



The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects

Edward J. Ruppelt (1832-1898)

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The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects is a memoir written by former United States Air Force officer Edward Ruppelt about his involvement with the governmental investigation of unidentified flying objects in the early 1950's. Ruppelt served as director of Project Grudge, then Project Blue Book, from 1951 to 1953. Ruppelt felt that the Air Force handling of the UFO question was "organized confusion", so, realizing that he was probably the best qualified person to set the record straight, he wrote the book to lay out the facts that were "obscured by secrecy and confusion, a situation that has led to wild speculation on one end of the scale and an almost dangerously blase attitude on the other." Ruppelt lays out the difficulty of writing about something "that doesn't officially exist" and of dealing with the

ambiguity of evidence and the problem of proof, ultimately letting the reader decide whether UFOs exist or not. The book has been described as "required reading for anyone seriously interested in the history of this subject".

Edward J. Ruppelt (July 17, 1923 – September 15, 1960) was a United States Air Force officer best known for his involvement in Project Blue Book, a formal governmental study of unidentified flying objects. He is generally credited with coining the term "unidentified flying object", to replace the terms "flying saucer" and "flying disk" - which had become widely known - because the military thought them to be "misleading when applied to objects of every conceivable shape and performance. For this reason the military prefers the more general, if less colorful, name: unidentified flying objects.

Ruppelt was the director of Project Grudge from late 1951 until it became Project Blue Book in March 1952; he remained with Blue Book until late 1953. UFO researcher Jerome Clark writes, "Most observers of Blue Book agree that the Ruppelt years comprised the project's golden age, when investigations were most capably directed and conducted. Ruppelt himself was open-minded about UFOs, and his investigators were not known, as Grudge's were, for force-fitting explanations on cases." (Summary from Wikipedia)