Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : P. G. Strong   DATE: 31 March 1953

FROM : F. C. Durant
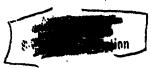
SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

1. Jack Heckert telephoned yesterday and told me that O/CI is no longer following reports of U. F. O.'s. Jack has the O/CI file of U. F. O. dispatches and wanted suggestions as to where to send it.

2. O/SI interest in U. F. O.'s is currently centered on Dave Stevenson (Air Branch/Applied Science Division). He is back-stopped by Lt. Col. Fritz Cder (Geophys Br/Phys Division). Stevenson has all O/SI files with exception of key documents, Panel Reports, etc. which are in the Operations Staff office.

3. It would seem wise for O/SI to keep a watch on U. F. O. reports in view of possibly greater activity this summer. The following steps are suggested to assign responsibility and insure receipt of intelligence information:

    a. Designate Chief, Applied Science Division as coordinator of reports on U. F. O.'s with the suggestion that Mr. David B. Stevenson be named "action man". Carbon copy to Chief, P&D Division would request division support to Stevenson be coordinated by Lt. Col. F. C. Cder.

    b. Request O/CI turn files now in custody of John Heckert over to Stevenson for perusal. I believe very little material would be worth saving except as samples of indicative or unusual reports. The rest I recommend be destroyed.

    c. Request O/CI Screening Panel (Miss Lowry, I believe) route all future messages pertaining to U. F. O.'s to the Applied Science Division, Attention: D. B. Stevenson, for review.

4. The above method is believed the simplest method for O/SI effectively keeping tabs on the subject. There would be little time required on Stevenson's part to keep himself up to date. In the event of a future flap, his continuing watch should prove valuable in a critical analysis. From time to time he might report orally to you or to me on the status quo but no formal reports seem indicated.

5. If the above plan appears suitable and you so desire, I'll prepare directive memos.

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F. C. DURANT

OSI/FCDurant:bm

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