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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF, USAF

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD REPORT ON AVRO PROJECT Y2

November 1954

Report

This document consists of 9 pages
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

10 December 1954

Lieutenant General Donald L. Putt
Deputy Chief of Staff, Development
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington, D. C.

Dear Don:

In response to your request for SAB comments on the Avro "Saucer" project, the SAB has taken the following action:

The Aircraft and Propulsion Panels were briefed on September 28 by representatives of Hq. ARDC, at the time of the Fall meeting of the Board in Omaha. The tentative conclusions of both panels immediately after this briefing were to the effect that this project warranted no more than limited support. However, to assure thorough consideration of this project, I requested representatives of these two panels to supplement the briefings given to them at Omaha by a visit to A. V. Roe Canada Ltd., Malton, Ontario.

With the advice of Clark Millikan and Dean Soderberg, a select committee was chosen to conclude this study. It was composed of Dean Soderberg, Chairman of the Propulsion Panel and senior member of the group; Professor Markham, of the Aircraft Panel; and Mr. Donovan, who has been serving both as a member of the Aircraft Panel and as liaison member with the Propulsion Panel.

The attached report of this group is forwarded with my approval, representing the results of the SAB's completed study.

Sincerely,

/s/

J. H. DOOLITTLE
Acting Chairman
Scientific Advisory Board
Office of the Chief of Staff

Inclosure

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PART IV
SUMMARY

We have presented to you some evidence that flying saucers are within the capabilities of the existing "state of the art" in this country and Canada. The "state of the art" is well known in European countries. The Coanda effect has been known to all countries and the application is not beyond the capabilities of the Soviets. It is possible that German projects for flying saucers existed at the end of the war. The man considered possible tops in this field is supposed to be in the U.S. now. We have reports on eye witnesses of flying saucers in Soviet territory.

PART V
RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The entire intelligence community be alerted to a possible Soviet activity in this field.
2. All existing files on foreign flying saucers should be reviewed and analyzed.
3. Bruno Berberich should be interrogated by intelligence analysts who have a full background on existing intelligence.
4. Robert Miethe should be found. Possibly Miethe could have changed his name to Bruno Berberich or some other alias.
5. A collection requirement should be placed on all agencies in the field including the Attaches.

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AFOIN-2C4
Col. MacDuff/bps/52466
w/11 July 1955

M/R

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

PROBLEM:

1. To evaluate Kc 97 crew sightings and ground radar returns of object in the Newfoundland area (4910N/5950W).

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. OIN-2C directed the OIN-2C committee on 8 July to evaluate the 6 July Kc 97 sightings and GCI radar returns over Newfoundland as summarized and detailed in CAF IN 15592, dtd 6 July 55 and CAF IN 90703 dtd 7 July 55.

3. In arriving at the following conclusions the committee reviewed reports summarizing the incident, the crew interrogations and the NEAC evaluation of the incident. In addition certain new U.S. and Canadian developments in high performance unconventional aircraft were considered.

CONCLUSIONS:

4. It was concluded that no intelligence is available to support or deny the existence of unconventional Soviet aircraft comparable to those under consideration in the US and Canada and providing performance such as reported.

5. The committee was unable to explain the simultaneous ground radar returns and aircrew visual sightings, and tentatively accepts the NEAC evaluation attributing the incident to electrical phenomenon on the one hand and misinterpretation of the sightings by aircrew members on the other.

6. It was further concluded that this incident should be classified as UFOB.

7. This item is not considered suitable for inclusion in D/I Policy Book or the Daily Staff Digest.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

8. Due to the serious technological threat should unfriendly nations succeed in developing high performance unconventional aircraft increased effort should be made by all collection agencies to penetrate the Soviet Research and Development establishments and programs in order to give the U.S. adequate warning of any developments in this area.

9. It is further recommended that in the event of future incidents of this nature fighter scrambles be effected without delay.

COORDINATION:

AFOIN-2C4, Col. MacDuff, ext. 52466 *Sam*
AFOIN-2C1, Lt. Col. Farrior, ext. 56239 *Waf*
AFOIN-2C2, Col. Gould, ext. 56200 *WHS*
AFOIN-2C5, Col. Gwynne, ext. 55538 *Weg.*

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Inc 1

AIR STAFF SUMMARY SHEET

Int 2-2-7x

TO	ROUTE	DESIRED ACTION	INITIALS	OFFICE OF PREPARATION	
AFOOP	1	Coordination	<i>A/G 1955</i>	AFOIN-2C4	
AFODC	2	Signature	<i>8 AUG 1955</i>	GRADE - SURNAME L/Col Whitman/bps	
				TEL. 52466	
				DATE	
				<i>JUL 28 1955</i>	

SUBJECT
~~(Secret)~~ Request NEAC for Immediate Fighter Scramble Against Flying Objects

SUMMARY

1. On 6 July the crew of a KC-97 tanker reported the sighting of an unidentified airborne object in the Newfoundland area (4910N/5950W). At the time of the sighting a GCI radar in the same area obtained a radar return of an object which apparently was identical to the one the KC-97 crew had under visual observation. A committee, appointed by this Directorate to evaluate this sighting reviewed reports summarizing the incident by the Northeast Air Command. The committee tentatively attributed the sighting to electrical phenomenon and visual misinterpretation by aircrew members. At the same time, however, the committee discussed the possibility that the object might have been an high performance unconventional aircraft. This Directorate is of the opinion that the development of such an aircraft by an unfriendly nation would constitute a serious technological threat to the United States, and therefore every effort must be made to identify sightings in the future.

2. In its discussion of methods to be used to obtain identification of objects sighted in a similar fashion in the future, the committee concluded that the method possessing the most likelihood of success would be interception of the object by fighter aircraft and recommended that in the event of future incidents of this nature fighters within range be scrambled without delay.

3. Attached as Tab A is a proposed message to the Commander NEACOM, directing the scramble of fighters as recommended by the committee.

RECOMMENDATION

4. Signature of attached message.

Frank B. Chappell
FRANK B. CHAPPELL
Colonel USAF
Directorate of Intelligence

1 Incl
Proposed Msg to
Cdr NEAC

*Incl not
red in M+R.
KC.*

*File x282
24/8/55*

AFODC CONTROL NO 55

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AFOOP 41703

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