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1968: Unidentified Flying Objects, May (folder B131-25)
Gerald R. Ford Congressional Papers

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"U.F.O."

(Sperling, Harry S. Mr. & Mrs.)

May 13, 1968

Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Sperling
2504 Chili Avenue
Rochester, New York 14624

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sperling:

May I thank you most sincerely for your recent letter with the enclosure and for your interest in unidentified flying objects.

As you know, I have repeatedly recommended that thorough investigative action be taken and the public be informed concerning this subject. I had called for an investigation of this matter in the Spring of 1966.

I can assure you that I share your concern and am disturbed by the recent article in Look magazine relative to the investigation of UFOs at the University of Colorado. I sincerely hope that the investigation will prove to be worthwhile.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

Ford

Harry S. Sperling
2504 Chili Ave.
Rochester N. Y. I4624
May 5, 1968

House Space Committee:
Hon. Rep. Gerald Ford:

Dear Sir,

Many others beside my wife and I are understandably concerned about the priveleges taken with our Tax money by the Federal Government. Enclosed you will find material that should explain the reason for my remarks. How in the world Dr. Condon was selected for a job that called specifically for a broad understanding of all the astounding discoveries in the fields of Electromagnetics, Astronomy, Physics etc, I'll never know, I guess.

From what I have seen and read, it is obvious that you, Mr. Ford have considerably more than an average amount of knowledge on the U.F.O. subject. I'll be more than pleased if you will consider the support of our U.F.O. "discussion" Group a source of encouragement rather than a thorn in the side.

We truly hope tou will see fit to present this material (evidence of the average citizen's disenchantment with his governments methods of handling such important projects) in behalf of the case for U.F.O. enlightenment in this country as well as the rest of the world.

We remain your enthusiastic supporters in this as well as other matters.

Sincerely yours,

Harry S. Sperling
Harry S. Sperling
Delores E. Sperling
Delores E. Sperling

DES:me

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SAUCER FIASCO CONTINUED

Condon said to one critic: "You ought to be ruined professionally."

Condon's and Low's prejudice and would be unjustifiably negative. Staff members speculated that Condon was tired as well as disenchanted. He remained an enigma because the staff saw so little of him.

At an informal meeting in Denver on December 12, 1967, Saunders, Levine, McDonald and Hynek agreed that a new organization might be formed consisting only of professional-level members, designed to assure the continuation of intelligent UFO study regardless of whether the Condon report were negative or positive. After Hynek left, McDonald first became aware of Low's memo, and expressed his shock.

On January 19, 1968, Low phoned McDonald at the University of Arizona. McDonald reminded Low of the clearly negative tone of Condon's public statements over a period of time, including Condon's disturbing preoccupation with the crackpot elements. He also brought up Condon's failure to investigate personally significant field cases or to question any of the working staff who had been making a serious UFO study. McDonald stressed that he was not opposed to negative findings. What bothered him was that negative findings were already being clearly expressed by both Low and Condon. Low hung up in anger. McDonald prepared a long letter to Low to review his complaints. Low did not get around to reading the letter until February 6. In it, McDonald mentioned for the first time his concern about the memo, quoting to Low the phrases about "the trick." "I am rather puzzled by the viewpoints expressed there," McDonald wrote, "but I gather that they seem entirely straightforward to you, else this part of the record would, presumably, not be available for inspection in the open Project files. . . ."

Mrs. Mary Louise Armstrong, who had worked directly with Low as his administrative assistant, was in the office as Low finished reading the letter. Low exploded. He said that whoever gave the memo to McDonald should be fired immediately. Then he seemed to cool down.

On Wednesday, February 7, Saunders was summoned to Condon's office. Low and Condon were present. The questioning focused on the memo. Did Saunders know of it and know where it was kept? Saunders said that the memo was only part of the whole problem. It alone did not seem especially important, he felt. The broader issues of scientific integrity were at stake. Condon, furious that he had not immediately been informed that McDonald knew of the memo, told Saunders, "For an act like that, you ought to be ruined professionally."

Saunders countered by saying that Condon and Low seemed to be treating the symptoms rather than the disease. He reminded them of the efforts of the entire staff to get Low and Condon to modify their intractable stance. He reviewed the long sequence of events and reminded Low that he had blocked the investigation of one particularly startling UFO case. Low protested that the investigation on this was completed. No mention was made of any dissatisfaction with Saunders's work.

Dr. Levine was summoned while Saunders was still in Condon's office. Saunders offered to stay. Low rose from his chair and physically ushered him out the door. Levine was unnerved by the forcible ejection of Saunders. Again, the questioning went straight to the memo. Levine said that he was at the Denver meeting when the memo was given to McDonald. He understood there was nothing whatever confidential about the memo, and did not see anything wrong with the action. Condon asked why Levine had not brought the memo to him, and Levine said that Condon's public and private statements had indicated that there was little likelihood of effective communication. He told Condon that Low had slammed the door in his face when he brought up the handling by Low of an Edwards Air Force Base case, and recalled that Condon himself had suggested that Levine call in sick when he was scheduled to make a talk at Colorado's High Altitude Observatory.

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“the trick would be” to “appear” objective

On September 18, Condon, Low and Saunders met for the first time in many weeks. As a result of his reading of the memo, Saunders was deeply concerned about the negative approach to the UFO problem. It would be easy, he felt, to concentrate on the nut-and-kook cases and persuasively eliminate any serious consideration of the real problem.

The meeting went on for three hours. Low did most of the talking. Condon seemed tired. Low's position was that Saunders was sticking his nose into something that was none of his business. Condon's position was that he didn't understand what Saunders was talking about.

Saunders was led to believe that if by chance the Extra Terrestrial Intelligence (ETI) hypothesis was substantiated, the announcement would be sent by Condon directly to the Air Force and the President, and never be allowed to go to the public. This troubled him, because Saunders had been given a clear understanding that the report would go first to the National Academy of Sciences, then to the public and Air Force simultaneously. Saunders felt he could not let the problem drop. Another meeting was agreed to.

At this point, Keyhoe suddenly sent word that NICAP was going to take a strong stand against the Condon committee and no longer would supply material and reports. The reason, Keyhoe said, was a new speech made by Condon at the Atomic Spectroscopy Symposium at Gaithersburg, Md., on September 13, 1967. A report of the new Condon speech had already reached Dr. McDonald in a letter from a colleague at the University of Arizona, William S. Bickel, assistant professor of physics on the campus.

“... Dr. Condon's speech was funny and entertaining,” Bickel wrote. “But to me, it was also disappointing and surprising. Dr. Condon emphasized mostly funny things. He told of an offer made to him by a contactee, who, for a sizable sum deposited in the right bank, would introduce him to a UFO crew. . . . He told how he tracked the case down and concluded

that it was very likely a hoax. . . . My feelings about UFO's are similar to those of many people—I don't know what they are, I believe people are seeing real things, and I believe a scientific attack on the problem will solve the mystery—whatever they are. . . . The net effect of Dr. Condon's talk was zero, if not negative. . . .”

In reply to Bickel, McDonald wrote, “. . . The crackpots are so immediately recognizable that one need not waste any time at all on them. . . . I fail to understand why a scientific group should be given an address by any member of the Colorado team on the topic of the crackpot fringe. . . .”

Word came from Keyhoe that he was drafting a long letter to the Colorado study group, and NICAP would reconsider its cooperation only if the answers to a list of questions were satisfactory.

On September 27, the *Rocky Mountain News* (Denver, Colo.) published this headline: UFO RESEARCH CHIEF AT CU DISENCHANTED. Condon was quoted as saying: “I'm almost inclined to think such studies ought to be discontinued unless someone comes up with a new idea on how to approach the problem. . . . The 21st century may die laughing when it looks back on many things we have done. This [the UFO study] may be one.”

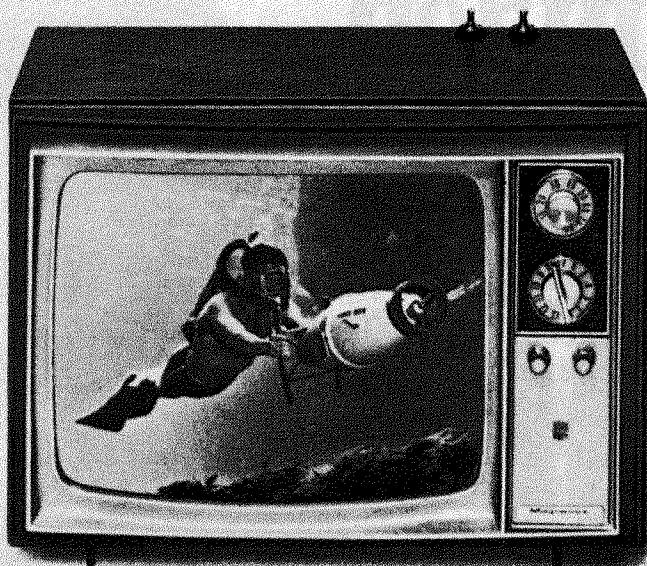
The majority of the staff began exploring several proposals, including the possibility of the entire staff resigning en masse or issuing a press release or a minority report. Another proposal was the establishment of an independent scientific group to explore the rational sighting reports and eliminate the crackpot-fringe static. There was general agreement that an objective study of the UFO problem should be made and that accurate and unbiased findings should reach the National Academy of Sciences, the public and the Air Force. A confrontation with Low and Condon was arranged. Condon expressed regret that his statements had appeared in the press. Several members of the staff told of their concern that the content and form of the final report would reflect what they now felt was

continued

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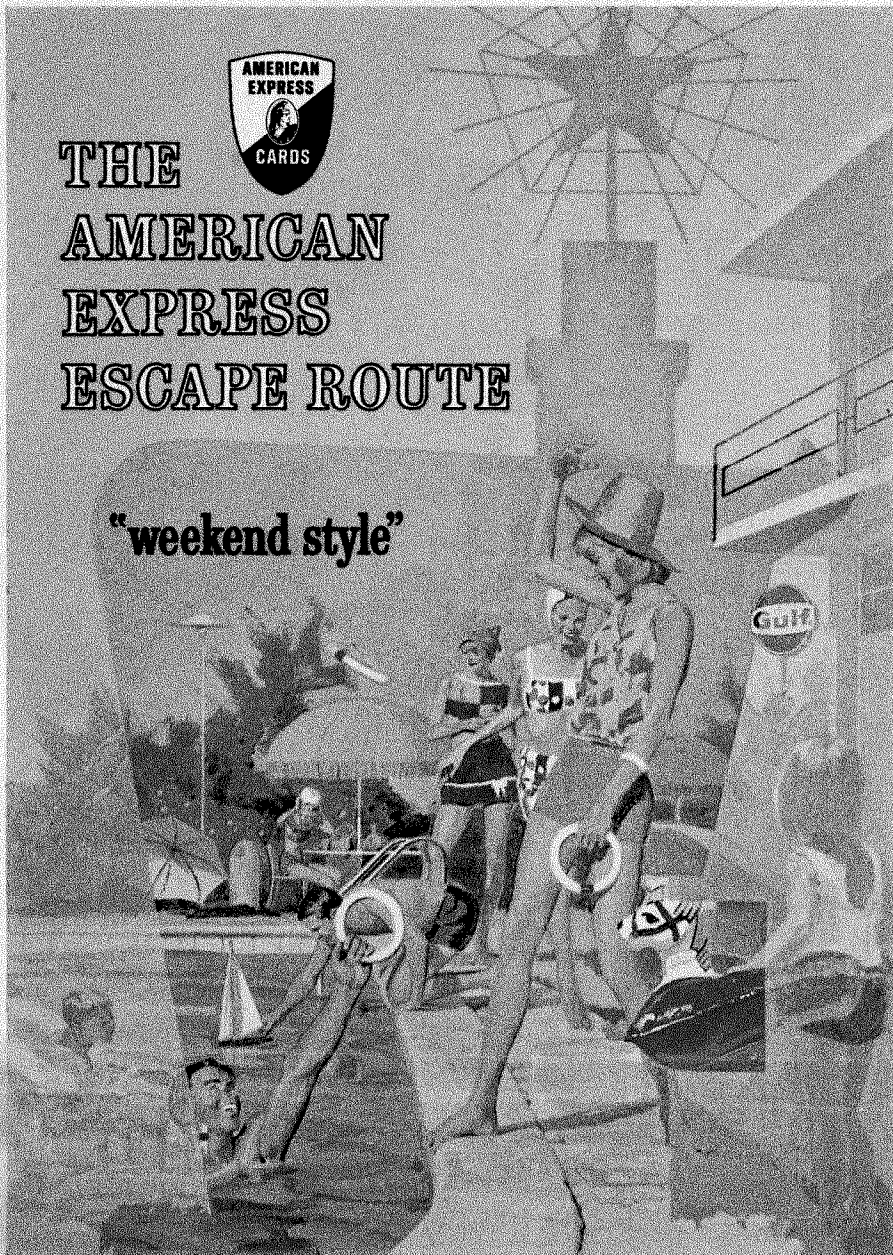
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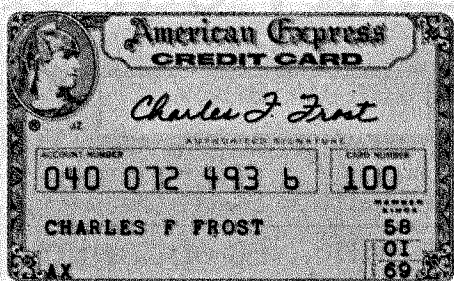
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SAUCER FIASCO CONTINUED

A startling memo from Robert Low said

before he reported it. He bristled. He knew that Condon had not yet investigated any field cases personally, nor had any members of the staff completed any meaningful research. The project was only three months old. "I have to admit," Keyhoe told David Saunders, a key staff member, "that I'm shocked by these statements. Is this a scientific investigation or isn't it?"

Condon wrote Keyhoe that some of his remarks had been taken out of context. NICAP then issued this statement: "Although we retain some reservations about the impressions of Dr. Condon's attitudes conveyed through some press accounts, we find no reason to go along with the skeptics who interpret the project merely as the latest gambit in an Air Force propaganda campaign. Having met most of the scientists involved, we are generally satisfied with their fair-mindedness and their thorough plans. . . ."

The NICAP cooperation made it possible to establish an Early Warning System, and staff investigators were now being dispatched for field reports. Saunders gave particular attention to field surveys, as well as to the development of a master casebook and staff discussions of major cases. Low was giving the staff members considerable leeway in the approach they were taking. Condon, with his office some distance away, did not appear frequently, and some of the staff felt that it was often frustrating to try to reach him. During this time, it seemed to some of the staff that several potentially interesting cases were turned down for investigation by Low for what were apparently specious reasons.

Another scientific investigator, Dr. Norman Levine, joined the project and immediately became aware of the strained atmosphere developing between Low and several members of the staff. Condon himself was heard to say that he wished the project could give the money back.

A senior member of the staff who was asked to make a speech before a teachers association began looking for specific details on the origin of the project. He was told that he might find some information in the open-files folder under the heading AIR FORCE CONTRACT AND BACKGROUND. The relaxed open-file system was part of a general overall policy to keep the project out of the cloak-and-dagger category. (In a later memo, Low said: "The key point to keep in mind, it seems to me, is that our own files are not secure, they are not confidential, they can't be kept confidential, nor should they be. . . . It is inconsistent with the purposes of a university to keep confidential any records of research activity—or any other records for that matter.")

The staff member found most of the material about the contract rather dull going, but one memo, written by Low to university officials on August 9, 1966, contained a few fresh details. The memo, labeled "Some Thoughts on the UFO Project," had been written before the contract was signed. In it, Low said: "... Our study would be conducted almost exclusively by non-believers who, although they couldn't possibly *prove* a negative result, could and probably would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of non-believers trying their best to be objective, but having an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer. One way to do this would be to stress investigation, not of the physical phenomena, but rather of the people who do the observing—the psychology and sociology of persons and groups who report seeing UFO's. If the emphasis were put here, rather than on examination of the old question of the physical reality of the saucer, I think the scientific community would quickly get the message. . . . I'm inclined to feel at this early stage that, if we set up the thing right and take pains to get the proper people involved and have success in presenting the image we want to present to the scientific community, we could carry the job off to our benefit. . . ."

When Levine read the memo, he was disturbed by the word "trick" and the phrase about making the investigation "appear a totally objective study" to the public. Others on the staff had a similar reaction.

Many staff members were also disturbed by the news that Condon had decided to attend the June Congress of "Ufologists" in New York. This was a convention of far-out supporters of undocumented and highly colorful UFO sightings.

LEGISLATIVE

"U.F.O."

(Lore, Gordon I. R. Jr.)

May 13, 1968

Mr. Gordon I. R. Lore, Jr.
Assistant Director
National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena
1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Lore:

Many thanks for your recent letter and the enclosures including a letter to the President concerning the investigation of unidentified flying objects.

I can assure you that I share your concern and am disturbed by the recent article in the Look magazine relative to the investigation of UFOs at the University of Colorado. I sincerely hope that the investigation will prove to be worthwhile.

May I thank you again for keeping me informed of your committee's work on this subject. Your information and assistance is appreciated.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

Dorally

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

MAJOR DONALD E. KEYHOE
USMC (RET.) DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
1536 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W.

GORDON I. R. LORE, JR.
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE: (202) 667-9434

May 1, 1968

The Honorable Gerald Ford
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman Ford:

You may be aware of recent news stories and a LOOK magazine article entitled "Flying Saucer Fiasco" in the 14 May 1968 edition concerning the failure of the official University of Colorado UFO Project to carry on an impartial, objective investigation.

In a press conference on 30 April, our organization revealed the documented evidence behind this failure, particularly a memorandum by Project Coordinator Robert Low which stated, in part, that the Colorado "study would be conducted almost exclusively by nonbelievers, who, although they couldn't possibly prove a negative result, could and probably would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of nonbelievers trying their best to be objective but having an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer..." This memo (copy enclosed) was written before the start of the project on November 1, 1966.

NICAP, the world's largest full-time civilian organization seriously investigating UFO reports in a scientifically-oriented manner, feels that it is extremely important that the public does not lose confidence in any future government projects that may arise in this area. Therefore, we have submitted a letter to the President (copy enclosed) requesting a commission of impartial scientists to objectively look into the subject.

On April 30, Congressman J. Edward Roush (D-Indiana), on the House floor, called for a Congressional investigation of UFO's, decrying the failure of the Colorado Project and stating that we are "\$500,000 poorer" in our official knowledge of the subject. Mr. Roush plans to present his case before the House again today (1 May) and has written the Secretary of the Air Force, the Chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee, the Chairman of the Science and Astronautics Committee and the Comptroller General in an attempt to elicit their support. NICAP has offered him its full support and its extensive files of approximately 12,000 UFO reports, of which at

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least 3,000 to 4,000 remain unexplained.

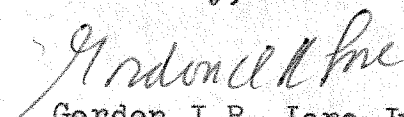
On October 17, 1967, Congressman Louis Wyman (R-NH) submitted House Resolution 946, calling for the Science and Astronautics Committee to impartially investigate UFO's. We likewise offered our full cooperation to Mr. Wyman. Other members of Congress have also expressed interest in an objective investigation.

NICAP has worked closely with the University of Colorado Project, supplying it with hundreds of detailed, carefully investigated reports, of which only about one percent were further checked by Colorado officials. When we became aware of the internal dissensions on the Project and the fact that it was definitely leaning toward a negative, subjective conclusion, we ended our support. Now, however, we offer our full support and files to you and any other members of Congress, Committee or Subcommittee, that may be interested in delving into this important area in a scientific and objective manner. We feel that such an investigation is of the utmost importance and that the public be kept fully informed.

Based upon its more than 11 years of extensive investigation, NICAP feels that the most reasonable hypothesis is that UFO's are of extraterrestrial origin. Therefore, we think that further expenditures in an attempt to solve this perplexing problem would be well spent.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any help you may desire.

Sincerely,



Gordon I.R. Lore, Jr.
Assistant Director

GIRL:adb
ENCLOSURES

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

Phone: 667-9434

For Release: 6 p.m. EDT, Apr. 30, 1968

NICAP CALLS COLORADO UFO PROJECT FAILURE

In a report to The President, the National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) today submitted evidence of what it labeled "grave deficiencies" in the University of Colorado UFO project which was arranged by the Air Force. Copies of the reported evidence also were made public at a Washington press conference.

NICAP, a private UFO fact-finding organization with several hundred scientific and technical advisors, has broken relations with the Colorado study after 17 months of cooperation.

Reasons for the break, as stated in a letter to The President, include the following charges:

1. Dr. E. U. Condon, project head, has never made a field investigation of a UFO sighting, nor interviewed responsible witnesses, although he is named in the Air Force contract as chief principal investigator.
2. Dr. Condon summarily discharged two Project scientists for revealing written proposals by Project Coordinator Robert J. Low that the Colorado Project be represented to the public as "totally objective", when in fact it would be constituted almost entirely of non-believers, with "an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer".
3. Dr. Condon and Mr. Low both refused, in writing, to answer NICAP questions as to whether the Project was being conducted in a biased and negative manner. Dr. Condon also refused to guarantee he would examine any of the hundreds of NICAP-investigated UFO reports, submitted at the Project's request. Many of these, NICAP said, were reports from scientists, veteran pilots, aerospace engineers, control tower and radar operators, and other responsible observers.

(more)

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The proposals for handling the UFO Project were made by Mr. Low in a memorandum to Vice President Thurston Manning and other University faculty members, before the Air Force contract had been accepted. Mr. Low, who later became the No. 2 Project official as Coordinator, summed up some faculty members views as follows:

"In order to undertake such a project one has to approach it objectively. That is, one has to admit the possibility that such things as UFOs exist. It is not respectable to give serious consideration to such a possibility. Believers, in other words, remain outcasts...."

Mr. Low then stated his personal suggestions:

"Our study would be conducted almost exclusively by nonbelievers, who, although they couldn't possibly prove a negative result, could and probably would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of nonbelievers trying their best to be objective but having an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer...."

One way to do this, Low said, would be to stress investigation of the witnesses, to see why people report UFOs, rather than examining the physical evidence.

"If the emphasis were put here," he continued, "I think the scientific community would quickly get the message."

In the public USAF contract signed by Vice President Manning and Dr. Condon, an entirely different set of University of Colorado proposals was incorporated, including this statement:

The work will be conducted under conditions of strictest objectivity by investigators who, as carefully as can be determined, have no predelictions or preconceived positions on the UFO question. This is essential if the public, the

(more)

Congress, the Executive and the scientific community are to have confidence in the study...."

At the request of Dr. David Saunders, head of the project computer section, NICAP withheld its knowledge of Low's proposals because Saunders and other scientists hoped to persuade Dr. Condon to take a different approach and examine all serious evidence.

Early in February, 1968, Dr. Condon and Mr. Low learned that a copy of Low's proposals had been given by Saunders and Dr. Norman Levine to Dr. James E. McDonald, University of Arizona physicist investigating UFOs by a special grant. Condon fired Saunders and Levine, publicly stating it was for incompetence. The Administrative Secretary, Mrs. Mary Louise Armstrong, resigned in protest. Dr. Condon wrote Dr. McDonald and the president of the University of Arizona, demanding return of what he called "stolen" papers, but McDonald refused.

Shortly afterward, the story was given to author John Fuller for a LOOK Magazine article. The story in the May 14 issue includes a box statement by NICAP's Director, Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe (USMC, Ret.) outlining NICAP's long cooperation and the reasons for the final break.

In the report to President Johnson, Maj. Keyhoe wrote: "We sincerely regret the failure of the Project, to which so many people looked for a fully impartial evaluation, if not final answers.... We respectfully suggest, Mr. President, that the void resulting from the Colorado fiasco be filled as soon as possible by creation of a commission of capable scientists, selected by you and completely independent of any military or civilian agencies. We feel sure that scientists of high stature are available, with neither negative nor positive conclusions, but convinced that the UFO situation is serious enough to require total investigation."

(more)

Maj. Keyhoc suggested all major decisions of such a commission be by majority vote, and that the chosen scientists be recognized authorities on astronomy, aerospace operations, electronics and other fields involved in UFO investigation.

NICAP offered its full cooperation and told The President that more detailed suggestions from its Board of Governors, advisers and outside scientists would be forwarded as soon as possible.

#

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

MAJOR DONALD E. KEYHOE
USMC (RET.) DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
1536 CONNECTICUT AVE., N.W.

GORDON I. R. LORE, JR.
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

30 April 1968

TELEPHONE: (202) 667-9434

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We believe it our duty to submit to you the enclosed evidence of grave deficiencies in the University of Colorado UFO investigation, financed by the Air Force with \$523,000 of taxpayers' money, which was publicly and officially announced as a totally objective scientific study.

Our knowledge is based on 17 months of close cooperation, at the Colorado Project's request. During this time we briefed and frequently conferred with Dr. E.U. Condon, project head, Mr. Robert J. Low, project coordinator, and the project scientists. Our investigating subcommittees, located throughout the country, aided in the training and operations of Project field teams. From our thousands of UFO reports, we released hundreds of cases at the project's request, many of them verified reports by scientists, veteran pilots, aerospace engineers, tower and radar operators and other competent observers. To help the project weed out hoaxes and unfounded claims of meetings with extraterrestrial beings, we privately briefed its members. Project scientists frequently visited and examined information at NICAP, which is the world's largest UFO fact-finding organization, with over 300 scientific, military and technical advisers.

In the Air Force-Colorado University contract (copy enclosed), Dr. Condon was named as the first principal investigator. Despite this, Dr. Condon has not made a single field investigation. He has not interviewed any of the pilots, scientists, aerospace engineers or other competent witnesses in the hundreds of cases supplied to the project. This was personally confirmed to me and to NICAP Assistant Director Gordon Lore by Coordinator Low and several times by Dr. David Saunders, project scientist in charge of the computer section.

In a number of press interviews with Dr. Condon (copies enclosed), it appeared that he was strongly biased and was rejecting evidence of UFO reality. Some of the quoted statements included: "My attitude right now is that there's nothing to it... but I'm not supposed to reach a conclusion for another year." Elmira N.Y. Star Gazette, January 26, 1967. "This is like being chief of a fire department that only answers false alarms... The whole business is crazy." Sydney, Australia, Sun-Herald, November 26, 1967. "...There would be no sense in our checking into routine reports." Rocky Mountain News, October 8, 1966. "It is highly improbable that they

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(UFOs) exist." Denver Post, October 8, 1966.

In September, 1967, NICAP ceased transmitting UFO reports to the Project after we learned there was a split, with Dr. Condon and Mr. Low evidently preparing for a negative conclusion, and the majority of the scientists, including Dr. David Saucers and Dr. Norman Levine, strongly opposed. In a visit to NICAP headquarters, Mr. Low admitted the project split. In the presence of Assistant Director Lore and myself, he also confirmed that Dr. Condon had made no field investigations or questioned witnesses and added, "If he were to write a report today, the conclusion would be negative."

On November 14, I sent a list of questions to Dr. Condon and Mr. Low, stating we would resume transmissions if the answers were satisfactory. The questions (copies enclosed) asked if Dr. Condon intended to make any investigations, if he had examined any of the hundreds of NICAP submitted reports, and if the project was actually objective and impartial, as stated by university officials, the Air Force and Dr. Condon himself.

Both Dr. Condon and Coordinator Low refused to answer the questions.

Shortly after this, I was privately given a copy of proposals made by Mr. Low to University Vice President Thurston Manning and other university faculty members, discussing whether to accept the Air Force offer and if so how to handle the investigation.

In this proposal memorandum by Mr. Low (copy enclosed), he summed up some of the faculty members' views as follows:

"In order to undertake such a project one has to approach it objectively. That is, one has to admit the possibility that such things as UFOs exist. It is not respectable to give serious consideration to such a possibility. Believers, in other words, remain outcasts.... Our study would be conducted almost exclusively by nonbelievers, who, although they couldn't possibly prove a negative result, could and probably would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of nonbelievers trying their best to be objective but having an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer. One way to do this would be to stress investigation, not of the physical phenomena, but rather of the people who do the observing.... If the emphasis were put here... I think the scientific community would quickly get the message."

In the Air Force contract, signed by Vice President Manning and Dr. Condon, an entirely different set of Colorado University proposals was incorporated, including this statement:

"The work will be conducted under conditions of strictest objectivity by investigators who, as carefully as can be determined, have no predilections or preconceived positions on the UFO question. This is essential if the public, the Congress, the Executive and the scientific community are to have confidence in the study..."

At the request of Dr. David Saunders, we permitted our subcommittees to continue field-team cooperation, though we transmitted no further reports. Dr. Saunders explained that a majority group of project scientists still hoped to persuade Dr. Condon to take a different approach and examine all the serious evidence.

Some time later, a copy of the Low proposals was given to Dr. James E. McDonald, a University of Arizona atmospheric physicist who has carried out an extensive single-handed UFO investigation under a university grant.

Early in February, 1968, Dr. Condon and Mr. Low learned of this. Dr. Condon summarily discharged Drs. Saunders and Levine, who were chiefly involved in giving McDonald the document. In a press release, Dr. Condon stated the cause was "incompetence." The project administrative secretary, Mrs. Mary Louise Armstrong, resigned in disapproval of the firings and the handling of the project. Dr. Condon wrote McDonald and the President of the University of Arizona and demanded return of what he called "stolen" papers, but McDonald refused.

Shortly afterward, information about the firings, NICAP'S role, and the Low proposals was given to author John Fuller for an article in LOOK Magazine (copy enclosed). The article includes a box statement by me as to our long cooperation and the reasons for our final break with the Project.

We sincerely regret the failure of the project, to which so many people looked for a fully impartial UFO evaluation, if not final answers. We fear that public loss of confidence may make the project's report, being prepared by Mr. Low, of little value.

The most serious effect, we believe, is that Congress, the press and public may refuse belief in any further investigation arranged by the Defense Department, although we know of no evidence that the Air Force was aware of the negative proposals.

We respectfully suggest, Mr. President, that the void resulting from the Colorado fiasco be filled as soon as possible by the creation of a commission of carefully selected scientists, selected by you but completely independent of any military or civilian agency of the Government. From reactions to the Colorado situation, stated to us by NICAP advisers and outside scientists, we feel sure that scientists of high stature are available, with neither negative nor positive conclusions but convinced that the UFO situation is a problem serious enough to require total investigation.

We suggest that all major decisions of such a commission be by majority vote, that the chosen men be recognized authorities on astronomy, aerospace operations and planning, electronics, and other fields related to UFO investigations.

More detailed suggestions will be forwarded to you as soon as we study the opinions of our Board of Goernors, advisers and outside scientists. Meantime, NICAP offers any such created commission its full cooperation, including our massive evidence, and the assistance of our field investigators.

Sincerely yours,



Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, USMC, Ret
Director of NICAP

August 9, 1966

MEMO TO: E. James Archer and Thurston E. Manning

FROM: Robert J. Low

SUBJECT: Some Thoughts on the UFO Project

Jim and Ted:

I have pondered the UFO project and talked to a number of persons about it. Here are a few thoughts on the subject.

Branscomb is very much against it. Gordon Little thinks it would be a disaster. George Denton, likewise, is negative. Their arguments, combined, run like this: In order to undertake such a project one has to approach it objectively. That is, one has to admit the possibility that such things as UFO's exist. It is not respectable to give serious consideration to such a possibility. Believers, in other words, remain outcasts. Branscomb suggested that one would have to go so far as to consider the possibility that saucers, if some of the observations are verified, behave according to a set of physical laws unknown to us. The simple act of admitting these possibilities just as possibilities puts us beyond the pale, and we would lose more in prestige in the scientific community than we could possibly gain by undertaking the investigation. Little indicated you do these things sometimes if there is a real national need. You do them in spite of possible adverse consequences. But, in this case, there is no real national need. Branscomb compares the situation to Rhine and the ESP study at Duke.

Walter Roberts, on the other hand, very much favors our undertaking it. He tried to get Will Kellogg, who is associate director of NCAR for the Laboratory of Atmospheric Sciences, to undertake it. Kellogg is very interested and almost did. He felt, however, he was too committed to do it. Walt hopes very much that we will. He says that he has information that Colorado really is the first choice of the Air Force, that others have not been approached and turned it down. He thinks, contrary to Little, that there is a very urgent need to do it, and he feels that we will gain a great deal in favor among the right circles by performing a critically needed service. He said that we must do it right - objectively and critically - and avoid publicity and all that sort of thing. But having the project here would not put us in the category of scientific kooks.

Branscomb says it would be better if the National Academy takes a contract from the Air Force and then subcontracts the money to us to do the work. He feels it would look much better that way, and I agree. There are, however, measures short of this that would accomplish almost the same thing - i.e. having a very distinguished group of consultants and/or advisors, having a committee in the Academy to whom our final report could be submitted.

Comments:

The analogy with ESP, Rhine, and Duke is only partially valid. The Duke study was done by believers who, after they had finished, convinced almost no one. Our study would be conducted almost exclusively by nonbelievers who, although they couldn't possibly prove a negative result, could and probably

would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of nonbelievers trying their best to be objective but having an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer. One way to do this would be to stress investigation, not of the physical phenomena, but rather of the people who do the observing - the psychology and sociology of persons and groups who report seeing UFO's. If the emphasis were put here, rather than on examination of the old question of the physical reality of the saucer, I think the scientific community would quickly get the message.

There is another reason, it seems to me, to do this. Except possibly in a field like optical meteorology, I can't imagine a paper coming out of the study that would be publishable in a prestigious physical science journal. I can quite easily imagine, however, that psychologists, sociologists, and psychiatrists might well generate scholarly publications as a result of their investigations of the saucer observers.

I have not, of course, heard the story presented by the Air Force people. That comes Wednesday morning, the 10th. Ed Condon and Will Kellogg have heard it, however, and they say the project is presented in a very reasonable light.

It is premature to have much of an opinion, but I'm inclined to feel at this early stage that, if we set up the thing right and take pains to get the proper people involved and have success in presenting the image we want to present to the scientific community, we could carry the job off to our benefit. At least, it ought not be rejected out of hand.

Notes:

Walt Roberts pledged NCAR's cooperation and assistance, especially in optical meteorology, a very thinly populated field in the U.S. (in Boulder it is represented only at NCAR).

The University persons who have expressed an interest in the project so far are chief types. We'll have to be sure, if we take on the work, that we can find properly qualified people who will actually do the work.

END OF MEMO

:kn

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

Director, Maj. Donald E. Keyhoc (USMC, Ret.); Asst. Dir., Gordon I.R. Lore, Jr.

NICAP POSITION PAPER

NICAP, incorporated in 1956 in the District of Columbia, is the world's largest full-time, non-profit, civilian organization whose purpose is the scientific investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs).

Thirty-six NICAP Subcommittees in various parts of the U.S. and in Europe are composed of qualified persons in scientific, technical and investigative fields, who carry out local sighting investigations and submit their detailed findings to NICAP's Washington headquarters. Three Advisory Panels -- Aerospace, Science and Technology, and News and Public Relations -- are available for consultation and evaluation.

After 11 years of careful investigation, NICAP is convinced that the most satisfactory explanation for UFOs is that they are intelligently-controlled vehicles of extraterrestrial origin. This is based upon careful evaluation of over 12,000 reports, of which at least 3,000 to 4,000 remain unexplained, and the superior performance and unusual detailed constructions of UFOs.

NICAP has no interest in alleged connections between UFOs and religion, occultism, ESP, metaphysics or psychic phenomena. None of the wild tales of rides in spaceships and meetings with extraterrestrial beings have ever been authenticated, and NICAP feels this could be the single largest factor that has held back a serious, scientific look at UFOs.

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LEGISLATIVE

"U.F.O."

(Barrow, Robert E.)

May 13, 1968

Mr. Robert E. Barrow
4167 Cleveland Road
Syracuse, New York 13215

Dear Mr. Barrow:

May I thank you most sincerely for your recent letter and for your interest in unidentified flying objects.

As you may be aware, I have repeatedly recommended that thorough investigative action be taken and the public be informed concerning this subject. I had called for an investigation of this matter in the Spring of 1966.

I can assure you that I share your concern and am disturbed by the recent article in Look magazine relative to the investigation of UFOs at the University of Colorado. I sincerely hope that the investigation will prove to be worthwhile.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

Barrow

4167 Cleveland Road
Syracuse, New York 13215

May 3, 1968

Rep. Gerald R. Ford,
Member of Congress
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ford:

You may recall that I wrote you several times following the flurry of UFO sightings that residents in your state of Michigan experienced in 1966.

You are, of course, familiar with the University of Colorado project financed by the Air Force to conduct an investigation into UFO's.

As you probably know, the project has been terminated, and was found to be full of bias on the part of Dr. Edward Condon (Project Chief) and Robert Low (Project Coordinator). Look Magazine of May 14 exposed the story to the public. I received hints that the project was heading towards decay about two months ago.

Condon and Low, it appears, were intending to reach a negative conclusion right from the beginning, and were unconcerned with investigating important cases supplied to them by NICAP and other sources.

I hope you will do everything possible to have this matter investigated by Congress. I know that you are legitimately concerned with an honest UFO investigation and will agree that, because there was such a sharp division of opinion among project scientists on UFO reality, the UFO subject is still in need of further inquiry. Although Dr. Condon will still be releasing his report around September, it is clear to me that its contents will be totally worthless from a scientific viewpoint. Please let me hear from you; your interest is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Barrow
Member, NICAP

LEGISLATIVE

"U.F.O."

(Aho, Wayne S.)

May 13, 1968

Mr. Wayne S. Aho
Post Office Box 349
Duvall, Washington 98019

Dear Mr. Aho:

Thank you for your recent letter with the enclosures and for your continued interest in the investigation of unidentified flying objects.

I can assure you that I share your concern and am disturbed by the recent article in Look magazine relative to the investigation of UFOs at the University of Colorado. I sincerely hope that the investigation will prove to be worthwhile.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Dr. Aho

P.O. Box 349
Duvall, Wash 98019
May 3, 1968

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Minority Leader, Congressman from Michigan
The Capitol, Wash. D.C.

Dear Congressman Ford,

I call your attention to the fact that Look publications is presenting a Feature story in their coming issue on the Piasco at the University of Colorado, Dr Condon Committee on Flying Saucer Research. You will be very much interested in this because of your awareness of what went on in the committee hearings, Armed Forces committee, which brought about this Dr Condon Committee. It seems to me that Congress should ask many questions both of the Air Force and the Dr Condon Committee. It seems that there is a tendency to completely obscure research on UFO in the United States although any scientist would know and recognize the true value of 'know how' in this field. There is also a tendency on the part of the Condon Committee to cooperate with or 'push ahead' research and developments in the Soviet Union. Why is this? Are the soft security ratings for Dr Condon true after all as earlier reported in the press. Is this in a sense 'espionage' on the UFO front. These answers should be forthcoming.

The United States as a nation has long failed to recognize the importance of UFO, their existence, their value to the future of the civilization. Any clear thinking person can find for himself that they do exist, that countless experiences have occurred both with Americans and other peoples. Why is it so hard to get the facts out into the open?

We sincerely ask that Congress take the initiative NOW and get the ball rolling for sure. We have already waited too long, been content with too many denials and hold back of the truths in this field.

You, Congressman Ford, have shown your courage before and taken forthright action, we ask you to do it again for the good of the nation and the people.

Most sincerely,

Wayne S. Aho
Wayne S. Aho
Researcher into UFO
Lecturer

P.S. The enclosures are going to every Senator and every Congressman, many have already received their copies which we began to mail in April. wsa

Committee for True UFO Investigation
P.O. Box 349, Duvall, Washington 98019
April 15, 1968

Dear Member of Congress,

For twenty and more years, and ever since the first Atomic bomb was exploded on earth, citizens of every country have seen Unidentified Flying Objects, often called 'Flying Saucers' in great numbers, all over the world. The United States Congress and the President has exempted itself from responsibility to bring the facts into the open by relegating answers and investigation to the United States Air Force. The United States Air Force has been impeded by tight security regulations and has given generally noncommittal answers in reply to millions of queries from the public.

Now the time has come when the Congress, the President can no longer step aside, the responsibility must be faced!

Russia, the nation most reluctant to admit UFO has now taken the world lead in calling for an international investigation. They say the UFO have been on their radar for twenty years. The Condon committee at the University of Colorado, which the Air Force recommended and which Congress has allowed \$500,000 for the purpose of giving us some badly needed answers has developed a good neighbor policy with the Soviet Union and a close liaison with the Russian UFO commission. (Roscoe Drummond, Washington, D. C. Dec/67) A former Soviet Air Force General, a member of that commission, Ponfifi A. Stolyaroy, has been invited by the Condon committee to see our material and techniques used for UFO investigation as a guest of the Condon committee. The Condon group has announced delays and a hold-back of any reports or information to the American people, the Russian go-ahead has taken place and the Soviets have quickly taken the world lead in announcements, pronouncements and explanations of UFO. They have come within a breath of saying it represents inter-planetary visitation and observation, a truth which countless American investigators believe we should have admitted long ago. The U. S. Air Force still has a Major in charge of UFO programs at Wright Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio, helped by a small staff. We have never assigned our best and most qualified scientists nor made our best effort on UFO, nor have solid answers been given to the citizens.

Investigation will prove and history will record that Americans have been punished and have suffered deeply and severely from UFO denials and hold-back of information.

Citizens have been denied their freedom in a number of ways as a reward for their insistence of having seen UFO. This includes various kinds of confinement, or methods, for periods of time numbering from days to many years. A number of persons, including policemen have lost jobs and employment for seeing, following and reporting UFO.

Air Force Officers in uniform have intimidated and frightened witnesses, UFO sighters, have confiscated pictures, film, slides, both still and motion pictures of UFO.

A number of other wrongs have occurred because of government unwillingness to recognize UFO reality, announce this fact and bring about proper and full research.

IT IS TIME TO END THIS INJUSTICE FOR ALL TIME! Surely Congress and the President can see the value of gaining sure and true space technology, and the great savings of expenditures that would be involved, what an exchange of culture and ideas would bring to earth in this time of great crisis and need. Let us take affirmative and positive steps toward this end, immediately.

Most sincerely,

Wayne S. Aho

Wayne S. Aho, former U.S. Army
Combat Intelligence Major, Lecturer

Mrs. Lenora Croft

Mrs. Lenora Croft, Lecturer

Enclosures:

Grass roots petition for new laws
News item, Missoulian, Mar.28/68

Elizabeth D. Mann	108 6th Ave	Soap Lake, Wash	
Charles N. Young	136 D St NE	Ephrata, Wash.	
A. L. Hodges	247 E S.W.	Ephrata, Wash 98823	
Mrs. A. L. Hodges	247 E St S.W.	Ephrata, Wash	98823
Jerry B. Allen		Coulee City, Wash.	
Lyle A. Jensen	125 Ephrata Ave.	Soap Lake, Wash	
H. L. Richardson	46 St S.E.	Ephrata, Wash.	
Barbara Jensen	125 Ephrata Ave	Soap Lake, Wash.	
Leo L Jarvis	330 9th St S.W.	Ephrata, Wash.	
Eunice Hansen	235 C S.W.	Ephrata, Wash.	
Henry A. Hansen	235 C S.W.	Ephrata, Wash.	
Helen D. Pullen	Rt 1 Box 46	Ridgefield, Wash	98642
P. Zawisech	5914 NE 9th	Portland, Ore.	
Ardkin Whitel	7220 S.E. 85th	Portland, Ore	97266
Jane Button	8979 S.E. Division	Portland, Ore	97266
James N. Bender	726 NE 67th	Portland, Ore	
Beatrice Turner	13505 NW Thompson Rd	Portland, Ore	
Hazel Searcy	7225 S.W. 77th	Portland, Ore	97223
Nancy Bjornstad	2626 E 6th St	Vancouver, Wash-	98661
Walt Holmes	5807 S.E. Belmont St	Portland, Ore (15)	
Edith Dongal	2-- Simpson Ave	Vancouver, Wash	98661
Walter A. Dawes	4610 NE Emerson	Portland, Ore. 97218	
Robert C. Skinner	1302 NE Tillamook	Portland, Ore	97212
Marilyn R. Skinner	1302 NE Tillamook St	Portland, Ore	97212
Ellen E. Albrecht	926 NE 67th Ave.	Portland, Ore.	
Corá M. Oakley	107 Smith St	Mt Shasta, Calif.	98067
Virginia L. Thomas		Mt Shasta, Calif.	
C. J. Miller	Rte 1 Box 688	Mt Shasta, Calif.	
Luanne Pierce	Box 34	Castella, Calif	06017
Shirley Mintle	Box 247	Castella, Calif.	96017
Jan Perry	215 Sheldon Ave	Mt Shasta, Calif.	96067
Harold W. Baltan	600 Chestnut St	Mt Shasta, Calif.	96067
Leta E. Simpson	P.O. Box 827	Mt Shasta, Calif.	96067
Mamie A. Yates	P.O. Box 827	Mt Shasta, Calif	96067
Wally Roth	P.O. Box 34	Mt Shasta, Calif	96067
Marguerite N. Broenstrup	P.O. Box 868	Mt Shasta, Calif.	96067
Mrs Jeannette Dahlquist	Rt 1 Box 728	Mt Shasta, Calif	96867
Frances F. Howard	The Inn	Mt Shasta, Calif.	
Beatrice W. Miller	Rt 1 Box 575	Mt Shasta, Calif.	
A. B. Murray P	P.O. Box 786	Dunsmuir, Calif.	
Mary H. Miller	Rt 1 Box 688	Mt Shasta, Calif.	
Georgina Williams	115 Smith St	Mt Shasta, Calif.	96067
Irene Elliott	Sierra Rte	Oakhurst, Calif	93644
Douglas Elliott	Sierra Route	Oakhurst, Calif.	93644
Mrs C. Fred Wowan	769 E Robinwood Lane	Fresno, Calif.	93726
Shirley M. Saunders	1281 Maroa Ave	Fresno, Calif.	93728
Helen W. Kruger	4709 E Garland	Fresno, Calif.	93726
Clara H. Johnson	5873 E Herndon	Clovis, Calif.	93612
Richard V. Johnson	5873 E Herndon	Clovis,, Calif.	93612
Mrs Guy Shumaker	1111 Mills Ave.	Billings, Mont.	59102
Mrs Pearl Polesky	831 Miles Ave	Billings, Mont.	59102
Mrs Adolph Lang	324 Miles Ave.	Billings, Mont.	59102
Mrs M. J. Brown	228 Terry	Billings, Mont.	59102
Gladys Watts	527 Leurs Ave.	Billings, Mont.	59102
John Tracy	527 Lewis	Billings, Mont.	59102
Mrs. C. W. Christison	912 Miles Ave.	Billings, Mont.	59102
Mrs. A. R. Parsons	914 Miles Ave.	Billings, Mont	59102
Mr. R. H. Remington	915 Howard	Billings, Mont.	59102
Betty Schaefer	922 Howard	Billings, Mont.	59102

Certified True Copy of Signed Petition:

Walter J. Galt

PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, PERTINENT AGENCIES:

WHEREAS: Space is a Two Way Approach, we are impeding the flow of information without full recognition of these facts.

WHEREAS: Billions of dollars of expenditures are involved in our Space Effort, We may find great tax savings by a free flow of information.

WHEREAS: With proper recognition of the "TWO WAY" approach, we may get AN ASSIST from those already 'in Space'.

WE PETITION FOR:

1. Establish National Laws for going to and from Space and provide protection for all who are not inimical to the nation, it's interest and growth and the good of the civilization.
2. Establish a National Source for FREE FLOW of Information to the Public.
3. Establish a National Board of Inquiry for Collation of ALL SPACE MATERIAL.
4. Establish a NEW CABINET POST to deal with SPACE MATTERS and Space Visitation.
5. Gear the National Effort toward success in these matters by cooperation of Officialdom and the Public on all matters dealing with Space.
6. Establish Engineering Circles, College and Public Schools Cooperation, Student Councils and Study Groups to develop a nationwide two-way Space Effort. Knowledgeable people are able to cope with reality!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY AND STATE</u>	<u>zip code</u>
Walter Smith	154 23rd Ave	Seattle, Wash	98122
Spencer Wells	914 14th Ave	Seattle, Wash	98122
Curtis A. Chapel	1130 37th Ave	Seattle, Wash	98122
Michael Young	720 19th Ave	Seattle, Wash	98122
Ted Jordan	1330 Broadmore Ave	Seattle, Wash	98102
Cy Hefferman	3824 Ea Highland Dr	Seattle, Wash	98102
Rose J. Harson	734 Broadway Ea	Seattle, Wash	98102
Marie A. Rose	734 Broadway Ea	Seattle, Wash	98102
Wilda V. Norton	1319A Edgewater Lane NE	Seattle, Wash	98125
Helen G. Miller	7025 7th N.W.	Seattle, Wash	98107
Margaret Bump	1425 Ea Prospect	Seattle, Wash	98102
Frances Ott	844 NW 53rd	Seattle, Wash	98107
Ted Abernethy	7734 52nd So	Seattle, Wash	98118
John R. Abernethy	7734 52nd Ave So	Seattle, Wash	98118
Margaret Workman	23608 94 Ave So	Kent, Wash	
Virginia Yocum	1112 12th NW	Auburn, Wash	
Judi Thornquist	444 Riveria Dr	Renton, Wash	98055
Juanita Smail	23822 104th	Kent, Wash.	98031
Dennis R. Wilson	20634 84th Ave So	Kent, Wash	
Vicki D. Wilson	20634 84th Ave So	Kent, Wash.	
Durema L. Lind	7469 So 116th St	Seattle, Wash	98178
Fern G. Ekland	26413 135th SE	Kent, Wash	98031
Craig S. Eckland	26413 135th SE	Kent, Wash	
Bruce Urquhart	Rte 1 Box 933	Kent, Washington	
R. Carmack	1412 South 15th Ave.	Yakima, Wash.	
Blanche Cummings	8609 W Chestnut	Yakima, Wash.	
Pearl E. Cox	Rte 4 Box 332	Yakima, Wash	
W. J. Cummings	3609 W Chestnut	Yakima, Wash.	
Mrs Adolph Schiffner	1008 Tieton Dr	Yakima, Wash	
Mr and Mrs. Otto Stadler	3 No 45th Ave.	Yakima, Wash.	
M. D. Lannigan	201 W Main	Soap Lake, Wash.	
Donald R. Wood	Box 882	Soap Lake, Wash	
Einar V. Knivula	3594 East K	Tacoma, Wash.	
Harvey D. Mann	108 6th N.W.	Soap Lake, Wash.	
R. L. Frederick	936 Howard	Billings, Mont.	59102
Ralph N. Marcher	940 Howard	Billings, Mont	59102
Mr and Mrs James E. Freis	946 Howard Ave.	Billings, Mont.	59102
A. Clinton Oleen	905 Miles Ave.	Billings, Mont.	59102

A certified copy of signed petition:

[Handwritten signature]

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY



COME FLY WITH ME

Mrs. Lemora Croft and Maj. Wayne S. Aho display a model flying saucer similar to the ones they claim to have seen in recent years. The two, in Missoula for a lecture Thursday night in the Sentinel High School's Little Theater, claim that

nearly 20 million persons have witnessed vehicles from other planets in the last 20 years. Aho is a former Army major in combat intelligence. (Staff Photo by Bill Beecham)

Maj. Aho Claims Air Force Covering Up UFO Activity

By Bill Beecham

The U.S. Air Force is under orders to deny the existence of Unidentified Flying Objects and is misleading the public in attempting to disavow their actuality, a former Army combat intelligence officer said Wednesday.

Major Wayne S. Aho along with Mrs. Lemora Croft, lecturers who claim to have seen UFOs in various locations a number of times, are in the Garden City to speak in the Little Theater at Sentinel High School Thursday at 8 p.m.

The two, currently and fruitlessly attempting to get Congress to officially recognize the

problem of UFO, maintain that the Air Force is giving the people of the country the "run around" in the "vital area" of UFO and are only telling them information on a "need to know basis."

"Flow of information to the public has been squelched by Air Force regulations which say that personnel are forbidden to talk about the subject except on

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a 'need to know basis,' Aho explained.

"Because of this secrecy and because private knowhow and research has been held back by denial, the Soviet Union has now stolen the march on us again by a public and worldwide announcement calling for international investigation of UFO. They admit that UFO have been on Russian radar for 20 years. Is their radar better than ours?"

Aho and Mrs. Croft submit that the answer lies only in Congress recognizing and adopting "a two-way" space approach as "our attempt, recognition and admission of what other superior intelligences are doing in the interplanetary, interstellar field."

Said Aho: "Open public hearings in Congress are needed to put the information 'on record' and the United States should be the first nation in the world to officially admit UFO as interplanetary in light of the millions of sightings and experiences in the U.S."

The couple holds that at least 15 or 20 million persons in this country in one way or another, have had experience with "flying saucers" or "beings" from other planets.

Resident Creatures

The visitors, they say, are not necessarily from outside of our solar system. They said it is very possible for creatures or machines to have come to earth in times past and are most likely living among the population at this time.

Aho quoted U Thant, secretary general of the United Nations, as saying that "UFOs are the number one problem facing earth people next to the war in Vietnam."

He notes that many other leading scientists and government officials have sided with the "believers" in the field of UFO and that many more people would voice their beliefs if only the threat of being stigmatized were removed.

Mrs. Croft, a native Missoulian, believes it to be "quite possible for other beings to be living and working on this planet." At the same time, she adds that there are three reasons for the lack of information in the country; people are not geared in that line of thinking, they are too busy; public hearings should be conducted on all "sightings" of UFO and they should not be held in secret, and there should be "new legislation."

Duval

N/F/A

PO Box 349

Duval, Wash 98019

April 17/68

Writing from Libby, Montana

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Minority Leader, Congressman
from Michigan
The Capitol, Wash DC.

Dear Congressman Ford

You were able to get action on the UFO
question in the Armed Services Committee
The Air Force, backed to the wall, came up
with the Dr. Edward U. Condon recommendation
in spite of news accounts of a Soft Security report
on the Manhattan Project. The Soviets STO/100
A Bomb Secrets from the inside.

Now the Condon Committee has announced a
close liaison with Russia on UFO. See Enclosure
Russia has jumped to the world lead in
provocements in this VITAL area of human
affairs which U Thant calls Jud in the world
to Viet Nam. (I think it is NO. I).

Was this the intent of Congress & the
\$500,000 awarded Condon & the Univ of Colo - groups?
Action needs to come before Congress
adjourns, now, yesterday.

What can you do? The U.S. will
have a hard time making up for lost
time on UFO. Condon's group has released
NOTHING to Americans. The hour is late.

We hope you can bring action.
Note Petition please & most sincerely
Enclosures. Wagnor Saho
Veteran UFO Testifier

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Committee for True UFO Investigation
P.O. Box 349, Duvall, Washington 98019
April 15, 1968

Dear Member of Congress,

For twenty and more years, and ever since the first Atomic bomb was exploded on earth, citizens of every country have seen Unidentified Flying Objects, often called 'Flying Saucers' in great numbers, all over the world. The United States Congress and the President has exempted itself from responsibility to bring the facts into the open by relegating answers and investigation to the United States Air Force. The United States Air Force has been impeded by tight security regulations and has given generally noncommittal answers in reply to millions of queries from the public.

Now the time has come when the Congress, the President can no longer step aside, the responsibility must be faced!

Russia, the nation most reluctant to admit UFO has now taken the world lead in calling for an international investigation. They say the UFO have been on their radar for twenty years. The Condon committee at the University of Colorado, which the Air Force recommended and which Congress has allowed \$500,000 for the purpose of giving us some badly needed answers has developed a good neighbor policy with the Soviet Union and a close liaison with the Russian UFO commission. (Roscoe Drummond, Washington, D. C. Dec/67) A former Soviet Air Force General, a member of that commission, Ponfifi A. Stolyaroy, has been invited by the Condon committee to see our material and techniques used for UFO investigation as a guest of the Condon committee. The Condon group has announced delays and a hold-back of any reports or information to the American people, the Russian go-ahead has taken place and the Soviets have quickly taken the world lead in announcements, pronouncements and explanations of UFO. They have come within a breath of saying it represents inter-planetary visitation and observation, a truth which countless American investigators believe we should have admitted long ago. The U. S. Air Force still has a Major in charge of UFO programs at Wright Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio, helped by a small staff. We have never assigned our best and most qualified scientists nor made our best effort on UFO, nor have solid answers been given to the citizens.

Investigation will prove and history will record that Americans have been punished and have suffered deeply and severely from UFO denials and hold-back of information.

Citizens have been denied their freedom in a number of ways as a reward for their insistence of having seen UFO. This includes various kinds of confinement, or methods, for periods of time numbering from days to many years. A number of persons, including policemen have lost jobs and employment for seeing, following and reporting UFO.

Air Force Officers in uniform have intimidated and frightened witnesses, UFO sighters, have confiscated pictures, film, slides, both still and motion pictures of UFO.

A number of other wrongs have occurred because of government unwillingness to recognize UFO reality, announce this fact and bring about proper and full research.

IT IS TIME TO END THIS INJUSTICE FOR ALL TIME! Surely Congress and the President can see the value of gaining sure and true space technology, and the great savings of expenditures that would be involved, what an exchange of culture and ideas would bring to earth in this time of great crisis and need. Let us take affirmative and positive steps toward this end, immediately.

Most sincerely,

Wayne S. Aho

Wayne S. Aho, former U.S. Army
Combat Intelligence Major, Lecturer

Mrs Lenora Croft

Mrs. Lenora Croft, Lecturer

Enclosures:

Grass roots petition for new laws
News item, Missoulain, Mar.28/68

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, PERTINENT AGENCIES:

- WHEREAS:** Space is a Two Way Approach, we are impeding the flow of information without full recognition of these facts.
- WHEREAS:** Billions of dollars of expenditures are involved in our Space Effort, We may find great tax savings by a free flow of information.
- WHEREAS:** With proper recognition of the "TWO WAY" approach, we may get AN ASSIST from those already 'in Space'.
- WE PETITION FOR:**

1. Establish National Laws for going to and from Space and provide protection for all who are not inimical to the nation, it's interest and growth and the good of the civilization.
2. Establish a National Source for FREE FLOW of Information to the Public.
3. Establish a National Board of Inquiry for Collation of ALL SPACE MATERIAL.
4. Establish a NEW CABINET POST to deal with SPACE MATTERS and Space Visitation.
5. Gear the National Effort toward success in these matters by cooperation of Officialdom and the Public on all matters dealing with Space.
6. Establish Engineering Circles, Collage and Public Schools Cooperation, Student Councils and Study Groups to develop a nationwide two-way Space Effort. Knowledgeable people are able to cope with reality!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY AND STATE</u>	<u>zip code</u>
John Stewart	5809 Grand St NW	Bremerton Wash.	98310
Bill Kelly	4131 S Hi	Bremerton Wash.	98310
Mrs Lila Corbi	149 Lakes Blvd	Bremerton Wash.	98310
Ch. Dorothy G... ..	107 Lakes Blvd	Bremerton Wash.	98310
Mrs Mary Dow	537 Kendall Park	Oreland Wash	98310
Mrs. Lillian	Rt 477		98310
Mrs. Virginia Sutterlein	1620 South	Bremerton	98310
Mr. R. S. Shepard	5314	Bremerton	98310
Mr. Harold D. Lester	P.O. Box 25	Indiapolis Wash.	98342
Amy McCue		Bremerton Wash.	98310
Marian		Bremerton Wash.	98310
Lillian H. Horton	Rt. 4 Box 309	port Oreland Wash.	98310
Carol	12916	Bremerton Wash.	98310
Mrs.		Bremerton Wash.	98310

Authentic UFO Information is available! Write a personal letter to accompany your completed petition. This is a grass roots effort to find a solution in these matters and gain nationwide unity and cooperation. Make new copies of the Petition or write to Committee for a True Space Plan, Grass Roots Effort, P.O. Box 349, Duvall, Washington 98019 for more copies. Reports of your progress will be appreciated. Remember many individual letters to the President, Senators and Congressmen will help. Let's make this a real grass roots effort!

WTT need
July 4.
Wayne T also
mail calls

LEGISLATIVE

"U.F.O.

(Aho, Wayne S.)

December 11, 1967

Mr. Wayne S. Aho
Post Office Box 349
Duvall, Washington 98019

Dear Mr. Aho:

Thank you for your letter of December 7 with the attached petition concerning the investigation of unidentified flying objects.

As you may be aware, I have repeatedly recommended that thorough investigative action be taken and the public be informed concerning this matter. I had called for an investigation of this matter in the Spring of 1966. (Enclosed are some of the news releases which I issued at that time.)

As you also know, the Air Force has authorized a thorough and complete investigation of UFOs. This investigation is being conducted at this present time at the University of Colorado under the chairmanship of Dr. Edward U. Condon and we hope it will provide the public with all the facts we need about UFOs. I am looking forward with all other interested citizens to seeing the results of this important investigation. (Enclosed are two news articles concerning this current study.)

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

Encl.

Dorothy

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Congressman from Michigan
The House of Representatives
Wash D. C.
Dear Congressman Ford,

As an adenda to the enclosed letter and petition I would like to add the following.

The current Playboy Magazine, Dec issue carries a report from Dr Hynek, 18 yrs investigator for the U.S. Air Force in which he says he has lived in almost constant fear that any day, the New York Times might report that the Soviet Union has released the whole UFO story and import, (explanation). This would certainly put to shame the idea that we are a free and democratic country and also put to shame the 20 yrs and more investigation by the Air Force and other agencies. They beat us the same way, putting the first satellite in orbit, we slept through the preparation period altho our intelligence had the report a full year before. They read Playboy Mag in Russia too, I am sure.

The Congressional Hearing should demand and receive information current for years and years that we have actual spacecraft in captivity and have and are examining^{ing} the materials thereof. I believe this is true.

That every Aircraft Co. in America has a secret project to build UFOs. This should be done of course but why deny to the public all these realities? (as a free nation)

A full review of facts available will uncover many things that at present hold us back in space, space development and in the field of ideas, psychology of space, etc.

Most sincerely,

Wayne S. Aho

Wayne S. Aho

Lecturer, Investigator

Wayne S. Aho
P.O. Box 349
Duvall, Wash 98019



P.O. Box 349
Duvall, Washington 98019
December 7, 1967

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Congressman from Michigan
House of Representatives, Wash. D.C.

Dear Congressman Ford,

I hope this will be a timely letter to you and Congressional committees to forestall further delay in true UFO investigation. A number of things have come to my attention which would indicate we are not getting anywhere in current investigations for which taxpayers money is being spent. I point to the following:

American Legion Magazine...a quote from Dr Edward U Condon, Univ of Colo. awarded now some \$500,000. for a UFO work from Congress and Air Force. Dr Condon: "I doubt whether we will find any evidence of interplanetary visitation". This sounds like a foregone conclusion, not an investigation.

Fate Mag. quoting Dr Condon, treating lightly the information and report of Dr James D. McDonald, Univ of Ariz. Atmospheric Physics Dept. who has as much stature scientifically as Dr Condon. Dr McDonald had reported on his trip to Australia and the many reports given of UFO by persons there. The tenor of the remarks was "that not even a newsman could have talked to so many people in so short a time". Attacks such as this from a so-called scientific body tends to discourage others from giving reports. I have received mail from Australia to indicate that Dr McDonald had in fact been there and had contacted and talked to a great number of UFO oriented persons.

A number of things are happening in scientific and professional bodies today as well as in UFO groups, as well as continued sightings of UFO, in America and foreign countries. My recommendations are submitted herewith, as an investigator of some 20 years standing and former US Army Combat Intelligence Officer, Major.

1. Call in NASA, already interested in Space for a full fledged investigation that is continuous with reports to the public on continual basis. Why shouldn't the public know?
2. A Congressional and Presidential panel for constant supervision to arrive at full UFO reporting to agencies, universities, schools and the public.
3. A Congressional Hearing (to go into Congressional Record) of all aspects of UFO including sightings, radar reports, actual contact reports, information relayed to us.
4. Out of thousands of lectures delivered all over the United States, Canada and other nations since 1957, we have asked for a showing of hands, how many have had sightings and how many have reported the sightings to the Air Force or official agencies. Our investigation has borne out that only one in fifty to seventy five persons reports a sighting to the Air Force or official agencies, police departments., etc.

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PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Congressman Gerald R. Ford on UFO, Cont'd.

This confirms the Gallup Poll that as many as five million Americans claim to have seen UFO and confirms that a great gap exists between sightings and the collection of or investigation of sightings by the Air Force or any agency. Yet we call ourselves a civilization, interested in space and most available information, scientific and otherwise, passes us by because of denial, lack of comprehension, ignorance. What is referred to as 'the norm of this planet or life as we know it, a favorite term of many scientists, astronomers, may turn out to be a low level idiot! There is a need to raise the norm of this planet or life as we know it to a higher comprehension of the things that are, already evident to great numbers all over the earth.

U Thant in the United Nations has confirmed (according to Drew Pearson) that UFOs are the second major problem in the world next to Viet Nam. It may be the most important but not really a problem except to those that choose to deny.

The statement of U Thant, statements by Astronautical Society, Wash D.C. and the continued sightings and intelligence flowing to us indicate the need for a full fledged action along the lines of recommendations submitted in this letter.

Most sincerely,

Wayne S. Aho

Wayne S. Aho

Lecturer, investigator on UFO.

Enclosures: a copy of a recent petition with all of the recommendations of groups and individuals who have been studying UFO over a long period of time, a grass-roots effort.

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

A PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS and PERTINENT AGENCIES

WHEREAS: Space is a TWO WAY Approach, we are impeding the flow of information and progress without full recognition of these facts.

WHEREAS: Billions of dollars of expenditures, are involved in our Space Effort. We may find great tax savings by a free flow of information.

WHEREAS; With proper recognition of the "TWO WAY" approach, we may get AN ASSIST from those already 'in Space'.

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4. Establish a NEW CABINET POST to deal with SPACE MATTERS and Space Visitation.
5. Gear the National effort toward success in these matters by cooperation of Officialdom and the Public on all matters dealing with Space.
6. Establish Engineering Circles, Student Councils and Study Groups to develop a nationwide two way Space effort. Knowledgeable people are able to cope with reality.

NAME ADDRESS CITY AND STATE zip code

Mrs. Be Leonard 1777 Huntington Ave. San Bruno Calif. 94066
 Mrs. Marguerite Wade 935 Berkeley Ave Sunnyvale Calif. 94089
 Mrs. Ray Reed 4107 Beckwith Rd. Modesto Calif. 95354
 Ray Reed 4104 Beckwith Rd Modesto Calif. 95351
 Margaret Melander 300 A St Turlock Calif. 95380
 Ann Ferguson 224 Bolham Road - Turlock 95380
 Pauline Junker 38 Conrad St San Francisco Calif. 94131
 Marilyn Mount 4600 Caydale Rd. (Hwy 99) Elyria Calif. 94529
 Shirley Daves 1137 Green San Francisco 94119
 Eva Penn Gilbert 42076 Via San Carlos Fremont 94538
 Charles (Charles P. ...) Wtman Temple of the Rainbow Path Box 9051 Berkeley, Calif. 94719
 Elsa Bailey 13096 Broadway Terr. Oakland, Calif. 94611

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Authentic UFO Information is available!

This is a grass roots effort to find a solution in these matters and gain nationwide cooperation. Make new lists or send for more from Grass Roots UFO effort, 8 Smith St. Seattle, Wash 98109. Send us reports of how many names are sent to Washington D.C. Write to the President and Individual Senators and Congressmen as we intend to.

LEGISLATIVE

"U.F.O."

(Berner, Ralph J. Mrs.)

May 15, 1968

Mrs. Ralph J. Berner
38 Mill Valley Road
Pittsford, New York 14534

Dear Mrs. Berner:

May I thank you for your letter of May 12 with the enclosure and for your interest in unidentified flying objects.

As you know, I have repeatedly recommended that thorough investigative action be taken and the public be informed concerning this subject. I had called for an investigation of this matter in the Spring of 1966.

I can assure you that I share your concern and am disturbed by the recent articles in Look magazine relative to the investigation of UFOs at the University of Colorado. I sincerely hope that the investigation will prove to be worthwhile.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

Dowl

May 12, 1968

UFO

Rep. Gerald Ford
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ford:

The enclosed article from May 11th issue of Look magazine is in regard to the charges made by reporter and author, John G. Fuller, concerning certain happenings within the Condon Comm. of the Univ. of Colorado Project investigating the reality of UFOs, under contract to the U.S. Air Force.

It is one of the most shocking bits of evidence of bureaucratic meddling in the affairs of this nation. It is hard to believe that Congress and the press is by-passing this amazing disclosure of perversion of Congressional intent. You can be sure that Look's disclosure is not passing by the people.

It was charged that certain key individuals on the Comm. delib-erately set out from the start to downgrade the whole subject. Scientific objectivity was not part of their plan. Proposals were made, before commencing, to psychologically ridicule the sanity of witnesses of UFO incidents rather than study the incidents themselves scientifically. Two individuals were reported roughly treated by Condon and Low for objections to the negative approach of their leaders. One was told by Condon that he ought to be "professionally ruined".

The quoted memo from Robert Low, coordinator of project, made before the Air Force contract was signed, is a key item for all students of U.S. brand of democracy. Was this written attitude the criterion for Air Force acceptance of the Colo. group? Congress should definitely investigate this in depth. If it should develop that there was collusion between the Air Force and the Colo. team, in an effort to negatively suppress this whole subject, then a whole new set of questions arises. What is the nature of the group who directs the Air Force toward this effort? What kind of power do they feel they are operating under? Do they truly believe they are "the invisible gov't within our gov't, as has been rumored? How many members of our Congress have come to a helpless realization of their own real impotence?

If this should be the true situation, then our so-called "arrogant students in rebellion" are quite right. American citizens do not owe their allegiance to this kind of perverted government. We were not born to it, nor do we swear by it, or fight for it in any way!

Yours truly,

Margaret J. Berner

Mrs. Ralph J. Berner
88 Mill Valley Road
Pittsford, New York

11534

cc: Sen. Jacob Javits, N.Y.
Rep. Frank Horton, N.Y.
Rep. J. Edw. Roush, Ind.
New York Times

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

LEGISLATIVE

"U.F.O."

(Bateman, Frank F. Jr.)

May 24, 1968

Mr. Frank F. Bateman, Jr.
926 Stanfield Drive
Charlotte, North Carolina 28210

Dear Mr. Bateman:

May I thank you most sincerely for your letter of May 18 and your interest in unidentified flying objects.

As you may know, I have repeatedly recommended that thorough investigative action be taken and the public be informed concerning this subject. I had called for an investigation of this matter in the Spring of 1966.

As a result, the Air Force authorized the investigation presently being conducted at the University of Colorado under the chairmanship of Dr. Edward U. Condon. I can assure you that I share your concern and am disturbed by the recent articles in Look magazine relative to this investigation. I sincerely hope that the investigation will prove to be worthwhile.

Because of your interest I thought you might be interested in the enclosed copies of publications on unidentified flying objects by the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress and the Department of the Air Force.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:h

Encl.

Charlotte

May 18, 1968
926 Stanfield Dr.
Charlotte, N. C. 28210

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

If your busy schedule will allow, I would greatly appreciate your aid in answering several questions about the present UFO situation.

First. On October 17, 1967, Congressman Wyman introduced a resolution (H. Res. 946) calling for "a full and complete investigation and study of unidentified flying objects," by the Committee on Science and Astronautics. It would seem, however, that a wiser approach would

be to first have the Committee on Government Operations study the Defense Department policy and administration of that policy and then either recommend legislation concerning the administration of the policy (or even changing the policy) or ~~to~~ recommend a Congressional investigation of the phenomenon. These considerations aside, the more important factor is the mood of Congress. How would you describe the mood of Congress on the subjects of UFOs?

Second. Recently, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena sponsored an article in Look, by John Fuller, which stated that the University of Colorado Project to Investigate UFOs had in essence collapsed over evidence which indicated that the Project was a "trick" to fool ^{the} American people. What is the present status of the Project and will a Project Report still be published this fall?

Awaiting your reply.

Sincerely,

Frank F. Bateman, Jr.