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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS

February 9, 1968

FEB 14 1968

Dr. Edward U. Condon, Director
UFO Project, 202 Woodbury
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado, 80302

Dear Dr. Condon:

I was informed today, through University administrative channels, that you have now had an opportunity to study my January 31 letter to Project Administrator Low, expressing criticisms of certain aspects of the handling of the UFO Project. I am sending on to the National Academy of Sciences information copies of that letter, as the first step in putting before them details of my concern over the way the Project is going. A much longer and more detailed statement is currently in preparation.

Sincerely,

James E. McDonald
James E. McDonald

JEM/msr

(C)



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February 9, 1968

Dr. Frederick Seitz, President
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D. C., 20418

Dear Dr. Seitz:

You will recall that, on April 20, 1967, I discussed with you, Mr. Coleman, and Mr. Sievers my concern with the way the University of Colorado UFO Project seemed to be unfolding. I discussed further grounds for concern in a conversation with Mr. Coleman in his office on September 29, and reiterated my plea for some kind of wholly independent review panel. He explained why such a panel could not, at present, be assembled at the initiative of the Academy, but stated that, if I wished to put into a letter my reasons for concern and criticism, the Academy would study it. In a telephone conversation with Mr. Coleman on January 30, 1968, made while I was in Washington on other matters, I indicated that I was now preparing such a letter and would be sending it to your office in the near future.

I am now assembling, for the latter purpose, a rather detailed summary of my grounds for criticism of what I regard lack of scientific open-mindedness and lack of scientific vigor in the administration of the UFO Project. As a brief preamble to that letter, I here submit for your information a copy of a letter written on January 31 to Project Administrator Robert J. Low, as well as a copy of material presented on January 26 to the scientific staff of the United Aircraft Research Laboratories, in which my criticisms are quite briefly summarized.

The crucial role that Dr. Condon's Project will play in national decisions concerning the future scientific response to the UFO problem makes it essential that I put on record what I regard strong grounds for dissatisfaction with its prosecution.

Respectfully yours,

JEM/bsr James E. McDonald
cc: Dr. E. U. Condon
Mr. John S. Coleman