairman Warner and Senators Cotton and Cornyn, to require an assessment of critical technology trends related to artificial intelligence; and (5) an amendment by Senator Cotton to require a report on Iranian activities relating to nuclear non-proliferation.

By voice vote, the Committee adopted an amendment by Senator Burr and cosponsored by Vice Chairman Warner, which provides the legal authorities required for the Director of the CIA to improve recruitment in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (known as STEAM) necessary to meet long-term national security needs.

By voice vote, the Committee adopted a second-degree amendment by Vice Chairman Warner and cosponsored by Senators Collins and Bennet, to an amendment by Vice Chairman Warner, and cosponsored by Senators Collins and Bennet, that requires Federal presidential campaigns to report to the FBI illegal offers of assistance by known foreign agents. The second-degree amendment exempted unpaid volunteers from such reporting requirements and

reduced the criminal penalties. By a vote of 8 ayes and 7 noes, the Committee adopted the amendment by Vice Chairman Warner, and cosponsored by Senators Collins and Bennet, as modified by the second-degree amendment. The votes in person were as follows: Acting Chairman Rubio—no; Senator Burr—no; Senator Risch—no; Senator Collins—aye; Senator Blunt—no; Senator Cotton—no; Senator Cornyn—no; Senator Sasse—no; Vice Chairman Warner—aye; Senator Feinstein—aye; Senator Wyden—aye; Senator Heinrich—aye; Senator King—aye; Senator Harris—aye; and Senator Bennet—aye.

By a vote of 7 ayes and 8 noes, the Committee did not adopt an amendment by Senator Wyden to establish the DNI as the Executive Agent for Federal government-wide declassification processes and requirements. The votes in person were as follows: Acting Chairman Rubio—no; Senator Burr—no; Senator Risch—no; Senator Collins—no; Senator Blunt—no; Senator Cotton—no; Senator Cornyn—no; Senator Sasse—no; Vice Chairman Warner—aye; Senator Feinstein—aye; Senator Wyden—aye; Senator Heinrich—aye; Senator King—aye; Senator Harris—aye; and Senator Bennet—aye.

Votes to report the committee bill

On June 3, 2020, the Committee voted to report the bill, as amended, by a vote of 14 ayes and one no. The votes in person or by proxy were as follows: Acting Chairman Rubio—aye; Senator Burr—aye; Senator Risch—aye; Senator Collins—aye; Senator Blunt—aye; Senator Cotton—aye; Senator Cornyn—aye; Senator Sasse—aye; Vice Chairman Warner—aye; Senator Feinstein—aye; Senator Wyden—no; Senator Heinrich—aye; Senator King—aye; Senator Harris—aye; and Senator Bennet—aye.

By unanimous consent, the Committee authorized the staff to make technical and conforming changes to the bill and classified annex.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XLIV

Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires publication of a list of any “congressionally directed spending item, limited tax benefit, and limited tariff benefit” that is included in the bill or the committee report accompanying the bill. Consistent with the determination of the Committee not to create any congressionally directed spending items or earmarks, none have been included in the bill, the report to accompany it, or the classified schedule of authorizations. The bill, report, and classified schedule of authorizations also contain no limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits.

ESTIMATE OF COSTS

Pursuant to paragraph 11(a)(3) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee deems it impractical to include an estimate of the costs incurred in carrying out the provisions of this report due to the classified nature of the operations conducted pursuant to this legislation. On June 8, 2020, the Committee transmitted this bill to the Congressional Budget Office and requested an estimate of the costs incurred in carrying out the unclassified provisions.

EVALUATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT

In accordance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee finds that no substantial regulatory impact will be incurred by implementing the provisions of this legislation.

CHANGES TO EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee finds that it is necessary to dispense with the requirement of paragraph 12 to expedite the business of the Senate.

MINORITY VIEWS OF SENATOR WYDEN

Despite its strong provisions, I voted against the Fiscal Year 2021 Intelligence Authorization Act because the legislation failed to reform a broken, costly declassification system. Years of reports, from the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) and the Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB), have documented how a flood of digital classification has overwhelmed the federal government's obsolete declassification system. There is a consensus, inside and outside government, that the system is unsustainable.

The ISOO has determined that the cost of classification continues to increase and now exceeds \$18 billion annually. A dysfunctional system that lets more and more classified records pile up wastes a significant portion of that amount, while undermining transparency and doing nothing to protect national security.

There is no dispute about the severity of the problem, nor about the solution—modernization of the declassification system. Senator Jerry Moran and I have introduced bipartisan legislation (S. 3733) to charge the Director of National Intelligence with modernizing declassification, a recommendation also made by the PIDB. I am disappointed that the Committee rejected efforts to adopt this commonsense bipartisan reform and address this ever-growing crisis.

The bill includes a number of important Intelligence Community whistleblower protection provisions, four of which were included at the behest of Vice Chairman Warner and myself. Those provisions protect from outside interference the Inspector General's determinations about what whistleblower complaints to submit to Congress, prohibit the public disclosure of whistleblowers' identities, prohibit whistleblower complaints from being shared with the subjects of those complaints, and provide a channel for whistleblowers to come directly to Congress without interference from the DNI.

Unnecessarily restrictive language was added to the provision facilitating direct whistleblower communications with Congress. The Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act created a process for whistleblowers to communicate with the "intelligence committees," whereas the bill appears to limit such communication to the Chairman and Vice Chairman, or certain nonpartisan staff. To the extent the bill creates new limitations on efforts by whistleblowers to convey concerns to members of Congress, the language in the bill should be modified or clarified.

The bill includes a fifth whistleblower provision I proposed that protects whistleblowers whose security clearances are revoked or who face an adverse access determination by requiring that the government demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the agency would have made the same security clearance or access determination in the absence of the whistleblower's disclosure.

It also includes my provision requiring a report on the threat posed by the proliferation of commercial spyware as well as U.S. government efforts to counter that threat.

Finally, I am pleased that the Classified Annex requires a report with information that Senator Heinrich and I have been seeking related to collection conducted pursuant to Executive Order 12333.

RON WYDEN.





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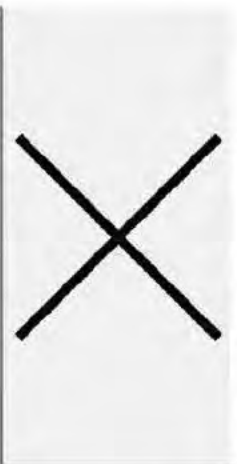
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Leaked Navy video appears to show UFO off California

The video was recorded July 2019 by Navy aircraft, according to filmmaker Jeremy Corbell. We apologize, this video has expired.



[Leaked video shows UFO flying around Navy ship near San Diego](#)

May 17, 2021 02:35

May 17, 2021, 9:12 PM UTC / Updated May 17, 2021, 9:19 PM UTC
By Gadi Schwartz and [Tim Stelloh](#)

A [newly leaked Navy video](#) appears to show an unidentified flying object disappearing into the water off California, according to a clip obtained by a documentary filmmaker and shared with NBC News.

The video was captured in July 2019 by Navy aircraft and recorded in the USS Omaha's Combat Information Center, [according to the filmmaker](#), Jeremy Corbell.

The clip appears to show a spherical object flying above the water for a few minutes near San Diego before it vanishes.

"It splashed," military personnel can be heard saying in the video.

The Defense Department confirmed that the clip was recorded by Navy personnel and said it will be reviewed by the Pentagon's Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force, a panel established last year to ["gain insight"](#) into the "nature and origins" of such objects.

The video was published a few days before "60 Minutes" [aired an interview](#) with two former Navy pilots who recalled having been dispatched to investigate "multiple anomalous aerial vehicles" that descended 80,000 feet in less than a second. The incident also occurred off San Diego in 2004.

One of the pilots, Cmdr. Dave Fravor, told "60 Minutes" that personnel found a "little white Tic-Tac-looking object" moving above the water before it disappeared. Seconds later, his ship — the USS Princeton — said the object reappeared on its radar 60 miles away.

Christopher Mellon, a top defense official in the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations, said in an interview that there was "a lot of continuity" between recent reports of unidentified objects and reports dating back decades.

"What we're seeing are a number of distinct and different things," he said. "Sometimes we're seeing a 50-foot object that can travel at hypersonic speeds and seemingly go into orbit or come down from altitudes of potentially above 100,000 feet."

Mellon said the stigma associated with reporting such phenomena has long kept witnesses quiet — a sentiment echoed by Lt. Cmdr. Alex Dietrich, one of the Navy pilots interviewed by "60 Minutes."

"Over beers we've said, 'Hey man, if I saw this solo, I don't know that I would have come back and said anything,'" Dietrich said. "Because it sounds so crazy when I say it."

[A lengthy story in The New Yorker](#) titled "How the Pentagon Started Taking U.F.O.s Seriously" examined the work of journalist Leslie Kean last month. Kean [co-wrote an article](#) in The New York Times four years ago reporting that the Pentagon was spending millions of dollars on a threat identification program to examine unidentified aircraft that moved at high velocities with no apparent signs of propulsion.

Gadi Schwartz

Gadi Schwartz is a correspondent for NBC News and a host of Stay Tuned on Snapchat.

[Tim Stelloh](#)

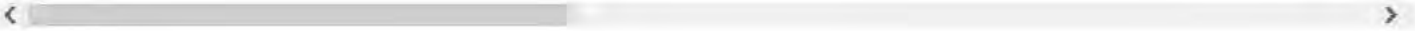
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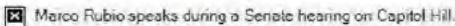
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UFOs

Marco Rubio urges US to take UFOs seriously ahead of government report

'I want us to take it seriously and have a process to take it seriously,' Florida senator tells 60 Minutes

 Marco Rubio speaks during a Senate hearing on Capitol Hill.

 Marco Rubio speaks during a Senate hearing on Capitol Hill. Photograph: REX/Shutterstock

Amanda Holpuch in New York

[@holpuch](#)

Mon 17 May 2021 08:19 EDT



The Florida senator Marco Rubio has urged American lawmakers to take the issue of mysterious flying objects seriously ahead of the expected release next month of a US government report on unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP), better known as UFOs.

The report follows a **renewed push** by former government officials and senators including Rubio to investigate reports of UFOs seen by the military.

Pentagon confirms leaked photos and video of UFOs are legitimate

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"I want us to take it seriously and have a process to take it seriously," Rubio told **CBS's 60 Minutes** in an interview that aired Sunday night.

The Florida Republican said a system was needed to catalogue data on these objects until answers had been

found.

"Maybe it has a very simple answer," Rubio said. "Maybe it doesn't."

When Rubio was acting Senate intelligence committee chair last year, he asked the director of national intelligence and the secretary of defense to provide an unclassified report on UAP by next month.

“Anything that enters an airspace that’s not supposed to be there is a threat,” Rubio said.

Rubio acknowledged that the military and others have a history of dismissing this issue.

“There’s a stigma on Capitol Hill,” Rubio said. “I mean, some of my colleagues are very interested in this topic and some kinda, you know, giggle when you bring it up. But I don’t think we can allow the stigma to keep us from having an answer to a very fundamental question.”

Despite this stigma, the issue has gained momentum in the past year.

In January, a website that archives declassified government documents, the Black Vault, published thousands of declassified CIA documents on UFOs.

In August, the Pentagon resurrected its program to collect and analyze information on mystery objects and military members are encouraged to report strange encounters to this UAP taskforce.

Luis Elizondo was part of the Pentagon’s earlier version of this group, the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), from 2010 to 2017.

He told 60 Minutes there were simple explanations for some of the mysterious sightings, but not all.

“We’re not just simply jumping to a conclusion that’s saying, ‘Oh, that’s a UAP out there,” Elizondo said. “We’re going through our due diligence. Is it some sort of new type of cruise missile technology that China has developed? Is it some sort of high-altitude balloon that’s conducting reconnaissance? Ultimately when you have exhausted all those what ifs and you’re still left with the fact that this is in our airspace and it’s real, that’s when it becomes compelling, and that’s when it becomes problematic.”

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NARCAP Technical Report
NARCAP TR 8, 2004

Aviation Safety in America:
Unidentified Aerial Phenomena
And
Under Reporting Bias

Ted Roe
Executive Director

May 29, 2002
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National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena

Abstract

Science has validated the existence of several kinds of natural phenomena that are characterized by unusual aerial lighting displays. Some of these phenomena are not clearly understood and have been only recently documented. Additionally reliable observations from US government and official international sources include descriptions of airborne objects with uncommon characteristics. Some of these phenomena have electrical properties that can adversely effect safe aviation and appear to be very unusual to observers. Some of these phenomena represent a physical hazard that is documented in several US Government operated aviation incident-reporting systems. These poorly understood phenomena have not been given appropriate consideration for the potential hazards they may represent by the US aviation system. Though these observations and incidents do occur they are under reported. This under reporting bias is affecting aviation safety planning and mitigation with respect to unidentified aerial phenomena - UAP. The sources of this bias are found the unusual nature of UAP observations and incidents, the unfamiliarity of the US aviation system with unidentified aerial phenomena, and the efforts by the US military to resolve these events (see Appendix A). No official efforts to review these incidents and observations have been undertaken within the US aviation system. No steps have been taken to educate aviation professionals regarding these events. Information regarding these incidents and observations flows into the military and intelligence community and is not reviewed by safety administrators and aviation managers. There are no technical or procedural solutions in place or on the drawing board.

Analysis of audio recordings of UAP incidents acquired through the FOIA reveals that safety is compromised by confusion, fear and lack of initiative when aviation professionals are confronted with the presence of UAP (see Appendix B). These findings are discussed along with specific recommendations for the resolution of this problem.

Contents

Abstract:..... 1

Introduction:..... 3

Pilot Commentary Reflecting an Under-Reporting Bias..... 4

Aircrew Survey..... 5

Review of Aviation Incident Databases for UAP data..... 6

Historical Events Have Contributed to Under-reporting of UAP Incidents...... 7

Lack of Knowledge About UAP Characteristics Has Contributed to Under-reporting of UAP Incidents...... 10

 UAP Characteristics:..... 10

Insensitivity To UAP Witnesses Within the Aviation System Has Contributed to Under-reporting of UAP Incidents...... 11

Recommendations: 12

Issues: 13

 1. Credibility 13

 2. Risks..... 13

 3. Data Collection 14

 4. Education 14

 5. The French Model..... 15

National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena..... 16

References..... 17

Appendix A..... 19

 A Brief Overview of the Recent History of UFO/UAP observations..... 19

 UAP and Aviation: Radar/Visual Cases 21

Analysis of an Audio Recording of a UAP incident for Evidence of Under-reporting bias:..... 24

Incident Summary: 29

 Air Controller and ARTCC..... 29

 Obstructed Communication 30

 Radar Confirmation - No Action Taken 31

 Aircrew 31

 Obstructed Communication 32

Bias Compromises Safety..... 32

Introduction

Science has validated the existence of several kinds of natural phenomena that are characterized by unusual airborne lighting displays, some are related to tectonic or geomagnetic activity, others are related weather induced electrical activity, solar and meteor activity, etc... Some of these phenomena are not clearly understood and have been only recently documented. These phenomena can have electrical properties that can effect avionics and electrical systems and can appear to be very unusual to observers. Some of these phenomena are quite dynamic and encounters are described as near mid-air collisions. Though these observations and incidents do occur they are under reported.

The issue of valid U.S. pilot reports of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, UAP and the seeming lack of attention given to these reports by the aviation system is a complicated one. There is clearly a longstanding bias in place that severely inhibits the reporting and investigation of UAP incidents. This bias stifles open discussion of UAP amongst aircrews, management, safety administrators, and the researchers who try to acquire information on this important topic.

These incidents clearly affect aviation safety. Some UAP incidents include very close pacing, and close passes that are described by aircrews as near mid-air collisions. Some UAP incidents also include transient and/or permanent effects on avionics systems. The distraction to aircrews has a direct effect on cockpit resource management (CRM). In some cases, passengers and crew have been injured by emergency control inputs implemented by aircrews to avoid what is perceived as a potential collision with UAP. There are cases involving downed, or missing aircraft and crews.

Some UAP encounters involve ground-based radars that provide verification of the presence of uncorrelated targets near aircraft whose crews report observations of UAP. Often these observations and incidents go unreported even though these "radar/visual" events involve significant numbers of witnesses including aircrews and passengers, radar operators, air traffic controllers and supervisors.

The confusion surrounding these incidents and observations is evident in the air traffic control tapes that regularly record all transmissions and communication between the control tower, aircraft, and peripheral facilities. An analysis of an FAA audio recording of an air controller addressing a UAP observation is included in Appendix B.

Military pilots are supported by post-mission debriefings as well as specific radars that continually examine their activities and occasionally capture the presence of UAP. In turn, these observations are protected from public scrutiny by secrecy oaths taken by all military officers and enlisted men. Even so, through the Freedom of Information Act many of these incidents and observations have become public record. This information never travels directly back to the aviation safety planning community.

It is unreasonable to conclude that conservative, responsible individuals don't see

UAP. The image of conservative responsibility offered by the airlines may contribute to an environment that is not conducive to reporting unusual observations or incidents.

Some commercial and private pilots report incidents and observations to the various incident databases, but those incidents and observations are not actively examined for their effects upon aviation safety by the various government and civil organizations charged with aviation safety issues. In fact, when one reviews the various incident databases it becomes apparent that there is no allowance for reporting these types of incidents on the reporting forms or in the process. Reporters are left to their own devices to explain their experience.

This reluctance to report safety-related UAP incidents has its roots in several significant historical events (Appendix A). These events have served to create, or have significantly contributed to, an atmosphere of fear. Fear of ridicule, fear of having one's competence questioned, fear of losing one's career, fear of government reprisal, even fear of the phenomena itself are all cited as reasons why pilots are not officially reporting many observations, close pacing and near mid-air collisions with UAP. These fears are unknowingly amplified by the lack of attention given to these incidents and observations by the US aviation system.

These incidents are being reported globally. Private research into these phenomena is ongoing. Official efforts to investigate them are being conducted by several nations. Case files and analysis forwarded to NARCAP from the Civil Aviation Authority Safety Research Group of the UK, Center for the Study of Anomalous Aerial Phenomena or CEFAA of Chile, Service Expertise for Rare Atmospheric Phenomena or SEPRA of France as well as many other countries support the contention that from a global perspective these incidents occur frequently, *though frequency of occurrence should not be a factor in determining safety concerns*

Pilot Commentary Reflecting an Under-Reporting Bias

NARCAP receives reports from pilots and aviation professionals via email and other sources. During one week in the summer of 2001 we received reports from a number of current and former pilots, the majority of whom were commercial airmen. A review of some of the commentary from these pilots who have seen UAP includes the following:

“...We didn't say anything. We figured nobody would believe us.”

Charter Pilot

“...Upon return to my domicile, JFK, I reported our sighting to the proper authorities. I was shortly visited by two federal investigators who evidently thought I was hallucinating for one of them stated he had seen spaceships while fishing in Great South Bay and was quite obviously trying to prove that I was a loony.”

Fmr. Captain, Pan Am

“... It must have been Huge! We were all due back at JFK about the same time two days later so I waited in the crew ready room to talk to them. None of them wanted to talk! They were afraid management would take them off of flying status and have them tested for booze and drugs. The story never came out!”

Fmr. Flight Engineer, TWA,

“...a group of lights in the air appeared at our 12o'clock position. I called departure control and asked them if they had any traffic in that area. When they came back and said NO, what do you see, I said no, just checking. For at that time when a pilot reported seeing a UFO he was in a lot of trouble.”

Capt. Ozark Airlines (ret)

“...I, and Flight crew saw something (in broad daylight) that did things that no known aircraft could do without killing any living thing inside. I will only give sketchy details to protect the privacy of the rest of the crew. If you are interested, and all information (is) kept anonymous, contact me. I will not present myself for public ridicule.”

Captain, NW, (ret)

Reports to NARCAP of UAP observations and incidents are riddled with this type of commentary. Over and over again conservative, responsible airmen are heard to say that they fear that their competency will be questioned, that their careers will suffer, that they will be humiliated for reporting their observations.

NARCAP Aircrew Survey

Late in 2001 NARCAP conducted a survey of a US commercial air carrier. The results were published as NARCAP Technical Report 5, Haines and Roe, 2001. This paper presents the results of a confidential aircrew survey presented to 298 currently rated and flying commercial pilots employed by a U. S. airline. Remarkably, a total of 70 completed surveys (23.5%) were returned to NARCAP within a 35 day period suggesting a high degree of general interest in this subject. Twelve questions were asked, most of which dealt with the possibility of past sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) and how these pilots dealt with the experience afterward. Forty respondents were Captains (mean = 9,130 flight hrs.) and thirty were First Officers (mean = 4,799 flight hrs.). A number of interesting things were learned from this survey. It was found that of the sixteen pilots (23% of total) who said they had seen something they could not identify in flight only four (25% of the sixteen) reported it to their company or to a government authority and only one of these pilots (a First Officer) who saw a UAP felt that it was a threat to aviation safety and he did not report it. A variety of reasons were given for not reporting their UAP sightings. They included: not knowing whom to report it to or how to do so, judging the event to be unimportant, judging the phenomenon to be a military test, and (being) just too strange to report.

Review of Aviation Incident Databases for UAP data

The FAA, the NTSB and NASA maintain aviation safety related incident databases. A keyword search of the FAA Incident/Accident Database and the NTSB Near Mid-Air Collision database revealed many incidents using keywords words like “unidentified aircraft” or “unidentified object”.

Even more incidents are evident when one searches the NASA administrated Aviation Safety Reporting System Database. This is a voluntary, confidential database. It employs a rigorous identification system to validate the flying credentials of the reporter while protecting his/her identity from employers and the FAA. This database contains over 332 thousand incident reports. Below are the results of a keyword search using phrases that may mask a UAP encounter and the number of cases that carry those descriptions:

“near miss, unknown aircraft, unidentified object”.....	.5,053 cases
“Near miss, unknown aircraft, unknown object & primary problem area = flight crew human factors”.....	973
(This category can refer to difficulties caused by control inputs made by the Crew to avoid collision.)	
“In-flight encounter/other & “primary problem area+ aircraft and their subsystems”.....	125
(This can refer to transient or permanent component or system failures which are common effects of close encounters with UAP)	
“unidentified object”.....	.9
“unidentified traffic”.....	3
“UFO”.....	1
“Flying Saucer, flying disk”.....	0
“Unidentified Aerial Phenomena”.....	0

It is important to emphasis the 973 cases where problems arose in the “flight crew human factors” category under the keyword search “Near miss, unknown aircraft, unknown object” as well as the 125 cases involving aircraft subsystems. It is also important to acknowledge that over five thousand potential UAP cases were described as a “near miss”. **Have there been any cases involving these factors that the crew was unable to resolve and that resulted in catastrophe?**

Given that many encounters involve unidentified lights rather than unidentified objects and the reporting forms used by the ASRS do not have categories for unidentified light(s) or objects, it is entirely possible that some of this data is inaccurate and the cause of the incident is not being accurately reported. It is appropriate to modify these reporting systems to accommodate a variety of observations.

Though many of the incidents listed in the ASRS database are consistent with those referred to as UFO, aviation professionals are unlikely to choose the phrase UFO to describe their observation. After many interviews with pilots and other aviation professionals one has the definite impression that they prefer to use apparently less stigma-inducing words like “unidentified object, or unknown aircraft” even though the description of the incident itself is consistent with those commonly described as “UFO”. Given that the “object” in question was airborne one might argue that Unidentified Object and Unidentified Flying Object are the same thing. Whether one calls them UAP, UFO, Anomalous Aerial Phenomena, Rare Atmospheric Phenomena, Unidentified Object, Unknown Aircraft, etc... one is speaking of the same thing. Whatever it is, it is not known to the observer. Pilots choose their words carefully to avoid being associated with a UFO sighting even though that is exactly what they may have experienced. It is appropriate to ask “Why?”.

In the NASA ASRS data, potential UAP cases represent less than 1% of all cases reported. When one considers the results of the Aircrew Survey it is reasonable to expect that number to change if pilots are encouraged to report these incidents.

Historical Events Have Contributed to Under-reporting of UAP Incidents

A major contributing factor to bias against reporting UAP incidents and observations is apparent in the history of attempts to address the UAP problem. UAP are considered a matter of intelligence and security by the US military and intelligence community and no data regarding UAP incidents has been made available to aviation professionals in the commercial aviation industry for over 50 years. Though detailed case files have been recently released by the US government, none of these cases has been reviewed within the context of aviation safety.

When the US Air Force was founded in Sept. of 1947 it immediately undertook an intelligence-gathering program to determine the nature of UFOs. To this end it established specific units within Air Tech. Intelligence Command to acquire data and evidence regarding UFOs and to sequester that data within ATIC, the CIA and the NSA.¹

In July of 1952 there was a series of UFO manifestations over Washington D.C. and the restricted airspace over the White House and Capitol buildings. Thousands including military and commercial pilots and radar operators witnessed these incidents. The incidents were quite dramatic and persisted for nearly a week. The Air Force attempted to explain these observations as “spurious radar targets” caused by a temperature inversion. However the photographs of the “spurious radar targets” over the capitol building that were published that week in the Washington Post do not support that explanation. It has been since determined that the weather conditions at the time of the observations did not support the conclusions of the US Air Force.

¹ AFR 200-2, 4602d ATIC squadron

Less than a year later, in 1953, the CIA convened the Robertson panel to review UFO reports. A panel of scientists and military experts reviewed several case files and films of UFOs. While they came to no definitive conclusions about the nature and source of UFOs, they did decide that the subject needed to be “stripped of its special status” to protect the public from “hysteria”. The result of this remarkable decision was a concentrated, 30-year campaign to, discredit and otherwise debunk UFO witnesses, reporters, researchers and to monitor, infiltrate and break up investigative organizations in the public domain.²

From Air Force Regulation 200-2, dated August 12, 1954 signed by General Nathan Twining –

Headquarters USAF will release summaries of evaluated data which will inform the public on this subject. In response to local inquiries, it is permissible to inform news media representatives on UFOB's when the object is positively identified as a familiar object.... *For those objects which are not explainable, only the fact that ATIC will analyze the data is worthy of release, due to the many unknowns involved.*

All UFO information was forwarded to the Commander, Air Defense Command; the nearest Air Defense Division; the Commander, Air Technical Intelligence Center; and the Director of Intelligence at Air Force Headquarters, and some cases were forwarded on to the CIA and the NSA.

In 1954 officials from the US military and from the Airline industry held a press conference announcing a Joint Army, Navy Air force publication (JANAP 146) outlining Communications Instructions for Reporting Visual Intelligence Sightings or CIRVIS. It is important to remember that until 1972, the US did not have the satellite capability to fly over the Soviet Union and provide advance warning of an impending attack. Commercial airline pilots were considered an integral part of a forward observation corps. JANAP 146 and CIRVIS were instituted as a mandatory reporting system that eventually included both American and Canadian commercial and general aviation. All unusual observations were to be forwarded through the CIRVIS system to the US Air Force. Once an observation had been reported, the reporting aviator was obligated not to disclose the report to the press or public under threat of fine and imprisonment. JANAP 146/CIRVIS was initiated to acquire intelligence related reports regarding unfamiliar aircraft, formations of unfamiliar aircraft, missiles, and UFOBs.

In 1958, 450 airline pilots signed a petition to publicly protest the JANAP 146 order. Many of these pilots claimed that the Air Force investigators had an agenda to debunk their reports and that they had been warned not to disclose their observations to the public under penalty of a prison term and a fine.

² FOIA docs released from the CIA include intelligence summaries of NICAP and other research groups within the US

Concurrently, from 1947 to 1969 the Air Force conducted an investigation into UFOs under several code names including Projects Sign, Grudge and Bluebook. Reports of unusual observations, including military and civil aviation reports, were forwarded to Air Technical Intelligence Command for review by air force investigators and civilian contractors. Project Bluebook closed in 1969 with assurances that UFOs were not a threat to national security, that there was no evidence that they were extraterrestrial vehicles and that further research was unnecessary. The Condon Report, commissioned by the US Air Force and undertaken by the University of Colorado concurred. Since that time science and the US Air Force has acknowledged the existence of unusual atmospheric phenomena like sprites, blue sprites, ball lightning, blue jets, etc.... many of which were not known at the time of the Blue Book and Condon reports though they certainly were reported as UFOs. That acknowledgement seems to be contradictory to the conclusions of Blue Book and the Condon Report. In the face of well-documented incidents and observations of UAP that continue to this date, neither of these reports can be considered definitive.

In 1977, JANAP 146E was released. This version relaxed the mandatory reporting requirement and suggested instructions to report if the reporter felt that the observation represented a matter of national security.

Currently the US Air Force claims that it does not investigate UFOs. The USAF does receive UFO reports through CIRVIS, and through the ARTCC system and NORAD (Appendix B).

The fact is that from 1947 to 1977, even to the present, the data flowed directly away from civil aviation into the military/intelligence domain via JANAP 146 and the CIRVIS reporting system and projects Sign, Grudge and Blue Book.. When the JANAP 146 order was relaxed, commercial and private pilots found themselves with no specific instructions regarding these unusual incidents and observations. When the various databases of the FAA, NTSB and NASA were established, the categories of observation for UFO/UAP events were not included. Reasons for this may have included personal opinions and beliefs, a general lack of experience with the phenomena or even the lack of knowledge regarding the existence of unusual atmospheric phenomena, or perhaps it was the understandable conclusion that the matter was being handled elsewhere (i.e. the military/intelligence community). Popular culture and conspiracy theorists have muddied the waters by supporting an environment of fear that undoubtedly has stifled many honest, legitimate reports of UAP.

Most importantly, there has never been a formal inquiry into these observations and incidents by the US aviation system. The majority of the cases that have been declassified have been made available in the last decade and the information has simply not been compiled in a fashion that can be used by the aviation community.

There are probably very good reasons for the military and intelligence community to acquire and develop UAP data. However, the aviation community is directly affected by these phenomena. Those aviation professionals who witness UAP or experience safety

related UAP encounters deserve respect and support from all levels of the US aviation system and the scientific community.

Lack of Knowledge About UAP Characteristics Has Contributed to Under-reporting of UAP Incidents

Perhaps the single most determinate factor affecting UAP reporting is the strangeness of UAP observations and incidents. The parameters of UAP observations are not clearly understood by aviation professionals. This lack of understanding combined with the strangeness of the experience itself and the current skeptical environment within the aviation community negatively effects reporting.

UAP Characteristics

Types of observations include:

1. Visual observations of lights or objects *that are visible* to ground and/or air based radars as targets that do not display transponder codes.
2. Visual observations of lights or objects *that are not visible* on ground or air based radars.
3. Radar observations of objects *that are not visible* to the unaided viewer and that do not display transponder codes.

Types of incidents include:

1. Close pacing, sometimes very close. Occasionally erratic movements are reported.
2. Disruption of on-board avionics systems
3. High-speed passes at sometimes very close range
4. Near mid-air collisions
5. Problems (including injuries) resulting from control inputs to avoid near mid-air collisions
6. Mid-air collisions
7. Disruption of, electrical systems, lighting, and air traffic near aviation facilities.
8. Downed or Missing aircraft

Additional Characteristics:

UAP are described as lights or objects with unusual qualities.

UAP often appear as solid balls of white, blue, green, red, amber or orange light. Some will occasionally seem to display multicolored flashing lights, spotlights, colored beams, etc.... .

UAP have been reported to divide into two or more lights or objects, release smaller lights and/or objects and recover lights and/or objects.

UAP can appear as simple geometric forms; cones, triangles, cylinders, rectangles, oblate spheroids (discs) and tauroids (donuts). Some UAP are reported to have a bright metallic surface.

UAP can range in size from 6” to several hundred feet. Reliable radar/visual observations of very large lights and objects have been reported.

UAP reports can include more than one light or object

UAP are reported to move erratically and at great speed.

UAP observations can be accompanied by transient or permanent electrical/avionic system failures.

UAP can manifest directly over airport facilities creating a physical threat to aircraft, and can disrupt communications, lighting and other electrical systems.

Given these parameters it is easy to understand the stress these unusual observations can cause to those who witness them.

A lack of knowledge about UAP combined with the truly unusual qualities of these lights and objects can contribute to confusion and cause a situation to escalate, particularly if the incident occurs in close proximity to airports or other areas with dense aviation traffic.

While these observations can seem quite mysterious, it is appropriate to note that there are several kinds of rare and poorly understood natural phenomena that may be responsible for some of these observations and incidents. The physical properties of some of these phenomena are very unusual.

Though these events are not understood, they have occurred over nearly every nation and region on Earth. Regardless of whether or not we understand what is happening, it is appropriate to seek steps to mitigate safety related incidents and to gather more data.

Insensitivity To UAP Witnesses Within the Aviation System Has Contributed to Under-reporting of UAP Incidents

Aircrews, Safety managers, ARTCC personnel, commercial airlines, unions and now, Aviation Security personnel are caught in a paradoxical situation. The image of conservative and responsible aviation professionals conducting serious work to save lives and improve aviation safety is threatened by reporting observations of, or expressing simple curiosity about UAP. There is no momentum within the aviation system to investigate these incidents and make appropriate recommendations.

NARCAP is aware of one airman who recently underwent two separate psychological evaluations within three months because he apparently expressed his interest in UAP to the “wrong” co-worker(s). The case was made that perhaps the pilot represented a threat to safety because he was too willing to share his opinion on this controversial topic. This pilot *has not* claimed to have seen UAP.

With respect to culpability, one can hardly consider the giving of attention to a conservative and responsible image to be negligent behavior. Questioning the mental health of personnel who have seen a UAP or are “overly” interested in the topic is consistent with what the US aviation system knows about UAP at this point in time.

However, aviation professionals who are confronted with these incidents and observations are facing enough difficulty as they try to cope with what they may have seen. Without a supportive and respectful structure in place to receive these reports with the seriousness they deserve, aviation professionals are underserved and even betrayed by their own profession. This situation is detrimental to morale and contributes directly to a bias against reporting any observation or incident involving UAP.

To be fair, NARCAP conducted an aircrew survey of an entire commercial airline in Sept. /Oct. 2001 (NARCAP Technical Report 5, Haines and Roe, 2001). There were no difficulties promoting our survey, gaining permission to conduct our study, or pursuing the actual study. The pilot who submitted our request for permission to conduct this study was not adversely affected. Clearly some commercial operations are more sensitive about the issue than others.

Recommendations

The idea that UAP not only exist but are also a credible threat to safe aviation may make aviation executives and their insurers uncomfortable. While UAP related incidents may be rare, morally and ethically there is no other way to manage the issue than in the most honest and forthright manner possible. The current situation is stifling reporting, and research and is compromising safe aviation. The following suggestions for resolving this situation should be considered:

1. Implement a program to capture data across all aviation systems and bureaucracies. A straightforward reporting policy, contained within the day-to-day standards and practices manuals of those organizations and businesses directly affected by the phenomena is critical to minimizing stress within the aviation culture and developing base metrics.
2. Develop base metrics including Frequency of Occurrence to be used to identify procedural or technical solutions.
3. Implement a basic education program on the topic of UAP for managers and personnel across all aviation systems.

4. Train psychological specialists who are participating in corporate EAP programs to support the aviation community. This is an essential step for total management of the issue.
5. Change the taxonomy of the phenomena from Unidentified Flying Object or UFO to Unidentified Aerial Phenomena or UAP. Clearly aviation professionals prefer to use words other than UFO to describe their observation, and it is appropriate to accommodate them. This will facilitate discussion and commentary amongst the more conservative or skeptical personnel.
6. This organization should participate fully in all appropriate national and international forums where aviation safety is discussed.

Issues

1. Credibility

The FAA, the USAF, NASA and a great portion of the rest of the aviation/aeronautics community have taken great pains to avoid discussions regarding UFO/UAP. In some cases these responses to inquiries have been mild, in others examples the response from official sources regarding inquiries into UFO/UAP have been dismissive and derogatory. It is appropriate to note that popular culture is rife with claims of government-based obfuscation of the “truth”. So-called conspiracy theories regarding these phenomena reflect this lack of belief in government information on UAP. In the public eye these concerns are very real and are a source of instability to the relationship between the government and the people. It is unlikely that any research or commentary offered by any official government agency would be accepted as credible at this point in time.

An appropriate approach is to officially recognize an independent, public, transparent organization whose sole mission is to address aviation safety related issues with respect to UAP. This organization should be considered the central data point for all UAP reporting, investigations, and research across all US aviation administrations, bureaucracies, and businesses within the US aviation system. Further, this organization should handle all media issues, public inquiries, etc. , in a respectful conservative manner. The most appropriate candidate for this central data point is the nonprofit organization, NARCAP, the National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena.

2. Risks

Failure to address these issues on the part of the aviation community will result in:

1. Continued confusion on the part of those aviation professionals faced with these events.

2. As aircraft become more dependant on electrical systems, they become more vulnerable to electromagnetic interference. UAP generate unusual electrical fields that are capable of disrupting avionics systems.
3. UAP are unpredictable, uncorrelated targets that controllers and pilots do not seem to be able to communicate with. Confusion and the perception of a potential collision can result in injuries to passengers and crew.
4. Unresolved cases involving UAP and downed aircraft, as well as missing aircraft and crews do exist. If the issue is not addressed, it is reasonable to expect incidents including catastrophic failures and casualties.
5. Continued erosion of public trust.

3. Data Collection

With respect to procedural or technical solutions, a specialized central data point is critical to data collection and analysis. This data point should be funded in a manner as to allow it to conduct investigations and research, participate in international research, present findings and conduct education and outreach within the aviation community. The existence of this data point should be widely promoted, and all witnesses of current or historical observation of UAP should be encouraged to report their information.

All relevant data sources should be made available to specialized investigators with allowances for appropriate security clearances. As security issues continue to evolve within the aviation system it is reasonable to expect that there will be overlapping concerns. All efforts should be made to promote access to UAP data by appropriate investigators.

Additionally, access and support should be provided with respect to radar data and analysis. Currently, radar data acquired through the FOIA is provided as encrypted code printed on hardcopy, making radar data reconstructions quite tedious.

Efforts to analyze US UAP data should be designed to dovetail with international efforts in this field. This central data point should participate in all appropriate aviation safety forums, and present its data at all appropriate conferences.

All completed research should be immediately published and released through traditional media outlets.

4. Education

A rigorous effort should be undertaken to educate all US aviation professionals about the basic issue of UAP and aviation safety and the existence of an organization charged

with the analysis of observations and incidents. Managers should encourage reporters to contact this organization.

Within the US aviation system the matter of UAP and aviation safety should be expressed in terms reflecting that concern. Speculation regarding the nature and source of these lights and objects should be avoided. Emphasis should be placed on the analysis and resolution of the safety related conditions surrounding these events rather than on attempts to determine the exact nature and source of UAP.

In fall of 2001, NARCAP conducted a survey of a commercial airline with respect to UAP observations and related questions (NARCAP TR-5). Included in the questionnaire was the question:

On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 is max.) about how interested are you in these phenomena? ____

The majority of respondents scored their interest between 5 and 10. This seems to suggest that there is a large contingent of pilots who are receptive to information regarding UAP and would probably respond well to a basic educational program, perhaps implemented during their re-training programs.

The possible “shock” effect of the acknowledgement of these incidents should not be underestimated, yet as we will see in the French example, this “shock” can be minimized. “In house” psychologists should be educated to support personnel who are uncomfortable with the situation, or who witness UAP firsthand.

5. The French Model

Internationally, there are examples of these approaches, however the US aviation system is the largest and most complex and will require specific considerations with respect to these recommendations. Perhaps the best active model is the French organization, SEPRA.

SEPRA is part of the official French space agency, CNES. SEPRA receives UAP reports from ARTCCs, French commercial airlines, the Gendarmerie, the National Police as well as the French Air Force. Reporting instructions and forms are found in all ARTCCs and aircrews are familiar with the reporting procedures. Air controllers receive course instruction from SEPRA as part of their general training. SEPRA is currently conducting a long-term study of radar/visual cases....

Direct and forthright discussions regarding these incidents at all levels of the aviation system will lay the groundwork for improving aviation safety and enhancing scientific knowledge.

National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena

Although there are no official organizations in the United States, these issues are being championed by the National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena, NARCAP. This organization is a nonprofit, national organization focused on US aviation and staffed by competent aviation and aeronautics experts. NARCAP advisors are familiar with the issue and are experienced and respected members of the aviation community.

NARCAP operates a confidential reporting center and conducts investigations and performs outreach and education in the aviation community.

Internationally NARCAP is officially recognized by the official Chilean research group CEFAA and has a good relationship with the official French group, SEPRA. Additionally, NARCAP has affiliates in 14 nations and is participating in the development of data at the international level.

NARCAP is conducting research to develop base metrics regarding these incidents and continues to publish technical reports on this research. The Air Crew Survey Project is an ongoing survey of commercial pilots and serves the dual purpose of gathering data and educating pilots.

Clearly the correct approach is to educate both potential reporters and those who may potentially receive reports, to implement a safety related incident reporting and investigation program, and to develop a data collection and analysis project that dovetails with international efforts and normalizes data across borders.

NARCAP has undertaken this process directly through its Air Crew Survey Project, the ICAO project and its development of and participation in a global coalition of UAP/aviation safety research groups, both unofficial and official.

For more information contact: www.narcap.org

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Appendix A

A Brief Overview of the Recent History of UFO/UAP observations.

This section is intended to provide a sense of the scope of the UAP phenomena and to familiarize the uninitiated reader with the topic. It is appropriate to understand that a great deal of energy has been expended to resolve these unusual observations and incidents with no real success though the phenomena continue to manifest. No steps have been taken to educate the aviation community regarding these events and aviation safety is being compromised.

If UFO/UAP reports originated solely from the non-flying, uneducated, superstitious population it would be relatively simple to argue that the UFO/UAP problem lies with the inexperienced observer. However, the overwhelming number of reports received from respected, educated, credentialed observers, often while acting in official capacities, strongly suggest that UFOs are a real, external phenomena.

Those who are skeptical of the reports alleging sightings of unusual, airborne lights and objects often claim that the United States Air Force has proven there are no such objects. While these parties often cite the findings of the United States Air Force at the close of "Project Blue Book", they rarely quote the actual statement.

- 1) No UFO reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security;
- 2) There has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings categorized as "unidentified" represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present-day scientific knowledge; and
- 3) There has been no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as "unidentified" are extraterrestrial vehicles. ...Since Project Blue Book was closed [1969], nothing has happened to indicate that the Air Force ought to resume investigating UFOs.

-U.S. Air Force, *Summary, Project Blue Book*

None of these conclusions acknowledges that there are legitimate reports of real phenomena that are clearly uncommon, possibly dangerous, and not at all understood that were reported as UFO. Additionally, the assertion that UFO's have not given any indication of a threat to national security and the validity of the Blue Book report is contradicted by this 1969 memo from Brigadier General Bolender regarding reports of UFOs that affect national security:

".....reports of unidentified flying objects which could affect the national security are made in accordance with JANAP 146 or the Air Force Manual 55-11, and are not part of the Blue Book System."

Another matter that skeptics simply avoid is that since the Air Force ceased public investigation of UFOs in 1969 many reports of encounters with unidentified flying objects have been declassified and released by the United States and many other governments of the world.

NARCAP Technical Report 4 – UAP Eighty Years of Pilots Sightings, Weinstein, 2001 is a catalogue of over 1300 cases of observations and incidents since 1916. NARCAP AIRCAT contains over 3500 aviation cases dating from the 1920's. As one reviews these incidents it is clear that these cases contain threads of commonalties that cannot be ignored.

Some of these commonalties are best described in the earliest report ever offered by the United States Air Force regarding the nature and description of these objects, Lieutenant General Nathan Twining's response to an inquiry by Brigadier General Schulgen of Air Intelligence concerning the "flying disks" dated Sept. of 1947. Clearly, UFOs were on the top priority list of the newly formed US Air Force.

"The phenomenon reported is something real and not visionary or fictitious.... There are objects probably approximating the shape of a disk, of such appreciable size as to appear to be as large a man-made aircraft.... The reported operating characteristics such as extreme rates of climb, maneuverability, (particularly in roll), and the actions which must be considered evasive when sighted or contacted by friendly **aircraft and radar**[emphasis added], lend belief to the possibility that some of the objects are controlled either manually, automatically or remotely."

General Twining's memo also offered these apparently common descriptive traits, including:

- 1) Metallic or light reflecting surface
- 2) Absence of trail, except in a few instances when the object apparently was operating under high performance conditions
- 3) Circular or elliptical in shape, flat on bottom, domed on top
- 4) Several reports of well-kept formation flights varying from three to nine objects
- 5) Normally no associated sound, except in three instances when a substantial rumbling roar was noted
- 6) Level flight speeds normally above 300 knots are estimated

Since this memo was written in 1947, many witnesses describe several other sizes and shapes of UFOs. These are often simple geometric forms, cones, triangles, cylinders, rectangles and oblate spheroids (discs) and tauroids (donuts). They can range in size from 6" in diameter to several thousand feet in length. It is also important to note that since the closure of Project Blue Book in 1969, there have been literally thousands of reports of UFOs, worldwide.

Additionally many UFO/UAP are reported as *lights* rather than objects. Several types of unusual airborne lighting displays have been discovered since the US Air Force closed Project Blue Book. Research is ongoing.

Britain, France, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay all have official investigative organizations to examine reports of UAP. All of these countries are particularly attentive to aviation reports of UAP, and most are specifically focused upon aviation safety related incidents. Britain officially receives and investigates UAP reports through the Ministry of Defense and UAP incidents involving commercial aviation are tracked by the Civil Aviation Authority Safety Research Group.. The French organization, SEPRA (formerly GEPAN) is part of CNES, the French Space Agency and collects reports across all bureaucracies including the French aviation system. Its director teaches courses about UAP at the air traffic control school in Bordeaux. The Chilean organization CEFAA, is based in the Air Technical School of the Chilean Air Force and is primarily focused on aviation safety issues. The Peruvian organization OIFAA is part of the Peruvian Air Force and is also concerned with aviation safety matters. The unofficial US organization National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena, NARCAP, has affiliates in 14 additional countries and serves as a reporting center and database for US aviation.

UAP and Aviation: Radar/Visual Cases

It is clear that the best UAP reports come from military and commercial pilots, air traffic controllers and radar operators. Often UFO cases involve all three and are referred to as “radar/visual” cases. French researcher Dominique Weinstein has compiled a catalogue of 489 documented and recognized aeronautical sightings of UFOs/UAP from around the world.

- 1) One hundred and one of these 489 cases or nearly 20% are “radar/visual cases.
- 2) Of 363 aviation cases included from Project Blue Book, 76 are radar/visual cases.
- 3) Of the 68 aviation cases reported to Project Blue Book in 1952, 16 are radar/visual cases.
- 4) Thirty of the sixty countries listed as reporting aviation related sightings of UAP also reported “radar/visual” cases.

An example of this type of case occurred during the night of 18-19 Sept. 1976, seven years after Project Blue Book was closed. This report was acquired from the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) through the Freedom of Information Act. The description below is condensed from the DIA report.

After receiving several reports from citizens of an unidentified object over Tehran, the lead air traffic controller, Hussein Perouzi, also saw the strange object. He described

it as a rectangular shape, possibly a cylindrical shape, with two large white lights, one at each end, and a small red light circling its midsection. Perouzi reported the sighting to the Iranian Imperial Air Force. General Youssefi observed the lights from his balcony. He then authorized a Phantom F-4 to investigate using air controller Perouzi to give directions. When the F-4 approached within 45km of the object, its flight instruments and radios ceased to function. When the pilot broke off the pursuit, the equipment returned to normal.

General Youssefi ordered the launch of a second F-4 that soon *acquired the object on its radar screen* and advised that the object was comparable in size to a Boeing 707. As the second Phantom F-4 approached, an object/light exited the UFO and headed straight for the F-4. The pilot tried to fire a sidewinder missile at it *but his fire control console as well as his radio became inoperable*. As the F-4 initiated a bank and dive to evade, the object/light pursued the F-4 for a time, then returned to and re-entered the UFO.

As the second F-4 circled the UFO at a distance, an object/light again exited the UFO and set down on the desert floor and lit up an area estimated at 2-3km in diameter. Whenever the F-4 entered a certain distance from the UFO and the object/light on the ground, it would lose radio communications. A passing commercial airliner also reported transient problems with radios and navigation equipment.

An attachment to this case, from the DIA, offered the following comments:

“An outstanding report. This case is a classic which meets all the criteria necessary for a valid study of the UFO phenomenon.”

- a. The object was seen by multiple witnesses from different locations...
- b. The credibility of many of the witnesses was high (an Air Force General, qualified aircrews, and experienced radar operators.
- c. Visual sightings were confirmed by radar.
- d. Similar electromagnetic effects (EME) were reported by three separate aircraft.
- e. There were physiological effects on some crew members (i.. loss of night vision due to the brightness of the object
- f. An inordinate amount of maneuverability was displayed by the UFOs.”

Observations of very similar events, including transient and permanent avionics and/or weapons system failures have been reported and documented by military and civil authorities worldwide.

NARCAP Chief Scientist Dr. Richard F. Haines³ has developed a catalogue of aviation related UFO sightings that contains well over 3500 cases. Included are many

³ Richard F. Haines, Ph.D. Former Senior Research Scientist, NASA Ames Research Center, Former Chief Space and Human Factors, Who's Who in America, Janes Who's Wo in Aviation and Aerospace,

observations by commercial aircrews, radar operators, air traffic controllers and military aircraft. This catalogue is called AIRCAT and contains reports of UFOs by aviators dating back to the 1920's. As Dr. Haines reviewed these reports it became apparent that some of these cases clearly represented aviation safety issues because the alleged UFO was occasionally reported to disrupt aircraft electrical systems, and because a significant percentage of cases were also described as near mid-air collisions. Several cases in AIRCAT describe actual mid-air collisions. Based upon these conclusions he wrote a paper "Aviation Safety in America – A Previously Neglected Factor" NARCAP Technical Report 1. This document examines the relationship between UAP and aviation safety.

Appendix B

Analysis of an Audio Recording of a UAP incident for Evidence of Under-reporting bias

On June 20, 1995 a UFO reporting hotline operated by the television series *Sightings* received a report from a controller at Albuquerque Air Route Traffic Control Center. The controller stated that an America West pilot had spotted an unidentified flying object over eastern New Mexico on 26May1995.

The transcript of the control tower tape recording of that incident provides a fascinating insight into the mindset of aviation professionals regarding very real and potentially dangerous observations of UAP. The tape was acquired by Dr. Richard F. Haines from the FAA through the Freedom of Information Act.

The pilot reporting this incident, America West 564 - call sign Cactus 564 is flying a 757 at FL390 (39,000ft), 2200L(10 pm local time) westbound over eastern New Mexico.

America West: Albuquerque Center, Cactus 564

Alb. ARTCC: Cactus 564, go ahead.

America West: Yeah, off to our, uh, three o'clock, Got some strobes out there. Could you tell us what it is?

Alb. ARTCC: I'll tell you what, that's some, uh, right now I don't know what it is. There is a restricted area that's used by the military out there in the daytime.

America West: Yes, it's pretty odd.

Alb. ARTCC: Hold on, Let me see if anybody else knows around here.

Pause

Alb. ARTCC: Fort Worth Center reporting nothing more than occasional light chop in that area.

America West: 564. Did you tape that object at all on your radar?

Alb. ARTCC: Cactus 564, no, I don't and talking to the three or four guys around here, no one knows what that is. Never heard about that.

America West: But nobody's painting it at all?

Alb. ARTCC: Hey Cactus 564, say again?

America West: There's nothing on their radar on the other centers at all? On that particular area, that object that's up there?

Alb. ARTCC: its up in the air?

America West: Affirmative.

Alb. ARTCC: No. No one knows anything about it. What's the altitude about?

America West: I don't know. Probably right around 30,000 or so, and it's, uh, the strobe, it starts going counterclockwise and the length is unbelievable.

Pause

Alb. ARTCC controller contacts Cannon AFB

Alb. ARTCC: Cannon 21

Cannon AFB: Cannon. Go ahead.

Alb. ARTCC: Hey, do you guys know if there was anything like a tethered balloon or anything released that should be above Taiban [the town of Taiban, NM?

Cannon AFB: No we haven't heard anything about it.

Alb. ARTCC: Okay, (uneasy laugh) Guy at 39,000 says he sees something at 30,000 that, uh, the length is unbelievable and it has a strobe on it. This is not good (nervous laugh).

Cannon AFB: What does it mean?

Alb. ARTCC: I don't know. It's a UFO or something. It's that Roswell crap again.

Cannon AFB: Where's it at right now?

Alb. ARTCC: He says it's right in Taiban.

Cannon AFB: He's right...it's right in Taiban?

Alb. ARTCC: No, we haven't seen nothing like that.

Alb. ARTCC: Okay, keep your eyes open

Pause

Alb. ARTCC controller unsuccessfully attempts to have second aircraft verify observation. Subsequent review of the incident indicates that the controller gave incorrect instructions to the second aircraft and it did not see the object in question. During this exchange Cactus 564, the original witness offers the following description:

America West: You know, we're all huddled up and talking about it. When it lighted, you could see a dark object. It was like a cigar shape from the outlook that we could see it. And the length is what got us sort of confused because it looked like it was about 300 to 400 feet long. So I don't know if it's a wire with a strobe on it, but the strobe starts from left and goes right, counterclockwise. And it was a pretty eerie looking sight. But, uh-

Pause

The controller is then heard discussing with other controllers the possibility of high altitude military test being scheduled, this possibility is ruled out.

Then, the controller contacts NORAD.

Alb. ARTCC: Bigfoot. Albuquerque, sector 87.

NORAD: Bigfoot's on.

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, I've got something unusual, and I was wanting to know if you all happen to know of anything going on out here around Tucumcari, New Mexico, north of

Cannon. I had a couple of aircraft report something 300 to 400 foot long, cylindrical in shape, with a strobe flashing off to the end of it, at 30,000feet.

NORAD: Okay. Hang on a second.

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, I didn't know if you happened to know of anything going on out there. No balloons in the area? Nothing reported?

NORAD: Okay. Where is this at again?

Alb. ARTCC: It's in Tucumcari, New Mexico. That's about 150 miles to the east of Albuquerque.

NORAD: Okay, how far is it from Holloman?

Alb. ARTCC: Holloman. It looks like it's off to 030 of Holloman for about 220 miles.

NORAD: Okay. It's kind of hard for us to see here. 030 for about 200. Um, we don't have anything going on up there that I know of.

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, I didn't know if_ we tried everybody else and nobody else is- this guy definitely saw it run all the way down the side of the airplane. Said it was a pretty interesting thing out there.

NORAD: Okay, it was at 30,000feet. Do you know what the shape –

Alb. ARTCC: It's right out of the *X-Files*. I mean, it's definitely a UFO or something like that. But. I mean-

NORAD: oooh, you are serious about this (laughs)?

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah. He's real serious about it, too, and he looked at it, saw it. No balloons are reported tonight? Nothing in the area?

NORAD: And it was strobing out in front?

Alb. ARTCC: I think the strobe is off the tail end of it. He said it was kind of – well, it was dark, but

NORAD: How long did he think it was?

Alb. ARTCC: He said it was 300 to 400 feet long.

NORAD: Holy smokes!

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, and we don't have any air carriers out there that are strobing along?

NORAD: The only thing that I can – I wonder if any of our aerostats got loose or something? 'Cause we don't have any aerostats out there.

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, not that far to the north.

NORAD: I mean, to me, it would sound like an aerostat, but I don't know. I don't think ours are that big, though.

Alb. ARTCC: No, they're more like a blimp rather than this sounded like some sort of flying hot dog or something.

NORAD: And did he say how big around it was?

Alb. ARTCC: No, he didn't really have an idea of how big around it was.

NORAD: Kind of like a plane without wings?

Alb. AARTCC: Yeah, sort of like that. We didn't know if there's a cruise missile somebody maybe fired one out here or something?

NORAD: Hmmm. Let's see. White Sands missile range is to the south. Did he say how large it was or anything like that? Could he get an idea of that?

Alb. ARTCC: Just 300 to 400 feet long, but that's it.

NORAD: Okay. Well, what we could do is kind of like maybe monitor that area. But you know we pick up everything that you all pick up.

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, I know. We're not seeing anything out here at all so we was just wondering if you happened to know if anything was going on.

NORAD: and did he know what the speed was?

Alb. ARTCC: No. He didn't give us any indication of that. He was opposite direction.

NORAD: Okay. So this guy was up in an air- he was in a jetliner?

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, America West.

NORAD: It's hard for us to determine if it was a plane unless it was like at 30,000feet and in our radar coverage, and it disappeared or something.

Alb. ARTCC: Right. Okay. Thanks, I appreciate it.

NORAD: Okay, then. Bye.

Pause

NORAD contacts the ARTCC controller

NORAD: Yes, uh, we had someone call here earlier about a pilot spotting an unidentified flying object.

Alb. ARTCC: Yep, that's us.

NORAD: Okay. Well hey, we're tracking a search-only track kind of up where that might have been.

Alb. ARTCC: Okay. Can you give me a radial?

NORAD: Okay. Off of Holloman, it is 038 for 283. I mean, that's about ten degrees off of what you gave me before and about eighty miles off. It's tracking about 390knots. We've been tracking it for about three, four minutes now. I mean, to be going that fast, it's got to be up kind of high.

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah, And we got no code on it?

NORAD: Nope. It's search only. Off of Holloman 037 for 280.

Alb. ARTCC: Okay, I'll see whether I can look up there and see anything.

NORAD: Okay, then. Bye.

Alb. ARTCC: Thanks.

Pause

Cactus 564 contacts Alb. ARTCC

In the final section the Cactus 564 crew sign off with the following:

America West: Albuquerque 564 It's the last time. Just for our notes so we can take a message. Was that in a restricted area that was just basically south of Tucumcari when we reported it?

Alb. ARTCC: Okay, uh, the way you went through, the restricted area is on your south side. Nothing to the north side.

America West: (exclamatory) Huh!

Alb. ARTCC: And those areas are inactive. There shouldn't be anything going on.

Incident Summary: Air Controller and ARTCC

The fact that this report was made by an air controller to a *television show* nearly a month after the incident is ample evidence of an under-reporting bias within the aviation community. It seems that these incidents are, at best, perceived as a novelty to be shrugged off. At worst, these experiences are considered to be threatening to one's career and credibility and are not even mentionable. This perception is a core cause of under reporting incidents or observations of UAP. If no part of the aviation system addresses these matters then supervisors, safety managers, pilots and air controllers are left to their own strengths or weaknesses regarding the decision to report these events. This avenue compromises safety for ego and is not be acceptable in any other type of aviation safety related situation or event. This is a design for disaster.

Our controller is interested in pursuing this observation. Other controllers might be less accommodating, less motivated, or less educated. Clearly this controller knows that there are historic examples of UFO reports, and that the topic is controversial. He is obviously nervous about presenting the observation to other facilities. Yet, he subjects himself to the incredulity of the Air Force controllers at Cannon AFB and at NORAD. It should be noted here that the controller mentions "its that Roswell crap, again". Is he referring to other UAP observations that he is aware of? It is also worth noting that he is not alone in the ARTCC facility and is, in fact, dialoguing with fellow controllers who are aware of the situation. He tries unsuccessfully to coordinate a validating observation from a second aircraft. Finally he is rewarded for his efforts by NORAD with a confirmation of a large object, without an FAA mandated transponder, at 28,000feet near the location of the original observation, which he then watches on his own radar.

In fact, if we carefully review the controllers' actions, it is clear that his motivation **does not** rise out of concern for his fellow aviation professionals or his professional judgment. In his commentary to the Cannon AFB controller he says something unusual.

Alb. ARTCC: Okay, (uneasy laugh) Guy at 39,000 says he sees something at 30,000 that , uh, the length is unbelievable and it has a strobe on it. This is not good (nervous laugh).

It seems that our controller is afraid of the phenomena.

The controller knows that there is no protocol for this type of observation. He is monitoring the UAP the way a swimmer warily watches a shark's fin. Whether this is a result of past experience and observations, influence of popular culture, or some other factor is unclear.

Obstructed Communication

The controllers' discomfort with the situation is apparent in his dialogue with the controller at Cannon AFB and at NORAD. In both cases, the controller approached the topic obliquely.

To the Cannon AFB controller he comments, “: Hey, do you guys know if there was anything like a tethered balloon or anything released that should be above Taiban [the town of Taiban, NM]?” though he knows the object reported by Cactus 564 is at 30,000feet and 300 to 400 ft in length.

To the NORAD controller he says “Yeah, I've got something unusual, and I was wanting to know if you all happen to know of anything going on out here around Tucumcari, New Mexico, north of Cannon. I had a couple of aircraft report something 300 to 400 foot long, cylindrical in shape, with a strobe flashing off to the end of it, at 30,000feet.” thereby inflating the number of reporting aircraft in an apparent effort to improve his credibility and gain the NORAD controllers attention.

In neither case does he open the commentary by simply saying he was pursuing a UFO report with the expectation that the other controller will automatically take him seriously though he does seem to expect the NORAD controller might be more familiar with the object being described. This is an important clue to the pervasive nature of the bias surrounding these incidents. The Alb. ARTCC controller is not suffering a communication deficiency, he is trying to discuss something that he feels is very difficult to talk about and he feels that his peers in the AF and NORAD will not take him seriously if he is overly direct about the incident. So he approaches the topic obliquely and attempts to “warm up” the other controllers to the issue before trying to address it directly. Not all observations and incidents have this luxury of time to expend talking around the subject and this type of faltering communication could have catastrophic results.

Later in the conversation with the NORAD controller we hear the ARTCC controller directly defending his credibility as he continues to pursue the observation by Cactus 564.

Alb. ARTCC: It's right out of the *X-Files*. I mean, it's definitely a UFO or something like that. But. I mean-

NORAD: ooooooh, you are serious about this (laughs)?

Alb. ARTCC: Yeah. He's real serious about it, too, and he looked at it, saw it. No balloons are reported tonight? Nothing in the area?

Professionalism and service are the watchwords of the US ARTCC system, and in almost every other situation the calm and capable skills of air traffic controllers contribute to one of the safest aviation systems in the world. Yet, there is a glaring inconsistency in the ability of air controllers to deliver that high level of service when confronted with UAP observations and incidents.

Radar Confirmation - No Action Taken

The difficulties facing our controller at every turn are obvious. Fortunately he is in an environment that is empathetic, or at least indifferent, to his pursuit of verification. He still has to overcome the skepticism of other controllers in other facilities and gain their interest and cooperation. Then he has to stick with the problem until he gets resolution. In today's busy control centers, this can be a challenging task. However, this is where the situation becomes dangerous. *Once the presence of the object is confirmed on both the ARTCC and NORAD radars, uncorrelated and tracking 038 at 283 and 390 knots and well within the operating altitudes of commercial aircraft, there was no warning offered to other pilots or ARTCC facilities by either the ARTCC supervisors or NORAD. There was no NOTICE TO AIRMAN (NOTAM) issued.*

It is remarkable that supervisors at the ARTCC did not act upon this observation. Why did they decide to remain inactive and not advise other facilities of the presence of something large and fast, moving through US air lanes without a transponder or flight plan? It is important to emphasize that this is not a result of a bad work ethic, it is an issue of personal defense based upon the detection of a real threat to *all* aspects of the well being of the individual witnesses. The fact that these matters aren't officially discussed or even acknowledged compounds the situation thereby creating a dangerous operating condition.

Aircrew

The observation was clearly unusual to the B757 crew. They were distracted by its unusual qualities. The pilot is heard to comment, "We are all huddled up and talking

about it.” This distraction can be considered the first indicator of a safety related incident.

Obviously the pilot did not feel that the object was something familiar. He did not refer to it as an aircraft. He described as an “object” as “cigar shaped” and “300 to 400 ft long, with a strobing light flashing down its length.

Obstructed Communication

The UAP was unusual enough to try to report it. In his initial communication to the ARTCC, the pilot did not say “I am seeing a UFO” with the expectation he would be taken seriously by the ARTCC. He referred to it obliquely by indirectly describing some lights and asking the controllers if they could see anything.

The pilot did not seem to want to be the first to suggest that the observation was unusual. Clearly he was hoping the ARTCC would paint the target and then the pilot would be free to talk about the object as something that was visible to both of them. When ARTCC responded that they didn’t have a radar target he became confused. The pilot was seeing an object, a large airborne object, that wasn’t appearing on ground radar. At this point and for the first time he directly refers to the UAP and uses the word “object” not “aircraft” to describe his observation.

The controller did not initially take the pilot seriously, possibly because of the pilot’s understatement of the observation. It is reasonable to suspect that many observations and incidents have not gone beyond the cockpit for fear of precisely this response.

In the last transmission the pilot confirms the location of the observation for “our notes” and the tape ends. One is inclined to ask “ To whom did he plan on reporting it to and what could they possibly do about it?”

Bias Compromises Safety

The bias against acknowledging these incidents compromised safety in this situation in the following ways:

- a. Communication: Both pilot and controller could not directly address the issue and expect a direct response.
- b. The team aspect of the ARTCC completely broke down. The controller was pursuing the matter on his own, out of fear. No manager or supervisor accepted responsibility and escalated the matter. The potential hazard was not communicated to other facilities in the path of the northbound UAP.

- c. Cockpit Resource Management (CRM) was compromised by distraction, unfamiliarity with the phenomena and the extra time and thought and motivation required to report the observation to the ARTCC.
- d. No data regarding this incident was forwarded to the ASRS or the FAA/NTSB Incident database or to any organization charged with ensuring safety in American skies. Instead, nearly a month later the incident was reported to a television show.
- e. These incidents and the lack of official responsibility for them contributes to a continued erosion in trust and moral amongst both aviation personnel and the public who may also witness such events as passengers, citizens within airport facilities or simply as citizens making ground based observations of UAP.

Although the B757 had a crew of three and the air controller had “3 or 4” fellow controllers present, *neither the aircrew nor the controllers have allowed themselves to be publicly identified with this incident.* It is remarkable that the confirmed observation of a real uncorrelated flying object on two radars is something that neither the aircrew nor the controllers are willing to be professionally or publicly associated with. Indeed the fear of public ridicule and career impairment are often cited as reasons for not reporting UAP incidents.

It is equally remarkable that a radar/visual observation of a flying object lacking a transponder code and larger than any known fixed-wing aircraft, twice the length of a B747, and hurtling through controlled US airspace at 390knots could be managed so casually.

A review of 1300 reports in NARCAP Technical Report 4 *UAP Eighty Years of Pilot Sightings* reveals many incidents and observations that are very similar to this one including reports of large cylindrical objects and corresponding radar observations dating back to the 1940’s. The America West 564 case should be considered a “text book” example of this type of radar/visual incident, as is the Tehran, Iran incident described in Appendix A. Yet, after 80 years of these observations and incidents there are no reporting protocols and these events are still not being investigated as safety related.

In fact, these incidents aren’t officially investigated at all.



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Navy Declassifies its Notorious 'UFO Sighting' Videos



Screen grab of video released by the U.S. Navy of an F/A-18 encounter with an unidentified aerial phenomena in 2004. (U.S. Navy)

27 Apr 2020

Military.com | By [Oriana Pawlyk](#)

The [U.S. Navy](#) has officially acknowledged three incidents reported by [F/A-18 Hornet](#) fighter pilots of "unidentified aerial phenomena" -- what most refer to as UFOs -- and released video of the encounters.

The Defense Department on Monday published the videos of the separate incidents, one taken in November 2004 and the other two in January 2015, "which have been circulating in the public domain after unauthorized releases in 2007 and 2017," officials said in a statement.

"After a thorough review, the department has determined that the authorized release of these unclassified videos does not reveal any sensitive capabilities or systems, and does not impinge on any subsequent investigations of military air space incursions by unidentified aerial phenomena," according to Pentagon spokeswoman Sue Gough.

The Navy has previously stated the videos [did belong to the service](#), but did not give credence to the idea its pilots have confronted alien spacecraft.

Related: [Former Navv Admiral Says UFO Analyses 'Inconclusive'](#)

But after [Navy pilots](#) in recent months have stated there [has been an increase of UFO sightings in recent years](#), the service issued new guidelines on how to best document sightings or encounters, according to a [report from Politico last year](#). The New York Times also [reported](#) pilots had sightings -- and, in one instance, a near collision -- while flying training missions off the East Coast between 2014 and 2015.

That said, the U.S. government has looked into UFOs for years, most notably between 2007 and 2012 when the Pentagon began [its Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program](#), an effort championed by then-Sen. Harry Reid, a Democrat from Nevada and the Senate majority leader at the time.

The program was meant to "pursue research and investigation into unidentified aerial phenomena," the [Defense Department has said](#), motivated by notorious events such as the 2004 "Tic Tac" incident.

In that incident, [F/A-18](#) pilots from the aircraft carrier Nimitz, operating off the San Diego coast, reported [spotting a large, Tic Tac-shaped object](#) that appeared to be floating without the assistance of an engine or exhaust plume.

Reid on Monday said DoD's recent video acknowledgement only "scratches the surface" of the research into these encounters.

"The U.S. needs to take a serious, scientific look at this and any potential national security implications," [Reid said on Twitter](#). "The American people deserve to be informed."

"DoD is releasing the videos in order to clear up any misconceptions by the public on whether or not the footage that has been circulating was real, or whether or not there is more to the videos," Gough said. "The aerial phenomena observed in the videos remain characterized as 'unidentified.'"

The released videos -- labeled "FLIR," "GO FAST," and "GIMBAL" -- can be found at the Naval Air Systems Command Freedom of Information Act reading [room website here](#).

-- [Oriana Pawlyk](#) can be reached at oriana.pawlyk@military.com. Follow her on Twitter at [@Oriana0214](#).

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New Details Emerge On The "Highly Modified Drone" That Outran Police Helicopters Over Tucson

The drone was first detected near an energy storage facility across from Davis-Monthan AFB before evading two pursuing law enforcement helicopters.

By [Brett Tingley](#) June 1, 2021

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Last month, *The War Zone* reported on a [bizarre drone encounter](#) that occurred in the skies above Tucson, Arizona. According to reports, on the evening of February 9, 2021 around 10:30 PM local time, a helicopter belonging to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, or CBP, encountered what has been [described](#) by [KOLD's Dan Marries](#), who interviewed an FBI agent assigned to the case, as a "highly modified drone" in controlled airspace. Another helicopter operated by the Tucson Police Department's Air Support Unit was called in to help track and potentially identify the drone alongside the one from CBP, but the drone was able to evade them both and remain unidentified. Shortly after the incident was disclosed, the FBI released a statement asking for help from the public regarding any information related to the encounter.

In the days since we first reported on the Tucson drone encounter, individuals have reached out with new information that adds further context to this still-developing story. A source with direct knowledge of the incident's details told *The War Zone* they believed the drone was highly unlikely to be battery-powered based on the altitude, distance, and speed at which it flew. The source also stated it seems as though the drone was equipped with an infrared camera based how it was able to dynamically maneuver, including in relation to the helicopters chasing it, despite the low level of ambient light at the time of the incident. They also added that it is "only logical that it was looking towards DM's [Davis Monthan AFB] flight line" based on its location.

We can now also confirm that the CBP helicopter involved was indeed [an Airbus AS350](#), commonly used by CBP's Air and Marine Operations (AMO) branch for aerial patrol and surveillance missions.



CBP

An Airbus AS350 operated by U.S. Customs and Border Protection



The same source also tells us that the unusual drone was first spotted near a complex of fuel tanks just west of Runway 12 at the U.S. Air Force's Davis-Monthan

Air Force Base. This is well within the Class C airspace that surrounds Davis-Monthan, as well as the Tucson International Airport, and is very close to the fence line surrounding the base. Class C airspace is defined by the FAA as "airspace from the surface to 4,000 feet above the airport elevation (charted in MSL) surrounding those airports that have an operational control tower, are serviced by a radar approach control, and have a certain number of IFR [instrument flight rules] operations or passenger enplanements." The FAA states that "for flight near airports in controlled airspace, drone operators must receive an airspace authorization prior to operation" and that these authorizations "come with altitude limitations and may include other operational provisions."

In a statement, the FBI wrote that the drone violated 18 USC 39B, "Unsafe operation of unmanned aircraft," which includes "knowing or reckless interference or disruption of a manned aircraft, and the operation of unmanned aircraft in close proximity to airports." The FBI called the drone's actions "illegal and extremely dangerous," yet added that it's "possible the drone operator(s) are not aware they are violating the law."

The description of the drone's initial observed location would appear to match the location of a terminal owned by Kinder Morgan, an energy company that operates fuel pipelines and other energy infrastructure. Some 40% of the natural gas consumed in America flows through Kinder Morgan's pipelines. On their website, Kinder Morgan states that their terminals are used to store and handle various fuels, petroleum products, and chemicals - clearly not the place anyone would want an unauthorized or unidentified drone to be loitering. While drones are used in pipeline and tank inspections, and by Kinder Morgan specifically for those tasks, the unique nature of what has been reported in this incident does not appear to suggest this drone's operators were executing that type of professional work.



Google Maps

Runway 12 at Davis-Monthan AFB, right, and the Kinder Morgan terminal, left.



[The Night A Mysterious Drone Swarm Descended On Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant](#) By Tyler Rogoway and Joseph Trevithick Posted in [The War Zone](#)
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The drone's initial observed location was also largely confirmed by a post from another individual on JetCareers.com, which describes itself as "an online community of airline, corporate and professional pilots including air traffic controllers, dispatchers and mechanics." In a [forum post](#) dated February 10, 2021, a moderator of that forum with the username MikeD wrote the following account of the incident:

Last night, there was one just east of KTUS at about 1200' AGL cruising eastbound. It passed about 30' away co-altitude with a police helicopter flying the opposite direction. Helo made a 180 turn to give chase. The quad copter was described as approximately 5 feet long by about 3 feet wide, with a single green flashing LED light. It continued east into KDMAs airspace and began orbiting the base over the parallel taxiway near the fighter jet ramp. TUS and DMA towers were unaware of it, as was U90 [an FAA approach tower] controllers. The operator apparently realized by this time that the drone was being followed, because it then proceeded northwest at high speed and climbing, with the helo and another LE helo in trail. The copter began to climb and flew out of the TUS area about 50 miles to the northwest of town into the middle of nowhere desert out by the mine west of KAVQ. It was last seen climbing through 14,000' and into the undercast, where it disappeared. The helos remained in VMC [Visual Meteorological Conditions] obviously, and one hung around for about an hour, to see if it would reappear descending, or if there was any vehicles driving through the middle of nowhere as either the operator or someone to potentially recover it. Neither appeared. U90 informed their FAA chain of command about it, but that's as far as I've heard so far.

Interesting in both the range and the altitude, both control-wise in terms of line of sight, as well as battery life as it comes to the endurance of the thing. The concerns with it being around air traffic and a near mid-air, as well as it being over an Air Force base with security sensitive aircraft, are all all concerning. Definitely not something commercial off-the-shelf that one would buy at the local store.

The radar track of the Tucson Police Department helicopter that pursued the drone, a Bell 206B JetRanger II with the U.S. civil registration code N305PD, shows that it took off from Tucson International Airport and flew towards the edge of the airspace above Davis-Monthan. It then followed the drone to the northwest away from the city before circling back. Sources have confirmed this was indeed the police helicopter that was sent to aid the CBP AS350.



RadarBox



These new accounts add a fairly significant detail to the story: that the mystery drone spotted over Tucson was first seen in the airspace adjacent to, or even over, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and later flew through the base's confines. As such, this incident would add to the growing number of recent drone incursions which have worryingly occurred in military-controlled airspace or near sensitive installations. In fact, there is a precedent for unknown drones flying at night being interested in critical energy infrastructure in Arizona. In September 2019, the Palo Verde Nuclear Generation Station near Phoenix was the site of what the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) described as a "drone-a-palooza," an incident which remains unexplained to this day.



SkyVector.com

The Class C airspaces surrounding Tucson International Airport (KTUS) and Davis-Monthan AFB (KDMA)



So far, the controller of the drone remains unidentified, as does the drone itself, which seems to have had advanced capabilities based on multiple accounts. Curiously, a portion of a police report which aired on a [local news report](#) about the incident notes that the observer in the Tucson Police Department's helicopter was unable to observe the drone when looking through night vision goggles.


KOLD/OFFICIAL TPD DOCUMENT

There is a precedent of [drug cartels using drones](#) to transport both drugs and munitions across the southern border, and it has been speculated that this may have been the case in this instance, but Tucson is over 50 miles from the border. In addition, it makes little sense why smugglers would have an interest in an energy storage depot or an Air Force Base. There is also plenty of experimental aircraft activity in the area, with multiple airstrips of varying sizes in close proximity. [Raytheon Missiles and Defense](#) also operates a facility just south of Tucson, but this type of unscheduled flight close to a major metropolitan area and even over an Air Force Base and up into flight levels, above where a normal helicopter can fly, is far from typical when it comes to experimental aircraft testing. In fact, it is outright illegal behavior by the FAA's own rules.

Whatever the case may be, the drone's reported proximity to both an international airport and an Air Force base is worrying. The drone's reported altitude and the fact that it outran two law enforcement helicopters is also concerning, given the increasing threat drones pose to critical infrastructure and defense installations.

We will continue to investigate this strange incident and will report back when we find out more.

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

**Preliminary Assessment:
Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**

25 June 2021

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SCOPE AND ASSUMPTIONS

Scope

This preliminary report is provided by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) in response to the provision in Senate Report 116-233, accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act (IAA) for Fiscal Year 2021, that the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF), is to submit an intelligence assessment of the threat posed by unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) and the progress the Department of Defense Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) has made in understanding this threat.

This report provides an overview for policymakers of the challenges associated with characterizing the potential threat posed by UAP while also providing a means to develop relevant processes, policies, technologies, and training for the U.S. military and other U.S. Government (USG) personnel if and when they encounter UAP, so as to enhance the Intelligence Community's (IC) ability to understand the threat. The Director, UAPTF, is the accountable official for ensuring the timely collection and consolidation of data on UAP. The dataset described in this report is currently limited primarily to U.S. Government reporting of incidents occurring from November 2004 to March 2021. Data continues to be collected and analyzed.

ODNI prepared this report for the Congressional Intelligence and Armed Services Committees. UAPTF and the ODNI National Intelligence Manager for Aviation drafted this report, with input from USD(I&S), DIA, FBI, NRO, NGA, NSA, Air Force, Army, Navy, Navy/ONI, DARPA, FAA, NOAA, NGA, ODNI/NIM-Emerging and Disruptive Technology, ODNI/National Counterintelligence and Security Center, and ODNI/National Intelligence Council.

Assumptions

Various forms of sensors that register UAP generally operate correctly and capture enough real data to allow initial assessments, but some UAP may be attributable to sensor anomalies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The limited amount of high-quality reporting on unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) hampers our ability to draw firm conclusions about the nature or intent of UAP. The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) considered a range of information on UAP described in U.S. military and IC (Intelligence Community) reporting, but because the reporting lacked sufficient specificity, ultimately recognized that a unique, tailored reporting process was required to provide sufficient data for analysis of UAP events.

- As a result, the UAPTF concentrated its review on reports that occurred between 2004 and 2021, the majority of which are a result of this new tailored process to better capture UAP events through formalized reporting.
- Most of the UAP reported probably do represent physical objects given that a majority of UAP were registered across multiple sensors, to include radar, infrared, electro-optical, weapon seekers, and visual observation.

In a limited number of incidents, UAP reportedly appeared to exhibit unusual flight characteristics. These observations could be the result of sensor errors, spoofing, or observer misperception and require additional rigorous analysis.

There are probably multiple types of UAP requiring different explanations based on the range of appearances and behaviors described in the available reporting. Our analysis of the data supports the construct that if and when individual UAP incidents are resolved they will fall into one of five potential explanatory categories: airborne clutter, natural atmospheric phenomena, USG or U.S. industry developmental programs, foreign adversary systems, and a catchall “other” bin.

UAP clearly pose a safety of flight issue and may pose a challenge to U.S. national security. Safety concerns primarily center on aviators contending with an increasingly cluttered air domain. UAP would also represent a national security challenge if they are foreign adversary collection platforms or provide evidence a potential adversary has developed either a breakthrough or disruptive technology.

Consistent consolidation of reports from across the federal government, standardized reporting, increased collection and analysis, and a streamlined process for screening all such reports against a broad range of relevant USG data will allow for a more sophisticated analysis of UAP that is likely to deepen our understanding. Some of these steps are resource-intensive and would require additional investment.

AVAILABLE REPORTING LARGELY INCONCLUSIVE

Limited Data Leaves Most UAP Unexplained...

Limited data and inconsistency in reporting are key challenges to evaluating UAP. No standardized reporting mechanism existed until the Navy established one in March 2019. The Air Force subsequently adopted that mechanism in November 2020, but it remains limited to USG reporting. The UAPTF regularly heard anecdotally during its research about other observations that occurred but which were never captured in formal or informal reporting by those observers.

After carefully considering this information, the UAPTF focused on reports that involved UAP largely witnessed firsthand by military aviators and that were collected from systems we considered to be reliable. These reports describe incidents that occurred between 2004 and 2021, with the majority coming in the last two years as the new reporting mechanism became better known to the military aviation community. We were able to identify one reported UAP with high confidence. In that case, we identified the object as a large, deflating balloon. The others remain unexplained.

- **144** reports originated from USG sources. Of these, **80** reports involved observation with multiple sensors.
 - Most reports described UAP as objects that interrupted pre-planned training or other military activity.

UAP Collection Challenges

Sociocultural stigmas and sensor limitations remain obstacles to collecting data on UAP. Although some technical challenges—such as how to appropriately filter out radar clutter to ensure safety of flight for military and civilian aircraft—are longstanding in the aviation community, while others are unique to the UAP problem set.

- Narratives from aviators in the operational community and analysts from the military and IC describe disparagement associated with observing UAP, reporting it, or attempting to discuss it with colleagues. Although the effects of these stigmas have lessened as senior members of the scientific, policy, military, and intelligence communities engage on the topic seriously in public, reputational risk may keep many observers silent, complicating scientific pursuit of the topic.
- The sensors mounted on U.S. military platforms are typically designed to fulfill specific missions. As a result, those sensors are not generally suited for identifying UAP.
- Sensor vantage points and the numbers of sensors concurrently observing an object play substantial roles in distinguishing UAP from known objects and determining whether a UAP demonstrates breakthrough aerospace capabilities. Optical sensors have the benefit of providing some insight into relative size, shape, and structure. Radiofrequency sensors provide more accurate velocity and range information.

But Some Potential Patterns Do Emerge

Although there was wide variability in the reports and the dataset is currently too limited to allow for detailed trend or pattern analysis, there was some clustering of UAP observations regarding shape, size, and, particularly, propulsion. UAP sightings also tended to cluster around U.S. training and testing grounds, but we assess that this may result from a collection bias as a result of focused attention, greater numbers of latest-generation sensors operating in those areas, unit expectations, and guidance to report anomalies.

And a Handful of UAP Appear to Demonstrate Advanced Technology

In **18** incidents, described in **21** reports, observers reported unusual UAP movement patterns or flight characteristics.

Some UAP appeared to remain stationary in winds aloft, move against the wind, maneuver abruptly, or move at considerable speed, without discernable means of propulsion. In a small number of cases, military aircraft systems processed radio frequency (RF) energy associated with UAP sightings.

The UAPTF holds a small amount of data that appear to show UAP demonstrating acceleration or a degree of signature management. Additional rigorous analysis are necessary by multiple teams or groups of technical experts to determine the nature and validity of these data. We are conducting further analysis to determine if breakthrough technologies were demonstrated.

UAP PROBABLY LACK A SINGLE EXPLANATION

The UAP documented in this limited dataset demonstrate an array of aerial behaviors, reinforcing the possibility there are multiple types of UAP requiring different explanations. Our analysis of the data supports the construct that if and when individual UAP incidents are resolved they will fall into one of five potential explanatory categories: airborne clutter, natural atmospheric phenomena, USG or industry developmental programs, foreign adversary systems, and a catchall “other” bin. With the exception of the one instance where we determined with high confidence that the reported UAP was airborne clutter, specifically a deflating balloon, we currently lack sufficient information in our dataset to attribute incidents to specific explanations.

Airborne Clutter: These objects include birds, balloons, recreational unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), or airborne debris like plastic bags that muddle a scene and affect an operator’s ability to identify true targets, such as enemy aircraft.

Natural Atmospheric Phenomena: Natural atmospheric phenomena includes ice crystals, moisture, and thermal fluctuations that may register on some infrared and radar systems.

USG or Industry Developmental Programs: Some UAP observations could be attributable to developments and classified programs by U.S. entities. We were unable to confirm, however, that these systems accounted for any of the UAP reports we collected.

Foreign Adversary Systems: Some UAP may be technologies deployed by China, Russia, another nation, or a non-governmental entity.

Other: Although most of the UAP described in our dataset probably remain unidentified due to limited data or challenges to collection processing or analysis, we may require additional scientific knowledge to successfully collect on, analyze and characterize some of them. We would group such objects in this category pending scientific advances that allowed us to better understand them. The UAPTF intends to focus additional analysis on the small number of cases where a UAP appeared to display unusual flight characteristics or signature management.

UAP THREATEN FLIGHT SAFETY AND, POSSIBLY, NATIONAL SECURITY

UAP pose a hazard to safety of flight and could pose a broader danger if some instances represent sophisticated collection against U.S. military activities by a foreign government or demonstrate a breakthrough aerospace technology by a potential adversary.

Ongoing Airspace Concerns

When aviators encounter safety hazards, they are required to report these concerns. Depending on the location, volume, and behavior of hazards during incursions on ranges, pilots may cease their tests and/or training and land their aircraft, which has a deterrent effect on reporting.

- The UAPTF has 11 reports of documented instances in which pilots reported near misses with a UAP.

Potential National Security Challenges

We currently lack data to indicate any UAP are part of a foreign collection program or indicative of a major technological advancement by a potential adversary. We continue to monitor for evidence of such programs given the counter intelligence challenge they would pose, particularly as some UAP have been detected near military facilities or by aircraft carrying the USG's most advanced sensor systems.

EXPLAINING UAP WILL REQUIRE ANALYTIC, COLLECTION AND RESOURCE INVESTMENT

Standardize the Reporting, Consolidate the Data, and Deepen the Analysis

In line with the provisions of Senate Report 116-233, accompanying the IAA for FY 2021, the UAPTF's long-term goal is to widen the scope of its work to include additional UAP events documented by a broader swath of USG personnel and technical systems in its analysis. As the dataset increases, the UAPTF's ability to employ data analytics to detect trends will also improve. The initial focus will be to employ artificial intelligence/machine learning algorithms to cluster and recognize similarities and patterns in features of the data points. As the database accumulates information from known aerial objects such as weather balloons, high-altitude or super-pressure balloons, and wildlife, machine learning can add efficiency by pre-assessing UAP reports to see if those records match similar events already in the database.

- The UAPTF has begun to develop interagency analytical and processing workflows to ensure both collection and analysis will be well informed and coordinated.

The majority of UAP data is from U.S. Navy reporting, but efforts are underway to standardize incident reporting across U.S. military services and other government agencies to ensure all relevant data is captured with respect to particular incidents and any U.S. activities that might be relevant. The UAPTF is currently working to acquire additional reporting, including from the U.S. Air Force (USAF), and has begun receiving data from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

- Although USAF data collection has been limited historically the USAF began a six-month pilot program in November 2020 to collect in the most likely areas to encounter UAP and is evaluating how to normalize future collection, reporting, and analysis across the entire Air Force.
- The FAA captures data related to UAP during the normal course of managing air traffic operations. The FAA generally ingests this data when pilots and other airspace users report unusual or unexpected events to the FAA's Air Traffic Organization.
- In addition, the FAA continuously monitors its systems for anomalies, generating additional information that may be of use to the UAPTF. The FAA is able to isolate data of interest to the UAPTF and make it available. The FAA has a robust and effective outreach program that can help the UAPTF reach members of the aviation community to highlight the importance of reporting UAP.

Expand Collection

The UAPTF is looking for novel ways to increase collection of UAP cluster areas when U.S. forces are not present as a way to baseline "standard" UAP activity and mitigate the collection bias in the dataset. One proposal is to use advanced algorithms to search historical data captured and stored by radars. The UAPTF also plans to update its current interagency UAP collection strategy in order bring to bear relevant collection platforms and methods from the DoD and the IC.

Increase Investment in Research and Development

The UAPTF has indicated that additional funding for research and development could further the future study of the topics laid out in this report. Such investments should be guided by a UAP Collection Strategy, UAP R&D Technical Roadmap, and a UAP Program Plan.

APPENDIX A - Definition of Key Terms

This report and UAPTF databases use the following defining terms:

Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP): Airborne objects not immediately identifiable. The acronym UAP represents the broadest category of airborne objects reviewed for analysis.

UAP Event: A holistic description of an occurrence during which a pilot or aircrew witnessed (or detected) a UAP.

UAP Incident: A specific part of the event.

UAP Report: Documentation of a UAP event, to include verified chains of custody and basic information such as the time, date, location, and description of the UAP. UAP reports include Range Fouler¹ reports and other reporting.

¹ U.S. Navy aviators define a "range fouler" as an activity or object that interrupts pre-planned training or other military activity in a military operating area or restricted airspace.

APPENDIX B – Senate Report Accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021

Senate Report 116-233, accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, provides that the DNI, in consultation with the SECDEF and other relevant heads of USG Agencies, is to submit an intelligence assessment of the threat posed by UAP and the progress the UAPTF has made to understand this threat.

The Senate Report specifically requested that the report include:

1. A detailed analysis of UAP data and intelligence reporting collected or held by the Office of Naval Intelligence, including data and intelligence reporting held by the UAPTF;
2. A detailed analysis of unidentified phenomena data collected by:
 - a. Geospatial Intelligence;
 - b. Signals Intelligence;
 - c. Human Intelligence; and
 - d. Measurement and Signatures Intelligence
3. A detailed analysis of data of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which was derived from investigations of intrusions of UAP data over restricted U.S. airspace;
4. A detailed description of an interagency process for ensuring timely data collection and centralized analysis of all UAP reporting for the Federal Government, regardless of which service or agency acquired the information;
5. Identification of an official accountable for the process described in paragraph 4;
6. Identification of potential aerospace or other threats posed by the UAP to national security, and an assessment of whether this UAP activity may be attributed to one or more foreign adversaries;
7. Identification of any incidents or patterns that indicate a potential adversary, have achieved breakthrough aerospace capabilities that could put U.S. strategic or conventional forces at risk; and
8. Recommendations regarding increased collection of data, enhanced research and development, additional funding, and other resources.

Proceedings

Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles in the 2004 Nimitz Encounter [†]

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[†] Presented at the 39th International Workshop on Bayesian Inference and Maximum Entropy Methods in Science and Engineering, Garching, Germany, 30 June–5 July 2019.

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Abstract: A number of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) encountered by military, commercial, and civilian aircraft have been reported to be structured craft that exhibit ‘impossible’ flight characteristics. We consider the 2004 UAP encounters with the *Nimitz* Carrier Group off the coast of California, and estimate lower bounds on the accelerations exhibited by the craft during the observed maneuvers. Estimated accelerations range from 75 g to more than 5000 g with no observed air disturbance, no sonic booms, and no evidence of excessive heat commensurate with even the minimal estimated energies. In accordance with observations, the estimated parameters describing the behavior of these craft are both anomalous and surprising. The extreme estimated flight characteristics reveal that these observations are either fabricated or seriously in error, or that these craft exhibit technology far more advanced than any known craft on Earth. In the case of the *Nimitz* encounters the number and quality of witnesses, the variety of roles they played in the encounters, and the equipment used to track and record the craft favor the latter hypothesis that these are technologically advanced craft.

Keywords: UAP; UAV; UFO

1. Introduction

Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs) partially identified as being unknown anomalous aircraft, referred to as Unidentified Anomalous Vehicles (UAVs) or Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), have been observed globally for some time [1]. Such phenomena were studied officially by the United States Air Force in a series of projects: Project Sign (1947), Project Grudge (1949) and Project Blue Book (1952–1969) [2]. Other nations, such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile [3], Denmark, France, New Zealand, Russia (the former Soviet Union), Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Uruguay, and the Vatican have also conducted studies, or are currently studying, UAPs [4]. In December of 2017 it was revealed that the United States government had been studying UAPs through at least one secret program called the Anomalous Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP) [5], and that there have been times at which United States Naval pilots have had to deal with nearly daily encounters with UAVs [6,7]. These unidentified craft typically exhibit anomalous flight characteristics, such as traveling at extremely high speeds, changing direction or accelerating at extremely high rates, and hovering motionless for long periods of time. Furthermore, these craft appear to violate the laws of physics in that they do not have flight or control surfaces, any visible means of propulsion apparently

violating Newton’s Third Law, and can operate in multiple media, such as space (low Earth orbit), air, and water without apparent hindrance, sonic booms, or heat dumps [4].

The nature, origin, and purpose of these UAVs are unknown. It is also not known if they are piloted, controlled remotely, or autonomous. If some of these UAVs are of extraterrestrial origin, then it would be important to assess the potential threat they pose [4]. More interestingly, these UAVs have the potential to provide new insights into aerospace engineering and other technologies [8]. The potential of a serious threat as well as the promise of advancements in science and engineering, along with our evolving expectations about extraterrestrial life are important reasons for scientists to seriously study and understand these objects [9–13]. We carefully examine a series of encounters in 2004 by pilots and radar operators of the *Nimitz* carrier group, and estimate lower bounds on their accelerations. We demonstrate that the estimated accelerations are indeed extraordinary and surprising.

2. *Nimitz* Encounters (2004)

For a two week period in November of 2004, the U.S. Navy’s Carrier Strike Group Eleven (CSG-11), which includes the USS *Nimitz* nuclear aircraft carrier and the Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser USS *Princeton*, encountered as many as 100 UAVs. We estimated the accelerations of UAVs relying on (1) radar information from USS *Princeton* former Senior Chief Operations Specialist Kevin Day; (2) eyewitness information from CDR David Fravor, commanding officer of Strike Fighter Squadron 41 and the other jet’s weapons system operator, LCDR Jim Slaight; and (3) analyses of a segment of the Defense Intelligence Agency-released Advanced Targeting Forward Looking Infrared (ATFLIR) video. The following descriptions of the *Nimitz* encounters were summarized from the more detailed study published by the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) [14].

2.1. Senior Chief Operations Specialist Kevin Day (RADAR)

An important role of the USS *Princeton* is to act as air defense protection for the strike group. The *Princeton* was equipped with the SPY-1 radar system which provided situational awareness of the surrounding airspace. The main incident occurred on 14 November 2004, but several days earlier, radar operators on the USS *Princeton* were detecting UAVs appearing on radar at about 80,000+ feet altitude to the north of CSG-11 in the vicinity of Santa Catalina and San Clemente Islands. Senior Chief Kevin Day informed us that the Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) radar systems had detected the UAVs in low Earth orbit before they dropped down to 80,000 feet [15]. The UAVs would arrive in groups of 10 to 20, subsequently drop down to 28,000 feet with a several hundred foot variation, and track south at a speed of about 100 knots [15]. Periodically, the UAVs would drop from 28,000 feet to sea level (approx. 50 feet), or under the surface, in 0.78 seconds. Without detailed radar data, it is not possible to know the acceleration of the UAVs as a function of time as they descended to the sea surface. However, one can estimate a lower bound on the acceleration by assuming that the UAVs accelerated at a constant rate halfway and then decelerated at the same rate for the remaining distance so that

$$\frac{1}{2}d = \frac{1}{2}a \left(\frac{t}{2}\right)^2 \tag{1}$$

The data consisted of the change in altitude $y \pm \sigma_y = 8530 \pm 90$ m ($-28,000$ ft ± 295 ft) and the duration $t' \pm \sigma_t = 0.78 \pm 0.08$ s, where the goal was to estimate the acceleration, a . The dominant source of uncertainty in altitude was due to the observed variation in altitude among the observed UAVs, which was on the order of 200 to 300 ft .

In the first analysis, we assigned a joint Gaussian likelihood, $P(y, t|a, I)$ for the measured altitude change and the duration of the maneuver. Since the altitude change and the duration are independently measured, the joint likelihood is factored into the product of two likelihoods, and one can marginalize over the duration of the maneuver to obtain a likelihood for the altitude y

$$P(y|a, I) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt P(y, t|a, \sigma_y, t', \sigma_t, I) \tag{2}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt P(y|a, t, \sigma_y, I)P(t|t', \sigma_t, I), \tag{3}$$

where the symbol I represents the fact that these probabilities are conditional on all prior information. Assigning Gaussian likelihoods we have that

$$P(y|a, I) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_y} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma_y^2} \left(y + \frac{1}{4}at^2\right)^2\right] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_t} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma_t^2} (t-t')^2\right] \tag{4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_y\sigma_t} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma_y^2} \left(y + \frac{1}{4}at^2\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_t^2} (t-t')^2\right]. \tag{5}$$

The integrand is the exponential of a quartic polynomial in t , which was solved numerically. Assigning a uniform prior probability for the acceleration over a wide range of possible accelerations results in a posterior that is proportional to the likelihood (5) above resulting in a maximum likelihood analysis, which gave an estimate of $a = 5600^{+2270}_{-1190}$ g, as illustrated in Figure 1A.

As a second analysis, we employed sampling for which the change in altitude and the elapsed time were described by Gaussian distributions with $y \pm \sigma_y = 8530 \pm 90$ m and $t' \pm \sigma_t = 0.78 \pm 0.08$ s, respectively. The most probable acceleration was 5370^{+1430}_{-820} g while the mean acceleration was 5950 g (Figure 1B).

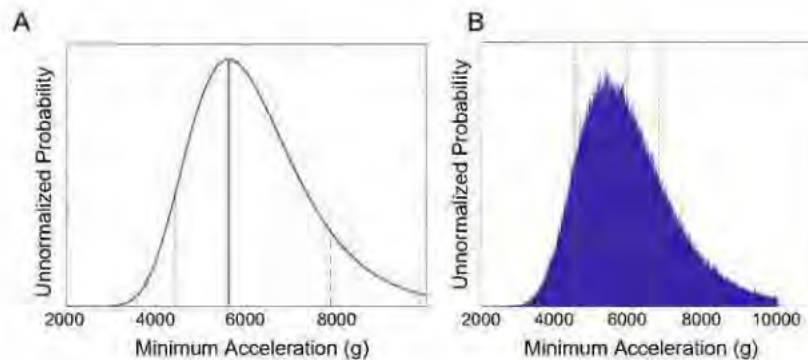


Figure 1. An analysis of Senior Chief Day’s radar observations. (A) The posterior probability indicates the maximum likelihood estimate of the acceleration to be 5600^{+2270}_{-1190} g. (B) The accelerations obtained by sampling resulted in the most probable acceleration of 5370^{+1430}_{-820} g (red lines) while the mean acceleration is 5950 g (black dotted line).

With acceleration estimates in hand, we obtained a ballpark estimate of the power involved to accelerate the UAV. Of course, this required an estimate of the mass of the UAV, which we did not have. The UAV was estimated to be approximately the same size as an F/A-18 Super Hornet, which has a weight of about 32,000 lbs, corresponding to 14,550 kg. Since we want a minimal power estimate, we took the acceleration as 5370 g and assumed that the UAV had a mass of 1000 kg. The UAV would have then reached a maximum speed of about 46,000 mph during the descent, or 60 times the speed of sound, at which point the required power peaked at a shocking 1100 GW, which exceeds the total nuclear power production of the United States by more than a factor of ten. For comparison, the largest nuclear power plant in the United States, the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Arizona, provides about 3.3 GW of power for about four million people [16].

2.2. Commander David Fravor (PILOT)

On Nov. 14, 2004, CSG-11 was preparing for training exercises. Two F/A-18F Super Hornets were launched from the *Nimitz* for the air defense exercise to be conducted in an area 80–150 miles SSW of San Diego. Both planes, with call signs “FastEagle01” and “FastEagle02”, had a pilot and a weapons system operator (WSO) onboard. VFA-41 Squadron Commanding Officer David Fravor was piloting FastEagle01 and LCDR Jim Slaight was the WSO of FastEagle02. CDR Fravor and his wingman were headed for the Combat Air Patrol (CAP) point, which is given by predefined latitude, longitude and altitude coordinates, where they would conduct the training exercises.

About a half-hour after take-off, Senior Chief Day operating the SPY-1 radar system on the *Princeton* detected UAVs entering the training area. The training exercise was delayed and FastEagle01 and FastEagle02 were directed to intercept a UAV at a distance of 60 miles and an altitude of 20,000 feet. As the F-18s approached *merge plot*, which is the point at which the radar could not differentiate the positions of the F-18s and the UAV, Fravor and Slaight noticed a disturbed patch of water, where it appeared as if there was a large object, possibly a downed aircraft, submerged 10 to 15 feet below the surface. As they observed the disturbance from 20,000 ft, all four pilots spotted a white UAV, shaped like a large cylindrical butane tank, or a Tic-Tac candy, moving erratically back and forth, almost like a bouncing ping-pong ball making instantaneous changes in direction without changing speed. The Tic-Tac UAV was estimated to be about the size of an F-18, about 40–50 feet in length and 10–15 feet wide, but had no apparent flight surfaces or means of propulsion, and its movement had no apparent effect on the ocean surface as one would expect from something like rotor wash from a helicopter.

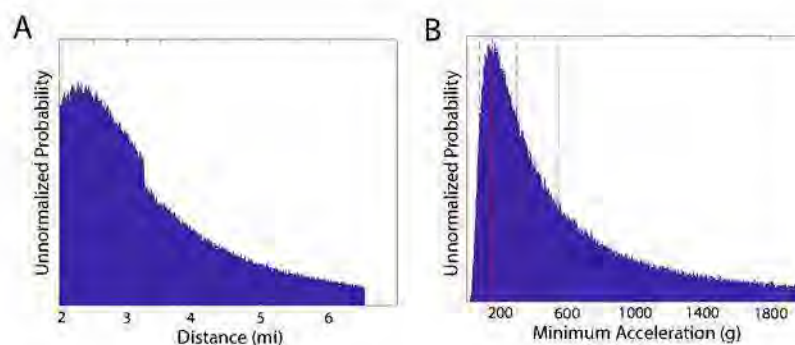


Figure 2. An analysis of CDR Fravor’s encounter based on a Truncated Gaussian distribution ($1/30^\circ \pm 1/60^\circ$) of Fravor’s visual acuity and a Truncated Gaussian distribution (1 ± 1 s) of elapsed time. A. Gaussian distribution of distances based on the visual acuity distribution. B. The distribution of accelerations has a maximum at 150^{+140}_{-80} g (red lines) and a mean of 550 g (black dotted line).

Fravor started a descent to investigate while his wingman kept high cover. As Fravor circled and descended, the UAV appeared to take notice of him and rose to meet him. The F-18 and the UAV circled one another. When Fravor reached the nine o’clock position, he performed a maneuver to close the distance by cutting across the circle to the three o’clock position. As he did so, the Tic-Tac UAV accelerated ([14], p.12) across Fravor’s nose heading south. Fravor said that the UAV was gone within a second. As a comparison, Fravor noted that even a jet at Mach 3 takes 10 to 15 seconds to disappear from sight ([14], p.11). LCDR Slaight described the UAV as accelerating as if it was “shot out of a rifle” and that it was out of sight in a split second. ([14], p. 12).

The engagement lasted five minutes. With the Tic-Tac gone, the pilots turned their attention toward the large object in the water, but the disturbance has disappeared. The two FastEagles returned to the *Nimitz*, without sufficient fuel to attempt to pursue the Tic-Tac. On their way back, they received a call from the *Princeton* that the Tic-Tac UAV was waiting precisely at their CAP point. Senior Chief Day noted that this was surprising because those coordinates were predetermined and secret. Given that the CAP point was approximately $R = 60$ mi away, the probability of selecting the CAP point out

of all the locations within the 60 mile radius, to within a one mile resolution (slightly more than the resolution of the radar system), is

$$P(x|I) = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} = \frac{1}{11310} = 0.0088\%, \tag{6}$$

discounting the altitude. It appears that the Tic-Tac UAV intentionally went to that location, although it is not clear how this would be possible.

To obtain a lower bound on the acceleration, we assume that the UAV exhibited constant acceleration so that the distance traveled was given by

$$d = \frac{1}{2}at^2 \tag{7}$$

during the elapsed time. The length of the Tic-Tac UAV was estimated to be about 40 ft with a cross sectional width of about $w = 10$ ft. Given that the acuity of human vision is about $\theta = 1/60^\circ$ the UAV, at its narrowest, would be out of sight at a maximum distance of

$$d = \frac{w/2}{\tan(\theta/2)}, \tag{8}$$

which is $d \approx 6.5$ mi. It is difficult to know what Fravor’s acuity was given the viewing conditions. For this reason, we model the acuity conservatively as a truncated Gaussian distribution with a peak at $\theta = 1/30^\circ \pm 1/60^\circ$. The truncation at $\theta = 1/60^\circ$ resulted in a discontinuity in the distribution of the distances (Figure 2A), which peaks around 2.25 mi.

The elapsed time is modeled as a Gaussian distribution with a mean of 1 ± 1 s and truncated for positive values of time. The resulting acceleration distribution was a skewed distribution of accelerations (Figure 2B) with a most probable acceleration of 150^{+140}_{-80} g, indicated in the figure by the red vertical lines and a mean acceleration of about 550 g indicated by the black vertical dotted line. Note that this is a lower bound, probably far below the observed acceleration if the UAV accelerated briefly as if “shot out of a rifle” and then traveled at a constant speed.

2.3. ATFLIR Video

Upon returning to the *Nimitz*, CDR Fravor requested that a crew equipped with the ATFLIR pod obtain videos of the Tic-Tac UAV. Two F/A-18Fs were launched under the guidance of an E-2 Hawkeye airborne radar plane. The two planes separated in search of the UAV, with one plane heading south toward the CAP point where the UAV was last seen on radar. That plane picked up a contact 33 miles to the south on the Range While Search (RWS) scan. This Tic-Tac UAV was filmed using the ATFLIR system, and the video was released to the public as the “*Nimitz* video” (Figure 3A).

We examined the last 32 frames of the *Nimitz* video in which the Tic-Tac UAV accelerated to the left and the targeting system lost lock. The video frame rate was 29.97 frames/s. As the UAV accelerates the image of the UAV becomes elongated and blurred. If the shutter speed was known, then this information could be used to better estimate the speed of the craft. This could be accomplished by treating the shutter speed as a model parameter, but such analysis is beyond the scope of this project. Instead, we concentrated on tracking the position of the right edge of the UAV and using those positions to estimate the kinematics. The left edge of the UAV was also estimated in the first frame to provide some information about the range, z_0 , to the UAV given that that UAV was estimated to be about 40 feet in length. However, since the orientation was not known, this is modeled as a uniformly distributed unknown angular parameter $\phi \in \{0, 3\pi/8\}$, which allowed one to at least put an upper bound on the range z_0 .

To estimate the position of the right edge of the craft in each frame (Figure 3A), the row of pixels for which the UAV has a maximum intensity was examined. The pixel intensities along that row at the

right edge of the UAP were fit (maximum likelihood method with a Student-t likelihood) to half of a Gaussian curve. The center position of the Gaussian plus the standard deviation was used as the position of the right side of the UAV for that frame (Figure 3B).

Horizontal positions of the UAV are related to the pixel coordinates by noting that the entire field of view (approximately $FOV_{pix} = 606$ pixels) corresponds to an angular field of view of 0.7° in the narrow (NAR) mode, which is indicated in the upper left hand corner of the video. At the range, z_0 , of the UAV this results in the proportion

$$X_{scale} = \frac{FOV_{pix} / 2}{z_0 \tan \frac{0.7^\circ}{2}} \quad (9)$$

where X_{scale} has units $\frac{\text{pixels}}{\text{m}}$ when z_0 is in units of m. The ATFLIR has a zoom feature that can change the field of view. In the *Nimitz* video frames analyzed, the zoom is first set to unity in the NAR mode so that the angular field of view is 0.7° . However, at frame 16, the zoom changes to two, so that the angular field of view in the NAR mode changes to 0.35° . This appears as a discontinuity in the data ('+' symbols) illustrated in Figure 3C.

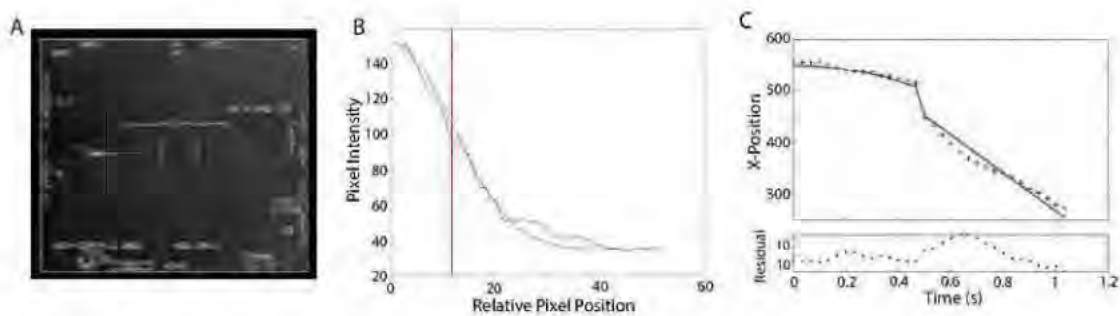


Figure 3. (A) Frame 19 of the last 32 frames of the *Nimitz* ATFLIR video. The narrow horizontal and vertical lines intersecting at the right edge of the UAP image indicate the position of the UAP. (B) The pixel intensities along a row of the frame are plotted along with the best Gaussian curve fit. The rightmost edge of the craft is defined as the center position of the Gaussian plus one standard deviation (indicated by the vertical red line). (C) This is an illustration the data (+), the most probable kinematic fit (solid curves) to the UAV positions in the *Nimitz* ATFLIR video, and the residuals (model minus data) for the model described by (11). Details can be found in Table 1.

We analyzed four different kinematic models using nested sampling, and statistically tested them by comparing the log Bayesian evidence. We used uniform prior probabilities for the kinematic parameters as well as a Student-t likelihood function, which is robust to outliers, such as those due to camera (airplane) motion. Model #1 considers constant acceleration to the left (-x direction). Model #2 considers constant acceleration both to the left (-x direction) and toward or away from the camera (z-direction). The forward model provides the position of the UAV as a function of time, where t_i is the time of the i^{th} video frame:

$$\text{Models \#1 and \#2} \quad \begin{cases} x(t_i) = \frac{1}{2}a_x t_i^2 + x_0 \\ z(t_i) = \frac{1}{2}a_z t_i^2 + z_0 \end{cases} \quad \text{const. accel.}, \quad (10)$$

for which $a_x \in [-200, 0] \text{ g}$, $a_z \in [-100, 100] \text{ g}$, $x_0 \in [-100, 100] \text{ px}$, $z_0 \in [7.57, 75.75] \text{ mi}$, and Model #1 just considers the UAV's acceleration in the x-direction (to the left) so that $a_z \doteq 0$.

Models #3 and #4 describe the kinematics as constant acceleration followed by constant velocity motion after Frame 15:

$$\text{Models \#3 and \#4} \quad \begin{cases} x(t_i) = \frac{1}{2}a_x t_i^2 + x_o & \text{for } t_i < t_{16} \\ x(t_i) = \frac{1}{2}a_x t_{15}^2 + a_x t_{15}(t_i - t_{15}) + x_o & \text{for } t_i \geq t_{16} \\ z(t_i) = \frac{1}{2}a_z t_i^2 + z_o & \text{for } t_i < t_{16} \\ z(t_i) = \frac{1}{2}a_z t_{15}^2 + a_z t_{15}(t_i - t_{15}) + z_o & \text{for } t_i \geq t_{16} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

for which $a_x \in [-200, 0]$ g, $a_z \in [-100, 100]$ g, $x_o \in [-100, 100]$ px, $z_o \in [7.57, 75.75]$ mi, and Model #3 just considers the UAV's acceleration in the x-direction (to the left) so that $a_z = 0$.

The models were analyzed using a nested sampling algorithm [17,18], which allowed for the estimation of the logarithm of the Bayesian evidence, logZ, as well as the logarithm of the likelihood, logL, and mean estimates of the model parameters. The analysis was performed for $N = 500$ samples and was run until the change in logZ from successive iterations was less than 10^{-5} , ensuring a reliable estimate of the log evidence. Tests were performed to ensure that the trial-to-trial variations in parameter estimates were within the estimated uncertainties.

The results of the nested sampling analysis are listed in Table 1. The uncertainties in the logZ estimates (not listed) were on the order of one or less. Model 4, which describes the motion of the UAV as a constant acceleration to the left and away from the observer for the first 15 frames (approximately 0.53 s), is the most probable solution with acceleration components of $a_x = -35.64 \pm 0.08$ g and $a_z = 67.04 \pm 0.18$ g for a net acceleration of about 75.9 ± 0.2 g. The residuals indicate that a more precise model would consist of multiple episodes of acceleration during the maneuver. This was observed in SCU's analysis [14] where the accelerations were estimated to vary from around 40 to 80 g.

Table 1. Kinematic Models for the *Nimitz* Video Given the log evidence (logZ), Model 4 (**bold**) is most probable with a net acceleration of 75.9 ± 0.2 g.

Model	logZ	LogL	a_x (g)	a_z (g)	x_o (m)	z_o (m)
Model 1	-253,640	-253,614	-71.1 ± 0.7	-	-15.40 ± 0.04	$119,700 \pm 1200$
Model 2	-236,950	-236,287	7.564 ± 0.002	99.994 ± 0.005	-13.36 ± 0.04	$12,193 \pm 1$
Model 3	-53,282	-53,261	-40.2 ± 3.8	-	-4.02 ± 0.05	$49,700 \pm 4800$
Model 4	-52,084	-52,031	-35.64 ± 0.08	67.04 ± 0.18	-3.89 ± 0.05	$43,870 \pm 110$

A more detailed analysis would involve modeling the motion of the UAV more precisely by modeling the pixel intensities on the video frames themselves. By considering the shutter speed, the blurring of the UAV image due to its motion would provide more information about its speed. In addition, the "change points" at which the accelerations changed could be treated as model parameters allowing for a more precise description of the UAV's behavior.

3. Discussion

In this paper, we have worked under the assumption that these UAPs were physical craft as described by the pilots. The fact that these UAPs exhibited astonishing flight characteristics leaves one searching for other possible explanations. One very clever explanation suggested by one of the reviewers was that these UAPs could have been generated by the intersection of two or more laser or maser beams ionizing the air, which could create a visual image, an infrared image, as well as a radar reflective region possibly explaining much of the observations.

While such an explanation could explain the visual, infrared and radar observations, it would not be able to explain either the suborbital radar returns from the ballistic missile defense (BMD) radar systems on the *Princeton* before the UAPs dropped to 80,000 ft, or the sonar returns when the TicTac UAPs went into the ocean [15], both of which are not as well substantiated or documented as the other observations.

More importantly, the distribution of the UAPs ranged from over 100 miles to the north over Catalina Island to about 70 miles to the west. This would require an array of widely distributed and coordinated lasers situated on multiple ships or aircraft. However, it is known that there were no other ships or airplanes in the area. In addition, the fact that the UAP reacted to CDR Fravor’s maneuvers would require that radar be used to track the F-18s so that the laser-produced imagery could react to them. However, any such radar frequencies being used in the area would have been detected by the *Princeton*, the E-2 Hawkeye, and the F-18s themselves.

If any such system were being secretly tested against CSG-11, one would expect it to mimic real-life events, such as an enemy aircraft, drone, or missile launch. But the UAPs and their behavior were nothing like this. Furthermore, such powerful lasers might endanger the planes or personnel if anything went wrong in the testing, and the fact that the pilots were forced to take evasive maneuvers [19] reveals that they were being put in harms way. One wouldn’t need to test a system in this manner, and if such a test did take place it would very likely have been illegal. Furthermore, such an explanation would have difficulty explaining the almost daily encounters experienced by pilots in the *Roosevelt* Carrier Group both off the coast of Virginia and during military operations in the Persian Gulf [6,7], or earlier encounters, such as that by Lt. Bethune in 1951, two years before the invention of the maser and nine years before the invention of the laser, which was analyzed in the extended version of this paper [20].

4. Conclusions

We have carefully considered a set of encounters between the *Nimitz* CSG-11 and UAPs of unknown nature and origin. Much of the information available consisted of eyewitness descriptions made by multiple trained witnesses observing in multiple modalities including visual contact from pilots, radar, and infrared video. While fabrication and exaggeration cannot be ruled out, the fact that multiple professional trained observers working in different modalities corroborate the reports greatly minimizes such risks.

The analysis aimed to estimate lower bounds on the acceleration. This was found by assuming that the UAVs accelerated a constant rate. We worked to obtain conservative estimates by assigning liberal uncertainties. It was found that the minimum acceleration estimates, ranging from about 70 g to well over 5000 g, far exceeded those expected for an aircraft (Table 2). For comparison, humans can endure up to 45 g for 0.044 s with no injurious or debilitating effects, but this limit decreases with increasing duration of exposure [21]. For durations more than 0.2 s the limit of tolerance decreases to 25 g and it decreases further still for longer durations [21].

Table 2. Summary of Estimated Accelerations ranging from about 75 g to over 5300g. Detection Modalities refer to Multiple Pilots Visual Contact (Vs), Radar (R), Infrared Video (IR).

Case	Detection Modalities	Kinematic Model	Figure	Min. Acceleration
Day	R	(1)	Figure 1B	5370 ⁺¹⁴³⁰ / ₋₈₂₀ g
Fravor	R,Vs	(7)	Figure 2C	150 ⁺¹⁴⁰ / ₋₈₀ g
ATFLIR	R,Vs,IR	(11)	Figure 3C	75.9 ± 0.2 g

These considerations suggest that these UAVs may not have been piloted, but instead may have been remote controlled or autonomous. However, it should be noted that even equipment can only handle so much acceleration. For example, the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II has maintained structural integrity up to 13.5 g [22]. Missiles can handle much higher accelerations. The Crotales NG VT1 missile has an airframe capable of withstanding 50 g and can maintain maneuverability up to 35 g [23]. However, these accelerations are still only about half of lowest accelerations that we have estimated for these UAVs. The fact that these UAVs display no flight surfaces or apparent propulsion mechanisms, and do not produce sonic booms or excessive heat that would be released given the hundreds of GigaWatts of power that we expect should be involved, strongly suggests that these

anomalous craft are taking advantage of technology, engineering, or physics that we are unfamiliar with. For example, the Tic-Tac UAV dropping from 28,000 ft to sea level in 0.78 s involved at least 4.3×10^{11} J of energy (assuming a mass of 1000 kg), which is equivalent to about 100 tons of TNT, or the yield of 200 Tomahawk cruise missiles, released in $\frac{3}{4}$ of a second. One would have expected a catastrophic effect on the surrounding environment. This does not rule out the possibility that these UAVs have been developed by governments, organizations, or individuals on Earth, but it suggests that these UAVs and the technologies they employ may be of extraterrestrial origin. That being said, it should be strongly emphasized that proving that something is extraterrestrial would be extremely difficult, even if one had a craft in hand.

The purpose of this paper is to focus on the flight kinematics of these UAVs with the aim of building up a body of scientific evidence that will allow for a more precise understanding of their nature and origin.

As such, it is difficult to draw any useful conclusions at this point. We have characterized the accelerations of a number of UAVs and have demonstrated that if they are craft then they are indeed anomalous, displaying technical capabilities far exceeding those of our fastest aircraft and spacecraft. It is not clear that these objects are extraterrestrial in origin, but it is extremely difficult to imagine that anyone on Earth with such technology would not put it to use. Moreover, observations of similar UAPs go back to well before the era of flight [1]. Collectively, these observations strongly suggest that these UAVs should be carefully studied by scientists [9–13].

Unfortunately, the attitude that the study of UAVs (UFOs) is “unscientific” pervades the scientific community, including SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) [24], which is surprising, especially since efforts are underway to search for extraterrestrial artifacts in the solar system [25–29], in particular, on the Moon, Mars, asteroids [30], and at Earth-associated Lagrange points. Ironically, such attitudes inhibit scientific study, perpetuating a state of ignorance about these phenomena that has persisted for well over 70 years, and is now especially detrimental, since answers are presently needed [31–34].

Author Contributions: This work builds on analyses performed independently by K.H.K. and by R.M.P., P.A.R. and others [14]. For this work, K.H.K. determined the methodology, developed the software, performed the analysis, and wrote the original draft. R.M.P. and P.A.R. both reviewed and edited the work verifying correctness.

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Government Says UFOs Aren't American Technology, Can't Rule Out Alien Origins

The long-awaited Pentagon report on unidentified aerial phenomena appears to deliver more questions than answers.

 // BY [ANDREW DANIELS](#) JUN 4, 2021

ufos

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

- A forthcoming [government report](#) doesn't link sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP), also known as unidentified flying objects ([UFOs](#)), to alien spacecraft.
 - However, the Pentagon's [Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force](#) can't actually explain the origins of the UAP—just that they don't appear to be U.S. military or government technology.
 - American officials suspect some of the mysterious phenomena might be Chinese or Russian technology.
-

In the first taste of a feverishly anticipated report the Pentagon will release later this month, U.S. intelligence officials say they haven't found evidence that recent documented sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP), better known as unidentified flying objects ([UFOs](#)), have extraterrestrial origins.

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According to senior administration officials with knowledge of the forthcoming report, however, the briefing *only*

appears to confirm the UAP aren't products of U.S. military or government technology, per a [New York Times](#) [preview](#)

published June 3. That the Pentagon can't conclusively eliminate other possible explanations for observations of the mysterious aircraft means the popular alien theory remains in play—for now.

Why Is the Government Investigating UFOs?

How did we get here? In August 2020, the Department of Defense (DoD) [officially approved the establishment](#)

of an Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) for investigating the sightings of UAP. The task force is the first on-the-books government program affiliated with UFO research since a 2000s-era unit that analyzed unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and other UAP lost its funding in 2012, even though multiple sources confirmed with [Popular Mechanics](#) that the [unit remained active in secrecy after its shuttering](#).

Read This: Our Exclusive Investigation



[Inside the Pentagon's Secret UFO Program](#)

The DoD formed the UAPTF to “improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of [UAP],” Pentagon spokesperson Sue Gough told [Popular Mechanics](#) at the time. “The mission of the task force is to detect, analyze, and catalog [UAP] that could potentially pose a threat to U.S. national security.”

In June 2020's [Intelligence Authorization Act \(IAA\)](#)

, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) authorized appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for the UAPTF and supported its efforts to reveal any links that UAP “have to adversarial foreign governments, and the threat they pose to U.S. military assets and installations.”

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In the IAA, the Select Committee on Intelligence said it “remains concerned that there is no unified, comprehensive process within the federal government for collecting and analyzing intelligence on [UAP], despite the potential threat,” and so it directed the task force to report its findings on UAP, “including observed airborne objects that have not been identified,” within 180 days.

When former U.S. President Donald Trump signed the coronavirus relief and government funding bill into law in December 2020, it contained the IAA for Fiscal Year 2021, which means the UAPTF must report its findings to Congress by June 25. That date is rapidly approaching, and this week’s *New York Times* report offers the first major clues about what the briefing does and doesn’t include.

What Does the UFO Report Say?

The most likely root of the unexplained phenomena may be from foreign adversaries, the *New York Times* suggests. The Pentagon report allegedly examines more than 120 incidents that [U.S. Navy pilots witnessed](#) over the last two decades, as well as sightings from foreign militaries. Intelligence officials believe “at least some of the aerial phenomena could have been experimental technology from a rival power, most likely Russia or China,” the *Times* reports.

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[Pentagon Reports Show UFOs Breaking Sound Barrier](#)

One official with knowledge of the report told the *Times* that American intelligence and military officials are worried “China or Russia could be experimenting with hypersonic technology” designed to evade the U.S. military’s missile defense technology. That seemingly tracks with what a former U.S. intelligence official recently revealed.

In March, John Ratcliffe, who served as the Director of National Intelligence Community from May 2020 to January 2021, told Fox News’s Maria Bartiromo the [Pentagon is sitting on “lots of reports”](#) that include sightings of objects that “frankly engage in actions that are difficult to explain.” Ratcliffe said both U.S. Navy and Air Force pilots and satellite imagery have spotted the UAP.

The objects reportedly made “movements that are hard to replicate that we don’t have the technology for, or traveling at speeds that exceed the sound barrier without a sonic boom,” Ratcliffe said. “In short, things that we are observing that are difficult to explain.”

U.S. Navy F/A-18 flying faster than the speed of sound. The white cloud is formed by decreased air pressure and temperature around the tail of the aircraft.

ENSIGN JOAN DAV, U.S. NAVY

When an aircraft increases its speed, pressure waves build up on it and eventually coalesce into a single shockwave. When the plane outruns that shockwave and travels faster than the speed of sound in air, it causes a sudden change in pressure, which in turn creates the sonic boom. There's no publicly available scientific data to suggest any aircraft can break the sound barrier without producing a sonic boom; while engineers can take steps to try to reduce sonic booms, physics says it's impossible to outright eliminate it.

Ratcliffe admitted the Pentagon simply can't rationalize some of the reported sightings:

"We always look for a plausible explanation. You know, weather can cause disturbances, visual disturbances, sometimes we wonder whether or not our adversaries have technologies that are a little bit further down the road than we thought or that we realized. But there are instances where we don't have good explanations for some of the things that we've seen."

Are the UFOs Actually Foreign Technology?

It's well known that both China and Russia have developed hypersonic weapons. Last fall, for example, a [Chinese video appeared](#) to show a People's Liberation Army Air Force bomber equipped with a hypersonic weapon system, while Russia also [tested a new missile](#) that traveled faster than Mach 5 and reportedly struck a target at sea for the first time.

Just last week, meanwhile, Russia announced it's building a single-engine, [hypersonic fighter jet](#). And China is reportedly [working on a "sodramjet"](#)—short for "standing oblique detonation ramjet engine"—that apparently reached *nine* times the speed of sound in a wind tunnel test. The engine could power an aircraft to reach anywhere in the world within two hours, the makers say.

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[Sodramjet Could Reach Anywhere on Earth in 2 Hours](#)

If the UAP in the Pentagon report were indeed Chinese or Russian aircraft, "that would suggest the two

powers' hypersonic research had far outpaced American military development," U.S. officials told the *Times*

What Else Do I Need to Know About UFOs?

The imminent release of the UAPTF's report is the culmination of recent developments surrounding UFO research, including the U.S. Navy's April 2020 release of [three videos](#) that show unidentified aerial vehicles are genuine. The official drop came several years after the notorious clips first leaked online and properly ushered in the [UFO renaissance](#)

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In 2019, the [Navy confirmed the three videos](#), taken by Navy pilots, indeed show UAP, but the service also said the footage should have never been released to the public in the first place. The Pentagon released the videos in order to "clear up any misconceptions by the public on whether or not the footage that has been circulating was real, or whether or not there is more to the videos," a spokesperson told *Popular Mechanics* at the time.

You Have to Read These



[Exclusive: Navy UFO Witnesses Reveal What They Saw](#)



[The Long, Strange Truth of the Navy's UFO Video](#)

The three videos in question show two separate encounters between Navy aircraft and UAP. One video was [taken in 2015](#)

off the East Coast by an [F/A-18F fighter jet](#)

using the aircraft's onboard Raytheon AN/ASQ-228 Advanced Targeting Forward-Looking Infrared (ATFLIR) Pod. The other clip, also recorded with a Super Hornet ATFLIR pod, was [taken off the coast of California in 2004](#)

by pilots flying from the aircraft carrier USS *Nimitz*

. In the videos, air crews loudly debate what the objects are and where they came from.

In each case, the objects in the videos undertook aerial maneuvers that aren't possible with current aviation technology. In the 2004 incident, according to [The New York Times](#), the objects "appeared suddenly at 80,000 feet, and then hurtled toward the sea, eventually stopping at 20,000 feet and hovering. Then, they either dropped out of radar range or shot straight back up." In 2019, the [Nimitz](#)

[witnesses exclusively shared their accounts](#)

with *Popular Mechanics*.

The UAPTF is expected to release an unclassified version of its report to Congress by June 25. But the report will also include a classified section, which means it's "likely to continue to fuel speculation that the government had secret data about alien visitations to Earth," one official told the *Times*

Popular Mechanics will continue to update this story as more information is released.

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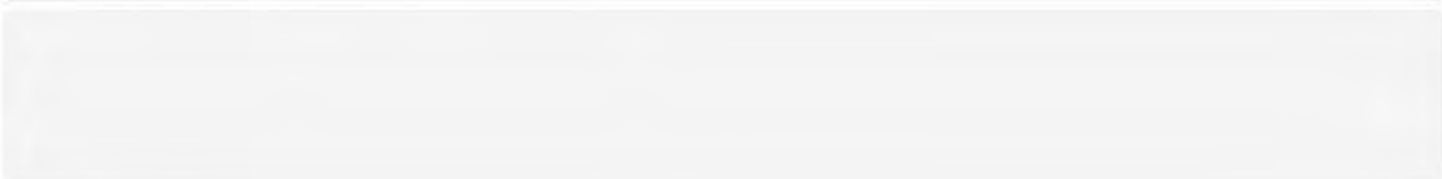
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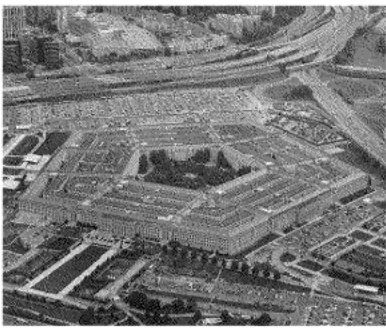
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UFOs Have Put US Nuclear Sites Offline: Former Agency Head



By Charlie McCarthy | Wednesday, 09 June 2021 10:15 AM



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U.S. nuclear facilities have been forced to go offline at times due to UFOs, according to the former director of a government program created to investigate unidentified aerial phenomenon.

Luis Elizondo, former head of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program, spoke Tuesday to the [Washington Post](#) about UFOs and national security.

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the secretary of Defense are scheduled to release a report later this month about UFO sightings.

Jacqueline Alemany, the Post's congressional correspondent, asked Elizondo about UFO sightings above secret nuclear weapons facilities, and whether the government had considered utilizing nuclear-powered naval fleets to lure these kinds of things for further study.

"That is one of the concerns we have from a national security perspective, that there does seem to be some sort of congruency or some sort of intersection between these UAP or UFO sightings and our nuclear technology with nuclear propulsion, nuclear power generation, or nuclear weapons systems," Elizondo said.

After saying other countries have seen similar incidents, Elizondo added, "In this country, we've had incidents where these UAPs have interfered and actually brought offline our nuclear capabilities."

Elizondo said some people might hear that and conclude, "whatever this is, is something that is peaceful." He added that isn't true necessarily,

"We also have data suggesting that in other countries these things have interfered with their nuclear technology and actually turned them on, put them online," he said. "So that is equally, for me, just as concerning. I think that there is certainly at this point enough data to demonstrate there is an interest in our nuclear technology, a potential to even interfere with that nuclear technology."

Elizondo said the Navy certainly is aware that outside interests want to know more about its nuclear capabilities, and he added "these things have a tendency to be seen in and around water."

"Let's take the Nimitz battle carrier fleet for example — in some cases you're talking about a nuclear footprint probably bigger than most cities," he said. "You have a nuclear-powered carrier with aircraft on board that — and then you have nuclear-powered destroyers. You have nuclear-powered submarines, some of those with nuclear weapons on board, or nuclear — certainly nuclear capabilities."

"So, I think, yeah, it shouldn't be a surprise that maybe there is an increased interest in our capabilities as it relates to our nuclear technology."

Aleman said The New York Times reported that the UFOs being investigated did not originate from American military or advanced U.S. government technology. That leaves foreign adversaries or extraterrestrial objects as potential places from which they derived.

"For 30 years there has always been this undercurrent, if you will, these conspiracies that there was some sort of TR-3B program and some sort of a super special technology that has been implemented and we've been — just been very careless about it," Elizondo said. "And I think that argument was finally put to bed."

"So that really only leaves two other options, and that's — again, it's foreign adversarial or it's something quite different. And I think we're now beginning to learn, as we've heard from the director of national intelligence — and I can certainly tell you from my experience — that we're pretty confident that it's not Russian or Chinese technology."

The Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program initially was funded, but not publicized, by the U.S. government in 2007, but appropriations ended in 2012, [The New York Times](#) reported.

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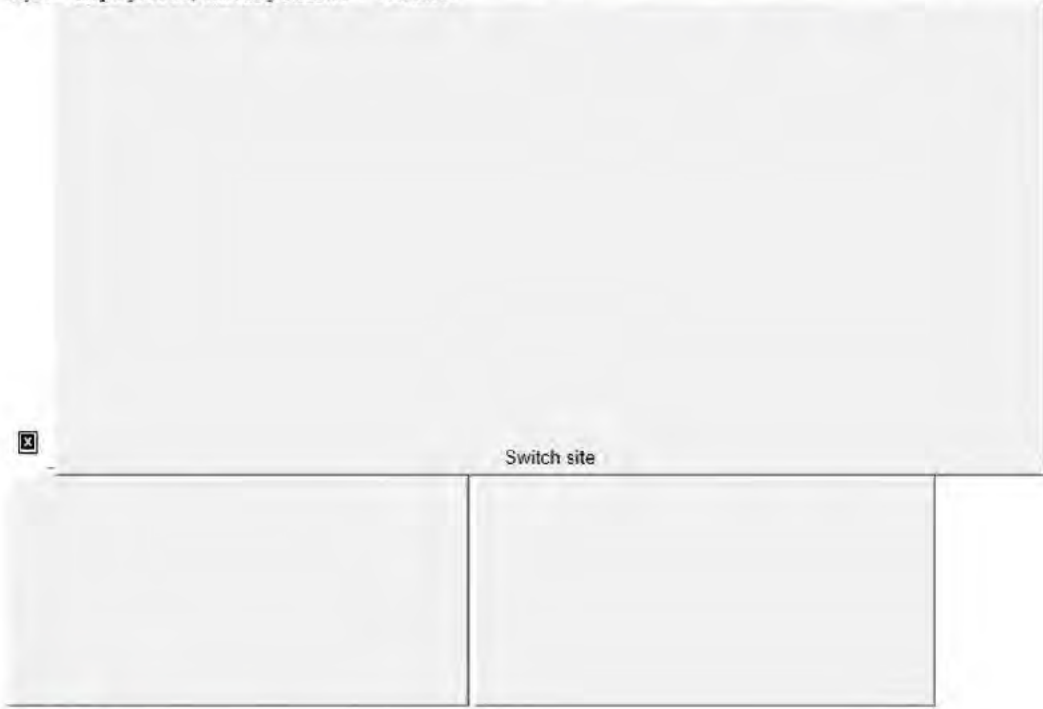
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Update: Tucson copter cop says mysterious, 'sophisticated' super-drone 'like no other'

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Additional information has surfaced about the mysterious drone that officials in Tucson described as “highly modified” after it buzzed, then led a border patrol helicopter on a high-speed, hour-long chase before vanishing. A case summary of the incident details airborne police efforts to pursue and unsuccessfully identify the astonishingly powerful craft described as “very sophisticated/specialized and able to perform like no other.”

Police report adds detail about mystery drone’s exploit

The [initial encounter](#) occurred just after 10 p.m. on Feb. 9, but was only revealed in May. [Subsequent information](#) was reported earlier this month. The executive summary version is that a drone nearly collided with a Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) helicopter above Tucson. The chopper then chased the craft over a veering, 70-mile course at speeds over 100 mph and altitudes of up to 14,000 feet. During that run, the escaping uncrewed aerial system

(UAS) craft violated restricted airspaces – including those of an Air Force base and Tucson’s airport – and displayed maneuverability and power reserves far beyond those of a consumer drone.

Then it disappeared.

The FBI was brought onto the case and continues searching for the craft and its pilots. Thus far, however, it appears little headway has been made toward illuminating that astonishing (and very illegal) night flight. However, Brett Tingley of *The Drive’s War Zone* continues his excellent coverage of the story, and has obtained and [written up reports](#) filed by Tucson police (TPD) whose helicopter joined the chase. At times, it’s hard not to hear a bit of wonder and grudging admiration for the serious chops the law-breaking drone demonstrated before ultimately shaking them.

The cop copter joined the chase after the CBP reported its near miss, and quickly made visual contact with the fleeing drone. They confirmed FBI descriptions of the craft having only “a single, green position light on the underbody,” but otherwise could not get a good enough look at it to estimate something as basic as size. Even use of night vision goggles – while looking right at it – failed to flesh the drone out further.

Evasive drone’s pilot tweaks pursuing police noses

The furtive UAS then put on something of a catch-me-if-you-can show. In their report, TPD pilots say the drone “maneuvered all over the city... at about 10,500-11,000 ft... in a manner to hamper our ability to track it.” Then the super-drone got really cheeky.

The uas was very sophisticated/specialized and able to perform like no other uas I have ever observed. The uas began flying orbits around our aircraft as we tracked it... up to an altitude of 12,000 ft (the uas was in excess of 14,000ft), its speed at times well in excess of 100 mph... (From) its flight path (it) was obvious the controller had clear sight of both the helicopters tracking it by the way it would orbit us and abruptly fly behind us and attempt to avoid our visual contact.

Despite headwinds of 40 mph, the fleeing craft managed to clear 100 mph. Though pursuing cops had hoped the prolonged hunt would exhaust the drone’s batteries, it “never displayed signs of reduced... or weakening power supply.” However, the TPD officers did say the craft occasionally “appeared to move in an erratic pattern as if the signal with its home station was getting weaker, but then would stabilize and continue on its flight path.”

An hour after it began, the chase ended – ironically – with the TPD helicopter having to turn back for refueling, and the CBP unit unable to get another visual fix on the drone. The last time anyone saw it, the super-UAS was “flying in and out of the cloud base at 12,000 ft” before vanishing altogether.

Photo: Ben Collins on Upsplash

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