



UAP / NHI Disclosure: What the Sources Say, Sorted by Consensus

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This plan is an initial draft prepared with AI models. It is open for review by subject-matter experts and will be revised as they join the work and as world and national events change.

Summary

Every source agrees on only a narrow core. Unidentified objects are really being reported by trained observers, including over U.S. military sites. Most resolve as ordinary things, and a small residue stays unexplained, mainly for lack of data. The U.S. government has kept UAP secrets and has at times spread deliberate UFO misinformation.

The headline claims are a different matter:

- non-human intelligence (NHI) is here
- the U.S. holds recovered craft and bodies
- a “legacy” program is hidden from Congress

These come from a cluster of credentialed insiders, three journalists and several House members. They rest on testimony, not on evidence the public can examine. AARO and the skeptics in this set deny or dispute them.

The balance may shift soon. A Department of War waiver issued on September 14, 2026 lets insiders bound by nondisclosure agreements report to the government’s PURSUE team without legal penalty. AARO’s long-delayed Volume 2 historical report is still outstanding. The House has passed a disclosure law that could compel release, but it still has to survive Senate conference.

Tier	What it means	Headline example
1. All agree	No source in the set disputes it	A residue of UAP cases stays unexplained
2. Most agree	Broad agreement, named dissenters	Some objects outperform known aircraft
3. Divided	Sources split roughly into camps	NHI is present; a legacy retrieval program exists

Tier	What it means	Headline example
4. One or a few	Claims resting on a single source or small group	Grusch: “sentient plasmoid life”; Semivan: a cover-up since 1947
5. Direct conflict	Named sources contradict each other on a specific item	The Yemen “Hellfire orb” video

How this report works

The tiers count how many sources agree. They do not measure how credible any source is. The source set deliberately spans the whole spectrum, from Pentagon records to whistleblowers to hard skeptics. That way “all agree” carries real weight.

Sources covered (the set from the earlier answer, plus Jim Semivan as requested):

- **Official records:** PURSUE files (war.gov/ufo), AARO reports, congressional hearing records and legislation, the Intelligence Community Inspector General (ICIG) finding on Grusch, and France’s GEIPAN
- **Firsthand witnesses:** David Fravor, Ryan Graves, and the 2025 hearing witnesses Alexandro Wiggins, Jeffrey Nuccetelli and Dylan Borland
- **Insiders:** David Grusch, Karl Nell, Tim Gallaudet, Christopher Mellon, Luis Elizondo and Jim Semivan
- **Lawmakers:** Senators Chuck Schumer and Mike Rounds; Representatives Tim Burchett, Anna Paulina Luna, Eric Burlison, Jared Moskowitz and Nancy Mace
- **Journalists:** Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal, George Knapp, Ross Coulthart, and John Greenewald Jr. (The Black Vault)
- **Scientists:** Avi Loeb, Garry Nolan, Kevin Knuth, the Sol Foundation, and skeptic Mick West

Marco Rubio, former AARO director Sean Kirkpatrick and a few others appear only where their statements bear directly on a claim.

Evidence tags mark how each claimant knows what they say:

- **[Doc]** an official document
- **[1st]** personally witnessed
- **[2nd]** told by others
- **[Inf]** inference or opinion

A [2nd] claim from a credentialed person is still [2nd].

Safeguards against bias in either direction:

- Government denials are treated as claims, not settled fact, and so are whistleblower accusations.
- A claim is not demoted for being unconventional, only for lacking agreement or checkable support.
- Where a source's account has changed over time, both versions are shown.

Scope limit: "Every piece of information" is not literally achievable, because these sources have given thousands of interviews. This report covers every substantive claim found in their sworn testimony, official documents, books and major interviews from 2023 through September 27, 2026. Podcast-only remarks are included where widely reported.

Tier 1: All sources agree

No source in the set disputes the seven points below, though they disagree sharply about what the points mean.

1. A residue of UAP cases stays unexplained, even after investigation. [Doc]

- AARO received 319 reports between June 2024 and May 2025, resolved 114, and held 1,870 cases in total ([DefenseScoop](#)).
- France's GEIPAN has analyzed about 5,300 cases over 40 years. About 3% remain unexplained, falling toward 2% in recent years ([GEIPAN](#)).
- The Galileo Project tracked about 500,000 objects over five months. It left 144 trajectories ambiguous, probably mundane but unresolvable without distance data ([Galileo commissioning paper](#)).
- In 1952, Air Force officer Edward Ruppelt said about 20% of 800 reports from reliable observers could not be explained. The recording appears in PURSUE Release 6 ([CBS News](#)).
- Skeptic Mick West accepts that a residue exists but attributes it to poor data, not to anomalies.

2. Most reports turn out to be ordinary things. [Doc]

- AARO's 114 resolved cases were balloons, birds, satellites, aircraft and drones, plus one rocket launch and one manned jet pack.
- A new 3D modeling tool let AARO resolve 238 reports as sunlight flashing off satellites ([DefenseScoop](#)).
- GEIPAN attributes about two-thirds of its explained cases to misidentification or perception errors.
- Disclosure advocates such as Graves, Mellon and Loeb accept this. Their argument is about the residue.

3. Bad data is the main obstacle. [Doc]

- AARO says a lack of timely, actionable sensor data keeps limiting its ability to resolve cases.
- Two scientists on the new UAP Science Advisory Council, Jacob Haqq-Misra and Ravi Kopparapu, examined all 112 PURSUE sensor videos. None contained the range, platform-motion and geometry data needed to work out an object's real speed ([The Debrief](#)).
- Loeb, Graves, Knuth, Greenewald and West all call for better sensors and fuller data release.

4. Unidentified objects are operating over U.S. military sites and critical infrastructure. [Doc]

- AARO's FY2025 report describes UAP near national-security sites. Some narrative reports suggested performance beyond the known state of the art, but no technical data came with them. If validated, AARO says, they could be an unmitigated threat ([DefenseScoop](#)).
- Rubio said in August 2026 that things are flying over U.S. military installations, that they are not ours, and that he does not know what they are ([NewsNation](#)).
- Skeptics agree the incursions happen. They attribute them to drones, balloons and similar objects.

5. The government ran secret UAP study programs and still withholds material. [Doc]

- The Defense Intelligence Agency's Advanced Aerospace Weapon System Applications Program (AAWSAP, 2008-2012) is now documented in PURSUE Release 6. That release includes its statement of objectives and 37 technical reference papers. The papers cover warp drives, wormholes, antigravity and invisibility cloaking ([CBS News](#)).
- The same release shows the scale of what is still withheld: 64 of its 71 files contain redactions.
- Greenewald's FOIA archive and the Pentagon's own 2019 statement also confirm that the related AATIP program pursued UAP research ([Wikipedia: Luis Elizondo](#)).

6. The government has at times deliberately misled people about UFOs. [Doc]

- PURSUE Release 3 includes a 1992 CIA letter. In it the agency says it could not tell letter-writers the true cause of UFO sightings back to the 1950s, and that Project Blue Book had given the public false explanations ([Wikipedia: United States UFO files](#)).

- AARO found that an Air Force colonel handed fake flying-saucer photos to a bar owner near Area 51 in the 1980s.
- AARO also found a hazing ritual running from the 1980s to 2023. At least a dozen personnel were told they were joining a fictional alien-technology program called “Yankee Blue” (FOX 5 / WSJ).
- Both camps accept these facts. Skeptics read them as the origin of UFO myths. Advocates read them as proof the government lies on this subject.

7. No publicly released evidence proves non-human intelligence. [Doc]

- The Pentagon labels every PURSUE case “unresolved,” never “confirmed.”
- Grusch, Elizondo and Luna do not claim the public record proves NHI. They say the proof is classified.
- The disagreement is over whether hidden proof exists, not over what has been released.

Tier 2: Most sources agree

Most of the set agrees on these four points. The dissenters are few and named.

1. Some objects perform beyond any known aircraft. [1st] [Inf]

- **Agree:**
 - Firsthand witnesses: Fravor, Graves, Wiggins, Nuccetelli and Borland.
 - Insiders and others: Grusch, Nell, Gallaudet, Mellon, Elizondo, Semivan, Knapp, Coulthart, Luna, Burchett, Nolan and Knuth. Knuth has published estimates of the extreme accelerations reported in such cases.
 - AARO, partially: some narrative reports “suggest” beyond-state-of-the-art performance, but none came with technical data.
- **Dissent:**
 - AARO institutionally says no resolved case indicates breakthrough technology.
 - West argues the famous videos show parallax, glare and ordinary objects.
 - Greenewald treats the claim as unproven.
 - Haqq-Misra and Kopparapu say the released videos cannot establish speed at all.
- **Undecided:** Loeb says better data will decide.

2. The executive branch has withheld UAP information from Congress and the public beyond legitimate security needs. [2nd] [Inf]

- **Agree:**
 - Lawmakers: Luna, Burlison, Burchett and Mace.

- Insiders: Mellon, Gallaudet, Grusch, Elizondo and Semivan.
- Journalists: Kean, Knapp and Coulthart.
- Greenewald, partly, from decades of FOIA fights.
- **Supporting evidence:**
 - Mellon noted in February 2026 that AARO had released neither its congressionally mandated Volume 2 historical report nor its 2025 annual report on time ([DefenseScoop](#)).
 - AP reported that a video deadline Luna set for Defense Secretary Hegseth in March 2026 passed with no videos produced ([Wikipedia: United States UFO files](#)).
- **Dissent:**
 - AARO.
 - Rubio, who in August 2026 said there is no cover-up and that Trump would show the pictures if the government knew more ([Fox News](#)).
 - West.

3. Witnesses who speak up have faced stigma or retaliation. [1st] [2nd]

- **Accounts:**
 - Graves testified that sightings became an open secret among aircrew and that stigma suppressed reporting ([Graves testimony](#)).
 - Borland testified to sustained reprisals after reporting ([Yahoo/Independent](#)).
 - Rubio said whistleblowers came to him afraid of retaliation.
- **Official acknowledgment:** the Department of War's own September 2026 waiver says insiders had feared legal liability, loss of clearances or prosecution ([Department of War release via GlobalSecurity](#)).
- **Dissent:** no source denies that stigma existed. No independent body has published findings on specific retaliation claims.

4. AARO's investigations have been inadequate or slanted. [2nd] [Inf]

- **Agree:**
 - Mellon, Grusch and Elizondo.
 - Gallaudet, who described a 2024 AARO meeting as an hours-long influence operation meant to discredit valid reports ([The Exclusion Zone](#)).
 - Luna, Burlison and Coulthart.
- **Dissent:**
 - AARO.
 - West, who generally defends AARO's case analyses.

- Greenewald is mixed. He criticizes AARO's transparency but also shows that some "new" protections had precedents.

Tier 3: Sources are divided

The central disclosure claims split the set roughly in two. On the "yes" side are the insider, advocate and House-caucus sources. On the "no" side are the official records and the skeptics. Several scientists stay deliberately undecided.

1. Non-human intelligence is present and interacting with Earth.

- **Yes:**
 - Grusch [2nd, later claims he viewed imagery himself].
 - Nell, who says there is zero doubt [Inf] ([Snead Substack](#)).
 - Elizondo, who testified in November 2024 that UAP are real and are technologies not made by any government [2nd] ([NewsNation](#)).
 - Semivan, who says they are here, they are real and they are not human [Inf] ([Out & About](#)).
 - Gallaudet [Inf].
 - Nolan, who has called his confidence in a non-human presence 100% [Inf] ([UAPedia](#)).
 - Luna, who says in her opinion she has seen things of non-human origin in a secure facility [Inf] ([The News](#)).
 - Also Burchett, Coulthart and Knapp.
- **Leans yes:** Mellon and Burlison.
- **Legislative signal:** Schumer and Rounds wrote "non-human intelligence" into their bill ([Congress.gov](#)).
- **Undecided:**
 - Loeb, whose "down-to-Earth" reading is human-made technology.
 - Knuth, Kean, Fravor and Graves. The last two say what they saw was not ours but do not claim to know its origin.
 - GEIPAN.
- **No:**
 - AARO, which has found no evidence.
 - West and Greenewald, who say it is unproven.
 - Rubio, who says he does not know what it is.

2. A legacy crash-retrieval and reverse-engineering program exists outside proper oversight.

- **Yes:**
 - Grusch, who testified in July 2023 that he was told of a multi-decade program and denied access ([Wikipedia](#)).
 - Elizondo, whose book says aerospace contractors take part.
 - Nell, who vouched for Grusch.
 - Coulthart and Knapp.
 - Gallaudet, who says he believes Grusch.
 - Semivan, who says military leaders have known since 1947 they cannot compete with this technology and covered it up.
 - Burlison, Luna and Burchett.
- **Legislative signal:** the Schumer-Rounds bill, and the House version adopted July 22, 2026, would seize privately held “recovered technologies of unknown origin and biological evidence of non-human intelligence” ([Congress.gov](#)).
- **No:**
 - AARO’s March 2024 historical report found no empirical evidence. A Pentagon spokeswoman said AARO had found no verifiable information that any such program existed ([Wikipedia](#)).
 - West and Greenewald, who say no documents support it.
 - Rubio (2026).
 - Ex-AARO chief Kirkpatrick, who calls the story circular reporting among a small, interconnected group.

3. The phenomenon is extraterrestrial, versus something stranger.

- **Interdimensional or consciousness-linked:**
 - Semivan: “consensus reality” may not be true reality.
 - Luna prefers “interdimensional beings.”
 - Grusch has mentioned extra dimensions and “sentient plasmoid life.”
 - Elizondo links it to brain regions and remote viewing.
- **Physical probes or drones:**
 - Nolan suggests autonomous drones.
 - Loeb’s Galileo Project searches for extraterrestrial technological artifacts.
- **Terrestrial:** skeptics and AARO say most, or all, are human-made or natural.

4. What the secrecy was hiding.

- **Non-human technology:** the advocates’ reading. Grusch, Elizondo, Semivan, Coulthart and Luna.
- **Human weapons programs:** the AARO and skeptic reading. UFO myths were planted or tolerated to cover aircraft such as U-2 and stealth projects, and the

“Yankee Blue” hazing spread false alien-program stories inside the Air Force.

- **Pushback on that reading:** Mellon asked the Wall Street Journal to correct its reporting on these AARO findings ([Disclosure Foundation](#)).

Tier 4: Claims resting on one or a few sources

This section catalogs every remaining substantive claim, source by source. Official records here are undisputed as documents; only their meaning is argued over. Individual claims are uncorroborated unless stated.

Official records

PURSUE releases (Department of War, [war.gov/ufo](#)) [Doc]

Sources: [Wikipedia](#); [United States UFO files](#); [CBS News](#).

Release	Date	Size	Notable contents
6	Sept 18, 2026	71 files, 64 redacted	AAWSAP statement of objectives and 37 technical reference papers (below); 2022 and 2025 Middle East videos, including six agile spheres; 2023 cellphone video of silent flashing lights from Colorado police; the 1952 Ruppelt presentation
5	Aug 7, 2026	41 files	FBI witness interview forms for 2026 sightings by federal agents in the western U.S., including a 2026 thermal video of two slow “black-hot” objects (Newsweek)
4	July 10, 2026	40 files	A military aviator’s report of an object unlike anything seen in 28 years of service
3	June 12, 2026	53 documents plus media	AARO analysis of a western U.S. sighting (below); 209 sightings

Release	Date	Size	Notable contents
			of green orbs, discs and fireballs near a military facility; five soldiers' 2022 "potato" object over Cheyenne Mountain; the 1992 CIA letter on Blue Book (Tier 1)
2	May 22, 2026	222 documents	2022 infrared video of four objects in formation near Iran; about 51 audio and 40+ video files requested by lawmakers
1	May 8, 2026	160+ files, 20 videos	Apollo transcripts and photos; an FBI rendering of a bronze ellipsoid reported in 2023; the "orbs launching orbs" case

Notes on individual releases:

- **Release 6 injury paper.** One of the AAWSAP papers, dated 2010, reports injuries to three antenna engineers after an anomalous aerospace event, including skin burns, hair loss and later malignancies. Its author hypothesized that some advanced systems were already deployed and opaque to U.S. understanding. The Pentagon's caveat says the papers do not validate the concepts discussed.
- **Release 3 case analysis.** AARO director Jon Kosloski signed a June 5, 2026 analysis of an October 2023 event at a sensitive western U.S. site. Six federal officers watched orange "mother orbs" repeatedly release red orbs over two evenings. The case is still unresolved ([Department of War PDF](#)). Loeb says about 40% of the reported phenomena in the case lack an explanation.
- **Release 1 video.** The online video of the "orbs" case is an FBI reconstruction made in 2026 from witness accounts, not original footage ([Sentinel News](#)).

AARO [Doc]

- The FY2025 report ([DefenseScoop](#)):
 - The Navy reported about 100 airborne UAP and two probably uncrewed surface vessels off Virginia. The case is under active investigation.

- Two cases reported electronic or avionics interference near aircraft. The cause is undetermined.
- AARO is drafting a formal process for handling UAP-derived materials, should any come into government possession.
- The March 2024 historical report, Volume 1, found no empirical evidence of alien technology ([Wikipedia: AARO](#)).
- Volume 2 was promised for 2025, including findings on fabricated alien-program materials. It was still unreleased as of June 2026 ([Garber Files](#)).
- A September 2026 contracting notice shows AARO buying access to a private archive of pre-1990 UFO records ([DefenseScoop](#)).

New disclosure machinery [Doc]

- **UAP Governance Board.** ODNI, the FBI and the Defense Department created an interagency board that first met June 16, 2026. A UAP Science Advisory Council chaired by Loeb advises it ([DefenseScoop](#)).
- **ODNI guidance.** Preliminary guidance issued July 31, 2026 lets personnel use AARO or PURSUE channels despite prior nondisclosure agreements ([DLA Piper](#)).
- **The September 14, 2026 waiver.** It overrides the civil and administrative penalties in nondisclosure agreements and Special Access Program agreements, but only for disclosures to PURSUE representatives. Officials stress it is not a declassification order ([Fox News](#)).

Congress [Doc]

- **Hearings:**
 - July 2023: Grusch, Fravor, Graves.
 - November 2024: Elizondo, Gallaudet, Shellenberger, Gold.
 - September 2025: Borland, Nuccetelli, Wiggins, Knapp ([GovInfo](#)).
- **Legislative history of the UAP Disclosure Act:**
 - It passed the Senate 84–0 in 2023. The review board and eminent-domain power were stripped in conference.
 - What survived was a records collection at the National Archives ([UAP Disclosure Reads](#)).
 - It failed again in the FY2025 and FY2026 defense bills.
 - The House adopted Burlison’s version, eminent domain included, in the FY2027 defense bill on July 22, 2026 ([Burlison press release](#)).
- **FY2026 defense bill:** requires AARO briefings on UAP intercepts by NORAD and Northern Command since 2004 ([DefenseScoop](#)).
- **Inspector General:** the ICIG found Grusch’s 2022 complaint “credible and urgent,” a procedural threshold, not a finding of fact. Members left a January 2024 classified

ICIG briefing frustrated by the lack of new information.

GEIPAN (France) [Doc]

- About 5,300 cases analyzed from about 9,700 testimonies. On-site investigation happens in about 10% of cases ([GEIPAN](#)).
- About 3% stay unexplained (category D). These are periodically re-examined.
- GEIPAN does not pursue extraterrestrial hypotheses.

Firsthand witnesses

David Fravor (retired Navy commander) [1st]

- Testified in 2023 to the 2004 USS Nimitz encounter: a white, wingless object about 40 feet long that mirrored his jet, then accelerated away.
- The Navy later confirmed its video was genuine.
- He does not claim to know the object's origin. (Details recalled from his public testimony; not re-fetched for this report.)

Ryan Graves (former Navy F/A-18 pilot) [1st]

- His squadron saw UAP regularly off the East Coast from 2014 ([testimony](#)).
- He says UAP are grossly underreported and that commercial crews have no protected reporting channel.
- He now leads Americans for Safe Aerospace and chairs the AIAA UAP Integration Committee.
- He frames UAP as a safety and security problem, not a question of origin.

September 2025 hearing witnesses [1st] ([DefenseScoop](#))

- **Alexandro Wiggins**, Navy senior chief, was the first active-duty sailor to testify publicly. He described a February 2023 radar-and-visual encounter aboard the USS Jackson.
- **Jeffrey Nuccetelli**, Air Force police veteran, described five incidents at Vandenberg in 2003–2005, including huge objects like “flying buildings.” He says the relevant records were destroyed under retention schedules.
- **Dylan Borland**, geospatial intelligence specialist, described a 2012 sighting at Langley and later reprisals.

Insiders

David Grusch (former Air Force and intelligence officer; adviser to Rep. Burlison since April 2025). His claims, in chronological order:

- **June 2023** [2nd] ([Wikipedia](#)):
 - A retrieval program hidden from the UAP Task Force.
 - Intact and partial non-human craft, some transferred to contractors.
 - A 1933 craft recovered in Mussolini's Italy and acquired by the U.S. in 1944-45 with Vatican and Five Eyes help.
 - Football-field-sized craft and "malevolent activity."
 - He said then that he had not personally seen photos.
- **July 2023, under oath** [2nd]:
 - Recovered "non-human biologics."
 - People harmed or killed to protect the program.
 - Misappropriated funds.
 - Based on 40 witnesses over four years. Details offered only in a secure room, but officials told lawmakers he then lacked the clearance to brief there.
- **June 9, 2026:** the government knows of "several" kinds of NHI, ranging from bipedal beings to "sentient plasmoid life" ([Cybernews](#)).
- **August 13, 2026** ([Unknown Country](#); [Unidentified Phenomena](#)):
 - He has now seen photographs and video of recovered craft and dead occupants.
 - Between 25 and 100 vehicles have been recovered over 80-90 years; some were drones and some were piloted.
 - Occupants have been recovered alive, and some form of consciousness-based communication occurred.
 - He offered to take officials to the sites.
- **Counterpoints on the record:**
 - A 2023 Intercept report described two past psychiatric detentions, and Grusch sued the county sheriff over the records' release.
 - Kirkpatrick says Grusch never came to AARO while he was director.

Karl Nell (retired Army colonel, former UAP Task Force member) [2nd] [Inf]

- Told Kean that Grusch was "beyond reproach" and backed his retrieval-program claim.
- Publicly states NHI exists beyond reasonable doubt.
- Cites the 1933 Magenta, Italy case ([Snead Substack](#)).

Tim Gallaudet (retired Navy rear admiral, oceanographer) [1st] [2nd]

- In 2015 an email carrying the "GoFast" video vanished from his and colleagues' accounts ([NewsNation](#)).
- He believes Grusch and feels a duty to vouch for whistleblowers.

- He stresses unidentified submerged objects and published a Sol Foundation paper on ocean UAP.
- He now sits on the Science Advisory Council.

Christopher Mellon (former deputy assistant secretary of defense for intelligence; chairs the Disclosure Foundation) [Inf] [2nd]

- Helped get the Navy videos to the New York Times in 2017.
- Says incursions over U.S. bases number in the hundreds a year, including UAP over Langley Air Force Base for 17 straight days ([The Hill](#)).
- Calls the release process fragmented and wants Air Force leaders to testify under oath ([Disclosure Foundation](#)).

Luis Elizondo (former Defense Department intelligence official) [2nd] [1st] [Inf]

- **Claims in his 2024 book *Imminent*:**
 - A Legacy Program since 1947, involving major aerospace contractors.
 - Recovered non-human specimens.
 - Glowing orbs in his home that his family and neighbors saw.
 - Health harms to team members and their children.
 - Personal remote-viewing training.
 - A brain-structure pattern, in the caudate putamen, among experiencers ([NewsNation](#); [Skeptical Inquirer](#)).
- **Other statements:**
 - In 2024 testimony he gave an unequivocal yes to crash-retrieval programs and said U.S. adversaries hold such technology too.
 - On the Yemen video, he said a Hellfire hit usually leaves little behind ([CBS News](#)).
- **Disputes:**
 - The Pentagon said in 2019 he had no AATIP responsibilities, a claim he disputes.
 - Named contractors and agencies deny his claims.

Jim Semivan (25 years in the CIA's National Clandestine Service; retired 2007 as a member of the Senior Intelligence Service; co-founder of To The Stars; Sol Foundation affiliate) [Inf] [personal experience]

Sources: [Out & About](#); [Sol Foundation](#); [UFO Chronicles](#).

- **Basis of knowledge:** by his own account he was not part of any UAP investigative group at the CIA. His views come from decades of private study and a personal encounter experience.

- **Role in 2017:** he and friends gave the Nimitz videos to Kean for the New York Times story.
- **Nature of the phenomenon:**
 - UAP are here, they are real, and they are not human.
 - The phenomenon may be interdimensional and able to interact with consciousness.
 - Humanity lives inside a “consensus reality.”
 - He also says, “We don’t know what the phenomenon is.”
- **Secrecy:**
 - U.S. military leaders have known since 1947 that they cannot match this technology, which drove a decades-long cover-up.
 - The government cultivated a “tradition of disbelief” that painted believers as crackpots.
- **Disclosure:**
 - Only the president can truly disclose.
 - Disclosure should be managed carefully because it would be the “mother of all ontological shocks.”
 - Some truths may be indigestible for some people.
- **Criticism:** his CIA background and role at To The Stars have drawn suspicion that disclosure advocacy is itself an influence operation ([Boyle Substack](#)).

Lawmakers

Senators Schumer and Rounds (with Gillibrand) [Doc]

- Their bill presumes records exist on “non-human intelligence” and “recovered technologies of unknown origin.”
- It orders eminent domain over such material in private hands, and a “Controlled Disclosure Campaign Plan” ([Congress.gov](#)).
- They have not publicly said NHI is confirmed.

Anna Paulina Luna (leads the House Task Force on the Declassification of Federal Secrets) [Inf]

- In her opinion, she saw evidence of non-human origin in a secure facility.
- She prefers the term “interdimensional beings.”
- She says she has not seen a craft or a portal ([Yahoo](#)).
- She demanded 46 classified videos from Hegseth, and is working with the White House on possible immunity for witnesses.

Eric Burlison [Doc] [2nd]

- Released the Yemen video, which he said came from a whistleblower as a “Tom Clancy-style dead drop.”
- Employs Grusch as an adviser.
- Pressed MITRE, RAND and MIT Lincoln Laboratory for records. MITRE is complying for records back to 1930 ([DefenseScoop](#)).
- Authored the House disclosure amendment.

Tim Burchett [Inf]

- Co-founded the House UAP Caucus and wrote the UAP Whistleblower Protection Act, H.R. 5060 ([Congress.gov](#)).
- Predicted the first PURSUE release would be “a drop in the bucket.”

Jared Moskowitz and Nancy Mace

- Moskowitz co-chairs the House caucus and appeared at the June 2026 press conference.
- Mace co-chaired the November 2024 hearing and entered the “Immaculate Constellation” whistleblower report into the record ([Congress.gov](#)).

Journalists

Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal [Doc] [2nd]

- Co-wrote the 2017 New York Times story revealing AATIP.
- Broke the Grusch story in The Debrief in 2023, after the New York Times, Washington Post and Politico passed on it.
- Kean vetted Grusch through Nell and a serving intelligence official with the pseudonym “Jonathan Grey” ([Wikipedia](#)).
- Kean co-hosted the June 2026 Capitol press conference and appeared at the Disclosure Forum.

George Knapp [2nd] [Doc]

- Testified in September 2025 that documents show intelligence officials admit UAP are real, fly in formation and outperform any known aircraft ([Yahoo/Independent](#)).
- Described the Yemen missile as bouncing off the object.
- His AAWSAP reporting is now backed by the Release 6 documents.

Ross Coulthart (NewsNation) [2nd]

- Broke Grusch on TV in 2023 and aired helicopter pilot Jake Barber’s retrieval claims in 2025.

- **2026 claims:**
 - May: Trump has been briefed on the legacy program ([Cybernews](#)).
 - June: China and Russia monitor the U.S. program ([LA Magazine](#)).
 - June 28: Elizondo held a role inside the legacy program ([UAP Logbook](#)).
 - He has named several former Air Force and contractor officials as alleged gatekeepers. Those individuals have not confirmed the claims, and this report does not repeat the names.

John Greenewald Jr. (The Black Vault) [Doc]

- His archive holds about 3.86 million FOIA pages ([The Black Vault](#)).
- He argues the September 2026 waiver largely restates protections AARO already offered, citing an AARO “verbal legal advisement” he obtained in 2025 ([The Black Vault](#)).
- He holds that records must back testimony before extraordinary claims are accepted.

Michael Shellenberger (hearing witness, not in the original source set) [2nd]

- Presented a whistleblower report on an alleged unacknowledged program, “Immaculate Constellation,” said to hold classified UAP imagery.
- Described a 13-minute video of an orb rising from the sea off Kuwait ([Medill](#)).
- No PURSUE release has confirmed or named the program.

Scientists and analysts

Avi Loeb (Harvard; Galileo Project; chairs the Science Advisory Council) [Doc] [Inf]

- Called PURSUE Release 3 the most intriguing so far.
- If the orbs are human-made, he says, they represent a serious security breach.
- Says the mystery can be solved with better data.
- The council has 12 members, including Nolan, Gallaudet, Shermer and Vilhauer ([DefenseScoop](#)).

Garry Nolan (Stanford; Sol Foundation co-founder) [Doc] [Inf]

- Showed that the Atacama “alien” mummy was human.
- Studies brain injuries in personnel near UAP, and says government and aerospace representatives brought him those cases.
- Reports altered magnesium isotope ratios in material from the Ubatuba case ([Vice](#)).
- Says he is 100% confident of a non-human presence.

Kevin Knuth (University at Albany; UAPx; council member) [Doc]

- Led a 2025 review of about 20 government UAP studies from 1933 onward. It concluded that governments take UAP seriously yet appear to know little ([arXiv](#)).
- A UAPx field expedition picked up an ambiguous ionizing-radiation reading.
- In July 2026 he co-authored a peer-reviewed critique of anomaly claims drawn from old Palomar sky-survey plates ([GreyAlien library](#)).

Sol Foundation [Inf]

- Publishes policy white papers on ocean UAP, health threats and airspace security.
- An August 2026 paper examines the security risks of states competing over alleged non-human technology.

Jennice Vilhauer (council member) [2nd]

- Says ODNI told the council on August 31, 2026 that the U.S. has a preparedness plan in case NHI is confirmed.
- She stresses the plan is not evidence NHI exists. No agency has publicly confirmed it ([Vilhauer Substack](#)).

Mick West (Metabunk) [Inf]

- Judges the Yemen object a slow soft target, likely a balloon, with parallax creating the illusion of speed ([X post](#)).
- Found nothing of real interest in the first PURSUE release.
- Metabunk threads resolve individual PURSUE clips, such as one “shapeshifting” object that is really two small objects, and birds in another ([Metabunk](#)).
- Published an error check of *Imminent* ([Metabunk](#)).

International

- **Brazil:** former Defense Minister Aldo Rebelo, now a presidential candidate, told an interviewer that the 1996 Varginha incident involved non-human beings. He also described the 1977 Colares injuries and a 1986 radar event ([iHeart](#)).
- **Brazil, contrary record:** a military inquiry filed with Brazil’s Superior Military Court concluded Varginha stemmed from a misunderstanding ([Revista Sociedade Militar](#)).
- **Allied governments:** no allied government has confirmed Grusch’s multinational claims. Nick Pope, who ran the UK Ministry of Defence’s UFO desk, says the UK was never told of any U.S. craft or bodies.

Tier 5: Direct contradictions

On ten specific items, named sources flatly contradict each other. None is settled in public; each could be settled by releasing a specific record.

Item	One side	Other side	What would settle it
Yemen “Hellfire orb,” Oct 30, 2024	Knapp: the missile bounced off. Elizondo: it was redirected or glanced off. Witnesses said nothing in the U.S. arsenal could do this	West and ex-pilot Chris Lehto: a balloon or soft target, with parallax making it look fast. NBC described the object deforming and tumbling, with fragments shed	The full video and targeting data
A legacy retrieval program exists	Grusch, Elizondo, Nell, Coulthart	AARO Volume 1 (2024): no evidence. Kirkpatrick: circular reporting	Testimony under the new waiver; AARO Volume 2; contractor records
Grusch’s own access	2023: he had not seen photos himself	2026: he says he has seen photos and video of craft and occupants	The imagery, via PURSUE or a Senate-confirmed review board
Elizondo’s AATIP role	Elizondo, Mellon and Coulthart say he ran or worked in it	Pentagon 2019: he had no AATIP responsibilities	AATIP personnel records
Is there a cover-up?	Semivan: one since 1947. Grusch, Luna, Burlison: ongoing	Rubio (Aug 2026): no; Trump would show pictures if the government knew more	Volume 2, waiver testimony, NDAA conference outcome
Source of UFO myths	Advocates: a smokescreen for non-human technology	AARO via the WSJ: planted myths and “Yankee Blue” hazing hid human weapons programs	AARO’s promised findings on fabricated materials
Is the Sept 2026 waiver new?	The Department of War calls it a new, legally protected mechanism	Greenewald: similar protections already existed	Its effect: whether new witnesses come forward
Is PURSUE real disclosure?	Hegseth: “unprecedented transparency”; the Pentagon counts 1.7 billion site hits	West and Jason Colavito: mostly old or unremarkable. Mellon: fragmented	Later releases with raw sensor data

Item	One side	Other side	What would settle it
Immaculate Constellation	Shellenberger's source: an active unacknowledged program	Pentagon 2024 denial; not named in any PURSUE release	Official confirmation or denial
Varginha, Brazil, 1996	Rebello: non-human beings recovered	Brazilian military inquiry: a misunderstanding	Release of Brazil's military files, which Rebello has tied to U.S. action

Where each source stands

This matrix shows each source's stated position on the five core propositions. "—" means the source has not taken a public position.

Source	Unexplained residue	Beyond-known performance	NHI present	Legacy program	Improper secrecy	Main basis
AARO / Dept. of War	Yes	Unvalidated	No evidence	No evidence	No	Doc
GEIPAN	Yes (~3%)	—	—	—	—	Doc
Fravor	Yes	Yes	Origin unknown	—	—	1st
Graves	Yes	Yes	Origin unknown	—	Yes (reporting stigma)	1st
Wiggins, Nuccetelli, Borland	Yes	Yes	—	—	Yes	1st
Grusch	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2nd; claims to have viewed imagery
Nell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2nd / Inf
Gallaudet	Yes	Yes	Leans yes	Believes Grusch	Yes	1st / 2nd
Mellon	Yes	Yes	Leans yes	—	Yes	Inf / 2nd
Elizondo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2nd / 1st

Source	Unexplained residue	Beyond-known performance	NHI present	Legacy program	Improper secrecy	Main basis
Semivan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Cover-up since 1947	Yes	Inf / personal
Schumer and Rounds	Yes	—	Legislates for it	Legislates for it	Implied	Classified briefings
Luna	Yes	Yes	Yes (opinion)	Believes	Yes	Classified briefings
Burchett, Burlison	Yes	Yes	Leans yes	Believes / pursuing	Yes	Briefings / 2nd
Moskowitz, Mace	Yes	—	—	—	Yes	Briefings
Kean, Blumenthal	Yes	Yes	Open	Reported it	Yes	Doc / 2nd
Knapp	Yes	Yes	Leans yes	Leans yes	Yes	Doc / 2nd
Coulthart	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2nd
Greenewald	Yes	Unproven	Unproven	No records found	Partly	Doc
Loeb	Yes	Open	Open	—	—	Data
Nolan	Yes	Yes	Yes (100%)	—	—	Lab / Inf
Knuth	Yes	Yes	Open	—	—	Data
West	Yes (poor data)	No	No	No	No	Analysis
Rubio (context)	Yes	“Not ours”	Unknown	No cover-up	No	Official briefings

The split tracks the basis of knowledge. Every source whose main basis is documents or data says “no,” “unproven” or “open” on NHI and the legacy program. Every “yes” rests on secondhand testimony, classified briefings or inference. The exception is Grusch’s 2026 claim that he viewed imagery himself, which has not been shown.

What would settle it

Eight pending events could move claims between tiers in the coming months.

1. **Testimony under the September 14 waiver.** If Grusch’s sources exist, this is the first channel where they can talk to the government without legal penalty. The test is

whether PURSUE later confirms or refutes what they bring.

2. **AARO Volume 2.** It was promised for 2025 and is still unreleased. It should include AARO's findings on fabricated alien-program materials, which bear directly on the "Yankee Blue" versus "legacy program" dispute.
3. **Conference on the FY2027 defense bill.** The House version includes eminent domain and a Senate-confirmed review board with subpoena power. Earlier Senate-passed versions were stripped three times.
4. **Immunity for witnesses.** Luna says she is working with the White House on immunity, possibly permanent, for witnesses who can locate craft or materials. A public offer would let named witnesses go on record.
5. **Raw data behind headline videos.** The Yemen engagement, the Virginia swarm of about 100 objects, and the 2023 western "mother orb" case would each move to Tier 1 or drop out with full sensor data.
6. **Contractor records.** MITRE's compliance with Burlison's records request, and whether RAND and MIT Lincoln Laboratory follow, could produce the first non-government documents.
7. **The ODNI preparedness plan.** Official confirmation or denial of what Vilhauer reported.
8. **Brazil.** Rebelo has tied the release of Brazilian military files to U.S. action; that release would test the Varginha claims.

For a reader tracking this independently, the most direct signals are the PURSUE archive at war.gov/ufo, AARO's site at aaro.mil, and the GovInfo hearing transcripts. The Black Vault is the best running check on what has actually been documented.

Sources

Official and legislative

- [Department of War waiver release \(via GlobalSecurity\)](#)
- [AARO Western U.S. "orbs" case analysis, June 5, 2026](#)
- [House hearing transcript, Sept 9, 2025 \(GovInfo\)](#)
- [Nov 13, 2024 hearing record \(Congress.gov\)](#)
- [UAP Disclosure Act of 2025 text](#)
- [UAP Whistleblower Protection Act, H.R. 5060](#)
- [Burlison: House adopts disclosure amendment](#)
- [Ryan Graves 2023 testimony](#)
- [GEIPAN classification and statistics](#)
- [DLA Piper on ODNI guidance](#)

News reporting

- CBS News: PURSUE Release 6
- DefenseScoop: AARO FY2025 report
- DefenseScoop: Science Advisory Council
- DefenseScoop: reactions to Trump directive
- DefenseScoop: Sept 2025 hearing
- DefenseScoop: FY2026 NDAA provisions
- Fox News: Rubio on UAP
- NewsNation: Rubio podcast remarks
- NewsNation: Nov 2024 hearing
- NewsNation: Elizondo special
- The Hill: Mellon on base incursions
- CBS News: Yemen video
- Yahoo/Independent: Sept 2025 witnesses
- FOX 5 / WSJ: Yankee Blue and Area 51
- Newsweek: PURSUE Release 5
- The Debrief: 112-video analysis
- Cybernews: Grusch June 2026
- Unknown Country: Grusch on Dr. Phil
- Out & About: Jim Semivan profile
- LA Magazine: Coulthart

Reference and research

- Wikipedia: United States UFO files
- Wikipedia: David Grusch UFO whistleblower claims
- Wikipedia: Luis Elizondo
- Wikipedia: AARO
- Sol Foundation: Jim Semivan
- The Black Vault on the waiver
- Galileo Project commissioning paper
- Knuth et al., The New Science of UAP (arXiv)
- Vice: Garry Nolan interview
- Vilhauer: preparedness plan
- Skeptical Inquirer on *Imminent*
- Metabunk: PURSUE threads

- Disclosure Foundation