

ADDRESSING THE UAP DATA GAP: RECOMMENDED CONGRESSIONAL PRIORITIES

November 12, 2024

To the Members of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and to the Public:

Although I worked with the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability to arrange my testimony at the upcoming UAP hearing, it was ultimately scheduled for a date on which I am unable to attend. I have several points and suggestions I would have liked to present during the hearing, which I intend to elaborate on in the future, either in writing or at a subsequent hearing. In the meantime, I would like to outline a recent development and a related point I would have presented to the committee.

Several years ago, I reviewed a remarkable intelligence report featuring clear satellite imagery of a fast-moving UAP. This imagery, echoing DNI John Ratcliffe's 2021 remarks on UAP captured by satellite,¹ exemplifies the information Congress should have ready access to. After my review, I informed Senate Armed Services and Intelligence staff. However, when they requested the report from AARO (then led by Dr. Kirkpatrick), AARO replied that it held no record of any UAP satellite imagery.

This incident reflects a broader, systemic issue: Crucial UAP data remains inaccessible to Congress and, apparently, to AARO itself. Last week, after years of searching, I finally located and relayed to Congress the whereabouts of this satellite report, hopefully enabling Congress to submit a successful request. I am collaborating with Admiral Gallaudet to ensure related questions are addressed at Wednesday's hearing.

While this report does not confirm the extraterrestrial hypothesis, it exemplifies a subset of UAP cases that defy easy explanation and merit rigorous investigation. With the overlap between UAP incidents and 'drone' intrusions near military assets and considering the marked efficacy of unmanned systems in the Ukraine conflict, the urgency of this issue is clear.

Under its new leadership, I am confident AARO will work transparently with Congress. Thus, I urge Congress to address a new priority: Ensuring that other agencies, particularly the Air Force and CIA, cooperate fully with AARO. For instance, NORAD tracks thousands of 'uncorrelated tracks' annually, often scrambling fighters to investigate, yet these incidents don't appear to be reported to AARO.² The question is not whether UAP information is being withheld from Congress, but rather how much remains unknown and whether it will ever come to light.

In sum, I urge Congress to focus on ensuring that relevant UAP data is fully accessible to AARO. The satellite example highlights just one instance of information being withheld, hindering comprehensive oversight and investigation. Only with full cooperation across agencies can Congress and AARO work toward an accurate understanding of the phenomena and address any security implications they may hold.

Respectfully,

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¹ Yelena Dzhanova, "A Former Intelligence Official Says an Upcoming Government Report Will Detail 'Difficult to Explain' UFO Sightings," *Business Insider*, March 21, 2021, <https://www.businessinsider.com/ufo-sightings-ratcliffe-new-report-intel-2021-3>.

² Christopher Mellon, "Why is the Air Force AWOL on the UAP Issue?" *The Debrief*, February 3, 2022, <https://thedebrief.org/why-is-the-air-force-awol-on-the-uap-issue/>.