

Office Memorandum

DATE: September 26, 1947

TO: THE DIRECTOR

FROM: [Illegible]

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

The Bureau was requested by the Air Force Intelligence to assist the Air Force in attempting to arrive at an explanation of the above phenomena. The Air Force indicated that the alleged sightings of flying discs might have been made by individuals of Communist sympathies for the purpose of causing mass hysteria in the United States over the loss of a major machine weapon. The Bureau agreed to assist in the investigation of the reported sightings, and the field was advised in Bureau Bulletin No. 42, Series 144, dated July 30, 1947, that they should investigate each instance which was brought to their attention of the sighting of a flying disc in order to ascertain whether or not it was a bona fide sighting, an hallucination, or a prank. The results of the investigation conducted by the Bureau field offices in this matter have failed to reveal any indication of subversive individuals being involved in any of the reported sightings.

The Bureau has received a communication in the captioned matter from the Special Agent in Charge at San Francisco, dated September 19, 1947, which attached a "restricted" letter that was furnished confidentially to the SAC at San Francisco by Lieutenant Colonel Donald L. Sarason, A-2, Army Air Force, Hamilton Field, California, a copy of which is attached hereto. It is noted that the letter, which is dated September 8, 1947, is signed by Colonel of the Army General Raymond W. Casper, Air Materiel Command, Hamilton Field, New York, and is addressed to the Commanding General of the various Air Forces. This letter is entitled "Cooperation of FBI with AF in Investigation of Flying Disc Incidents."

This letter states in substance that it was the original intent of the A-2-2, Headquarters, Army Air Force that where the AOC Air Force would interview responsible observers, the FBI would investigate incidents of so-called "discs being found on the ground." Further, it indicates that the services of the FBI were enlisted in order to believe the numbered Air Force of program of tracking down all the many instances which turned out to be "discs covers, toilet seats and washbasins."

It is recommended that the Bureau be kept advised of any further activity in this field and that the Bureau field offices be kept advised of any proposed legislation or proposed amendments.

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