

John G. ...
The ...
The ...

27 January 1953

Minutes of GCI Advisory Group on Unidentified Flying Objects,
14-17 January 1953

1. At your request I represented FBI Division at the subject meetings. I was present at nearly all meetings of the group with the exception of the afternoon of Friday, the 15th and the session on Saturday, the 17th. During the latter two sessions the Advisory Group went into executive session for the preparation of their report to A/CI.

2. The following GCI Consultants formed the Advisory Group:

- Dr. H. P. Robertson, Chairman
- Dr. Ben Goddard
- Dr. Louis Alvarez
- Dr. Thurston Page (missed morning session on 15th)
- Dr. Lloyd Ratner (present only on afternoon of 15th and 17th)
- Dr. J. A. Lynch (an AIC consultant - he sat in all the sessions after the first day, but did not sign the report to A/CI as an official group member)

3. The following GCI staff members attended:

- Dr. H. H. Campbell (most of the first day only)
- Mr. P. G. Strong (first day only)
- Mr. F. C. Durant (although not an GCI consultant, he functioned as a staff member for the conference and attended all sessions including the executive session)
- Mr. H. B. Cleveland, Response Division
- Mr. Col. T. C. ...

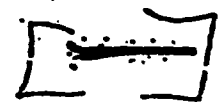
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4. The following persons were invited to present certain background information to the Advisory Group:

Captain Edward ... presented information on the work of Prof. ... and discussed in detail many of their specific investigations.

Major ... (by now on inactive status and with the ...) also presented ... of ... representatives of the Navy ... presented their analysis of files of a "sighting."

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5. The first business on the agenda was a review by and a change (Site #1) to the Group by [Mr. G. J. Hill]. This was followed by a statement of the Hill Incident by [Mr. G. J. Hill]. It had been suggested by [Mr. Hill] to be put into the "Flying saucer problem" because of their related national security problems: (a) possible exploitation to produce mass hysteria, (b) the commissions and charges inherent in observations of "flying saucers" by the [U.S. Navy] and [U.S. Air Force], (c) the current "flying saucer reports" overlaid on the emergency communication facilities of the Department of Defense.

6. Because of the quality of the consultants and the excellence of their introduction to the subject by [Mr. G. J. Hill] and [Mr. Strong], the Advisory Group never lost sight of its goals in spite of the fact that the discussion took many excursions.

7. The Advisory Group submitted its report to AC/JI on 17 January 1953. Their principal finding was that at the present time the unidentified flying objects pose no threat to the security of the United States. They would advise the establishment of programs of education regarding the phenomena particularly as concerns the U.S. Navy and [U.S. Air Force] system, and for the general public as well.

8. Most of the GCI files on this subject are being retained in the office of the [AC/JI]. Weapons Division has a considerable file which according to [Mr. Strong] they would like to dispose of because of the findings of the Advisory Group that "flying saucers" pose no present threat to the United States security. [Mr. Strong] feels that the material in the Weapons Division file should be maintained in one of the substantive Divisions of GCI and has suggested that [Mr. Strong] take this over and maintain them. [Mr. Strong] of Weapons Division currently has the material and estimates that several hours per week will be required to keep it current. It indicates that he is interesting to [Mr. Strong] Chief of Weapons Division, that [Mr. Strong] Division get the files. [Mr. Strong] would like to suggest that the Acting Chief, [Mr. Strong] Division discuss this with [Mr. Strong]. I personally don't see why [Mr. Strong] Division has any greater interest in this material than Weapons Division.

9. If GP Branch, [Mr. Strong] Division is given the responsibility for the files mentioned in paragraph 8, above, one (1) additional rate will be required.

Release [Stamp: FROM US G. A. MAIL Lt. Colonel, USAF]

FCD:ms

- cc: GCI: & J - Div. Off.
- 1 - [Mr. Strong]
- 1 - GCI
- 1 - Ori. Instor

[Handwritten marks]

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, CIA

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CHARGE TO O/SI ADVISORY GROUP ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

1. To review available evidence on unidentified flying objects and to consider possible dangers to national security related thereto.

2. To advise concerning the amount and kind of data necessary for a scientific evaluation of these phenomena.

3. In particular to comment on:

a. Validity of current CIA evaluation of related dangers.

b. Methodology and scope of current and planned AFIC investigation.

c. Advisability of further meetings of this group or further review of the subject by a larger panel.

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POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS

A. Hysteria, hallucinations, hoaxes, etc. (Psychological)

B. Misidentifications of conventional objects:

1. Aircraft, missiles, searchlight reflections, etc. (man-made, controlled)
2. Balloons, kites, etc. (man-made, uncontrolled)
3. Birds, bugs, etc. (animal)
4. Dust, seeds (e.g. dandelion), paper, etc. (foreign matter)

C. Natural Phenomena:

1. Light aberrations, reflections, refractions, etc.
2. Anomalous radar propagation
3. Ionization, static electricity, ball lightning, etc.
4. Planets, meteors and other astronomical bodies.
5. Others.

D. Unconventional man-made devices:

1. US
2. USSR and other foreign

E. Extraterrestrial origin

1. Animal
2. Machine

*Basis of Maj. Jennings' Report
to OSI dated 14-17 Jan 55
(given on 16 Jan!)*



FORMATION

<p>(1) ↑</p> <p>(3 in row distant arranged in circular or zig-zag manner)</p>	<p>(2) ↑</p> <p>(All objects had a swinging motion from side to side)</p>	<p>(3) ↑</p>	<p>(4) ↑</p>
<p>(5) ↑</p>	<p>(6) ↑</p>	<p>(7) ↑</p> <p>(From...)</p>	<p>(8) ↑</p> <p>(From...)</p>
<p>(9)</p> <p>3 in general trail formation (trailing object varied position)</p>	<p>(10)</p> <p>4 objects (exact formation not specified)</p>	<p>(11) ↑</p> <p>(Perfect forma- tion)</p>	<p>(12) ↑</p> <p>(From...)</p>
<p>(13)</p> <p>Cluster in (From...)</p>	<p>(14)</p>	<p>(15)</p>	<p>(16)</p>
<p>(17)</p> <p>3 objects, one above other in space</p>	<p>(18)</p>	<p>(19)</p>	<p>(20)</p>