« Response to the US Government, Pentagon & UAP Task Force (UAPTF) »

By Yann Vadnais (GARPAN), August 21st, 2021

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Government of the United States, Military Officers of the United States Department of Defense, Members of the Media and the International Press,

On June 24, 2020, the *United States Senate Select Committee on Intelligence* (SSCI) standing committee passed a request that the intelligence community and the Department of Defense release information about their UFO records in the 180 days following the adoption of the authorization law.

This request became effective by the *National Defense Authorization Act of the year 2021* (worth US \$740 billion) which was voted by the House of Representatives on December 29, 2020, and by the Senate on January 1, 2021. Let us recall for the public that this set of federal laws, passed annually, govern the budget and military expenses of the United States.

Following this announcement, the community of academic researchers on UFOs — and also all interested and passionate people on this mysterious subject — expected the UAP Task Force report to the Senate Committee six months later, in June 2021, as stipulated. However, this directive was not respected, because only the Office of the Director of National Intelligence released, on June 25, a "preliminary report" of barely seven pages.

For qualified and experienced professionals like you, Honorable Representatives, it is obvious that this deception is explained by, either a blatant lack of professionalism, or by a political maneuver with suspicious goals. And since the Director of National Intelligence is chosen by the President, that may give a clue to an attitude change from the recent Biden administration on this topic.

During the press conference that follows, you will hear the enlightened opinions of some 30 UFO scholars and specialists from a dozen countries. You will learn that academic researchers and other independent investigators are also not satisfied with this surprising official statement: it is written that 11 cases led to "near misses" with aircrafts, and — black on white — that "UAP clearly pose a safety of flight issue and may pose a challenge to U.S. national security (p. 3)."

However, the series of major blunders on the part of the United States on the subject of UFOs and the conquest of space do not date from yesterday: as much, the pros and cons of the reality of these phenomena have been officially declared over the past seven decades, from the famous

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August 21st, 2021 — Organized by Ananda Bosman, Yann Vadnais (GARPAN) & Alfred Lambremont Webre Page 1 sur 6 US Air Force study projects of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s to the revelations of insiders and former employees of the last few decades.

As the co-organizer of this press conference, I too would like to raise a few criticisms. My name is Yann Vadnais and I am the director of GARPAN, a highly active research group in Canada since 2012. I am mainly a university researcher who works concretely to recognize the different horizons, perspectives and traditions of studies involved in UFO and UAP research.

The problem with UFOs — and this is the caution I want to share — is that UFOlogy can and should be understood in many ways. We must therefore reason with a philosopher like Aristotle and accept the polysemy of this term consecrated by popular culture. It is necessary to consider the different objects reported by witnesses to actually belong strictly to distinct fields of study.

The preliminary report of June 25, 2021, gives an overview by specifying that the types of UFOs are categorized according to five possible explanations: **(= Image 1)**

Airborne clutter (radar);
Natural atmospheric phenomena;
USG or U.S. industry developmental programs;
Foreign adversary systems;
Other.

Two things stand out from this list:

- Point 3) implies that the United States government or certain American industries possess unconventional, unrecognized technologies;

- Point 4): that there are legitimate reasons to suspect that this could also be the case of foreign nations.

As an experienced UFO investigator and researcher, however, allow me to disabuse you. Rather, you may have to look at it this way :

1) Misunderstandings (perceptual) and reading errors of devices;

2) Natural phenomena of scientific interest;

3-4) Technological probes or vehicles;

5) Others ;

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Phenomena spotted:

6) UFOs presumably of non-human origin ;

7) Intelligent phenomena interacting with the consciousness of witnesses ;

New Superhuman Intelligences :

8) Artificial Intelligence.

1. Misunderstandings can be both human and technical, and fall within the investigative field of UFOlogy, which many amateur groups deal with.

2. "Natural phenomena of scientific interest" do not relate only to meteorology, but also to geology, oceanography, optics, etc. In this regard, we refer to the catalog of scientific anomalies established by William Corliss.

3. Points 3) and 4) merge. Of course, militarily, they must be distinguished, but in both cases, we are dealing with machines.

4. -

5. Item 5) 'Other' 'corresponds very well to actual UFOs, and it is a term that has often been used to catalog them.

However, research on UFOs has highlighted the existence of two intriguing and controversial phenomena:

6. A phenomenon which primarily interests anthropologists, folklorists, mythologists, but also philosophers and phenomenologists: there is an intelligence (perhaps the psyche of the witnesses themselves), actually interacting with the consciousness of the witnesses, and can be in part conditioned by the environment.

7. A few rare cases of UFOs reasonably admit the plausibility of the hypothesis of an extraterrestrial origin. This is the area of futurology and communication protocols, for example: the "Declaration of Principles Concerning Activities Following the Detection of Extraterrestrial Intelligence," adopted by the *International Academy of Astronautics* (IAA).

Certainly, the military first seeks to determine if there is a threat, but that should not preclude offering the answer-hungry public a cohesive and comprehensive picture of the phenomena associated with UFOs. The military and conscientious leaders are probably right to apprehend an emerging threat: but instead of aliens from the cosmos who are long in coming, we risk being confronted very soon with new players on the global geopolitical scene, because artificial intelligence is already producing superhuman intelligences.

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August 21st, 2021 — Organized by Ananda Bosman, Yann Vadnais (GARPAN) & Alfred Lambremont Webre Page **3** sur **6** And when the report states that "The initial objective will be to employ artificial intelligence/machine learning algorithms to group and recognize similarities and patterns in the characteristics of the data points" referring to the Senate report 116-233, there is a good reason. Section 505 informs us that "the DNI must perform an assessment of export controls related to artificial intelligence (AI), microchips, advanced manufacturing equipment and other AI-based technologies." And in the committee's comments (point 3) of this *Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021*, we are informed about the Department of Defense Algorithmic Warfare Cross-functional Team plan. The goal of this team is to "integrate unsupervised artificial intelligence algorithms (for example, algorithms that learn from data without being trained, allowing artificial intelligence to improve) into *Project Maven*."

In short, the framework of this preliminary report is too narrow: The number of cases is already minimal: 144 between 2004 and 2021 (mostly during the last two years). Additionally, the report says: "most reports described UAP as objects that interrupted pre-planned training or other military activity (...) tended to cluster around US training and testing grounds," (p. 4-5) admitting that this constitutes a bias to their analysis.

Finally, I present a third criticism, as a university researcher in history. The preliminary report does not postulate any historical perspective, speaks as if there had never been any study on UFOs before, and do not refer to any UFO cases from other countries. When it is stated on page 4 that: "No standardized reporting mechanism existed until the Navy established one in March 2019", this is false: as much in the United States as in many countries, procedures for reporting unidentified sightings have existed for over half a century. On the other hand, if the US Navy has established such a protocol for UFO reporting, why is it not talking about USOs (Unidentified Submarine Objects)? Nevertheless, the proposal to revise all of the Army's radar archives using the computational capabilities of AI is a very good idea. (p. 7)

In conclusion, one can only have mixed feelings about this incomplete report, too short, faulty and without historical hindsight. Faced with this awkwardness on such a controversial and explosive subject, we advise that any major announcement regarding UFOs from the military should be supported by a committee made up of philosophers, sociologists, political scientists, anthropologists, etc., as well as scientists and engineers working on these objects. This cultural precaution would make it possible to better coordinate an intelligent and organized reception of the data to be shared.

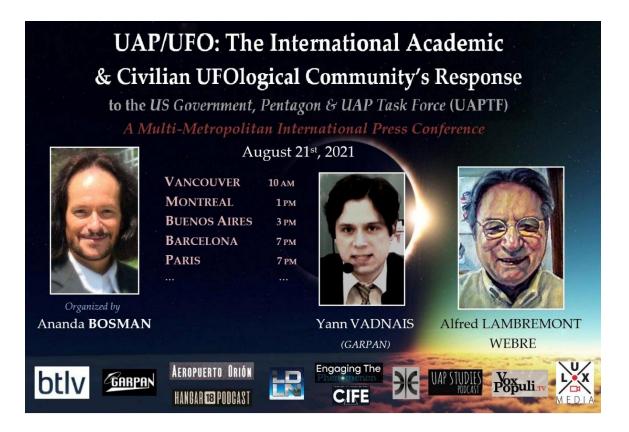
To judge the quality of the "Coming Full Report", I suggest, Honorable Representatives of the American People, that you in the meantime consult the recent 377-page report of the 3AF-SIGMA2 Commission. Written by the *Aeronautical and Astronautical Association of France* precisely in anticipation of the publication of your Department of Defense report, you will find a very good comparative example.

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August 21st, 2021 — Organized by Ananda Bosman, Yann Vadnais (GARPAN) & Alfred Lambremont Webre Page 4 sur 6 Rigorous research on UFOs exists and it is relevant in many ways. It should not be diverted from their scientific aims in order to gain political capital, to manipulate the public or to carry out disinformation campaigns.

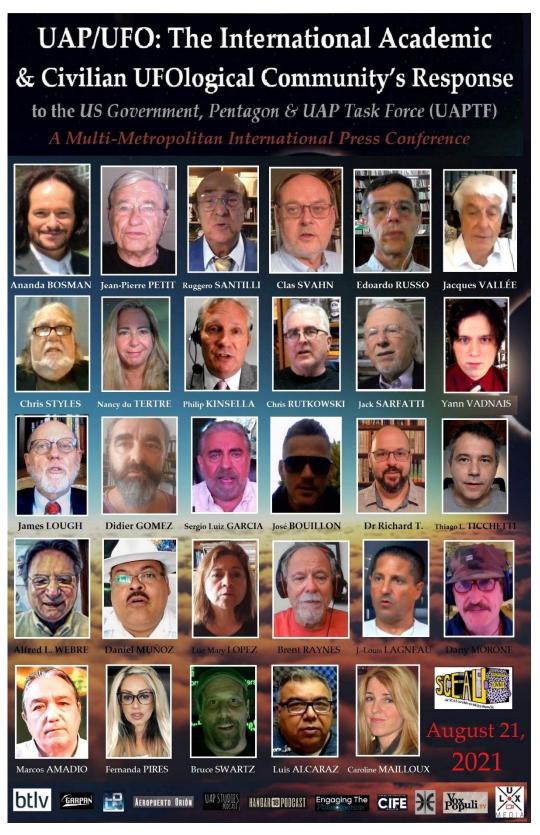
Thank you for your attention,

YANN VADNAIS August 21st, 2021



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