



—United Press International

The Pentagon today re-released this picture of a "flying saucer" which it said was built by the United States and Canada, but which couldn't get more than four feet off the ground. The photo was first released in 1960.

Civilian Panel to Study UFOs, Air Force Assures Congress

By ROBERT K. WALSH
Star Staff Writer

Air Force officials told a House committee today a scientific panel of civilians would investigate "flying saucers" despite the lack of evidence that such objects exist.

Mainly as a result of House Republican Leader Gerald Ford's demand for a congressional investigation of unidentified flying objects, the Armed Services Committee suddenly

opened testimony on the matter at an executive session scheduled on other Air Force matters.

Air Force Secretary Harold Brown and Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Northwestern University astronomer and a special consultant to the Air Force since 1952, said 95 percent of the cases reported to them can be explained as natural phenomena.

They said the other 5 percent

still were being investigated but that they have no reason to conclude that those cases are "extraterrestrial or outside military hardware."

The witnesses added that several persons who photographed such objects and had them published recently in national magazines have refused to give the negatives to the Air Force for inspection.

The Air Force officials estimated that of the more than 10,000 unidentified flying objects reported in recent years, only about 100 were photographed and fewer than 200 were observed on radar. All of the radar cases have been solved, they said.

Brown assured the committee the Air Force wants a thorough investigation "so that this situation won't get out of hand."

He maintained that the Air Force itself has not ignored such reports or ridiculed people who said they saw unidentified objects in the sky. And he promised that the intended panel of civilian scientists would study each case "in depth."

Chairman L. Mendel Rivers, D-S.C., indicated that the committee would not adopt Ford's suggestion for a congressional investigation; at least until the Air Force panel looks thoroughly into the matter.

Evening Star
Washington D.C.

Tues. April 5, 1966

RL 894-1966