

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 16, 2019

Honorable Richard Spencer
Secretary of the U.S. Navy
1300 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350

Secretary Spencer,

In recent days, Members of Congress and the public have seen press reports regarding unidentified aerial phenomenon (UAP) engaging with or encountering our Naval aviators. The reports mention the existence of these encounters both domestically and abroad during various missions and trainings. We have also seen statements made by the Department of Defense regarding steps taken by the Navy to draft new guidelines for aviators to report these occurrences.

Additionally, there have been reports of significant investments in advanced aerospace technologies like the recorded UAP encounters by China.

Based on pilot accounts, encounters with these UAPs often involved complex flight patterns and advanced maneuvering, which demand extreme advances in quantum mechanics, nuclear science, electromagnetics, and thermodynamics. If the accounts are true, the unidentified crafts could pose a serious security risk to our military personnel and defense apparatus. They could also represent a tremendous opportunity for advancements in science and technology that can contribute to the public good.

The detailed news of the encounters comes on the heels of an announcement by the Department of Defense in 2017 that noted the end of the Advanced Aerospace Threat and Identification Program (AATIP), which was tasked with investigating UAP encounters. As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security and the Ranking Member for the Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counterterrorism, these reports are concerning from a national airspace and domestic security perspective.

While I am encouraged by the Navy's proactive decision to draft new guidelines for reporting, I am concerned these reports are not being fully investigated and understood. Since the decision to end the AATIP, has the Department continued to both log reports/sightings and fully investigate the origins of the accounts? Does the Department continue to dedicate resources to tracking and investigating the claims? If so, to what measure? Has the Department found physical evidence or otherwise that substantiates these claims?

Lastly, does the Department have any information regarding private companies or foreign nations who have made significant advancements in aero physics?

We believe the answers to these questions are vital to our national security and scientific research and of significant public interest.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you on this important matter to ensure our domestic security.

Sincerely,



MARK WALKER
Member of Congress