

Special Collections is closed due to COVID-19, public safety, and social distancing. [Read our update \(http://speccoll.library.arizona.edu/news/special-collections-continues-providing-research-assistance\)](http://speccoll.library.arizona.edu/news/special-collections-continues-providing-research-assistance).

JAMES E. MCDONALD PAPERS

1904 to 1997

MS 412

Collection Guide (<http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?docId=ead/uoa/UAMS412.xml>)



([James E. McDonald interview kstp-5 may-26-1969](#)).

James E. McDonald (1920-1971) was Associate Director at the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics from 1954 until 1956, and professor until his death in 1971. His areas of research included cloud physics, weather modification, and micrometeorology. He was the author of *Physics of Cloud Modification*, in the fifth volume of *Advances in Geophysics*. His scientific interests also led him to contribute writings and testimony to contemporary issues of his time such as the supersonic transport debates, placement of Titan II missiles around the Tucson basin, and scientific dismissal of unidentified

flying objects. His hypothesis that UFOs were extraterrestrial instruments on information gathering missions, and his beliefs that current scientific reports, such as the Condon Report, were superficially done, led him to investigate sightings and combat governmental impediments into his research topics.

Papers, 1904-1997 (bulk 1958-1971). Mostly correspondence, cases, reports, interviews, and printed materials relating to James E. McDonald's investigations, 1958 to 1971, into unidentified flying objects and similar sightings, and governmental investigations, responses and reports. Contains photocopies of approximately 580 Project Blue Book sighting reports, mostly by pilots, and some with airborne and ground radar verification. Also includes four handwritten journals, 1958-1971, describing UFO investigative activity; papers and talks, 1966-1977, given before conferences, symposia, and groups; research materials, including his 1967 trip to Australia and New Zealand; a referenced outline of an unpublished book; over 80 audio-tapes of interviews, talks, and conversations on UFO topics; photographic materials on various subjects; and supplemental materials.

Included materials:

[Photographs \(/types-material/photographs\)](/types-material/photographs)

[Audio Recordings \(/types-material/audio-recordings\)](/types-material/audio-recordings)

[Manuscript \(/types-material/manuscript\)](/types-material/manuscript)

Collection Area:

[History of Science \(/collections/history-science\)](/collections/history-science)

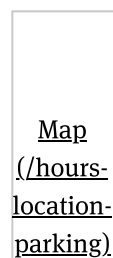
Special Collections at the University of Arizona Libraries (<http://library.arizona.edu/>)

1510 E. University Blvd.

Tucson, AZ 85721

520-621-6423

Location and Hours (/hours-location-parking)



Monday - Friday

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Closed Saturdays and Sundays

Support Special Collections

Our publicly available collections are made possible by the generosity of others.

Make a donation to help preserve our history. (</support>)