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Aerial Phenomena

To the Editor of The Courant:

The U.S. Air Force has repeatedly told Congress and the public that they do not withhold or censor information on unidentified flying objects (flying saucers). However, the revised Air Force Regulation 200-2 dated 20 July 1962 clearly shows that UFOs are serious business. Following are some excerpts from the revised regulation.

UFO investigators are authorized to make telephone calls direct to the Foreign Technology Division of the Air Force Systems Command to report on high priority findings.

Interception, identification, or air search on UFOs, if appropriate and within the scope of air defense regulations.

In response to local inquiries regarding any UFO reported in the vicinity of an Air Force base, the commander of the base concerned may release information to the press or general public only after positive identification of the sighting as a familiar or known object.

Air Force personnel, other than those of the Office of Information, will not discuss their operations and functions with unauthorized persons unless so directed, and then only on a "need-to-know" basis.

Vice Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, former director, U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, sums up the entire situation concerning Air Force policy on this subject: "Behind the scenes, high-ranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about the UFOs. But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense. Hundreds of authentic reports by veteran pilots and other technically trained observers have been ridiculed, or explained away as mistakes, delusions or hoaxes. The A.F. has assumed the right to decide what the American people should or should not know. It is time for the truth to be brought out in open Congressional hearings."

Those desiring the full UFO facts please write to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Neil J. Almquist