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# Reference Guide

## Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP)

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### DEFINITION

#### Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP):

Means (A) airborne objects that are not immediately identifiable; (B) transmedium objects or devices; (C) and submerged objects or devices that are not immediately identifiable and that display behavior or performance characteristics suggesting that the objects or devices may be related to the objects or devices described in subparagraph (A) or (B). (Per the NDAA FY23 Section 1673(d)(8)).

The DoD considers Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) as sources of anomalous detections in one or more domain (i.e., airborne, seaborne, spaceborne, and/or transmedium) that are not yet attributable to known actors and that demonstrate behaviors that are not readily understood by sensors or observers.

"Anomalous detections" include but are not limited to phenomena that demonstrate apparent capabilities or material that exceed known performance envelopes. A UAP may consist of one or more unidentified anomalous objects and may persist over an extended period of time.

### QUICK LINKS

Records Related to Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAPs) at the National Archives: [NARA](#)

UAP Quotes by Notable Individuals: [uap\\_guide/quotes](#)

National UFO Reporting Center  
Link: [nuforc.org](#)

Mutual UFO Network  
Link: [mufon.com](#)



Image created with DALL-E 3

### Section.1 UAP in the News

#### Spy balloons, drones and advanced UAP pose a clear and present danger

*The Hill*; March 5, 2024; Link to article: [The Hill](#)

Unidentified objects in defended airspace represent a domain awareness gap. This gap poses a clear and present danger to pilots and our soldiers that is more acute than ever. Whereas the Chinese spy balloon was visible to civilians from the ground, the three other objects shot down by American fighters over Alaska, Canada, and Michigan the following weekend were only detected after the North American Aerospace Defense Command removed Cold War-era filters from its radar. Previously, filters excluded anything too small, too high, too slow, or too fast to be a Soviet bomber or ballistic missile.

This is not the first time that upgrades to our sensor capabilities revealed unidentified phenomena in our skies. In 2014, when I served in the U.S. Navy, my F/A-18 squadron and I were operating in a military training range off the coast of Virginia and began witnessing unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) on radar and infrared after a generational upgrade to our systems. My squadron then started seeing them with their own eyes, including a dramatic near-miss.

The shootdowns last February marked the first time in the 50-year history of NORAD that fighters destroyed objects in our airspace. President Biden did not mince words: "if any object presents a threat to the safety and security of the American people, I will take it down."

#### Western US residents report the most UFO sightings — what are they actually seeing?

*Space.com*; April 3, 2024; Link to article: [space.com](#)

Those of us in the western U.S. who enjoy vast open spaces may also be more likely to report UFO sightings, a new study suggests. An analysis of unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) reports (UAP is a new umbrella term that includes UFOs not just in the sky but also in space and underwater) suggests local environmental factors play a role in the number of UAP sightings reported. The study, based on about 98,000 reports over 20 years as cataloged in an open-source, online dataset maintained by the National UFO Research Center (NUFORC), modeled how reported UAP sightings coincide with environmental variables such as light pollution and cloud cover, as well as things like proximity to airports and military installations. The results reveal the majority of reported sightings originate in the western U.S., along with a smaller hotspot in the northeastern U.S.

#### Underwater UFOs display capability that 'jeopardizes US maritime security,' ex-Navy officer says

*Fox News*; April 15, 2024; Link: [foxnews.com](#)

UFOs that have shown the ability to seamlessly transition from air to sea without a splash or crash debris are an "urgent" national security concern with "world-changing" scientific ramifications, an ex-Navy officer said. In July 2019, the USS Omaha recorded a UFO – or UAP (unidentified anomalous phenomena) – that buzzed a Navy fleet off San Diego and disappeared into the ocean without a trace.



UAP:Volume 2



Image created with DALL-E 3

## Section.2 Law Enforcement Considerations

*“The potentially ubiquitous presence of UAP defines the national–security implications and drives the broad range of stakeholders and demand for rigorous scientific understanding of and intelligence on phenomena” – AARO*

### Unknown Threat to Public Safety

Reports released by [AARO](#) and [ODNI](#) among other [U.S. Government](#) and [non-profit](#) entities claim that UAP present a clear threat to national security, since their capabilities and origins are unknown. Some agencies speculate these phenomena and objects could potentially originate from foreign governments or other entities and be capable of collecting sensitive data or conducting attacks. Although incidents of UAP causing harm or inflicting injury on civilian populations has never been reported, their motives and threat capabilities are unknown. Therefore, it’s in the interest of law enforcement to be aware of trends and reporting on UAP due to the unknown threat they may pose and their continued presence in controlled and restricted airspace where police air support units operate.

#### Aviation Safety

Numerous military and commercial pilots, either operating helicopters or airplanes, made [reports](#) of very close encounters with UAP including those with dynamic and threatening trajectories. UAP incidents can include temporary or permanent failures of electronic, communications, and navigation systems among other safety risks. According to a report by [NARCAP](#), breakdowns in pilot judgment and/or flying skills are thought to play a central role in contributing to aviation accidents. If a UAP is maneuvering erratically at high speeds near an aircraft and the pilot is trying to avoid it, great skill and judgment are called for. But unless that pilot reports seeing the UAP the encounter will not be logged at all and therefore will not be reflected in official aviation statistics. *Source:* [NARCAP](#)

Therefore, UAP can pose significant safety risks to law enforcement air support units, specifically helicopters. And due to the lack of reporting UAP encounters the severity of the potential risk is unknown.

- ◆ **UAP/Helicopter Incidents:** [Austin, TX - Citizen Reports PD Helicopter Following UAP](#); [Winnipeg, Canada Citizen Reports PD Helicopter Following UAP](#)

#### UAP Related Calls for Service

Historically, citizens reported UAP above both rural and densely populated cities throughout the U.S. and Canada. It’s logical many of these citizens choose to report these incidents to 911 or emergency call centers. Therefore, it may be relevant to track and analyze how many calls for service and police responses these incidents create for local law enforcement agencies. *Example:* [Citizen Report to Somerset, WI PD](#)

Police officers in the field have historically reported observing UAP while on and off duty, reporting details to dispatch and sharing the information with other local or federal law enforcement agencies, and the U.S. military. Therefore, local law enforcement may have an interest in understanding the potential risks UAP pose to officers when encountered in the field and determine how the details of these incidents are tracked and analyzed to develop appropriate policies and tactics to respond. *Links:* [Police Sighting Blairsville, GA](#); [Police Sighting Harper Woods, MI](#)

The FAA directs pilots and air traffic controllers to report incidents of UAP to NUFORC and local law enforcement when they believe there may be a threat to public safety or property damage. *Link:* [FAA-UAP Reporting](#)

### No Reporting Mechanism

Currently, there is no known official UAP reporting mechanism or common procedure for local law enforcement to report UAP incidents. It’s not yet determined what type of reporting mechanism and analysis is necessary.



# Section 3 U.S. Government UAP Programs

*“Since 1945, the United States Government has funded and supported UAP investigations with the goal of determining whether UAP represented a flight safety risk, technological leaps by competitor nations, or evidence of off-world technology under intelligent control. These investigations were managed and implemented by a range of experts, scientists, academics, military, and intelligence officials under differing leaders—all of whom held their own perspectives that led them to particular conclusions on the origins of UAP. However, they all had in common the belief that UAP represented an unknown and, therefore, theoretically posed a potential threat of an indeterminate nature.”*

U.S. Pentagon's AARQ Report ([Link](#))

1940s-1960s

2000s-Present

## Project SAUCER (1946/1947–January 1948) [Link](#)

- ◆ Collected and evaluated all information relating to UFO sightings which could be construed as of concern to the national security.

## Roswell UFO Incident [Link](#)

- ◆ The infamous 1947 incident in Roswell, New Mexico, involving a crashed object.
- ◆ Remains a subject of speculation and conspiracy theories.

## Project TWINKLE (Summer 1949–Summer 1950) [Link](#)

- ◆ Established in the summer of 1949 to investigate a series of UFO reports witnessed by numerous observers in Nevada and New Mexico. These UFOs were described as “green fireballs” streaking across the sky, moving in odd ways, and—in at least one account—the fireball navigated near an aircraft.

## Project Blue Book (1952-1969) [Link](#); [Link](#)

- ◆ Longest running UFO/UAP Investigation.
- ◆ Over two decades - the U.S. Air Force cataloged 12,618 sightings of UFOs.
- ◆ Of the 12,618 sightings, 701 were categorized as unidentified and never solved.

## Brookings Report (1960) [Link](#)

- ◆ A 1960 report commissioned by NASA, exploring the societal impact of discovering extraterrestrial life.
- ◆ Raised concerns about potential panic and cultural upheaval.

## CIA Evaluation of UFOs (1964) [Link](#)

- ◆ Resulted from high-level White House discussions on what to do if alien intelligence was discovered or there was a new outbreak of UFO sightings.
- ◆ The CIA's scientific division officially acquired UFO-sighting case information from the director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), a private organization founded in 1956.

## Advanced Aerospace Weapons System Application Program (AAWSAP) (2009–2012)/Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP) [Link](#)

- ◆ Launched in the early 2000s by the Pentagon.
- ◆ The primary purpose was to investigate potential next generation aerospace technologies in 12 specific areas such as advanced lift, propulsion, the use of unconventional materials and controls, and signature reduction UAPs with a focus on military encounters.
- ◆ Released a report in 2021, denying evidence of alien technology but acknowledging unexplained sightings.

## Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) (August 2020–November 2021) [Link](#)

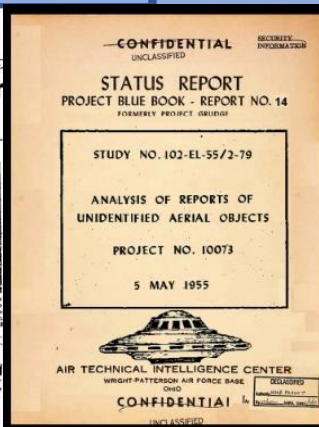
- ◆ Department of the Navy was asked to lead the task force.
- ◆ Meant to gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAP.
- ◆ Mission: detect, analyze, and catalog UAP that could potentially pose a threat to U.S. national security

## UAP Independent Study Team (UAPIST) (June 2022–September 2023) [Link](#)

- ◆ Subordinate group of NASA's Earth Science Advisory Committee.
- ◆ Examined UAP from a scientific perspective – using tools to achieve a better understanding of UAP.

## All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) (Established July 15, 2022) [Link](#)

- ◆ Leads the U.S. government's efforts to address Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) using a rigorous scientific framework and a data-driven approach.
- ◆ Goals: improve data collection, standardize reporting requirements, and mitigate the potential threats to safety and security posed by UAP.





From left, Ryan Graves, David Grusch and David Fravor testify before a House subcommittee about unidentified anomalous phenomena on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Washington, D.C.

## U.S. Congress UAP Hearing

### UFO hearing key takeaways: What a whistleblower told Congress about UAPs

CBS News; July 28, 2023

Link to article: [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com)

Hearing Transcript: [docs.house.gov](https://docs.house.gov)

View Hearing Here: [oversight.house.gov](https://oversight.house.gov)

A former military intelligence officer-turned-whistleblower told House lawmakers that Congress is being kept in the dark about [unidentified anomalous phenomena](#), known as UAPs or UFOs, alleging at a hearing that executive branch agencies have withheld information about the mysterious objects for years. David Grusch, who served for 14 years as an intelligence officer in the Air Force and National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, appeared before the House Oversight Committee's national security subcommittee alongside two former fighter pilots who had firsthand experience with UAPs.

Grusch served as a representative on two Pentagon task forces investigating UAPs until earlier this year. He told lawmakers that he was informed of "a multi-decade UAP crash retrieval and reverse-engineering program" during the course of his work examining classified programs. He said he was denied access to those programs when he requested it, and accused the military of misappropriating funds to shield these operations from congressional oversight. He later said he had interviewed officials who had direct knowledge of aircraft with "nonhuman" origins, and that so-called "biologics" were recovered from some craft.

Members of both parties questioned how Congress should go about investigating the remarkable allegations, a reflection of the increasing willingness by lawmakers to demand the executive branch be more forthcoming about the phenomena. "We're going to uncover the cover-up, and I hope this is just the beginning of many more hearings and many more people coming forward about this," said Rep. Tim Burchett, a Republican from Tennessee.

The UAP issue has gained widespread attention from Congress and the public in recent years with the [release of several video recordings](#) of the encounters, which typically show seemingly nondescript objects moving through the air at very high speeds with no apparent method of propulsion.

## Section.4 Whistleblowers

*"The bottom line is, why are we allowing objects in our sky, particularly objects displaying advanced technology, to go unidentified? I believe we should pursue these questions about the nature of UAP with a scientific method and an open mind."*

**- RYAN GRAVES (FORMER F-18 U.S. NAVY PILOT)**

In addition to Grusch, the panel heard testimony from Ryan Graves, a former Navy pilot who has spoken out about encountering UAPs on training missions, and David Fravor, who spotted a large object captured in the now-famous ["Tic Tac" video](#) during a flight off the coast of California in 2004.

"If everyone could see the sensor and video data I witnessed, our national conversation would change," Graves said. "I urge us to put aside stigma and address the security and safety issue this topic represents. If UAP are foreign drones, it is an urgent national security problem. If it is something else, it is an issue for science. In either case, unidentified objects are a concern for flight safety. The American people deserve to know what is happening in our skies. It is long overdue."

### Former Pentagon Official Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

*Politico; May 26, 2021*

Link to article: [Politico](#); Additional Source: [Washington Post](#)

The former Pentagon official who went public about reports of UFOs has filed a complaint with the agency's inspector general claiming a coordinated campaign to discredit him for speaking out — including accusing a top official of threatening to tell people he was "crazy," according to documents reviewed by POLITICO.

Lue Elizondo, a career counterintelligence specialist who was assigned in 2008 to work for a Pentagon program that investigated reports of "unmanned aerial phenomena," filed the 64-page complaint to the independent watchdog on May 3 and has met several times with investigators, according to his legal team.

Elizondo complained at the time that his Pentagon bosses were failing to take seriously numerous intrusions into military airspace by high-performance aircraft of unknown origin. "It was during this time I grew increasingly frustrated by the lack of resources and interest by senior leadership," he states in the IG complaint. "UAP reporting to our office was increasing, yet our resources were minimal, and leadership involvement was almost non-existent." After increased frustration, "he added, "I became alarmed by the frequency and duration of UAP activity in and around controlled U.S. airspace. The instances seemed more provocative, and during one instance, they came within feet of a U.S. fighter aircraft."



## UAP LEGISLATION

### H.R. 6967 - Safe Airspace for Americans Act

Introduced January 11, 2024; Sponsor: Rep. Robert Garcia D-CA-42; [Link to Act](#)

Summary: A new bipartisan bill, the Safe Airspace for Americans Act, has been introduced to encourage reporting of sightings of unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP) by pilots and other civilian aviation personnel and offer legal protection against repercussions from sharing their sightings. The bill, introduced by Congressman Robert Garcia (D-CA) and Congressman Glenn Grothman (R-WI), will help to facilitate reporting of UAP sightings by civilian aircrew, air traffic controllers, flight attendants, maintenance workers, dispatchers, and airlines to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

(Source: [thedebrief](#))

### The UAP Disclosure Act of 2023 within the National Defense Authorization Act for 2024

Introduced December 22, 2023

Link to Act: [Natl. Def. Auth. Act](#); [UAP Disclosure Act](#)

Summary: The UAP Disclosure Act of 2023 was passed as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2024, and it sets up a timeline and process to deal with reports of unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP), more commonly referred to as UFOs. The act sets up a process for disclosing information on UFOs as well as ensuring any recovered technology would belong to the government.

(Source: [NewsNation](#))

## UAP CAUCUS

### Congressional UAP Caucus

Link to Website: [uapcaucus.com](#)

The UAP Caucus is a focused group within the U.S. Congress dedicated to the study, disclosure, and policy development surrounding Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena. They aim to expand this initiative into a bicameral effort, advocating for public participation and bipartisan support.

#### Members:

Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.)  
Rep. Jared Moskowitz (D-Fla.)  
Rep. Anna Paulina Luna (R-Fla.)  
Rep. Nancy Mace (R-S.C.)  
Rep. Eric Burlison (R-Mo.)  
Rep. Andy Ogles (R-Tenn.)

## Section.5 UAP and Congress

*“The American public has a right to learn about technologies of unknown origins, non-human intelligence, and unexplainable phenomena.”*

- SENATE MAJORITY LEADER CHARLES SCHUMER

### Bipartisan lawmakers unveil legislation to close gap in UAP reporting

*The Hill*; January 11, 2024; Link: [The Hill](#)

New legislation proposed by bipartisan lawmakers aims to protect civilian pilots and air personnel who report sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) — more commonly known as UFOs. Under the “Safe Airspace for Americans Act,” led by Reps. Robert Garcia (D-Calif.) and Glenn Grothman (R-Wis.), pilots are encouraged to provide information to the U.S. government — primarily the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which would relay reports to the Pentagon’s All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) — in exchange for legal safeguards.

### Rep. Burlison Leads Letter Requesting the Creation of an Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) Select Subcommittee

Press Release; March 12, 2024; Link: [burlison.house.gov](#)

Congressman Burlison released the following statement on his letter to Speaker Johnson: “Today, my colleagues and I formally requested that the Speaker establish a select committee focused on UAP. This letter underscores the urgency in uncovering details about legacy programs, dark money financing, and the complex relationship between federal agencies and the private sector. Transparency is essential for understanding the broader implications of UAP on national security, use of taxpayer funds, and public trust.” [Letter to Speaker of the House](#)

### Florida rep to hold bipartisan conference on UAP transparency

*Matt Gaetz In the News*; December 4, 2023; Link: [gaetz.house.gov](#)

Rep. Anna Paulina Luna (R-Fla.) announced she will be hosting a bipartisan press conference Thursday to discuss the U.S.’s lack of transparency regarding unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP). Luna said she will host the press conference at 12:20 p.m. to “draw attention to how the U.S. government has covered up UAP transparency” and “barred the American people from knowing the truth about UAPs.” She will be joined alongside Reps. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) and Jared Moskowitz (D-Fla.).

### Rep. Burchett launches UAP caucus, leads letter to Intelligence Community Inspector General about UAP retrieval programs

Press Release; August 22, 2023; Link: [burchett.house.gov](#)

U.S. Congressman Tim Burchett (TN-02) recently launched the Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Caucus and led five of his colleagues on the caucus in a letter to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community Thomas A. Monheim. The members asked for follow-up information regarding David Grusch’s testimony in the recent hearing on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs). Rep. Burchett and his colleagues requested information from the Intelligence Community Inspector General regarding which people and facilities are involved with UAP crash retrieval programs and reverse engineering programs. [Letter to Inspector General](#)



## QUICK FACTS

### AARO: All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office

Established in 2022 under the U.S. Department of Defense

DoD Press Statement:

[defense.gov](https://www.defense.gov)

DoD Memo: [AARO Est. Memo](#);

[AARO Resources and Leadership](#)

Website: [www.aaro.mil](http://www.aaro.mil)

Purpose: The mission of the AARO will be to "synchronize efforts across the Department and with other Federal departments and agencies to detect, identify, and attribute objects of interest in, on, or near military installations, operating areas, training areas, special use airspace, and other areas of interest, and, as necessary, to mitigate any associated threats to safety of operations and national security." This includes anomalous, unidentified space, airborne, submerged, and transmedium objects.

Current Director: Tim Phillips (who reports to Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks)

Previous Director: Sean Kirkpatrick

### UAPTF: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force

AARO was preceded by the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) that ran from 2020-2021 within the Office of Naval Intelligence and ODNI

DoD Press Statement: [Est.](#)

[UAPTF](#)

Purpose: Improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAPs. The mission of the task force is to detect, analyze and catalog UAPs that could potentially pose a threat to U.S. national security.



## Section.6 UAP and U.S. DoD (AARO and UAPTF)

### REPORTS

#### AARO

##### Report on the Historical Record of U.S. Government Involvement with Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP): Volume 1

Released: February 2024

Link to Report: [AARO Report 2024](#)

Summary: Reviews the record of the United States Government (USG) pertaining to unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP). In completing this report, AARO reviewed all official USG investigatory efforts since 1945, researched classified and unclassified archives, conducted approximately 30 interviews, and partnered with Intelligence Community (IC) and Department of Defense (DoD) officials responsible for controlled and special access program oversight, respectively.

Video: [Briefing to the Senate Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities - Open Hearing: April 19, 2023](#)

##### Fiscal Year 2023 Consolidated Annual Report on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena

Released: October 2023

Link to Report: [ODNI/AARO Report 2023](#)

Summary: The report covers unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP) reports from 31 August 2022 to 30 April 2023, and all UAP reports from any previous time periods that were not included in an earlier report. The All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) received a total of 291 UAP reports during this period, consisting of 274 that occurred during this period and another 17 that occurred during previous reporting periods from 2019–2022, but had not been conveyed in previous submissions.

#### UAPTF

##### Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

Released: June 25, 2021

Link: [2021 UAP Report](#); [intelligence.gov](https://www.intelligence.gov)

Summary: Provides an overview for policymakers of the challenges associated with characterizing the potential threat posed by UAP while also providing a means to develop relevant processes, policies, technologies, and training for the U.S. military and other U.S. Government (USG) personnel if and when they encounter UAP, so as to enhance the Intelligence Community's (IC) ability to understand the threat.

##### 2022 Annual Report on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

Link: [2022 UAP Report](#)

Summary: In addition to the 144 UAP reports covered during the 17 years of UAP reporting included in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) preliminary assessment, there have been 247 new reports and another 119 that were either since discovered or reported after the preliminary assessment's time period. This totals 510 UAP reports as of 30 August 2022.





# Section.7 Other U.S. Government and International Reporting

## INTERNATIONAL UAP REPORTING

### CANADA

#### Sky Canada Project

Website: [ised-isde.canada.ca](http://ised-isde.canada.ca)

The Sky Canada Project was launched in the Fall of 2022 to study how UAP reports from the public are managed in Canada and to recommend improvements. The Office of the Chief Science Advisor (OCSA) will focus on the Canadian process for capturing and treating UAP observations. Finally, the Project will prepare Canada for collaboration with other countries on UAP reporting (e.g., the [NASA UAP study](#), the Pentagon's [All Domain Anomaly Resolution Office](#), and the [Galileo project at Harvard University](#)).

Upcoming Report: The OCSA is preparing an internal draft report with the collected information. A public report will be released on our website in early fall 2024.

Additional Info: [Canada attends UFO briefing at the Pentagon](#)

### FRANCE

#### CNES (Centre National d'Études Spatiales)

Website: [cnes.fr](http://cnes.fr)

CNES is the French Space Agency, a governmental organization founded in 1961. As the program-focused agency and center of technical expertise, CNES is responsible for shaping and implementing France's space policy within the framework of international cooperation, particularly within Europe.

#### GEIPAN (Groupe d'Études et d'Informations sur les Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non-identifiés (Unidentified Aerospace Phenomenon Research and Information Group

Website: [geipan.fr](http://geipan.fr)

GEIPAN is a unit within the French Space Agency - CNES. Its primary mission is to investigate unidentified aerospace phenomena (UAP) and make its findings accessible to the public.

#### The Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France (3AF)

Website: [3af.fr](http://3af.fr)

Also known as 3AF, is the French national aeronautical and astronautical non-profit association. Established in 1971 and headquartered in Paris, its primary mission is to bring together individuals interested in aerospace activities.

Reports:

#### ◆ Technical Commission 3AF - SIGMA2

Date: May 2021

Link to Report: [3af.fr](#)

Summary: The role of the SIGMA2 commission is to modestly follow this logic by bringing together factual elements, by comparing hypotheses to try to characterize these phenomena, by confronting them with the laws of physics and the theories of standard science, while questioning themselves on new theories, a subject barely sketched out.

### UNITED KINGDOM

UFO Reports in the UK

Website: [gov.uk](http://gov.uk)

UK National Archive on UFOs

Website: [nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://nationalarchives.gov.uk)

### OTHER INTERNATIONAL REPORTS

#### Aviation Safety and Unidentified Aerial Phenomena: A Preliminary Study of 600 cases of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) Reported by Military and Civilian Pilots (English)

Link: [NARCAP Report](#)

March 2012

Authors: Dominique F. Weinstein NARCAP International Technical Specialist - France GEIPAN/CNES College of experts

## OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

### U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### Records pertaining to Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon

Link to Report: [cbp.gov](#)

Summary: Customs and Border Patrol released ten videos along with 387 pages of reports including news clippings and firsthand accounts from sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena.

### U.S. Dept of the Interior and U.S. Forest Service

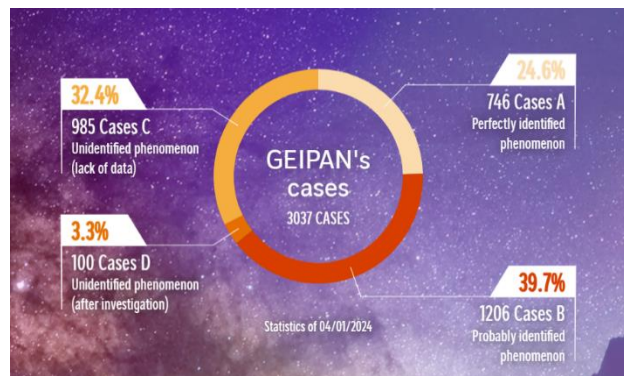
#### Interagency Aviation Information Bulletin

April 19, 2021; Link to Bulletin: [doi.gov](#)

### U.S. National Archives

#### Records Related to Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAPs) at the National Archives

Link: [archives.gov](#)





## Section.8 UAP and NASA



Group Photo: Members of the NASA Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Independent Study Team

### NASA Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Independent Study

On June 9, 2022, NASA announced that the agency would commission a study team to examine unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAPs) – that is, observations of events in the sky that cannot be identified as aircraft or known natural phenomena – from a scientific perspective. The study would focus on identifying available data, how best to collect future data, and how NASA can use that data to move the scientific understanding of UAPs forward. This webpage is designed as a resource to provide updates on the UAP Independent Study. *Links: [NASA UAP Study Team](#); [nasa.gov](#)*

### NASA UNIDENTIFIED ANOMALOUS PHENOMENA INDEPENDENT STUDY TEAM REPORT

Date: September 14, 2023

Link to Report: [NASA UAP Report](#)

#### Conclusions:

- Recommends that NASA play a prominent role in the whole-of-government effort to understand UAP by leveraging its extensive expertise to contribute to a comprehensive, evidence-based approach that is rooted in the scientific method.
- The origin of numerous UAP remain uncertain. The importance of detecting UAP with multiple, well-calibrated sensors is thus paramount.
- Public engagement in the effort to better understand UAP will be vital.
- Recommends that the Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) for commercial pilot UAP reporting be better leveraged, providing a critical database for the whole of government effort to understand UAP. The agency's long history of partnership with the FAA should also be capitalized.

### BRIEFINGS AND MEDIA RELEASES

#### Media Briefing Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Independent Study Report

September 14, 2023

Link to Video: [NASA Media Brief](#)

#### Public Meeting on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (Official NASA Broadcast)

May 31, 2023

Link to Broadcast: [NASA Public Meeting](#)

#### NASA to Discuss New Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Study

June 9, 2022

Link to Teleconference: [NASA  
Teleconference](#)





## Section.9 UAP and the FAA

### FAA Instructions: Reporting UAP for Air Traffic Control

Link: [FAA-UAP Reporting](#)

#### 7110.65 Section 8. Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) Reports

##### 9-8-1 GENERAL

a. Persons wanting to report UFO/unexplained phenomena activity should contact a UFO/unexplained phenomena reporting data collection center, such as the National UFO Reporting Center, etc.

(Link: [NUFORC](#))

b. If concern is expressed that life or property might be endangered, report the activity to the **local law enforcement department**.

For instance, the Federal Aviation Administration has no mechanism for pilots to report UAPs, the term preferred to UFOs, instead directing them to civilian UFO groups that are often dismissed as the domain of cranks and conspiracy theorists.

Americans for Safe Aerospace, which is officially launching Thursday as the first pilot-led advocacy organization dedicated to UAPs, seeks to change that. Co-founded and run by former Navy fighter pilot Ryan Graves, the group, which provided exclusive details to NBC News, aims to better support aviators who witness unexplained events.

#### The FAA Finally Admits it Documents Reports of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

The Debrief; August 13, 2021

Link: [thedebrief.org](#)

According to its own procedural publications cited above, the FAA appears to direct air traffic operators to report instances involving UAP (or UFOs, as the agency's documentation still calls them) to civilian organizations like the Washington-based [National UFO Reporting Center](#). These publications appear to provide no procedural details related to an internal system for collecting such data within the agency.

The fact that the FAA "captures data related to UAP" had not been the only pertinent information about the agency's involvement with UAP studies included in the June report. Additionally, its authors state that "the FAA continuously monitors its systems for anomalies, generating additional information that may be of use to the UAPTF. The FAA is able to isolate data of interest to the UAPTF and make it available."

### In the News

#### As the U.S. government expands UFO investigations, a new group forms for pilots who spot them

NBC News; June 1, 2023

Link: [nbcnews.com](#)

Airline passengers are encouraged to report suspicious activity in the name of national security, but the pilots on those same planes often face professional stigma and institutional obstacles in reporting unexplained aerial phenomena, or UAPs, that could represent national security threats in the age of drones and spy balloons, advocates say.





## For the Public, Commercial Pilots and Controllers:

### National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC)

**Website:** [nuforc.org](http://nuforc.org)

**Summary:** The Center's primary function over the past five decades has been to receive, record, and to the greatest degree possible, corroborate and document reports from individuals who have been witness to unusual, possibly UFO-related events. Throughout its history, the Center has processed over 170,000 reports, and has distributed its information to thousands of individuals.

### National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena (NARCAP)

**Website:** [narcap.org](http://narcap.org)

**Summary:** NARCAP has investigated, documented, and analyzed aviation safety-related observations and incidents that may involve Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, UAP, since 1999. Many reports by pilots and aviation professionals of observations and incidents involving UAP include aviation safety factors.

### Mutual UFO Network

**Website:** [mufon.com](http://mufon.com)

**Summary:** The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) was founded in 1969 as a non-profit organization focused on the scientific investigation and research of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and related phenomena. Over the years, MUFON has grown significantly, with a presence in all 50 U.S. states and several other countries. MUFON also organizes annual symposium, conferences, and local meetings.

### Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS)

**NASA's aviation safety reporting system.**

**Website:** [asrs.arc.nasa.gov](http://asrs.arc.nasa.gov)

**Summary:** The ASRS is an important facet of the continuing effort by government, industry, and individuals to maintain and improve aviation safety. The ASRS collects voluntarily submitted aviation safety incident/situation reports from pilots, controllers, and others.

## For Government and Military Personnel:

### US Government UAP-Related Program/Activity Reporting (AARO)

**AARO's online reporting mechanism for U.S. Government employees.**

**Website:** [aaro.mil/Submit-A-Report](http://aaro.mil/Submit-A-Report)

**Summary:** AARO is accepting reports from current or former U.S. Government employees, service members, or contractor personnel with direct knowledge of U.S. Government programs or activities related to UAP dating back to 1945. These reports will be used to inform AARO's [congressionally directed](#) Historical Record Report.

### Aviation Safety Communique (SAFECOM)

**The Department of the Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) aviation safety reporting system.**

**Website:** [safecom.gov](http://safecom.gov)

**Summary:** SAFECOM fulfills the Aviation Mishap Information System (AMIS) requirements for aviation mishap reporting for the Department of Interior agencies and the US Forest Service. Categories of reports include incidents, hazards, maintenance, and airspace.

# UAP and OBJECT TRACKING

## AIRCRAFT TRACKERS

- [Flightradar24 Live Air Traffic Map](#)
- [FlightAware Tracking Map](#)
- [Planefinder Tracking Network](#)
- [AirNav RadarBox Flight Tracking Map](#)

## SPACE / NASA TRACKERS

- [ISS Live Space Station Tracking Map](#)
- [NASA Science Program Map](#)
- [NASA CNEOS](#)
- [Space Object Tracker](#)

## BALLOON TRACKERS

- [SondeHub Amateur Radio-High Altitude Balloon Launches Map](#)
- [SondeHub Meteorological Tracker](#)

## SATELLITE TRACKERS

- [NY20 Satellite Tracking Website](#)
- [In-The-Sky.org Live World Map of Satellite Positions](#)





# Section.11 Key Takeaways



Former U.S. Naval Pilot Ryan Graves says “Unidentified objects in defended airspace represent a domain awareness gap. This gap poses a clear and present danger to pilots and our soldiers that is more acute than ever.” (Section.1)

UAP can have a significant impact on law enforcement operations and safety due to the following: Unknown Threat to Public Safety, UAP Related Calls for Service, and Aviation Safety. Currently, there is no official local law enforcement UAP reporting mechanism. (Section.2)

Since 1945, the United States Government has funded and supported UAP investigations with the goal of determining whether UAP represent a flight safety risk, technological leaps by competitor nations, or evidence of off-world technology under intelligent control. (Section.3)

A former military intelligence officer-turned-whistleblower told House lawmakers that Congress is being kept in the dark about UAP, alleging at a hearing that executive branch agencies have withheld information about the mysterious objects for years. (Section.4)

New legislation proposed by bipartisan lawmakers aims to protect civilian pilots and air personnel who report sightings of UAP. (Section.5)

The All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) was established by the U.S. DoD in July 2022. Its mission is to synchronize efforts across various federal departments and agencies, aiming to detect, identify, and attribute UAP near military installations, training areas, and other relevant locations. (Section.6)

Many non-U.S. nations have UAP research/tracking programs. France’s GEIPAN program investigates UFO sightings reported by the public, pilots, and military personnel using a scientific approach. Canada’s Sky Project aims to evaluate and enhance the process of reporting UAP by the public. (Section. 7)

In June 2022, NASA commissioned a study team to examine UAP from a scientific perspective. The study focuses on identifying available data, how best to collect future data, and how NASA can use that data to move the scientific understanding of UAPs forward. (Section.8)

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has no mechanism for pilots to report UAPs, instead directing them to the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC) and local law enforcement. (Section.9)

The National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC), National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena (NARCAP), Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS), AARO, and the Aviation Safety Communique (SAFECOM) are recognized UAP reporting entities. (Section.10)

Questions and concerns can be directed to:

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