

**ON UFO CRITICISM**

# AF Asks Proof Of McDonald

The Air Force today invited Dr. James E. McDonald, University of Arizona physicist, to submit any evidence he has that unidentified flying objects have their origins in outer space.

That's about as close as the service would come to replying to criticism leveled Wednesday by McDonald at the UFO investigation conducted by Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson AFB at Dayton, Ohio.

"I have received no such communication to date," McDonald said today, "nor have I had any replies to the specific discussions of key UFO cases that I presented to the people at Wright-Patterson AFB over six months ago.

"I have never seen such superficiality and incompetence in an area of such potentially enormous scientific importance," McDonald said here Wednesday.

He disputed the recent annual report by Blue Book Chief Maj. Hector Quintanilla, which said there was no evidence of any UFO representing "technological development or principles beyond the range of present-day knowledge."

"I am by no means alone in deploring the incompetence with which Blue Book evaluations have been made in past years and recent months," the physicist added.

Quintanilla himself declined comment on McDonald's charges that the Air Force investigators are misleading the public, Congress and scientists.

But an Air Force spokesman in Washington invited anyone to submit evidence that UFOs are

of extraterrestrial origin as claimed by McDonald.

The spokesman told the Dayton Daily News its investigators were competent and technically qualified, and noted that the Air Force also has contracted with the University of Colorado for an independent investigation into UFOs under physicist Dr. Edward U. Condon.

"My optimism about the University of Colorado program is strong," McDonald said this morning, "but this is very distinct from my pessimism about the Air Force itself straightening out this extremely important problem.

"For that reason I am pursuing many other lines of attack. Probably the most important goal to get the problem before some science-oriented agency such as NASA," McDonald said.

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