



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

May 16, 1984

Freedom of Information Office

Mr. William S. Steinman
15043 Rosalita Drive
La Mirada, California 90638

Dear Mr. Steinman:

This is in response to your letter of May 8, 1984, in which you request information concerning "The Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit of the Scientific and Technical Branch of Army Counterintelligence Directorate, DA." Your letter was received in this office on May 15, 1984.

As you note in your letter, the so-called Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit (IPU) was disestablished and, as far as we are aware, all records, if any, were transferred to the Air Force in the late 1950's. The "unit" was formed as an in-house project purely as an interest item for the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence. It was never a "unit" in the military sense, nor was it ever formally organized or reportable, it had no investigative function, mission or authority, and may not even have had any formal records at all. It is only through institutional memory that any recollection exists of this unit. We are therefore unable to answer your questions as to the exact purpose of the unit, exactly when it was disestablished, or who was in command; this last would not apply in any case, as no one was "in command". We have no records or documentation of any kind on this "unit." Also, it is very unlikely that there was any relationship between [redacted] and the IPU, but only [redacted] could answer that question.

I regret that we are unable to be of more assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lance R. Cornine
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Lance R. Cornine
Lieutenant Colonel, General Staff
Director of Counterintelligence