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independent British team, failed to uncover any evidence to support the theory of Soviet missiles. By 1947 the thing had snowballed to such an extent that the Swedish Government finally issued a report identifying most of the incidents with natural phenomena and denying that any foreign power was involved. During this period sightings were reported from the remaining Scandinavian countries and most of Western Europe.

Incidents were first reported over the US in 1947 and are still continuing. Much space in the press has been given to these reports and various semi-official opinions have been quoted. For example, on 16 May, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker was quoted as saying "There must be something to them, for too many reliable persons have made reports on them. I am duty bound not to say what I know about them - or what I don't know about them. However, if they do exist, you can rest assured that they are ours." The USAF for a long time conducted a thorough investigation of each of the hundreds of incidents involved. It found that approximately 75% of the reports could definitely be related to known causes such as meteorological balloons, aircraft, meteors and other common phenomena. A public statement was issued debunking the entire existence of flying disks or saucers. This did little to cut down the flood of reports. It only resulted in convincing a large number of people that the National Military Establishment was trying to cover up our own experiments with new weapons.

Many theories have been advanced to explain these reports of aerial phenomena over the US. These include:

1. Space ships from other planets
2. Soviet guided missiles or aircraft-, probably atomic-powered.
3. US experiments with new weapons
4. Natural phenomena
5. Mass hysteria, or other psychological causes.

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