

**May 17, 2022**  
**HPSCI C3 Subcommittee**  
**Hearing on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**

**Statement for the Record**  
**Honorable Ronald S. Moultrie**  
**Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security**

Chairman Carson, Ranking Member Crawford, distinguished Members of the Subcommittee, it is a privilege to be here with you today to address your questions regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP).

I am pleased to be joined by Mr. Scott Bray, Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence, who will speak to the Navy's Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force, which laid the foundation for the efforts we will discuss today.

First, I would like to thank Congress for supporting the Department's UAP efforts. The NDAA for Fiscal Year 2022 has helped us to establish a dedicated office to oversee processes and procedures for the timely collection, processing, analysis, and reporting of UAP-related data.

What are UAP? Put simply, UAP are airborne objects that, when encountered, cannot be immediately identified. However, it is the Department's contention that, by combining appropriately structured collected data with rigorous scientific analysis, any object that we encounter can likely be isolated, characterized, identified, and, if necessary, mitigated.

We know that our service members have encountered unidentified aerial phenomena, and because UAP pose potential flight safety and general security risks, we are committed to a focused effort to determine their origins. Our effort will include the thorough examination of:

- Adversarial platforms and potential break-through technologies;
- U.S. Government or commercial platforms;
- Allied or partner systems; and
- Natural and other phenomena.

We also understand that there has been a "cultural stigma" surrounding UAP reporting. Our goal is to eliminate this stigma by fully incorporating our operators and mission personnel into a standardized data gathering process. We believe that

making UAP reporting a mission imperative will be instrumental to this effort's success.

The Defense Intelligence and Security Enterprise provides real-time support to our warfighters and mission personnel across all domains. To optimize the Department's UAP work, we are establishing an office within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The Office's function is clear – to facilitate the identification of previously unknown or unidentified airborne objects in a methodical, logical, and standardized manner. These goals ensure that we are:

- Working closely with operational personnel on training and reporting requirements;
- Developing data and intelligence requirements;
- Standardizing and integrating processes and procedures for collection, operational surveillance, analysis, and reporting;
- Leveraging our research and development capabilities to improve detection, characterization, and identification of UAPs;
- Developing mitigation solutions and procedures; and
- Identifying strategy and policy solutions.

This effort will maximize collaboration, and build upon already existing relationships with the ODNI, FAA, DHS, and FBI. We are also committed to strong partnerships with DOE, NOAA, DEA, NASA, the National Laboratories, and our international partners and allies.

With regard to the importance of transparency, the Department is fully committed to the principles of openness and accountability to the American people. However, we are also mindful of our obligation to protect sensitive sources and methods. Our goal is to strike that delicate balance – one that will enable us to maintain the public's trust while preserving those capabilities that are vital to the support of our service personnel.

In closing, the Department is committed to this effort and welcomes this challenge. We thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to your questions.