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AFMRS-4

SUBJECT: Light Phenomena

14 September 1949

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson AFB  
Dayton, Ohio

1. Since the establishment of the special project at Hq AMC, (Project GRUDGE), to investigate and analyze reports on so-called "Flying saucers" and unidentified aerial phenomena, many reports have been received through intelligence channels from persons who have observed what they considered to be unusual light phenomena. Foremost in this category have been those which are described as "green fireballs".

2. Analysis by various specialists has indicated that many of the incidents involving light phenomena were undoubtedly observations of natural phenomena. Particular attention was given to the "green fireball" variety by Dr. Joseph Kaplan, member of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board. Dr. Kaplan has concluded that the "green fireballs" are natural phenomena.

3. Correspondence relative to Dr. Kaplan's conclusions on the phenomena and correspondence relative to a request from the Second Armored Division, Camp Hood, Texas, for scientific investigation of similar phenomena, are forwarded for your information.

4. The Air Materiel Command has under contract several organizations in the Boston area that are specialists in observing techniques and the interpretation of celestial phenomena. It is desired that these organizations be consulted regarding the "green fireball" phenomena. If necessary, consideration should be given to the establishment of an observational program designed to obtain additional information necessary to an explanation of the phenomena.

5. A meeting at Sandia in the New Mexico area is scheduled for the middle of October to continue discussions of the light phenomena. It is requested that representatives from Air Force Research Laboratories, Base Directorate for Geophysical Research attend.

6. This Headquarters should be apprised of the progress of the evaluation and the results of the Sandia meeting as soon as possible.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

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- 3 Incls:
- 1-4th Ind to GSUSA w/bltr & Inds (cy) dtd 9/1/49
- 2-Cy ltr to Dr Kaplan dtd 8/9/49
- 3-Cy ltr fm Dr Kaplan dtd 7/31/49 w/incls

*enclosure*

/s/ JOHN McK. TUCKER  
Lt Col, USAF  
Actg Chief, Geophysical Science Directorate of AF  
Office, DDD/K

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Auth: C.G., AMC  
Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MCGO

SUBJECT: Light Phenomena

TO: Director of Research and Development  
Headquarters USAF  
Washington 25, D.C.

1. Reference is made to:

a. Headquarters USAF (AFMRS-4) letter, dated 14 September 1949, subject: "Light Phenomena." (See Inclosure No. 1).

b. Cambridge Research Laboratories letters, dated 7 November 1949, subject: "Report of Conference on 'Green Fireballs' (Project Grudge)." (See Inclosure No. 2).

2. A report of the conference held at Los Alamos on the subject of phenomena observed in the New Mexico area is forwarded as inclosure No. 2. Inasmuch as the phenomena appears to be atmospheric in nature it is recommended that the investigation continue under the Air Force Geophysical Research Program. In order to establish such a project it is requested that Research and Development Board approval be accomplished and that necessary funds be provided.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Incl:  
1 - See par 1 a abv  
2 - See par 1b abv

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