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1968: Unidentified Flying Objects - Information (folder B131-27)
Gerald R. Ford Congressional Papers

MEMBERSHIP CONTEST REPORT

NICAP's summer campaign to enlarge its membership proved to be ineffective. With only one per cent of the membership entering the prize contest, less than a hundred new members were recruited.

Entries averaged a scant three a day, including renewals, which were also eligible. Speculation on the cause centered on the distractions of an election year, which tend to take much of the time and interest an individual might otherwise give to nonpolitical activities.

Five kinds of prizes were offered, but some went begging. No contestant, except two of the top prize winners, was able to secure ten entries, the requirement for one of the fourth prizes. Only three contestants were able to get the five entries required for the other fourth prize.

The one positive note was that all winners were affiliated with NICAP, either as members or investigators or some other kind of representative. The membership drive was open to all persons except paid staff members but very few outside NICAP chose to enter. Here are the winners:

First Prize: S. J. Larsen, Chicago, Ill.; Second Prize: R. S. Carr, Clearwater, Fla.; Third Prize: H. M. Gross, Harrisburg, Pa.; Fourth Prize: P. J. Rozich, Alliance, Ohio; R. P. Toczek, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. E. R. Zott, Montvale, N.J.

Winners have been notified by NICAP, and prizes are being prepared for shipment. The first prize winner will receive an original color painting of the UFO sighting of his choice, a ten-year NICAP membership and three autographed NICAP publications.

Even though the contest did not produce the hoped-for results, NICAP wishes to thank those of you who took the trouble of entering. We sincerely appreciate your interest and support.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

In the last Investigator, we announced we would enclose new membership cards with this issue. The purpose was to send cards to members who had renewed but still had their old cards. We had tried to send new cards to renewing members, but the loss of part of the staff, causing an overload on the rest, made it impossible to keep it up.

The fact that memberships expire throughout the year has created a difficult problem. The plan to send new cards to everyone, with this issue, was a stopgap step, but it meant also sending new cards to the majority of members who do not now need them. The added printing and mailing (matching each card with the right envelope) meant an additional charge at a time when we have to hold down expenses.

We are attempting to find an early solution. We may possibly get some volunteer help—until we can afford to add to the staff—who can check each renewer's record and put new individual code symbols on each renewal membership card. It may be we can devise a new type of card which will eliminate the renewal problem. In case no perfect solution can be found, we probably will have to send newly coded cards to everyone, which entails an expensive mass processing job besides matching the name and address on each card with the corresponding addressed envelope.

We apologize for not sending renewal cards at this time. Please bear with us and we shall try to find a satisfactory solution before the following issue.

REPRINT (Cont. from page 7)

charge for reprint editions has gone up, as well as postage, the price for members in the United States will remain \$5.00. This includes the charge for special expedited fourth-class handling, which NICAP will absorb to cut down long delays in delivery. The price for members in Canada and Mexico, including the special handling, will be \$5.50; for foreign members, \$7.00, for first-class mailings, since other mailings often take months. ALL OTHER FIRST-CLASS MAILINGS—IN THE U.S., CANADA, AND MEXICO, HAVE BEEN DISCONTINUED.

An order form is enclosed with this issue, for members unable to secure copies while the "Evidence" was out of print. We also suggest that a copy would make a good Christmas present for an interested relative or friend.

AF PROJECT REPORTS

The NICAP disclosure of long-hidden AF UFO reports, in our recent publication, "U.S. Air Force Projects Grudge and Blue Book reports," continues to have a powerful impact, convincing numerous skeptics who formerly rejected charges of AF-UFO secrecy.

Favorable mention of this NICAP publication during the recent Congressional UFO hearings brought it to the attention of legislators, scientists, members of the press and others present who learned of it for the first time.

Beside numerous AF-recorded cases, still bearing the original "Secret" or "Confidential" stamps, the publication pictures the puzzling and often contradictory situation before the new "dark age" of official debunking, which began early in 1953.

The contradictory views held by some of the AF project members are seen in salty comments on Dr. Menzel's views—disparaging the astronomer's attempted explanations of UFOs—and also in some unusual official comments on the effects of ridicule.

CONCEALED CASES

The once-secret AF project cases include reports by highly-rated observers whose sightings never were explained, such as an incident at Odessa, Washington, where an F-94 pilot had visual and radar contact with a rapidly maneuvering UFO—larger than any known aircraft—which for 15 minutes eluded the jet pilot's attempts to close in. . . . A UFO reported by a military and a civilian observer at Colorado Springs. Seen in midday, the UFO was described as a fast, round metallic-looking object, shaped "like two soup bowls put together." The unknown object, only 10 to 15 feet above the ground, was so close that the witnesses—listed by the AF as "reliable observers"—could see lighted ports or openings.

For over six years, NICAP tried to obtain the hidden AF Project reports. Since there was definitely one AF project report—Special Blue Book Report 14—we knew there must be earlier ones, though the AF constantly denied this. Finally, with the aid of the Moss Committee, we were able to get the reports. (They had been technically "declassified" in 1960—but not made available until the Moss Committee forced their release.)

The NICAP publication contains photocopies of the official reports, still bearing their classifications of "Secret" or "Confidential."

NICAP PRAISED

In the July 29 Congressional hearings, Dr. J. E. McDonald, one of the panel scientists, called this publication "One of the most significant and certainly one of the most fascinating of the recent additions to the UFO literature," adding that it confirmed the authenticity of the case material upon which NICAP's director and Capt. E. J. Ruppelt (former Blue Book chief) had drawn for their discussions.

Just after the hearings were adjourned, Congressman J. Edward Roush, the presiding officer, told the director that he fully agreed with Dr. McDonald as to the value of the publication.

We are enclosing an order form for this 240-page book, which is printed in the same format as "The UFO Evidence," with a blue cover.

The price is \$5.00 for U.S. members, and delivery will be expedited by "book rate special handling," for which NICAP will absorb the extra charge. This quicker delivery will do away with most of the previous fourth-class mail delays. Therefore the previous first-class rate of \$6.00 is discontinued.

Prices for members in Canada and Mexico will be \$5.50 (including special handling), and for members in other foreign countries, \$7.00 (first-class mail, to avoid long delays.)

Sufficient copies are on hand and a new mailing service company is prepared to mail out copies promptly, on receipt of orders.

THE U.F.O. Investigator

FACTS ABOUT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Published by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

Vol. IV, No. 8

September-October, 1968

THE COMING BATTLE OVER UFOs NICAP Preparing for Crucial Year of 1969

The Pentagon's national publicity campaign to exploit the forthcoming Condon UFO report is certain to set off a heated battle involving hundreds of opposing scientists, members of Congress, and many of the press and public already convinced that the AF-financed Colorado project was a fiasco, its leaders biased from the start.

In an unprecedented debunking plan, the AF is permitting Condon and Colorado University to publish the report in a hard-cover book and in a paperback edition by Bantam Books. It has not been disclosed whether the project and the university are to keep the royalties—in addition to the half-million dollars paid by the AF—or whether the university and the AF will split the money—or if the AF will take the royalties.

The AF publicity campaign will use extracts from the Condon report. A series of news releases, magazine articles and TV and radio programs is being designed to flood the country.

Reports to us from usually well-informed sources indicate Condon's conclusions will be, as expected, completely negative. It is said to evade most of the detailed, verified reports given the project—reports by astronomers and other scientists, veteran military and airline pilots, aerospace engineers, astronauts, missile and satellite trackers, and many hundreds of other competent, reliable observers.

Relatively few of the hundreds of high-quality reports were checked in the field by the project—and none by Dr. Condon. Coordinator Robert J. Low admitted to NICAP, in a Washington conference, that Condon had never interviewed any witnesses—except a few "contactees" claiming to have met spacemen—and that he had no plans for any field investigations or interviews, even with top-rated observers.

SUPER DEBUNKING

In summing up, the Condon report was described as a super-debunking job, accepting typical AF explanations for UFO reports and rejecting even multiple-witness daylight sightings fully confirmed by FAA or military radar. The report is said not only to reject all such capable testimony but to attempt to discredit and ridicule the observers involved and also serious UFO research organizations—especially NICAP (in spite of previous high praise for NICAP evidence and its investigations).

If all this is true—and our long experience with Dr. Condon and Coordinator Low indicates a completely biased report—then an explosive reaction is inevitable.

It is our sober opinion that an AF attempt to pressure the country into acceptance of such a report will backfire disastrously, by bringing some little-known details of the AF-Colorado project into the spotlight.

The criticism most likely to upset the AF-Condon publicity campaign will come from scientists disturbed over the Colorado project. In the last few months, a rapidly increasing number of scientists and engineers have offered us their help and support, agreeing to serve as advisers and on panels to evaluate NICAP evidence with true scientific methods.

One of the first results has been a Joint Statement by Scientists and Engineers calling for a Congressional probe and pledging support for a scientific study. (We lack space here, but the statement and the first group of names appears in "UFOs—A New Look." We shall give some of the details in the next issue.)

THANK YOU

We are very grateful to the members whose response to our financial-emergency message saved us from suspending operations. It was a close call—we hope it will never happen again.

We are sorry that this issue and the "UFOs—A New Look" publication were unavoidably delayed while we waited for sufficient funds.

At first, all the money received had to go into paying overdue taxes and back bills for printing and other vital services, all of which had to be paid quickly if we were to keep on operating.

In regard to "UFOs—A New Look," the printer's first estimate was increased more than 50%, and as previously announced we had to wait for enough orders to cover costs. However, the publication is now at the printer's, and to make up for the unfortunate delay we will pay to have all fourth-class book-rate mailings speeded up by "Special Handling," which the post office states is not much longer than first-class mail. (All those who paid for first-class mailing will of course receive this service.) We sincerely appreciate your patience.

During the wait, other timely "new look" material was added to the manuscript, which we believe will increase readers' interest.

Again, our fervent thanks—for the many encouraging letters urging us to hang on," and for the contributions and orders which made it possible.

The following steps have been taken to mobilize scientific and specialized talent to investigate UFOs: Start has been made on a National Medical Panel, doctors to provide medical examinations for UFO witnesses claiming physiological effects; later to advise on witness-screening techniques. Includes psychologists and hypnotists (Colorado Project made only one hypnotic test of a witness.) National network of engineers and physicists to suggest improved methods for investigation of E-M (Electromagnetic) interference reports, also general instrumentation plans. New NICAP-D.C. Subcommittee includes an astronomer, psychologist, other scientists, and engineers. Because of nearness to NICAP headquarters, they will serve as special Headquarters advisers.

Early next year, we expect to have over 400 such advisers—since hundreds already have offered their aid and the establishment of new panels is underway. Subjects to be studied are: reports of UFO radiation; possible methods of propulsion; questions of possible communication; E-M "blackout" reports; and others to be announced. An overall search for overlooked clues, aspects, is being planned, with attention to possible patterns or cycles.

Many, if not all, of these scientific-technical advisers will be asked to evaluate the Condon Report. We shall report their reactions—individually if they wish, or in an approved joint statement—as soon as they have had time to study the long report.

Even if the AF all-out debunking campaign leads to a violent controversy, we intend to concentrate on provable facts and documented records in any necessary corrections of Condon report statements.

THE UFO INVESTIGATOR

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A panel of Special Advisors, experts in fields of science, engineering, aviation, and other technical and specialized disciplines, assists with evaluations of UFO reports:

Please help us publicize NICAP's name and address. Often persons interested in joining NICAP are delayed in doing so because they do not know our address.

We are grateful to those members who send us newspaper clips of sightings or other interesting developments pertaining to UFOs. Frequently we fail to learn promptly of sightings reported only in local papers, or on local newscasts.

In sending us such information, please note the name of the newspaper(s) and also the dates. The same applies to broadcasting station reports, and in addition a postcard or brief note with the names of witnesses, sighting location, and key points of the sighting will be greatly appreciated.

Please inform us promptly of any change of address, so you will not miss the next issue.

ASTRONAUT REPORTS SEEING UFOs

Col. James A. McDivitt, command pilot for the forthcoming Apollo 9 lunar test mission, has recently confirmed sighting three UFOs while in space.

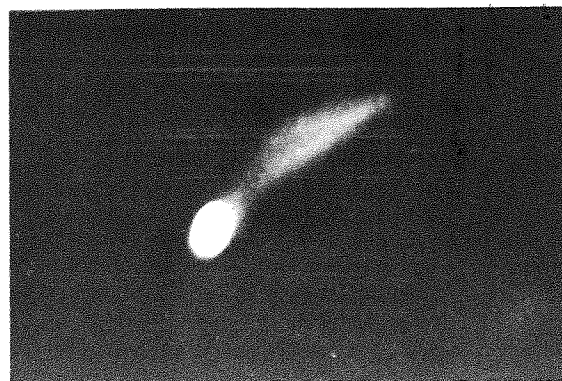
"They're there without a doubt," the astronaut stated at a press conference in Dallas, Oct. 5. "But what they are is anybody's guess."

The three UFOs were spotted during McDivitt's orbital flight on June 5, 1965.

"The first was simply a dot of light . . . that moved on a parallel course," McDivitt said. "The second was a white tubular device with a long pole sticking out of the end, and the third defied description."

During the second sighting, as the Gemini spacecraft was making its 20th orbit over Hawaii, Col. McDivitt photographed the unknown object. After the first public NASA report of the sighting, the AF said the object was an orbiting Pegasus satellite. This explanation was widely rejected because the distances between the Pegasus satellite and the Gemini spacecraft were too great.

In NASA's annual publication, "Astronautics and Aeronautics," the agency stated that the witness "was unable to identify . . ." the object, and other NASA statements have confirmed that it remained unidentified.



UFO photographed by Astronaut McDivitt

TRANSFERS IN SPACE

The Apollo 9 mission is scheduled for launching in February, 1969. The flight will be the first test of a lunar landing module linked to an Apollo spacecraft. The Apollo 9 is scheduled to be boosted by a Saturn V rocket into an orbit 270 miles above the earth. The astronauts will spend nearly 11 days conducting maneuvers and engineering projects, and testing the lunar landing module.

The first main operation will be to separate the Apollo 9 from the rocket's third stage and the module, after three orbits of the earth.

"We will dock the Apollo with the lunar module and release it from the third stage of the rocket," McDivitt explained. "The two vehicles lock together in orbit."

While orbiting at 18,000 m.p.h., McDivitt and his astronaut crew will experiment in transferring from the Apollo 9 to the module. This will be achieved in two ways, through the outer escape hatches and also through a connecting transfer tunnel in the nose of the spacecraft. The astronauts have been training for two years to accomplish this mission.

The Dallas Times Herald science writer, Bill Case, paraphrases a question put to Col. McDivitt: What comes after Apollo 9—which obviously is the final dress rehearsal of both men and equipment for an attempted moon landing?

"The possibilities are fantastic," McDivitt answered. "We're learning more from every mission—and the results from Apollo 9 could open doors we've never dreamed of."

RECENT SIGHTINGS REPORTED

Sightings by automobile executive Henry Ford II and a helicopter pilot in Vietnam highlight UFO reports of the past several months, which occurred in at least six states and four foreign countries. Characteristics include plane and vehicle pacings, light beams, an alleged photograph, and an object seen as a "fiery wheel."

A sighting by a group of Ford Motor Company executives reportedly took place on a recent flight from the Hemisfair in San Antonio, Texas, to Detroit, Michigan. Among the witnesses was Henry Ford II, grandson of the automotive genius most responsible for the development of the automobile.

"We saw something round and white," Mr. Ford stated, as reported by Bob Irvin of The Detroit News. "I don't know what it was, but it definitely wasn't a plane."

The Ford Company's Jetstar was cruising at 40,000 feet when a dish-like object was seen pacing the plane. Ford instructed the pilot to contact the Air Force to send up an interceptor, but "he [the pilot] didn't want to because he was afraid they would think he was a kook." Mr. Ford estimated that the UFO paced the plane more than 30 minutes.

Military personnel in every major U.S. conflict since the First World War have reported UFOs. The Vietnam war is no exception.

According to Beverly Deepe, Special Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor, an unidentified helicopter pilot and co-pilot kept a fast-moving UFO in view for 20 minutes over the U.S. Marine base at Dong Ha, Vietnam.

"It stopped and hovered over Dong Ha," the pilot stated, "and then it started flying backward, and finally it elevated like a rocket and zoomed away. All we could see was a white misty object with two green lights on it. My gunners were scared to death and radioed let's get out of here . . . I never believed in these UFO stores before, but I do now."

LIGHT BEAMS

UFOs that emitted light beams were seen in three states and an Iron Curtain country.

An international news service in Bucharest reported that, recently, "a group of excursionists" in Cluj, Rumania, saw over a forest a round object "that rapidly changed its position and direction." It also "emitted a powerful white light."

During the several minutes that the UFO was in view, pictures reportedly were obtained. The photographs were said to resemble those taken by Rex Heflin in Santa Ana, California, on August 3, 1965. The Cluj Astronomic Observatory stated that it had received UFO reports from other witnesses in the vicinity.

At 6:30 a.m., June 10, Miss Mavis Strickland saw four objects moving over Surfside Beach, Freeport, Texas. The first UFO, she said, flew at a "terrific rate of speed . . . , stopped, then zig-zagged . . . , stopped again, then disappeared over the horizon."

The second object was the "brightest and closest." It was zig-zagging south. Then it "straightened," zig-zagged again and stopped for about 15 minutes. During this time it emitted a red beam of light, then moved away.

The third and fourth UFOs also followed approximately the same zig-zagging pattern.

On the night of Aug. 16, Green Briar Lake, between Somerville and Collinsville, Ohio, was the scene of an object that emitted light beams from its underside. The witnesses were Deputy Sheriff E. V. Asher, his son, two daughters and his mother-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Harold McGhehey; Tucker Barnhardt; Jim and Elsa Stephenson; and Craig Stephenson, a member of the Green Berets special forces stationed in Vietnam.

The white, oval object, with a black spot at one end, was first seen coming from the southwest toward the lake. As it reached the dam at the southern end of the lake, it stopped, "flipped over," and showed "five brilliant white beams of light emanating . . ." from beneath. The beams, which appeared to merge at the bottom "into one large beam," began

"sweeping the area," reflecting off the surface of the lake. Then the UFO righted itself and disappeared.

A pilot and his four passengers also saw an object that emitted light beams between midnight and 2 a.m., September 30.

Dodge Stockmar reported to NICAP that he was piloting his Piper Aztec over Louisville, Kentucky, on a flight from Columbus, Ohio, to Nashville, Tennessee, when he and his passengers saw a UFO with a beam shining downward. The unknown object dropped to the plane's level and began pacing the aircraft. Exhibiting a pulsating light, it descended to a restricted area near Louisville and then disappeared as a delta-wing jet approached the area. The witnesses reported that the UFO sent two or three beams toward the ground.

On the evening of Aug. 19, three observers saw the same or similar object at two different times, from a housing development about two miles east of Phelps Corner, Maryland (southeast of Washington, D.C.).

At approximately 8:20 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. James H. Harper, Jr., were sitting at their dining-room table watching a lightning display following a thunderstorm.

"I saw a moving light upon the horizon," Harper told a NICAP investigator. "[It was] over the trees and . . . when it got to about the vicinity of Rosecroft Racetrack, it started to hover . . . We went to the balcony and watched it . . ."

According to the witnesses, the object was oval with a center band that had four or five red and white flashing lights.

Through binoculars, Harper said, lightning flashes seemed to be "playing around" the object.

"Long fingers of lightning . . . seemed to be . . . actually striking all around it," Harper reported, "illuminating [it] for quite a while . . ."

He said he watched through the binoculars as the UFO ascended on an angle and disappeared into a cloud cover.

Three hours later, a neighbor, Mrs. Gwen E. Donovan, saw a UFO from the same apartment complex. She first noticed helicopter activity in the area and counted seven of the aircraft.

"It struck me as kind of funny," she said, "because I had never seen so many in the sky at one time. . . Also, I noticed an object . . . I don't know what it was . . . I couldn't believe it . . ."

She stated the UFO had "flashing, circular lights." It remained stationary in the sky, then disappeared.

FIERY WHEEL

The following is a recent case, as reported to NICAP.

At about 6:35 a.m., August 15, Leonard B. Bartlett stepped outside his home in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida, to retrieve the morning paper, when he heard a "humming noise" and looked up. He saw a huge "fiery wheel" UFO, with the outside revolving around a "deep blue center." Bartlett estimated the object to be between 125 and 150 feet in diameter.

As the witness called to his son-in-law and daughter, Rev. and Mrs. Charles Blanck, "the UFO apparently flipped over and went straight up, leaving a vapor ring . . ."

"Then it hung in the sky for a few minutes . . . and simply appeared to 'fuzz out,'" Mrs. Blanck said in her report to NICAP, "the outline getting more and more indistinct until it was no longer there."

Reports of fiery-wheel objects date back to antiquity. The Japanese Kamakura scroll (12th-15th Century) depicts a wheel with eight spokes centered within a fiery ball. Objects with wheels were seen during the great airship mystery of 1896-7 and well into this century.

A sharply defined disc paced a busload of tourists between Terracina and Naples, Italy, during the latter part of the summer, according to the wife of a U.S. Air Force member stationed in Ramstein, Germany.

"We were about two hours from Terracina at 12:25 p.m., on August 22," stated Mrs. Kenneth W. Collins. "It [the disc] was flying parallel to our bus, over a field. It was metallic gray and had a dome top. It was moving in a slow, straight line. The underside had square windows . . . all around it and a small, round darker [spot] in the middle."

European Airlines Network

An impressive network of English and European airlines for reporting UFO sightings to NICAP is now in operation. Called EURONET, the network's founder and director is Julian J. A. Hennessey, member of NICAP's European Subcommittee. About 20 airlines thus far have agreed to participate in the NICAP project.

Among the participants are: British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC), British European Airways, Lufthansa, KLM—Royal Dutch Airlines, British United Airways Limited, Invicta Airways Limited, Caledonian Airways, Alitalia, Irish International Airlines, British Eagle International Airlines Limited, Icelandair and Iberian Air Lines.

Over 700 aircraft crews are participating in the project. The air route area covered is over half a million miles.

SIGHTINGS (Cont. from page 3)

Search For Hidden Sightings

We are aware that many good sighting reports—some of them cases with new, possibly significant angles—are not being publicized. Some reports by military pilots and personnel are withheld as a matter of official policy. Some sightings and UFO encounters by airline pilots often are kept quiet because airline executives usually are uneasy about possible passenger reactions.

There are still many business executives, scientists, lawyers, and other citizens in various fields who keep quiet because they fear that ridicule may hurt them, their business or their standing in their communities.

Though the number who speak out is increasing, there are undoubtedly hundreds—more likely thousands—of reputable, competent UFO witnesses who are waiting for a drastic change, a wide and serious acceptance of UFO reality, and an end to the ridicule.

Encouraging such reluctant observers to report UFO sightings publicly is one of the most important services NICAP members can perform to help speed a breakthrough. If you know of such witnesses, ask if they will agree to join with a group of reputable UFO observers in a joint statement and details of their sightings. If they still are reluctant, ask if they will give NICAP their reports on condition that their names are kept confidential. Often, confidential reports have filled in gaps in cases, or have enabled us to search for other witnesses, once we know of the hidden facts.

We know of several powerful cases which, if combined in a joint public statement, would jolt the skeptics and also official debunkers. We shall keep on trying to persuade such witnesses to speak out. Meantime, we urge that all NICAP members join in this search for hidden reports.

BRAZIL GROUP CONCLUDES UFOs ARE SPACE DEVICES

A semi-confidential Brazilian Colloquium on UFOs, reportedly attended by official military and intelligence personnel, has promulgated a resolution that declares UFOs to be of extraterrestrial origin.

Led by the president of the Brazilian Institute of Astronautics and Space Sciences, the Colloquium resolved that "a critical, scientific study over a period of nearly twenty years . . . allows us to come to the conclusion that flying saucers exist . . . (and) are extraterrestrial objects."

Noting that the UFO phenomenon is global in nature and inexplicable by current scientific standards, the Brazilian group recommended that the scientific community and the public give it increased attention. Government representatives at the Colloquium said there will be a constant exchange of information between private researchers and official agencies.

NEW PROGRAM FOR PLANETARY OBSERVATION

A strong recommendation in favor of increased planetary observation and exploration has been made by the Space Science Board of the National Academy of Sciences, in a report titled "Planetary Exploration 1968-1975," issued in July 1968.

In spite of budgetary problems, the Space Science Board panel stressed that more ground-based opportunities for the study of the planets are necessary if the spacecraft exploration program is continued.

The panel concluded that the application of new technologies now devoted to the study of the stars be "beefed up and turned toward the planets." It singled out the availability of newer and more sophisticated high-resolution radar and high-powered computers as two means of focusing more attention on planetary questions. The panel specifically recommended that:

- NASA initiate now a program of Pioneer/IMP-class spinning spacecraft to orbit Venus and Mars at every opportunity and for exploratory missions to other targets.

- NASA planetary program planning should be closely coordinated with Earth-orbital telescopes being designated for the 1970s and with infrared aircraft telescopes now under construction.

- Larger missions to Mars should include a Mariner orbiter mission in 1971, and a Mariner-type orbiter and lander mission, based on a Titan-Centaur, in 1973.

- Priorities be accorded to Mariner-Class Venus-Mercury fly-bys in 1973 or 1975, a multiple drop-sonde mission to Venus in 1975, and a major lander-type mission on Mars in 1975.

- Steps should be taken to facilitate analysis of data secured by the photographic planetary patrol.

- The NASA program of ground-based optical astronomy should continue to receive strong support, and opportunities for planetary observation be implemented by: construction of an intermediate-sized telescope in the Southern Hemisphere and construction of an infrared telescope with a very large collecting area at a dry site in the Northern Hemisphere.

THE CORRESPONDENCE BACKLOG

We should like to answer personally every letter we receive, but this has been impossible for several years. We dislike form letters as much as you undoubtedly dislike to receive them, but using them is unavoidable because of the flood of mail and our small staff.

The amount of NICAP mail varies considerably. During one peak period, we received over 2200 letters the first day, about 1800 the next, and on down to some 600 a day at the end of a week. It took another week just to process this mail (not answer it)—while more came in—and even the most urgent letters were snowed under by this huge backlog.

As a result, the director, assistant director and two of the staff have letters absolutely requiring detailed answers which have been delayed so long that the writers have naturally become annoyed at what seemed simple neglect.

Several times, we have put most of the staff to work on answering mail, in turn causing important projects to be delayed.

The only practical answer is, of course, a large enough staff to keep up with all the mail. We always hope this will come about, and if our application for tax-exempt status is granted we should have a sizable increase in income, enough for a moderate staff increase.

Meantime, starting with the next issue, we are trying out a question-and-answer column. We shall reply to as many questions as space permits, selecting those which we think will have the widest interest and appeal.

We shall continue to work on the backlog; meanwhile, we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding.

Panel to Study Occupant Reports

As a new approach to the problem of UFO "occupant" claims, NICAP has organized a panel of scientists to evaluate such reports. Cases submitted to the panel, or being prepared for evaluation, are mostly reports of sighting or briefly encountering alien beings, with no claims of communication.

However, to cover a wide range, the scientists have also been given some of the more fantastic reports, the type rejected by most people as ridiculous hoaxes or delusions.

The panel has been asked to give all these stories a fair examination. Even if they finally reject the more bizarre claims, their evaluations will be of value, especially for the psychologists on the panel. It should be possible to work up guides for the recognition of ordinary errors, delusions and deliberate fabrications.

A complete section in "UFOs—A New Look," covers typical occupant reports, some in full detail, which the panel is evaluating. They include: A 1968 report of two supposed alien beings seen inside the dome of a low-hovering disc-shaped device; two New Zealand reports of similar beings, one a low-altitude sighting by a missionary, Father W. B. Gill, and members of his mission; a close-range report from a reputable New England witness, describing two strange figures moving inside a hovering UFO . . . other simple encounter reports, and a few detailed, bizarre claims in a separate group.

Almost from the beginning of NICAP, we have been faced with the question of whether alien beings from a more advanced civilization have actually been seen by people on earth.

THE TWO GROUPS

Our general policy on this subject was stated in "The UFO Evidence" as follows: "As long as it is considered a reasonable hypothesis that some UFOs are space ships, it is logical to suppose that some form of contact with extraterrestrial beings is possible. . . . Our policy has been to quietly investigate the controversial cases to the best of our ability. . . . We readily concede that cases of claimed contact with, or close observation of, beings in landed [or hovering] vehicles demand the closest scrutiny. . . . These cases should not be . . . used to imply either that NICAP accepts them at face value, or that we are gullible. . . . We do not uncritically accept all reports. . . rather, when reports come from seemingly reputable people and are made with reasonable objectivity, we believe only that they deserve serious attention and far more thorough investigation."

Occupant reports can be divided roughly into two groups:

(1) The typical "contactee" story, usually claiming meetings with space beings and conversations or telepathic communications. Often the discussions are alleged to have a salvationist theme—the "visitors" being concerned over our problems on earth and hoping to save us from destruction.

(2) The non-contactee occupant reports, often made by persons known in their localities as intelligent and reliable. Frequently, these supposed observers avoid publicity—whereas the typical "contactee" seeks it via newspapers, lectures and TV and radio programs.

CASES FOR EVALUATION

In earlier years, even a hint of evaluating occupant reports seriously was likely to bring ridicule, because the press and the public often lumped even a simple encounter report with the wildest "contactee" claims.

In spite of this, NICAP has regularly examined both types of reports, some in full detail such as the George Adamski stories (although Adamski refused to let NICAP photographic advisers examine the negatives of his

"UFOs: A New Look"

As explained on page 1, NICAP's latest publication—"UFOs—A New Look"—is now at the printer's. As soon as it is off the press, copies will be mailed by expedited "special handling"—or first-class, if so ordered. For our newest members, who did not receive the previous issue, and for others who may now wish to order copies, here is the table of contents, by sections.

I. The UFO Revolution. II. Extraterrestrials—Suggested Motives and Origins. III. Vehicle Pacings and Encounters. IV. Close-Range Sightings; Structural Details. V. Scientific Support; Congressional Hearings. VI. Landings; Physical Traces. VII. Are There UFO Occupants? VIII. The Colorado Project.

"UFOs—A New Look" includes recent important developments and trends; scientists' discussions of possible origins and motives; an examination of selected "occupant reports" by reputedly reliable observers with no claims of contact, and a few more bizarre claims being evaluated along with the others by a NICAP panel of scientists; selected close-range and close-approach cases with sketches by witnesses; U.S. and foreign reports of "machine-like" devices, E-M interference effects and physiological aspects; interesting parts of the 1968 Congressional UFO hearings; and a discussion of the Colorado University UFO project, NICAP-submitted evidence, and the expected negative report by Dr. J. U. Condon.

FASTER MAILING

For members desiring copies of this publication, an order form is enclosed with this issue. Originally, the publication was announced at introductory prices of \$2.00 (Fourth class to U.S. and Canada), \$2.50 (First class to U.S. and Canada), and \$3.00 (First class to other countries). These prices were based on the printer's first estimate, which has since been increased by about 50%; the addition of other material in the report has also added to the production cost.

Accordingly, we are regretfully forced to increase the prices as follows: U.S., \$3.00; Canada and Mexico, \$3.50; other countries \$4.00.

With the use of the enclosed form the increased prices apply. A change in the postage rates used by NICAP will also take effect now. We will use first-class mail only for orders shipped to foreign countries other than Canada and Mexico. All other orders will be mailed Fourth Class Book Rate, *Special Handling*. This will simplify the clerical work at NICAP of sending out publications, and we are informed by the post office that Special Handling ensures much quicker delivery than Book Rate alone. The Special Handling fee will be absorbed by NICAP.

Of course if you have already ordered the New Look at the original price and under the previous postage arrangements, your order is being processed according to those arrangements.

alleged "spaceship," and also refused to explain discrepancies in his claims of meeting space beings and flying with them.)

As a result of our steadily accumulating occupant reports, and investigating wherever possible, we have acquired enough data for review by the new scientific panel. The members include psychologists, anthropologists, aerospace authorities, astronomers, physicists, and other scientists. The panel's evaluations will be confidential, and we have promised not to name members or quote them individually without their approval. We expect, however, that many of them will agree to be quoted, at least jointly, in reporting the panel's conclusions.

The new scientific panel may not be able to prove that certain reports are valid—nor to disprove completely other reports. But we believe it will be able to decide the probabilities and guide us in our future investigations of the steadily increasing occupant reports.

FROM GERMANY TO PHOENIX

National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
1536 Connecticut Avenue Washington, D.C. 20036

THE UFO EVIDENCE, Vol. I

This is one of the few standard reference works on UFOs. Bringing together data on all basic facets of the subject, this book covers sightings throughout the world from the early 1900s to 1964. Presented are detailed reports from pilots, policemen, scientists, engineers, and many other witnesses, plus special material on photographs, radar sightings, physical and physiological effects, EM interference cases, sightings involving sound, and other elements of the UFO phenomenon. Also discussed are: patterns, Congressional interest, the Air Force program, scientific questions, and UFO history.

U.S. — \$ 5.00 Canada & Mexico — \$ 5.50 Foreign — \$ 7.00

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UFOs: A NEW LOOK

NICAP presents: A special report on close-range UFO sightings that support the hypothesis that UFOs are extraterrestrial devices. Emphasizing cases of unusually good detail—such as structural features, electromagnetic effects, physiological reactions, vehicle pacings, physical traces, and animal reactions—UFOs: A New Look covers selected sightings in the United States, 1964-68. Also included are excerpts from testimony given before the House Science and Astronautics Committee during its historic UFO Symposium of July 29, 1968—plus a section of sighting sketches by eye-witnesses.

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Now available, after years of official concealment—13 U.S. Air Force documents on UFOs, with case histories, charts, and special material. Classified until the 1960s, these documents were secured for publication by NICAP with the help of the Congressional "Freedom of Information" Subcommittee. They include sighting reports from pilots, radar technicians, scientists, military personnel, and other important witnesses. Also described are behind-the-scenes investigations by the Air Force—including investigations made during the unprecedented, and still unequalled, 1952 sighting "flap".

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Ludicrous Errors In Klass Book

To the would-be explainer of UFOs, nothing is so useful as a rare natural phenomenon, little studied or imperfectly understood, to which he can attribute an endless variety of normal or freakish behavior comparable (in his opinion) to that of UFOs.

In UFOs-Identified, Philip J. Klass, Aviation Week magazine editor, exploits such phenomena to argue for his "plasma-UFOs" theory, which he developed with injudicious speed soon after reading Incident at Exeter, by John Fuller. Fuller reported a number of UFOs were sighted near high-voltage lines. To Klass this was the clue and he was off like an alert bloodhound, via ball lightning and corona discharges, to claim that most UFOs can be explained as highly ionized gases, or as one of their "distant cousins."

Numerous serious defects in this theory have been pointed out by Dr. James McDonald, senior atmospheric physicist at the University of Arizona; in a careful analysis before scientists at a Montreal meeting he demolished most of the Klass theories. Below are some of his major criticisms.

Klass says a plasmoid will trail an airplane if the latter has acquired, from snow, rain or dust particles, a charge opposite to that of the plasmoid. Analyzing this with applicable formulae, McDonald demonstrated that the Coulomb attraction cited by Klass would not draw the plasmoid behind the plane "even at the pace of a very slow walk." He also disproved the Klass explanation of why jets fail to overtake UFOs—that the plasmoid and the plane carried opposite charges and therefore repelled each other.

Mirror-Image Error

As McDonald points out, Klass often shows an astonishing failure to understand scientific principles. To explain reports of UFOs causing failure of car ignition, he mistakenly uses the scientific term "mirror image" to create a mirror image of a plasma inside the hood of a car. In McDonald's words, this is a "a puzzling erroneous misconception to be held by an electrical engineer." As elsewhere in the book, the author obviously does not know what he is talking about.

Other errors cited by McDonald: Klass confuses "voltage" and "voltage gradient." His description of how a gyroscope reacts to external force is incorrect. His chapter on UFOs and radar does not show a clear understanding of radar principles.

In regard to the seemingly "inquisitive" UFOs attraction to moving or stationary objects on the ground, Klass stretches his 'theory' to the outer limits—creating the "charged pedestrian." According to Klass, a person may acquire a "very light charge" and if he encounters a low-altitude UFO he may find it drawn slowly toward him or that it backs off as he approaches, depending on whether the person and the plasmoid are carrying the same or opposite charges. One would like to ask whether the charge on the person can reverse itself twice during a sighting as Klass indicates in one case. (pages 46-47.)

The Stretched Theory

Klass seems so little aware of the basic weaknesses of his theory that he insists on stretching it to cover a most astonishing range of UFO events, and on applying it to the strongest and most significant sightings. These, of course, are the daylight sightings of solid, structured objects with clearly defined edges, often with unmistakable structural details—domes, fins, apertures, appendages—seen by reliable observers, at close range, for prolonged periods. It is when he tackles cases in this category that Klass must go far afield for his hypotheses: to dust devils which might sometimes be able to detach themselves from the ground, to ice crystals forming "cold plasmas," to micro-tornadoes, to charged dust particles forming a silhouette, and the like.

Yet even granting, for the moment, that electrified dust particles could assume the shape of a structured object, where are we? What about those structural objects' details? Klass has an answer of sorts:

"The amorphous nature of the plasma-UFO encourages the observer's mind to supply spurious details that his eyes do not really see." Unfortunately for this glib dismissal of the problem, the details in question are not in the least "amorphous." Furthermore, these objects hover, rise, move about, emit sound, and dart into the sky after being observed for periods of half an hour or more. To maintain, as Klass does, that any cloud of

electrified dust particles, under no matter what freak conditions, could continue, despite wind or air currents, to give such an impression, with never the slightest change of configuration to indicate that it was really nothing but a dust cloud—is merely absurd.

Klass's interpretation of the Socorro, N.M. sighting (one of the three that he discusses in detail) is of considerable interest to illustrate his method. Here he concludes that the egg-shaped craft seen by Zamora was a "freak flying plasmas" that dropped from the scattered clouds that were over Socorro that day, or was triggered by corona discharge from the power line a mile away; that the two small figures seen beside the object were "moving wisps of whitish plasma"; and that the reported legs of the object were the dark branches of bushes in the gully. As for the landing-gear imprints, Klass speculates that the marks might have been caused if the plasma, with its stored electrical energy, had "shot out four miniature lightning bolts."

Muddled Thinking

A particularly disturbing feature of this book consists of the author's use of what McDonald describes as "argumentation by concatenation." Noticing some vague relation between concept A and concept B, Klass next goes on to observe another remote relation between B and C. Then C may have something or other in common with D—and soon Klass is asserting that A and D are related. After tracing out several such tenuous chains of reasoning, McDonald comments, "If in approaching problems of meteorology and geophysics, scientists customarily employed that kind of concatenative logic, so casually ignored scale considerations, and rested everything on verbal arguments almost wholly devoid of quantitative considerations, they could easily show that volcanoes are related to hurricanes and earthquakes to blizzards." Argument by juxtaposition is another device—the specious assembly of what may appear to the reader a clever series of related deductions. Equally unpalatable is the use of argument by innuendo, as when failure of a correspondent to reply to the author's letters is mentioned as if it had something to do with the validity of the sighting itself.

Despite its sometimes uncritical reception in the press, this is a superficial book, and its pretensions to scientific authority dissolve upon inspection. Some very muddled thinking, and a great deal of speculation, has gone into the construction of the plasma-UFO theory. The theory lacks anything resembling rigorous scientific proof, and the author's arguments are riddled with scientific misconceptions. Mr. Klass's claims to have explained "most, if not all" of the strongest UFO reports are, as Dr. McDonald has demonstrated, simply absurd.

Hynek Asks For Old Reports

The 19th-century period of "airship" sightings has caught the curiosity of Dr. J. Allen Hynek, long-time consultant to the Air Force on UFOs. Hynek has issued a public appeal for all people who witnessed the strange cigar-shaped objects of the 1890s to come forward and provide written reports in the interest of historical and scientific research. The appeal comes as something of a surprise, for these sightings have long been known to UFO researchers, and the Air Force has questioned their authenticity.

The sightings began in November, 1896, on the West Coast and developed into a wave that swept across the U.S. during the following five months. For want of a better term, the press referred to the UFOs as "airships," for they displayed characteristics that suggested an artificial device rather than a natural body and they moved through the air with apparent control and purpose. Lights were common on the objects, and they had a dirigible shape — but no dirigibles were then in operation.

Hynek asked that witnesses contact him at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

NICAP Assistant Director Gordon Lore has co-authored a book on the historical aspects of UFOs. Entitled Mysteries of the Skies: UFOs in Perspective, it's been published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., (see UFO Investigator, Vol. IV, No. 4, page 6). The price is \$5.95 and copies may be obtained directly from the publisher or from your local bookstore. The work treats some of the "airship" reports in detail.

THE U.F.O. Investigator

FACTS ABOUT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Published by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

Vol. IV, No. 6

May-June, 1968

NICAP BREAKS WITH COLORADO PROJECT New Evaluation-System, Expanded Network, To Offset Project Failure

After a long struggle to insure a full, objective investigation, NICAP has severed all relations with the University of Colorado UFO Project, which was financed by the Air Force. This followed a warning to project heads after a partial break in September, 1967, when NICAP ceased transmitting UFO reports.

To aid project scientists still trying for a fully impartial approach, this semi-break was not made public. As a further aid, NICAP subcommittees were instructed to continue helping project field teams in the hope that some new, indisputable evidence might cause a change in general policies.

In the contract signed in 1966, the AF and the University of Colorado promised an objective, scientific investigation. NICAP was listed as a source of information—the only private UFO organization named in the contract—and our full cooperation was requested by Dr. E. U. Condon, project head, and Coordinator Robert J. Low.

To have refused, because of our doubts of an AF-financed study, would have put NICAP in a bad light. We would have been sharply criticized, first by skeptics claiming we had no real evidence to submit, and second by many citizens (including NICAP members) who believed the Colorado project would reveal all known facts and reach important conclusions.

Despite our misgivings, we pledged our assistance. After working with most of the project staff, we began to hope for a majority-controlled impartial study—a hope shared by many of the Congress, the press and the public. Unfortunately, this hope steadily dwindled. Its final deathblow was the firing of two top scientists, and the resultant resignation of the administrative secretary.

To offset the project's failure, NICAP is greatly expanding its investigation-evaluation system. New subcommittees and special investigators will be added. Steps have been taken to speed transmission of UFO reports to headquarters. We are starting an entirely new and greatly enlarged evaluations plan to make full use of the knowledge and experience of our numerous scientific and technical advisers. We intend to do all that the Colorado Project was supposed to do. This will be a big job—the biggest we have ever had. We ask the help of all NICAP members in carrying out this vitally important new program.

The inside story of the Colorado UFO Project broke on April 30, 1968, when NICAP and LOOK Magazine joined in disclosing the developments behind Dr. Condon's firing of two project scientists.

At a Washington press conference, NICAP revealed additional facts it had known for months but had not made public in the hope that project difficulties could be straightened out. The following points were given the press by NICAP's director:

1. In the AF-Colorado contract Dr. Condon was named as a principal investigator. According to a statement to NICAP by Coordinator Low, in October, 1967, Dr. Condon had not made a single field investigation since the project began in November, 1966, nor did he plan any field investigations. At the same time Coordinator Low stated that Dr. Condon had never interviewed any of the known, responsible witnesses listed by NICAP at the project's request, including many military and airline pilots, scientists, tower-operators, radar experts and other highly qualified observers.

2. In 1966, Mr. Low proposed, in written suggestions to high Colorado University officials, that the project be made to appear—to the public—as totally objective, whereas it would actually 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."

Bulletin: Mr. Robert Low has been taken off the Colorado Project. Full details, learned just before press time, on page 4.

3. NICAP made a partial, unpublicized break with the project in September, 1967, after frequent press interviews and a lecture to scientists indicated Dr. Condon was strongly biased, scoffing at UFO believers. In addition, NICAP was told by project members that Condon and Low appeared headed for a negative conclusion, ignoring most of the powerful, documented evidence.

At this time NICAP ceased transmitting UFO reports but permitted NICAP "Early Warning Net" members to keep on phoning local sighting reports to the project. Subcommittees also were allowed to aid scientist field teams in checking certain cases.

4. Both Dr. Condon and Low urged NICAP to resume transmitting reports. The director sent them a list of questions, with a promise to resume if answers were satisfactory.

Among the questions were queries about the reported lack of Condon investigations, the evidence of negative bias and the apparent disregard of most NICAP-submitted cases. Another vital query was whether Dr. Condon and Low would agree to detailed examinations of the verified evidence.

5. Both Dr. Condon and Low refused to answer the questions. The signed refusals are in NICAP records.

6. Drs. David Saunders and Norman Levine were fired by Condon on February 9, 1968, "for incompetence," he said in a press release. According to the two scientists, they were discharged for revealing Low's 1966 proposals.

Dr. Condon has stated he never knew of the Low proposals until early February, 1968. When he did learn of them he did not fire Low but the two scientists who, with others, had opposed Low's suggestions.

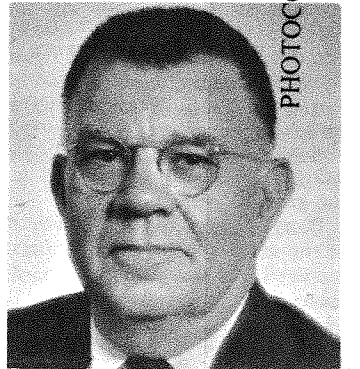
One quick result of the NICAP-LOOK disclosures was a blast from Congressman J. Edward Roush. Congressman Roush, already concerned about the UFO problem after examining NICAP evidence, asked for a Congressional investigation. (See page 4 for detailed Colorado Project story.)

Membership Drive Prize

NICAP is launching an all-out membership drive, with a grand prize for the largest number of new memberships secured, and other important prizes. Details on another page.

If your membership card bears the symbol IV-6 your membership expires with this issue. We shall appreciate it if you will renew early, without waiting for a renewal notice. This will insure your receiving the July-August issue without a possible delay from a last-minute renewal.

Please notify us promptly of any change of address.



PHOTOCOPY BY GERALD R. BERRY

THE UFO INVESTIGATOR

Published by
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New Moon Findings

Scientists are no longer sure the moon is dead. Some are now even prepared to say that it is an active body with a hot, volcanic interior. Data from Surveyor VII, the last of America's soft-landing lunar probes, indicates that at least some of the moon's mountains are made of the kind of granite rock that is common on Earth, rock that is known to result from violent, high-temperature processes within our planet. If the lunar highlands were formed by such processes, the probability arises that the origins of the Earth and moon may be more closely linked than has been believed.

Surveyor VII landed in an area unlike that where previous Surveyors touched down. The site was mountainous, whereas the earlier locations were plainlands (maria). Scientists assigned to the Surveyor program did not expect to find anything in the mountains that was substantially different from what had been found on the maria, but Surveyor VII's camera disclosed an inordinate amount of rocks. According to Dr. Eugene Shoemaker, the geologist who interprets Surveyor's photographs, "There were many small pebbles and a greater variety of rocks, some of which appeared coarse-grained and banded." One of the pebbles was scooped up by the surface-sampling device on the spacecraft, and was subjected to chemical analysis by the on-board system designed for that purpose. The analysis led to the discovery of the granite.

Despite the clues afforded by the presence of granite, the origin of the moon remains uncertain. However, in light of the data from Surveyor, three theories appear most reasonable. As Dr. Shoemaker explains, "Earth and moon formed within 200 million years after the sun. The moon may have condensed from the same patch of dust and gas as Earth, in which case they are sister planets. The moon may have condensed separately and been captured by Earth early in its history. Or the moon once may have been part of Earth and separated from it while the latter was still fluid. We are not going to find out which is correct until we can get some men up there. We should get all the information needed on the maria in two flights. By the third trip, I hope we can land in the highlands."

Another Surveyor scientist has also made a discovery that supports the revised context in which the moon is presently being considered. Dr. Jack Green, aerospace specialist at McDonnell Douglas Corp., and consultant to the Surveyor program, has detected areas on the lunar surface that may contain life-bearing moisture. Using a special telescope to study the crater Aristarchus, Green has found dark sections that suggest the presence of sulphur, an element that on Earth is associated with water-containing minerals. If the relationship between sulphur and hydrous rocks holds true on the moon, reports Green, there may be relatively warm, moist places near craters, where small organisms might live. Terrestrial bacteria, for example, are known to survive in such environments as hot springs.

Green agrees with the new findings from Surveyor regarding the possible volcanic activity beneath the moon's exterior. He is persuaded that protrusions such as craters were probably formed by subsurface processes rather than by the impact of meteors or

FORMERLY SECRET AF REPORTS SECURED

Twelve formerly secret AF project reports, including over 80 documented sightings, have been obtained by NICAP after weeks of work with the "Freedom of Information" (Moss) Committee of Congress. All the reports are stamped "SECRET" or "CONFIDENTIAL," with warnings against divulging the contents, under provisions of the Espionage Laws. Although the cases occurred in the early 50's, they form an important, little-known part of the UFO official records.

These AF-UFO official Project Reports include verified jet chases and other encounters with unknown flying objects. Witnesses include AF and Navy pilots, radar and air-base tower operators, CAA (now FAA) personnel. Atomic Energy Base observers, etc. In many cases, the AF admitted the objects were unexplained—though public statements indicated they were conventional objects.

~~SECRET~~ SECURITY INFORMATION

UNCLASSIFIED

STATUS REPORT

PROJECT BLUE BOOK - REPORT NO. 7

FORMERLY PROJECT GRUDGE

PROJECT NO. 10073

31 MAY 1952

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
DAYTON, OHIO

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLASSIFIED

One of AF reports now available.

The existence of these hidden early reports has been known to NICAP for years, but efforts to get them were fruitless. We knew there was a Blue Book Special Report 14, published in 1955. It seemed obvious there must be previous project reports, but AF Headquarters and project spokesmen denied this repeatedly.

After passage of the "Freedom of Information" Act, new efforts were made, and finally the Moss Committee succeeded in forcing the AF to cease withholding the reports. It developed that Project Blue Book had stamped the reports "Unclassified" in 1960, which permitted them to state UFO sightings were not classified. Actually these official records were made available for nearly eight years, and only after Moss Committee pressure.

The 12 AF Project reports have been combined for printing by NICAP. The publication will contain approximately 200 pages and will be 8-1/2 by 11 inches in size, the same as Vol. 1 of "The UFO Evidence."

Though it was merely proposed in the preceding issue, the publication has been ordered by about 175 members, and we are now accepting definite orders, at \$5.00, mailed at book-rate. For quicker delivery, you may add \$1.00 for first-class mailing.

similar nonvolcanic events. He foresees craters as useful sites for manned bases, because if there are hydrous minerals nearby, as his observations indicate, the rocks could be processed to yield their water for use by the astronauts.

French General, Scientists, Report UFOs

In recent months, close approaches have dominated reports of UFOs, but several other cases by specially qualified observers also have added important evidence.

On the night of April 12, two UFOs were observed in the Washington, D.C., area by two men, one a zoologist, the other an astronomer. In a signed report to NICAP, the first witness described the objects as dull orange globes. They appeared at 11:40 p.m., he said, and moved swiftly across the sky, SSE to NNW, disappearing in about five seconds.

An earlier report, recently received, confirmed an encounter by General Paul Stehlin, a top-level pilot in the French Air Force. On an afternoon in September, 1967, General Stehlin was piloting a plane over Villacoublay, a military airfield near Paris, when he saw a silvery cigar-shaped object flying parallel to his aircraft. The UFO paced the general's plane for several minutes, then accelerated and rapidly went out of sight.

Several 1968 reports describe EM (electromagnetic) interference effects from nearby UFOs. One case occurred on Jan. 2, in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada. About 4 p.m. Tom Banks and Errol Smyth were cruising in their snowmobiles when they spotted a pulsating orange-yellow UFO just over the treetops. Its radiance, they said, was brighter than the sun. Banks reported that his snowmobile stopped and he felt an unusual heat—both effects supposedly from the UFO. The strange object quickly disappeared, after which the snowmobile functioned normally.

TV INTERFERENCE

Shortly before midnight on Jan. 8, according to the Trenton Times, an orange-red, bowl-shaped object was sighted at Jackson, N. J. The witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. Robert LeChance and a neighbor, Mrs. Gertrude Gifford.

Just prior to spotting the object, LeChance said, the colors in his TV picture faded out. Mrs. Gifford reported that her TV set "went out completely, and my lights dimmed. . . . It (the UFO) went down behind the tree line, then came up and went down again. . . until it finally disappeared." She told police she was badly scared by the incident.

An unusual wind effect was reported on Jan. 30 by a number of Venezuelans. The sighting was described by witnesses on the Punto Solo ranch in the Palo Seco area. A spokesman for the group, ranch-owner Prudencio Salzar, said a silvery object emitting red lights landed near a corral. As it took off, he said, it made a sound "and the trees around the site were shaken violently by blasts of wind."

CLOSE APPROACH IN CANADA

A disturbing UFO sound was also linked with a sighting on Feb. 19, near Bengough, Saskatchewan, Canada. The witness, Mrs. Martha Heggs, said the sound was a high-pitched whining noise which caused "a tingling sensation throughout her body," according to a report submitted by NICAP member D. F. Clausen.

Looking out her window, Mrs. Heggs saw a clearly outlined UFO. Its lower portion, she said, was like "two shallow plates placed lip to lip." It also had an "inverted bowl" superstructure and a smaller, dome-like structure on top of this. An aerial-like section supporting a small sphere could be seen at the extreme top. Around the superstructure, Mrs. Heggs reported, were six or seven arch-shaped ports, and she could see what looked like riveted seams around the lower part.

The UFO was first seen circling "about one foot" above a 35-foot power pole mounting a transformer. It circled the pole to the left four times, then moved over the witness' farmyard, descending to "three feet off the ground" and hovering for about five minutes, "directly in front of three wrecked cars." It ascended to about 20 feet and circled four storage bins. The object then moved northeast over three more bins and circled two nearby tractors and continued onward seemingly to survey two parked trucks, two elevated fuel storage tanks and an electric water pump. It then headed toward some trees, leaving the farmyard.

Mrs. Heggs reported that, during the sighting, her "dog was cowering, lying on the snow and trying to cover its ears with its front feet." Her cattle also reportedly "took flight when she first saw the object. . .," running into their sheds. They did not emerge until after the UFO had left the area.

Five nights later, another UFO encounter took place near Westhill, Pa. The details were given to NICAP in a signed report by Mr. Karl E. Will, a chemical engineer.

Mr. and Mrs. Will had just left Westhill for their home in Carlisle, Pa., when they spotted a brilliant object approaching from the west.

"It was somewhat oval in shape, with a foreshortened tail end," Mr. Will reported. "The rear of the object had a fin or antenna tipped with a red light. The underside. . . sported two red lights, one on either side and somewhat forward of the center."

As a jet aircraft flew in the vicinity of the UFO, he added, the object's red lights "seemed to dim near to extinction" but brightened after the plane left the area.

"In the meantime," Will continued, "I had removed the spotlight from the trunk of my auto and tried to signal the object by blinking the light. As soon as I did, the lights went out. I sighted the object no more."

PHYSICAL-EFFECT REPORT

Possible physiological effects from UFOs have been reported in increasing numbers. One example is described in a signed NICAP report by Nicholas Sgouris of Syracuse, N. Y.

At 6:15 p.m. on March 4, Sgouris was driving outside of Syracuse when he saw a solid object "with flashing multicolored lights" which were steadily blinking. Its altitude was about 100 feet.

"My car started running funny," the witness reported. "I looked out the left window and saw an object approaching from the left. It passed over (the) highway in front of me. . . ."

Sgouris said his car slowed almost to a stop after he had sighted the object and that he experienced a "funny feeling" and couldn't move until the UFO headed away.

Another Syracuse sighting was reported on March 8 by three citizens. The UFO at first appeared to be ball-shaped, but as it changed position it was seen to be a large disc with a domed top.

Other logged reports, with few details: March 27, 77 miles east of Anchorage, Alaska, a large, silvery, rectangular object seen by 11 witnesses; April 8, Toronto, Canada, a hovering object with a ring of orange-red lights and three white beams which lit up the area; April 12, Cape Neddick, Maine, an oval domed object with a cluster of red blinking lights and a pulsating white light in front.

SUBMERGING UFO CASE

Since publishing "The Question of Submerging UFOs," (Vol. IV, No. 5) we have received other reports of objects on or near bodies of water. One case is described by Barry A. Nason, New Brunswick, Canada. Nason was fishing in Trout Brook Lake when a small UFO, estimated three feet in diameter, hit the water about 15 yards away.

"It was traveling in a spinning fashion," Nason said. "It sprayed water seven or eight feet high. . . and made a terrible, loud sound." Nason crouched, fearing the UFO might come his way. The object then left the water and went into a clump of bushes, making "an awful commotion." It then flew back over the lake and submerged at one edge. Nason said he saw a big cloud of steam and heard a gurgling sound. For some time afterward, he stated, the water was covered with small waves.

A second 1967 Canadian case, investigated by NICAP member D. F. Clausen, involved a close approach to a school bus. The report was made by Mrs. Evelyn Brown, the driver. On June 1, 1967, Mrs. Brown was headed toward Chauvavon, Saskatchewan, when she glimpsed a strange object over her left shoulder. She stopped the bus and the UFO also stopped, hovering for several seconds. It was a round device, with a "dull aluminum" appearance. Above the main body she said, was a superstructure with portholes and atop this was a "glass-like" dome.

After about 15 seconds, the UFO lifted, passed over the bus, then hovered again, to the right of the vehicle, finally moving to a position "dead ahead."

"At this moment Mrs. Brown turned on the headlights," Mr. Clausen reports. "The object stopped immediately. She then switched the headlights off and on three or four times. The 'object' rocked three or four times. . . stopped rocking, hovered for about two seconds, then rose very fast, straight up out of sight."

THE INSIDE STORY OF THE COLORADO PROJECT

When plans for the Colorado Project first became known to NICAP, before the 1966 contract signing, several Board Members, advisers and also the director were extremely skeptical. It appeared this might be mainly an attempt to take the heat off the AF after the backfire of their incredible "marsh gas" story—a hasty UFO sighting explanation which brought nationwide ridicule and rejection.

After discussions with Dr. Condon, Mr. Low and project scientists, we promised to cooperate—with a frank warning that this would depend entirely on the project's impartiality. Dr. Condon and Mr. Low fully agreed.

For weeks before the official start on November 1, we briefed project members and helped plan the investigation. Most of the group—men like Dr. David Saunders, an experienced psychologist, later head of the computer section—seemed to take the problem seriously.

On October 4, 1966, the University of Colorado gave the AF a detailed proposal, No. 66.1.253, which was incorporated into the contract as the basic policy. The main points, confirmed by a photo-copy of the contract, included these provisions:

"The work will be conducted under conditions of the 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."

"I GUESS I'M AN AGNOSTIC"

The first jolt came on October 8, after the contract was signed. The New York Times, the Denver Post and other papers ran stories quoting Condon:

"I guess I'm an agnostic . . . it is highly improbable that (UFOs) exist . . . the view that many UFO sightings are hallucinatory . . . will be a subject of our investigation, to discover what it is that makes people think they see things." On October 9, in the Denver Post, Condon was quoted as hoping "to learn why astronomers, satellite trackers, FAA radar operators, etc., don't report UFOs . . ." (NICAP: Many such reports are official records.) . . . "early reports are so old and vague they are no good."

On October 9, the Post also quoted Low as saying the UFO project came close to being unacceptable, but "when you're asked to do something, you don't say no—not to the Air Force." Next day, after defending Low, Dr. Condon said, again in the Post: ". . . 95% of the UFO reports are relatively easily identified as . . . well-known natural phenomena . . . (which) indicates an appalling lack of public understanding . . ."

During a phone call from NICAP's director, Mr. Low said he and Condon were incorrectly quoted, that Condon was an honest agnostic, willing to be convinced by true evidence—such as NICAP had already outlined. NICAP delayed its intended break pending word from Condon. In a November 8 letter, Dr. Condon again pledged an objective study, listing these ground rules:

The main guide would be "whatever appears to us . . . most clearly to serve the national interest." Existing facts, sighting reports would be as fully tested as possible . . . "These guidelines are required by the very process of research. No proper investigator would approach his work otherwise."

THE DECISION

After a long conference at the University of Colorado, NICAP decided the number of unbiased scientists, evaluating the massive factual evidence and making field checks, might reverse any negative approach—or at least offset any biased conclusions with a strong majority dissent.

On this basis, NICAP told its subcommittees to aid project field teams; we submitted several hundred representative reports, including many—but by no means all—of our strong, hard-core cases.

Early in '67, we learned from some project members that they were thoroughly testing the extraterrestrial hypothesis, using the strongest evidence. But our cautious optimism was soon jolted again.

On January 25, Dr. Condon made a speech at Corning, N.Y. Press reports indicated he had already decided on a negative report.

When we saw the press story we phoned Dr. Saunders and announced we were breaking off. He asked us to wait, then went to Condon and told him the project could not go on without NICAP's help. After a discussion with Saunders and other scientists, Dr. Condon apologized to NICAP by phone, said he was badly misquoted, and urged us to continue our "valuable cooperation."

The director told him we were taking a serious risk, that NICAP could be called blind or stupid to help a biased project. Condon denied any bias. After 30 minutes of blunt discussion, Dr. Condon said he would not make any more speeches or public statements on UFOs. He agreed to put this in writing.

For a man as determined as Condon, this was a major concession. It seemed that, temporarily at least, there might still be hope for full-scale evaluations.

For several months, this uneasy truce continued. Then early in September it ended.

In a speech before scientists at an Atomic Spectroscopy Symposium, Dr. Condon concentrated on humorous contactee stories. According to one of the audience, Dr. William S. Bickel, a University of Arizona scientist, the talk was funny—but devoid of any hint of a serious problem, or a serious investigation. To Dr. Bickel and others present, it seemed likely the Project report would be in the same vein.

THE FIRST BREAK

A quick NICAP call to a project member brought more bad news. Against protests by most of the scientists, a search for negative evidence was now being emphasized.

Within ten minutes we gave the project official notice: Transmission of NICAP's UFO reports was ended.

This action, we learned later, had a stronger impact than we expected—almost a shock effect. One suggested possible reason concerned the university's request for more AF funds—over \$200,000 to extend the investigation. Examination of important UFO information from NICAP was cited in this request.

Whatever the reason, Dr. Condon sent Low to Washington to urge that we reconsider. During a somewhat tense session with the director and Assistant Director Gordon Lore, Low admitted the split in the project and Condon's "present" disbelief in UFOs, which he said might still be changed by good evidence. He was reminded they already had many strong NICAP cases. Low explained they needed the rest of our reports so they could not be accused of reaching a verdict without all of NICAP's evidence.

Before we could resume, Low was told, he and Condon would have to give satisfactory written answers to some important questions. Low said he would try to persuade Condon to reply.

Most of the questions sent to Condon and Low concerned guarantees that all NICAP-submitted cases would be fully investigated, that Dr. Condon would personally examine these cases, would make field investigations and interview witnesses in major cases. Condon also was asked if he considered all the reporting pilots, scientists, tower operators, radar experts, etc., to be deluded, incompetent or hoaxers.

QUESTIONS REJECTED

In replying, Condon and Low refused to answer these key questions, but both praised NICAP highly. Condon: "We deeply appreciate the (NICAP) cooperation . . . the help you have given us so far has been of great importance . . ." Low: "NICAP's assistance has been invaluable . . . Your files, because of the high caliber of the field investigations NICAP has conducted, are of very good quality . . . Our working relationships . . . have been excellent . . . It would be a great pity if they were terminated . . . Dr. Condon has said to you that our study is being done objectively. It is."

Because of the evaded questions, NICAP's ban remained in effect.

About one month later, a far different Low statement was given to the director by a project member. Dated August 9, 1966, addressed to University officials E. James Arthur and Thurston E. Manning (U. of C. vice president), it summed up some officials' views:

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

outcasts . . . admitting such 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 . . ."

Under the heading "Comments," Low made his personal proposal:

"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 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 the people who do the observing—the psychology and sociology of persons and groups who report seeing UFOs . . ."

Even though we were partly prepared, this was a shock. Our first impulse was to show Low's proposals to the press and announce a complete break with the project. But the memo, though not marked restricted by Low, had been shown to us confidentially and we were asked to wait for a final showdown between Condon and project scientists.

On Dec. 12, 1967, a copy of the memo was given to Dr. James E. McDonald, senior atmospheric physicist at the University of Arizona, who for some 18 months had been intensively investigating UFOs, under a university grant. McDonald, shocked as we had been, urged Saunders and Levine to let him tell Low he had the memo. It was his belief that Low and Condon would be badly upset and would quickly change the project policies. To insure this, McDonald also asked permission to inform the National Academy of Sciences—which was to review the project's report.

FURY OF THE SCIENTISTS

The scientists' group finally agreed, but the results were disastrous. Condon and Low were furious. It was reported later that Condon fiercely denounced Saunders and said he should be professionally destroyed. Dr. Levine received similar harsh treatment. Both were fired the next day charged with "incompetence."

The administrative secretary, Mrs. Mary Lou Armstrong, courageously defended the scientists and told Condon the project had been "gravely misdirected." Condon told her to put her complaints in writing. When she did, he demanded she keep the letter confidential. In a stormy session she refused, then resigned.

Following this, Condon wrote Dr. McDonald and demanded he return the copy of Low's proposals, calling the memo "stolen papers." McDonald refused, on the basis of an earlier Low statement that project records should be in open files, none of them classified.

About this time, author John Fuller approached Levine and Saunders in regard to an article for LOOK to give the matter nationwide publicity. NICAP agreed to delay its UFO Investigator story, provided our part in the struggle was fully covered and a NICAP box statement was included.

CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN

At our Washington press conference, the day LOOK came out, we stated we did not accuse Condon or Low of dishonesty. Strange as it might seem, both appeared to believe their approach was correct and fully justified since they were convinced (from lack of examining the massive evidence) that UFO reports were nonsense. NICAP strongly rejected such an approach as improper for the heads of an announced "objective" study.

General public reactions to the disclosures ranged from shock and indignation to an increased disgust by those who have never believed in the project. Some broadcasts quoted NICAP and LOOK without comment. Some stations, like KLAC, Los Angeles, blasted the project. In Congress, Reps. J. Edward Roush (D. Ind.), Jack Brotzman, (R. Colo.) and others demanded a Congressional investigation. Roush, a member of the House Science and Astronautics Committee, asked the AF Secretary to look into the published charges. Also, as a member of the Government Operations Committee, which delves into claims of misuse of Federal funds, Roush asked the Comptroller General to investigate.

According to the Denver Post, May 2, 1968, Roush told its Washington Bureau that the Colorado probe was an AF "trick" rigged from the start with the conclusion reached before the investigation had even begun.

Weeks before this, NICAP had realized the project's failure could be misconstrued, causing many people to think all UFO investigations had ended. Even the AF, awaiting the Condon report, had made little pretense of checking UFO reports.

To fill the void, and quickly, two alternate NICAP plans were worked out.

On April 30, NICAP wrote President Johnson, enclosing the Low proposals and other evidence and urging that he create a new, absolutely unbiased UFO Commission to replace the wrecked project—a commission completely independent of any military or civilian Government agency. As one safeguard for a truly impartial evaluation we suggested that all important decisions be by majority vote. We also suggested that the Commission members, selected by the President, be recognized authorities on astronomy, aerospace operations, electronics and other fields related to UFO investigations—scientists of high stature, convinced that the UFO situation is serious enough to require total evaluation of all reports by responsible observers.

ANSWER FROM THE AIR FORCE

Whether the President was shown the evidence, or his AF aide took over, is not known. Regardless, the answer came from the Office of the Secretary of the AF, signed by Col. B. M. Ettenson. Without the slightest mention of the bias evidence, Ettenson wrote:

"Dear Major Keyhoe:

"President Johnson has asked that I reply to your recent letter regarding allegations pertaining to the Air Force contract with the University of Colorado for the investigation of unidentified flying objects.

"The Air Force awarded the unidentified flying object contract to the University of Colorado in October, 1966, convinced that an impartial, open-minded, independent and objective scientific report would be forthcoming and we expect that Dr. Condon will fulfill the terms of the agreement. . . ."

Since the report was not completed, Ettenson said the AF would not comment further.

About this time, Coordinator Low was taken off the project. Low had been assigned to write the final report, a job that would take all summer according to official statements. But he was suddenly transferred to other duties, with a claim that his project work was done.

To some, it appeared the university was "running scared" and might even try to revamp the project to avoid further criticism. But this faint hope ended when a Low replacement named Gilmore was named. It was announced he would live with the Condons while doing "editorial work" on the report. His UFO knowledge, if any, was not mentioned.

It is not impossible that Condon could be persuaded to change course, admit the existence of unexplained reports from highly-qualified observers, and recommend an enlarged investigation. But those of us who worked with the project expect a completely negative report, rejecting all verified evidence, ridiculing veteran pilots, scientists, and other responsible witnesses—and changing from high praise of NICAP to a bitter attack.

However, several explosive developments are due to become known, and a negative Condon report is certain to ignite the worst UFO controversy ever. Instead of being a disaster, the Colorado fiasco will turn out to be a badly-needed jolt, setting off powerful actions which cannot be stopped.

NEW OPPORTUNITY

But NICAP does not intend to wait for the Condon report—or the backfire.

THIS IS OUR BIG CHANCE.

To offset the Colorado Project's failure, we have already started a new nationwide operations plan. The key points:

1. A greatly enlarged reporting network, with a speed-up of factual information to NICAP headquarters.

2. An expanded evaluation system involving more than 20 times as many scientists and engineers as the Colorado Project had at its peak. (Full details on next page.)

NICAP EXPANDS INVESTIGATIONS- EVALUATION SYSTEM

The expansion of NICAP operations, now underway, has two major goals:

1. The largest UFO reporting and investigating network in the world. (We already have the largest unofficial network.)
2. A redesigned evaluations system with more than 20 times the number of scientists and engineers in the Colorado Project at its peak. (The ratio is already eleven to one.)

New aid in evaluating and investigating UFO reports has been offered NICAP by scientists, engineers, and various technical specialists seriously disturbed by the Colorado Project failure.

The NICAP reporting-investigating network will be enlarged to include at least one Subcommittee in each of the 50 states, with several such units in the more densely populated areas. (Present U.S. Subcommittees number 35.)

To improve the evaluations system, scientists and engineers on the Panel of Advisers and Subcommittees are being grouped according to their specialties, to insure maximum evaluation of any aspect of UFO evidence.

New offers for the use of laboratories have been received, making possible added photo analyses, evaluation of soil samples reportedly linked with UFO landings, etc.

Typical of the comments triggered by the LOOK disclosures was this statement by a university atmospheric physicist:

"I was shocked and dismayed at the attitudes displayed. . . ." This scientist, who is also a pilot, offered full assistance to NICAP, along with two other scientists at the university.

Another offer came from a computer analyst and programmer, with detailed suggestions for computer analysis of UFO reports and promise of help in setting up such a program.

NICAP Subcommittees whenever possible have included at least one professional scientist, such as an astronomer or a physicist. Other existing subcommittee members include aerospace engineers, pilots, meteorologists, radar experts, photographers, former Intelligence officers and other trained analysts, and other persons whose background and experience are of value in UFO investigations and interviewing witnesses. The increase in Subcommittees will add even wider fields of experience.

The fields covered by the previous Scientific and Technical Panel members and the new advisers include space technology, astrophysics, communications, rocket and missile engineering and control systems, anthropology, psychology and numerous other subjects linked with UFO report evaluations.

With a UFO report involving reported EM (electromagnetic) interference with car ignition, a charred spot from a supposed touch-landing, and a photograph, the procedure would be as follows: Sample of the charred surface would be secured, also the original of the photograph; the car's electrical system would be examined; the witness or witnesses would be thoroughly questioned, and Subcommittee reports on background and reputation would be drawn up.

All this evidence and the investigator's opinions would be forwarded to NICAP headquarters, where copies would be sent to appropriate scientific-technical groups such as electrical engineers, photographic experts, and chemists (for evaluating the charred material.) Individual opinions and conclusions would be weighed at NICAP headquarters, with additional scientific discussions on unsolved points or differences of opinion.

In important cases involving detailed examinations a summary of experts' opinions, with dissents and the majority conclusion if any, would be made public.

Previously, the lack of a sufficient office staff kept us from making full use of all our advisers' talents. During our attempted cooperation with the Colorado Project, it was impossible to take on additional work.

But the failure of the Colorado Project to carry out a full-scale scientific evaluation has left us no choice.

WE HAVE TO DO THIS JOB!

NICAP is the only full-time private organization large enough to do it. We have the foundation for rapid expansion. We can call upon authorities in any necessary field—experts whose reputations and experiences will command respect.

The results will be far-reaching. Many more significant reports will be submitted when observers can expect a serious and truly scientific evaluation. Members will receive not only more interesting information, on important cases, but also scientific discussions of various angles and theories.

All this is bound to have a powerful impact, when these evaluations reach Congress, the press and the public. They will greatly offset the fraudulent claims and hoaxes which have caused ridicule, hampered serious investigations, and aided the official and self-appointed debunkers.

To get this job started, we have temporarily reduced other work until we can get extra help. We will need real support to carry out this vitally important program.

But it will NOT take any half-million dollars, such as was given to the Colorado Project. (As an ironic sidelight, one former Project member was quoted as saying it became embarrassing sitting around and trying to think how to spend the money.)

There may be a better chance of securing a research grant from a foundation when our enlarged scientific operations are well underway. But before then we will need your help—and the help of non-members who see the need for this NICAP drive.

One way you can help speed this program is to secure new members for NICAP. For the first time in our history, we are launching a full-scale membership drive, with prizes which we hope you will find a worthwhile incentive. Details are given on the opposite page.

In previous years, unavoidable delays in publishing the UFO Investigator caused many members to hesitate in urging friends to join. Though some may not realize it, we have been on schedule since the end of 1967. The preceding number was accidentally called the March issue, instead of "March-April," but the present issue makes the third in 1968, and three more will be published in '68. The July-August number is scheduled for the first part of August—possibly sooner if important developments require it.

We expect the coming issues to contain increasingly interesting news. We are also making strong efforts to secure important sighting reports we know are being withheld by airline pilots and other responsible observers not under official orders.

We ask every member to make the utmost effort to build up NICAP membership—not only to finance our expanded operations but to increase our prestige and influence.

Another way in which you can help NICAP and at the same time learn about long hidden UFO information is to order the special NICAP publication of AF Project Reports, containing formerly "Secret" or "Confidential" sightings. Details on this \$5.00 publication are given on page 2. In the previous issue, we mentioned this proposed publication, intending to print it if there was enough interest. Some members sent in orders, but we have held their checks until we were sure of proceeding. We now have almost enough orders for a first run and we expect to mail copies about the last of June. (If you wish faster delivery than book-rate mail, you may add \$1.00 for first-class postage.)

If the response to our membership drive and the special AF Projects publication is large enough, it will not only expedite our expansion but speed up completion of Volume II, The UFO Evidence. This will probably be the most impressive material we have ever published, containing numerous important sightings and developments since January 1, 1964. Details will be given in an early issue, when we can announce the publication date and accept orders.

There are some official and self-appointed UFO debunkers who still hope the Condon report will be widely accepted in spite of the LOOK-NICAP revelations.

Dr. James E. McDonald recently summed up the debunker's expectations prior to the LOOK disclosures:

"... there was every reason to believe that Condon was about to quietly bury the UFO problem, his report providing a heavy tombstone to keep the corpse from rising to bother the United States Air Force."

Judging from the AF letter evading any mention of the evidence sent to the President, officials still plan on having a deep grave ready.

But after 11 years of such tactics, we have had enough. We will fight any such attempt to the last ditch.

If you resent the Colorado fiasco—if you are indignant, too, then help us as best you can.

With your backing, we can—and will—block any trick to bury the UFO problem.

NICAP MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

As announced on the first page, NICAP is launching, with this issue of the UFO Investigator, a special membership contest to allow us to serve our members better and to obtain the financial backing to expand our scientific operations. NICAP members have long worked on an informal basis to help secure new members, but now, for the first time in our history, we are conducting an all-out organized effort to encourage fresh interest and support and to build our membership. We have selected a number of prizes we believe will have special appeal for members and supporters of NICAP. To aid you in entering the contest, a special form is enclosed with this issue.

First Prize—awarded to the person who submits the highest number of orders for new memberships and/or renewals—will include: 1) An original color painting approximately 18" x 24", by NICAP artist Ted Thoben, of a major UFO sighting, as selected by the winner; 2) A ten-year NICAP membership; and 3) Three autographed NICAP publications.

Second Prize—awarded to the person securing the second highest number of new memberships and/or renewals—will include: 1) An autographed copy of one of the UFO books by NICAP's Director, Major Donald Keyhoe; 2) A color photographic enlargement of one of the paintings specially prepared for NICAP by Ted Thoben; 3) A five-year NICAP membership; and 4) Two NICAP publications.

Third Prize—awarded to the person submitting the third largest number of memberships and/or renewals—will include: 1) A color-photograph enlargement of one of Ted Thoben's special UFO paintings; 2) A three-year NICAP membership; and 3) One NICAP publication.

As added incentive, NICAP offers special prizes to individuals making substantial contributions to the contest but failing to win any of the three main prizes. These special prizes are: Any contestant who submits five to nine orders for membership will receive a free one-year NICAP membership (or renewal, if the contestant is already a member). Any contestant who submits ten or more membership orders will receive a free one-year NICAP membership (or renewal) plus a color photograph of one of the Ted Thoben paintings.

The painting to be awarded as part of First Prize will depict any UFO sighting of the winner's choice, provided NICAP considers the sighting genuine and NICAP's file on the sighting is adequate.

The photographs to be awarded as part of Second and Third Prizes will be selected by the winners from a list of the Thoben paintings already in NICAP's possession. These will be extra large (the exact dimensions have not yet been determined) and will be made by a professional photo laboratory.

The color photographs to be awarded as special prizes will be selected by NICAP.

CONTEST RULES

1. The purpose of the contest is to secure new NICAP memberships and renewals. Each order for one of these will count, with equal weight, toward a prize. A sample of the order form to be used by contestants is enclosed with this issue of the UFO Investigator. The sample may be copied by the contestant, or copies may be obtained from NICAP. Entries that do not supply the information on the sample order form may have to be disqualified. Only new renewals, submitted during the contest period, will count toward contest prizes.

2. The contest is open to all interested persons, regardless of whether they are NICAP members. If a contestant chooses to join NICAP during the contest period, his new membership may be used as a contest entry in addition to the other orders he submits. If a contestant is already a NICAP member and chooses to renew his membership during the contest period, his renewal can be used as a contest entry in addition to the other orders he submits.

3. The contest opens on June 15, 1968, and closes on August 31, 1968. All entries must be submitted during this period. Entries postmarked later than the closing date of the contest will be treated as normal, noncontest orders and will not count toward any contest prize. All entries become the property of NICAP, and none will be returned.

4. All entries must be accompanied by full payment for the orders being submitted.

5. All payments submitted with contest orders should be in U.S. funds. Currency, checks, and money orders are acceptable. Do

not submit stamps, coins, or foreign money.

6. Please make all checks and money orders payable to NICAP.
7. The judges of the contest will be the members of NICAP's Executive Staff, and their decisions will be final. Correspondence cannot be entered into with individual contestants about their entries, unless NICAP considers it necessary.

8. Winners will be notified individually by mail, and their names will be announced in the September/October, 1968, issue of the UFO Investigator. This will be the only official announcement, and no other lists will be offered or sent out.

NETWORK TO REPORT SIGHTINGS

A nationwide UFO reporting network, composed of amateur radio operators, is being organized by Wayne Green, veteran "ham" operator and publisher of "73 Magazine." NICAP has offered full cooperation and is asking all its "ham" members to communicate with Mr. Green and help speed up the operation. Mr. Green has agreed to relay all network-reported sightings to NICAP, and to help in alerting our Subcommittees in the areas concerned, so that prompt investigations can be made.

If fully carried out, this UFO network system will fill a long-recognized need. In our earlier years, we tried to set up such a system, but there was not sufficient interest. With today's wide interest in UFOs, the plan should succeed.

There are some 265,000 licensed radio amateurs in the U.S., plus more than a million users of mobile radios in taxis, police cars, trucks, Civil Air Patrol and other vehicles. With all these available sources, a UFO reporting system could be set up to blanket the country.

Mr. Green has outlined his network plan. "If we were to establish a net frequency on 80, 40 and 160 meters for UFO reporting we could arrange for a single tone to be transmitted, when an alert came along, which would turn on one of the loudspeakers of participating stations. Thus all of us could have a receiver set up on a net channel all the time, running silently. Amateurs in every community. . . could ask their local police, Civil Defense, etc., to call them immediately if any sightings are reported.

"When something is reported anywhere the local amateur station would call in on the net and net control would send the tone to alert the entire network. Once the area of contact was established amateurs in the area toward which the UFO was headed could alert their police and others. . . (This could include alerting the nearest NICAP Subcommittee or special investigator)."

Mr. Green suggests that interested "hams" start operations on 14250 kHz, and he offers his station — W2NSD, Peterborough, New Hampshire—as the control station. Alternate calls, if an operator cannot get on 14250, are 7250 or 3000 kHz.

SOVIET SCIENTISTS SPLIT ON UFOs

A sharp attack on the USSR's recently announced UFO project has been launched by the Soviet Academy of Sciences, raising several questions about the official policy on UFOs.

The split between scientist groups was revealed in a late February edition of Pravda, Communist Party newspaper. The relatively new UFO Section of Moscow's All-Union Cosmonautics Committee was denounced by the Academy of Sciences as "sensational and unscientific." The Academy also rejected the reports of huge crescent-shaped objects, sighted by Soviet astronomers and publicized by Dr. Felix Zigel, an eminent scientist on the UFO Project's staff. (See UFO Investigator, Vol. IV, No. 4, p. 1.) According to the Academy, its physics division had studied the reports and found them to have a "well-known origin" with "no scientific base."

The possibility of such an attack was hinted by Dr. Zigel when he disclosed the remarkable sightings. "Unfortunately," he said, "certain scientists, both in the Soviet Union and in the United States, deny the very existence of the problem."

The Academy's published blast seems to indicate a shift in high Soviet policy since the UFO Project was announced. If this is so, then a cancellation of the project may be forthcoming. This still would not explain the abrupt turn-around, and it would leave another question unanswered: What will happen to the book on extraterrestrial life reportedly being prepared by the Academy of Sciences? According to Dr. Zigel, the book was to contain a sizable section on UFOs.


**NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA**

**1536 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036**

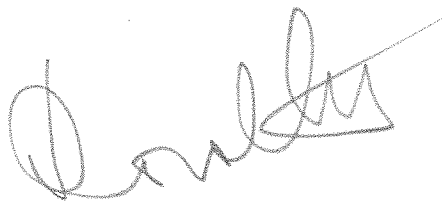
June 21, 1968

Dear Congressman Ford;

Please find enclosed a copy of our latest
bulletin, for your information.


Gordon I. R. Lore
Assistant Director

GIRL/gh



MINORITY LEADER
United States
House of Representatives

These are the
only copies
we have. If
used, be sure
to run off a
copy and keep
these originals

Press 7-30

It's Time to Stop Laughing At UFOs—Must Study Them

WASHINGTON (UPI) — In Northern California, two highway patrolmen report watching a glowing cigar-shaped craft with red and white lights drop from the sky, swiftly reverse its direction, hover, finally disappear.

From around the world in recent years come reports of similar sightings of disc-shaped or elongated objects—including some that seem to respond to lights flashed from the ground by flashing back in the same pattern.

Visitors From Space?

A group of prominent scientists told Congress Monday these unidentified flying objects (UFOs) may be visitors from other worlds, natural phenomena such as electrical disturbances, or hallucinations.

Whatever they are, the six scientists at a symposium sponsored by the House Science Committee agreed it is time to stop laughing off the "hard core" group of unexplained UFOs and start long-term, government-backed programs to

understand them.

Those appearing at the symposium included Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory; Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist with the Institute of Atmospheric

Physics at the University of Arizona and Dr. Robert M. L. Baker Jr., from the Computer Sciences Corp., El Segundo, Calif.

The scientists agreed that too many sightings have defied analysis to rule out the possibility of surveillance by beings from outer space.

Cites Blackout

"This is a possibility I take very seriously," McDonald said. "If there is even a chance of surveillance, we should explore it."

McDonald said if the earth was being watched, it was being done by a society so advanced that its technology "would be indistinguishable from magic" to earthmen. He also said many UFO sightings were reported up and down the Eastern Seaboard around the time of the Northeast power blackout late in 1965—precipitated by a power pulse the cause of which has never been identified.

"There is a puzzling and slightly disturbing coincidence here," he said.

Feature Page

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1967

11A

By Roscoe Drummond



At Last, Real Study Of Flying Saucers

BOULDER, Colo. — The U.S. Government is at last really trying to find out if those flying saucers are real.

The UFO's are being taken seriously in a resourceful and open-minded investigation to get the facts—regardless of where they lead.

This means that "The Case of the Flying Saucers: Real or Myth?" is going to have its day in the court of objective inquiry and I am persuaded that the new investigators are not going to be deterred by the cynics who like to dismiss all sightings and find explanations later or trapped by the hoaxers who make the work of thorough study so difficult.

THE BEST GUARANTEE that it is a hard-headed, no-nonsense investigation which the University of Colorado is carrying out for the Air Force is the man who runs it—the nuclear scientist, Dr. Edward U. Condon, tough-minded head of UC's Department of Physics and Astrophysics.

Dr. Condon fought off the politicians and the know-nothings when he headed the U. S. Bureau of Standards in Washington in the '40s and he is not one to be intimidated by that breed of scientist who cringes professionally at the very thought of taking UFO's seriously or by those in the military who in the past have been far more interested in burying the facts than looking at them.

If you are an agnostic on flying saucers as I am—that is, don't know but willing to be shown—you have reason to be satisfied that the Condon investigation, under a \$300,000 Pentagon contract, is being undertaken by a good team at the right time.

From my conversations in Boulder with Dr. Condon and Robert J. Low, who left his position as assistant dean of the Graduate School here to devote full time as project co-ordinator,

I feel you can dismiss the belief that the UFO investigation could be the captive of the uncritical doubters or the uncritical believers or just a sly gesture by the Air Force to get the UFO thing off its back.

The most reassuring fact is that Dr. Condon and his staff are not going to be satisfied just to sift through old reports and try to glean new clues. They are going to do that—and more. They are going to exhaust all reasonable possibilities of getting new evidence capable of proving the existence of flying objects for which no conventional explanation is adequate.

THE CONDON TEAM is not closing its mind to the possibility that the source of UFO's could be outer space. In fact, the most refreshing thing about the whole project is the spirited objectivity of its approach.

There are both believers and non-believers on the team—and that is as it should be—but the evident mood which, I am sure, is in large part generated by Dr. Condon himself, is intense curiosity and one of "let's get at the facts whatever they may show."

Robert H. Hall, the assistant director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a competent and balanced private group which has long been gathering and sifting UFO information, speaks highly of "the truly scientific attitudes of the Colorado scientists."

This seems to me to be a needed and trustworthy attempt to get new and significant information on the UFO mystery. The reason such an authoritative investigation is needed is that there are too many sightings by responsible observers—the minimum is more than 650 in all—for which there is absolutely no satisfactory explanation.

This investigation comes none too soon. For too long the public has been battered by the extremists on both sides and the Air Force's back-of-the-wrist dismissal of the evidence has only fed speculation by its own unreliability.

Let's cease speculation for a year and wait for the Condon report.



Dr. Condon

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

On the Trail of the UFO

By WALTER SULLIVAN

Two weekends ago the headquarters of the government-sponsored effort to assess the "flying saucer" phenomenon was itself subjected to a perplexing flying objects, or UFO's.

The invasion occurred over the town of Boulder, home of the University of Colorado and seat of the 18-month study initiated by the Air Force five months ago. It was inevitable that those who suspect UFO's are piloted by exotic visitors from another world should assume that these creatures knew of the investigation and the location of its headquarters.

Accounts Vary

Indeed, the peculiar lights move past the 10-story tower of the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics. It is from the top floor of that tower that Dr. Edward U. Condon, professor of physics and former head of the National Bureau of Standards, directs the investigation.

For two days his investigators interviewed witnesses. The accounts varied remarkably, particularly with regard to the distance of the objects and their size. It was reported by at least one source that, after snooping around for a while, the UFO's "whizzed off at tremendous speed." This is typical of many UFO accounts.

Then a sheepish group of students confessed. They had suspended birthday candles below a number of plastic bags of the type used for packaging dry-cleaned garments. Hot air from the candles inflated and lifted the bags. The candles were part of a device attached to the bags and they produced the mysterious lights. They burned for 20 minutes—long enough to stir up a good deal of excitement.

The student pranksters and

others who have tried the same trick, have also stirred up the Federal Aviation Agency. It fears that pilots approaching a runway could become confused by such glowing balloons, even if they did not hit them. It is reported that similar balloons were made in Oregon, using highway emergency flares instead of candles. One is said to have set a house on fire.

The Boulder affair has provided the investigators with a particularly well-documented example of a UFO episode. Of particular interest was its demonstration of the unreliable nature of human observation. Despite the great number of witnesses—some of them experienced scientists and astronomers—it was only toward the end of the investigation (shortly before the students confessed) that the true explanation began to become evident.

Dr. Condon himself is reluctant to discuss the over-all project until its official report has been prepared. It is to be reviewed by the National Academy of Sciences and may not be made public until a year from next summer. However, many details of the investigation are known on the university campus and it appears that no solid evidence has yet been found to support the view that any UFO's are piloted by visitors from beyond the earth.

Specialists on Hand

The University of Colorado was chosen because it lies in a community rich in the specialists needed for such an inquiry. Apart from the university, which has a strong physics department, there are laboratories of the Environmental Science Services Administration with experts in upper air and electrical phenomena. There are the astronomers of the High Altitude Observatory and specialists in weather freaks at the National Center for Atmospheric Research.

Robert J. Low, executive director of the project, is a veteran of the last-named center. The problem seems to be a lack of evidence—so far, at least—that can be put to an impartial scientific test. The files are filled with accounts of what people think they saw, but Boulder's own UFO experience has raised basic questions as to the reliability of such accounts.

Natural Phenomena

Furthermore that experience has much in common with many other episodes. As with the Air Force inquiries, most UFO's have readily been identified as natural or man-made phenomena—planets, balloons, earth satellites and so forth. It is also evident that the phenomena leading to such reports are very diverse. There is no simple explanation for UFO's as a whole. Any one type of phenomenon accounts for only a small percentage of the total number of explained episodes.

The experts here are prepared to use a variety of tests on any concrete evidence that comes to hand. For example they can tell from the radioactivity of an object whether or not it has recently been in space and, if so, for how long. The technique has been used extensively in meteorite studies.

However the specialists apparently have not had much to work on. A national magazine recently published a photograph of an irregular patch of discolored sand which was described as claw-like in shape. The magazine quoted a young couple as saying they were in a parked car near by when a saucer-like craft landed at this spot and then took off. While police were investigating the landing site, the girl, according to this account, screamed and said a monstrous creature emerged from the woods and threatened her.

The discolored sand has been subjected to careful analysis, accord-

ing to sources in Boulder, and the discoloring agent has been identified as human urine.

Another form of material evidence consists of photographs purporting to show UFO's. These are being studied with densitometers and other devices capable of detecting where a picture has been altered or double-exposed. The results of these studies have not been made public, but it is obvious that the investigators so far have not been greatly impressed by the photographs.

The Condon investigation was instigated at the request of the Air Force, whose handling of the UFO's had been questioned. Some said the Air Force did not take them seriously enough. Others suspected that the truth was being withheld. The Air Force is responsible for checking on possible intrusions into American air space.

Some Predict Whitewash

The fact that the Air Force is financing Dr. Condon's inquiry has led some of those who take the reports seriously to prophesy that his report would be a "whitewash." There are UFO believers on the campus at Boulder, as there are in other such communities, and Dr. Condon has been asked at student gatherings whether his mind was not closed on the subject. He has vehemently denied this, arguing that the mind of a scientist should not be closed to anything.

The Air Force has obviously hoped that the prestige of Dr. Condon, a former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will counteract any charges that he is a party to a conspiracy to hide the truth. A few days ago the University of Utah made public a speech by Dr. Elie A. Shneour, a molecular biologist on its faculty, attacking the Condon project as fruitless.

His theme was that UFO's represent the modern counterpart of

"elves and hobgoblins." People, he said, "have been seeing things for a long time." Anyone today who explained a puzzling observation as a hobgoblin would be laughed at, but to many the flying saucer idea is plausible. The current inquiry, he said, is unlikely to throw any new light on the problem. "It will not silence those who have made either a religion or a business of UFO's."

Despite the scorn with which most scientists look upon the UFO reports, there are a few who would have them taken seriously. Among them is Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the observatory at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Dr. Hynek has been an advisor to the Air Force in its UFO investigations. Another is Dr. James E. McDonald, Professor of Meteorology and Climatology at the University of Arizona and a leading authority on cloud physics. He has been conducting his own investigation of UFO's and seems prepared to consider the possibility that they are vehicles from another world.

While there have been a number of UFO reports from other countries, no government-sponsored investigations are under way abroad, so far as could be learned last week.

The Condon inquiry has grown out of the demand by many Americans for an authoritative assessment. They have been fed so many accounts of sightings, landings and even voyages on board such craft that they want to know the truth. If the one common denominator of such reports is the frailty of the human mind, as an observing and remembering device, then they will want such peculiarities of the mind documented. The trouble is that the science of cognition is in its infancy and its findings are not widely known, even among otherwise well-informed scientists.

Force's UFO Expert Meets the Man From S.A.U.C.E.R.S.

Willard Clopton Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

ARK, June 26—Seeing Dr. Condon at the Congress of Ufologists was like running a race at a convention of house

was — Condon, eminent former head of the National Standards, the man picked to direct an Air Force-financed study at the University of Maryland come up with some once-answers about Unidentified

ects. were the Ufologists—100 delegates, joined by some 1500 scientists from the general pub- ned into the grand ballroom Commodore Hotel for the first saucer convention ever held

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reached Jim Moseley, the convention chairman.

Moseley—36, a lean, intense man with a Princeton education, head of the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society (S.A.U.C.E.R.S.), the host organization—interrupted the proceedings to announce Condon's presence. The burly, 64-year-old scientist arose and gave a quick wave.

They gave him polite applause, though there was a mild groan when Moseley mentioned the Air Force, which is to most ufologists what cloudy days must have been to the ancient worshippers of Ra, the sun god.

At intermission, Moseley came charging down from the podium to shake Condon's hand and ask what he thought of the meeting.

"Very interesting," the scientist said. After a moment, he added: "Some of these fellows [the lecturers] have a way of sliding over the evidence."

"Well, we can't run this in a test

tube," Moseley responded. "We've got to pack the hall."

Pack it they did. They were four public sessions during the five-day Congress, which ended yesterday, and each drew between 1500 and 2000 people. They paid \$2 apiece to see and hear a variety of speakers, most of them bright or rising stars in the ufological firmament.

One was Gordon Evans, an associate professor of economics at the New York State University College at New Paltz, N.Y., who makes a hobby of UFOs.

He presented his "openly speculative" notions that UFOs are manned by a far more highly evolved species than men of earth and that their frequent visits to this planet are part of "a long-range developmental plan" of "transferring their science to us in a hidden way."

They recognize, he said, that people on earth are in danger of self-extermination through the means of H-bombs,

biological warfare and other technological hazards.

They want to help, he speculated, but may be fearful that if they tell us everything they know at one time, it could produce "drastic cultural shock."

Unless they are able to communicate their wisdom to us gradually, he suggested, it may be that within 50 years, earth "will become a protectorate, in which political and economic power are taken away from the human race and turned over to an extraterrestrial species."

The Rev. Richard Basile of Wana-massa, N.J., of the Assemblies of God denomination, said the appearance of the saucers is "one of the signs of the end time," signifying the imminence of Christ's second coming.

Art Ford, an East Coast radio and television figure, told of his research into the mysterious disappearance of six Navy planes in December, 1945, while on a training flight near Florida. He wondered if the craft and their

crews have been transported to another planet for study by "somebody taking samples of our technology and manpower."

A less flamboyant presentation was that of James Randi, a New Yorker and professional magician, who said:

"Let's not fool ourselves. There are some garden variety liars involved in all this. But in among all the trash and nonsense perpetrated in the name of ufology, I think there is a small grain of truth."

Moseley let it be known that S.A.U.C.E.R.S. did not sanction all the goings-on at the gathering, but also made it clear that he wasn't going to censor anybody.

In between the open meetings, the delegates attended closed "business" sessions, no word of which leaked out.

The delegates, according to a special convention issue of Saucer News—the official publication of S.A.U.C.E.R.S.—"may include anyone who can demonstrate an interest in the subject of UFOs above the level of simple curi-

osity, and who is able to conduct himself in a civilized manner."

People under 25 appeared to predominate among those at the public meetings, and a sizable number were in their teens. At one point, the audience was asked how many had seen a UFO, and about half raised their hands. Most were from the New York area, but there was representation from Florida, the Midwest and what one UFO researcher called the "Southern California surfboard set."

Just outside the ballroom was a large exhibit area, featuring models of saucers and material on reported sightings of "moth men" and 3-foot-high "humanoids." A number of booths were doing a brisk trade in UFO books, records and other memorabilia.

Dr. Condon sat poker-faced through it all.

"It's very interesting," he observed inscrutably, showing a crinkle of smile.

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Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, June 26—Seeing Dr. Edward U. Condon at the Congress of Scientific Ufologists was like running into Picasso at a convention of house painters.

There he was — Condon, eminent physicist, former head of the National Bureau of Standards, the man picked last fall to direct an Air Force-financed, \$300,000 study at the University of Colorado and come up with some once-and-for-all answers about Unidentified Flying Objects.

There, too, were the Ufologists—100 or so delegates, joined by some 1500 UFO enthusiasts from the general public, all jammed into the grand ballroom of the Commodore Hotel for the first big flying saucer convention ever held in this city.

Condon, seated with his wife, remained anonymous through the first public session, but midway through the second, word that he was on hand

reached Jim Moseley, the convention chairman.

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PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORBES LIBRARY

UFOs High Among Thant's Worries

By Drew Pearson and
Jack Anderson

In the very middle of the Near East crisis U.N. Secretary General Thant took time to do a very significant thing. He arranged to have one of the top advocates of the theory that flying saucers—UFOs—are from another planet, speak before the Outer Space Affairs Committee of the United Nations.

The Middle East war broke on June 5. On June 7 Dr. James E. McDonald of the University of Arizona, a firm believer in UFOs, spoke before the U.N. outer space committee. Dr. McDonald believes that UFOs are extra-terrestrial spaceships on reconnaissance missions to explore the earth. He has also addressed the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the Washington Meteorology Society on this subject.

Interesting fact is that U Thant has confided to friends that he considers UFOs the most important problem facing the United Nations next to the war in Vietnam. U Thant made this statement before the war in the Near East, so it's not known how he rates this last international incident compared with UFOs.

Arab Pilots in U.S.A.

The diplomatic world is still marveling at the success of President Nasser in putting across the Big Lie—that U.S. and British planes helped Is-

rael win its amazing victory. The Arab people still believe the Nasser broadcasts.

But what the diplomats and the public don't know is that while Nasser was making his charge a tremendous number of Arab pilots were being trained in the United States, presumably to fight against Israel. The total number of Arab pilots trained in this country between 1964 and 1967 was 812. In the same period only 39 Israeli pilots trained at U.S. Air Force bases.

Morocco, for instance, sent 363 pilots to learn to fly at U.S. bases. And after Nasser put across the Big Lie regarding U.S. planes, Moroccans stormed and burned the American Library and other U.S. buildings.

Libya sent 119 pilots to train in the United States. Libya has now broken off relations with the United States and demanded the evacuation of Wheelus Air Force base, even though an additional number of Libya pilots were studying there free.

Saudi Arabia sent 112 pilots to train in the United States. There were demonstrations against Americans in Saudi Arabia after Nasser's Big Lie.

Jordan sent 103 pilots to train here; the Sudan sent 39 pilots and has now broken off relations; Iraq sent 28 pilots and has viciously attacked Americans.

Egypt sent six pilots, Syria two and Tunisia one. The first two countries have broken

diplomatic relations and set fire to American buildings.

Meanwhile, only one Israeli was training in the United States during the Near East crisis, and he was graduated on June 1, four days before war started.

Despite the break in diplomatic relations, Arab pilots have continued to study here undisturbed by any demonstrations or resentment by the American people.

Flouting the Constitution

Back when the Founding Fathers were putting this Nation together, one of their big debates was whether tariffs could be levied by one state against the products of another.

Some wanted to put up a tariff against the manufactured goods of New England. There was quite a battle over this, but in the end the Founding Fathers ruled that if this country was going to be homogeneous it must not discriminate against the products of any state. There could be no tariff barriers.

This wise policy is one important factor in making the United States the greatest economic power in the world today.

Believe it or not, however, some states have now junked this and no one has called them on the carpet. Specifically, Georgia, Arkansas, Michigan, Washington and South Carolina are taxing out-of-state wines at rates of 500 to 1500

per cent higher than they do local wines.

In addition, Colorado, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island have imposed licensing fees for both wholesalers and out-of-state wineries which are so high that they prevent smaller California wineries from distributing in those states. Fees paid by retailers in these states are also high.

Finally New York, which produces a good wine of its own, has slapped what amounts to a tariff on wines from other states. If you're selling wine in New York, you have to pay \$550 a year to advertise—that is, if you produce wine in California or elsewhere. If you produce wine in New York, you don't have to pay the \$550.

Ethics Is Honesty

The Nation's Business, spokesman for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has taken issue with spokesmen for Sen. Tom Dodd, who claim the U.S. Senate has never adopted a code of ethics. Says Nation's Business: "Honesty is not difficult to define. Perhaps the Senate needs a dictionary.

"The depth of the difference in standards for the ins, compared with the outs, is illustrated in a quip by Sen. Stephen M. Young, a merry old gentleman from Ohio whose honesty is as unquestioned as his wit is sharp. He said he had placed a \$5 maximum value on acceptable gifts, and added: 'I declare every bottle of bourbon worth \$499.'"

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rael win its amazing victory. The Arab people still believe the Nasser broadcasts.

But what the diplomats and the public don't know is that while Nasser was making his charge a tremendous number of Arab pilots were being trained in the United States, presumably to fight against Israel. The total number of Arab pilots trained in this country between 1964 and 1967 was 812. In the same period only 39 Israeli pilots trained at U.S. Air Force bases.

Morocco, for instance, sent 363 pilots to learn to fly at U.S. bases. And after Nasser put across the Big Lie regarding U.S. planes, Moroccans stormed and burned the American Library and other U.S. buildings.

Libya sent 119 pilots to train in the United States. Libya has now broken off relations with the United States and demanded the evacuation of Wheelus Air Force base, even though an additional number of Libya pilots were studying there free.

Saudi Arabia sent 112 pilots to train in the United States. There were demonstrations against Americans in Saudi Arabia after Nasser's Big Lie.

Jordan sent 103 pilots to train here; the Sudan sent 39 pilots and has now broken off relations; Iraq sent 28 pilots and has viciously attacked Americans.

Egypt sent six pilots, Syria two and Tunisia one. The first two countries have broken

diplomatic relations and set fire to American buildings.

Meanwhile, only one Israeli was training in the United States during the Near East crisis, and he was graduated on June 1, four days before war started.

Despite the break in diplomatic relations, Arab pilots have continued to study here undisturbed by any demonstrations or resentment by the American people.

Flouting the Constitution

Back when the Founding Fathers were putting this Nation together, one of their big debates was whether tariffs could be levied by one state against the products of another.

Some wanted to put up a tariff against the manufactured goods of New England. There was quite a battle over this, but in the end the Founding Fathers ruled that if this country was going to be homogeneous it must not discriminate against the products of any state. There could be no tariff barriers.

This wise policy is one important factor in making the United States the greatest economic power in the world today.

Believe it or not, however, some states have now junked this and no one has called them on the carpet. Specifically, Georgia, Arkansas, Michigan, Washington and South Carolina are taxing out-of-state wines at rates of 500 to 1500

per cent higher than they do local wines.

In addition, Colorado, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island have imposed licensing fees for both wholesalers and out-of-state wineries which are so high that they prevent smaller California wineries from distributing in those states. Fees paid by retailers in these states are also high.

Finally New York, which produces a good wine of its own, has slapped what amounts to a tariff on wines from other states. If you're selling wine in New York, you have to pay \$550 a year to advertise—that is, if you produce wine in California or elsewhere. If you produce wine in New York, you don't have to pay the \$550.

Ethics Is Honesty

The Nation's Business, spokesman for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has taken issue with spokesmen for Sen. Tom Dodd, who claim the U.S. Senate has never adopted a code of ethics. Says Nation's Business: "Honesty is not difficult to define. Perhaps the Senate needs a dictionary.

"The depth of the difference in standards for the ins, compared with the outs, is illustrated in a quip by Sen. Stephen M. Young, a merry old gentleman from Ohio whose honesty is as unquestioned as his wit is sharp. He said he had placed a \$5 maximum value on acceptable gifts, and added: 'I declare every bottle of bourbon worth \$4.99.'"

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PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Feature Page

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1967

11-A

By Roscoe Drummond



At Last, Real Study Of Flying Saucers

BOULDER, Colo. — The U.S. Government is at last really trying to find out if those flying saucers are real.

The UFO's are being taken seriously in a resourceful and open-minded investigation to get the facts—regardless of where they lead.

This means that "The Case of the Flying Saucers: Real or Myth?" is going to have its day in the court of objective inquiry and I am persuaded that the new investigators are not going to be deterred by the cynics who like to dismiss all sightings and find explanations later or trapped by the hoaxers who make the work of thorough study so difficult.

THE BEST GUARANTEE that it is a hard-headed, no-nonsense investigation which the University of Colorado is carrying out for the Air Force is the man who runs it—the nuclear scientist, Dr. Edward U. Condon, tough-minded head of UC's Department of Physics and Astrophysics.

Dr. Condon fought off the politicians and the know-nothings when he headed the U. S. Bureau of Standards in Washington in the '40s and he is not one to be intimidated by that breed of scientist who cringes professionally at the very thought of taking UFO's seriously or by those in the military who in the past have been far more interested in burying the facts than looking at them.

If you are an agnostic on flying saucers as I am—that is, don't know but willing to be shown—you have reason to be satisfied that the Condon investigation, under a \$300,000 Pentagon contract, is being undertaken by a good team at the right time.

From my conversations in Boulder with Dr. Condon and Robert J. Low, who left his position as assistant dean of the Graduate School here to devote full time as project co-ordinator,

I feel you can dismiss the belief that the UFO investigation could be the captive of the uncritical doubters or the uncritical believers or just a sly gesture by the Air Force to get the UFO thing off its back.

The most reassuring fact is that Dr. Condon and his staff are not going to be satisfied just to sift through old reports and try to glean new clues. They are going to do that—and more. They are going to exhaust all reasonable possibilities of getting new evidence capable of proving the existence of flying objects for which no conventional explanation is adequate.

THE CONDON TEAM is not closing its mind to the possibility that the source of UFO's could be outer space. In fact, the most refreshing thing about the whole project is the spirited objectivity of its approach.

There are both believers and non-believers on the team—and that is as it should be—but the evident mood which, I am sure, is in large part generated by Dr. Condon himself, is intense curiosity and one of "let's get at the facts whatever they may show."

Robert H. Hall, the assistant director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a competent and balanced private group which has long been gathering and sifting UFO information, speaks highly of "the truly scientific attitudes of the Colorado scientists."

This seems to me to be a needed and trustworthy attempt to get new and significant information on the UFO mystery. The reason such an authoritative investigation is needed is that there are too many sightings by responsible observers—the minimum is more than 650 in all—for which there is absolutely no satisfactory explanation.

This investigation comes none too soon. For too long the public has been battered by the extremists on both sides and the Air Force's back-of-the-wrist dismissal of the evidence has only fed speculation by its own unreliability.

Let's cease speculation for a year and wait for the Condon report.



Dr. Condon

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THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1967

On the Trail of the UFO

By WALTER SULLIVAN

Two weekends ago the headquarters of the government-sponsored effort to assess the "flying saucer" phenomenon was itself subjected to a perplexing flying objects, or UFO's.

The invasion occurred over the town of Boulder, home of the University of Colorado and seat of the 18-month study initiated by the Air Force five months ago. It was inevitable that those who suspect UFO's are piloted by exotic visitors from another world should assume that these creatures knew of the investigation and the location of its headquarters.

Accounts Vary

Indeed, the peculiar lights move past the 10-story tower of the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics. It is from the top floor of that tower that Dr. Edward U. Condon, professor of physics and former head of the National Bureau of Standards, directs the investigation.

For two days his investigators interviewed witnesses. The accounts varied remarkably, particularly with regard to the distance of the objects and their size. It was reported by at least one source that, after snooping around for a while, the UFO's "whizzed off at tremendous speed." This is typical of many UFO accounts.

Then a sheepish group of students confessed. They had suspended birthday candles below a number of plastic bags of the type used for packaging dry-cleaned garments. Hot air from the candles inflated and lifted the bags. The candles were part of a device attached to the bags and they produced the mysterious lights. They burned for 20 minutes—long enough to stir up a good deal of

others who have tried the same trick, have also stirred up the Federal Aviation Agency. It fears that pilots approaching a runway could become confused by such glowing balloons, even if they did not hit them. It is reported that similar balloons were made in Oregon, using highway emergency flares instead of candles. One is said to have set a house on fire.

The Boulder affair has provided the investigators with a particularly well-documented example of a UFO episode. Of particular interest was its demonstration of the unreliable nature of human observation. Despite the great number of witnesses—some of them experienced scientists and astronomers—it was only toward the end of the investigation (shortly before the students confessed) that the true explanation began to become evident.

Dr. Condon himself is reluctant to discuss the over-all project until its official report has been prepared. It is to be reviewed by the National Academy of Sciences and may not be made public until a year from next summer. However, many details of the investigation are known on the university campus and it appears that no solid evidence has yet been found to support the view that any UFO's are piloted by visitors from beyond the earth.

Specialists on Hand

The University of Colorado was chosen because it lies in a community rich in the specialists needed for such an inquiry. Apart from the university, which has a strong physics department, there are laboratories of the Environmental Science Services Administration with experts in upper air and electrical phenomena. There are the astronomers of the High Altitude Observatory and specialists in weather

Robert J. Low, executive director of the project, is a veteran of the last-named center. The problem seems to be a lack of evidence—so far, at least—that can be put to an impartial scientific test. The files are filled with accounts of what people think they saw, but Boulder's own UFO experience has raised basic questions as to the reliability of such accounts.

Natural Phenomena

Furthermore that experience has much in common with many other episodes. As with the Air Force inquiries, most UFO's have readily been identified as natural or man-made phenomena—planets, balloons, earth satellites and so forth. It is also evident that the phenomena leading to such reports are very diverse. There is no simple explanation for UFO's as a whole. Any one type of phenomenon accounts for only a small percentage of the total number of explained episodes.

The experts here are prepared to use a variety of tests on any concrete evidence that comes to hand. For example they can tell from the radioactivity of an object whether or not it has recently been in space and, if so, for how long. The technique has been used extensively in meteorite studies.

However the specialists apparently have not had much to work on. A national magazine recently published a photograph of an irregular patch of discolored sand which was described as claw-like in shape. The magazine quoted a young couple as saying they were in a parked car near by when a saucer-like craft landed at this spot and then took off. While police were investigating the landing site, the girl, according to this account, screamed and said a monstrous creature emerged from the woods and threatened her.

ing to sources in Boulder, and the discoloring agent has been identified as human urine.

Another form of material evidence consists of photographs purporting to show UFO's. These are being studied with densitometers and other devices capable of detecting where a picture has been altered or double-exposed. The results of these studies have not been made public, but it is obvious that the investigators so far have not been greatly impressed by the photographs.

The Condon investigation was instigated at the request of the Air Force, whose handling of the UFO's had been questioned. Some said the Air Force did not take them seriously enough. Others suspected that the truth was being withheld. The Air Force is responsible for checking on possible intrusions into American air space.

Some Predict Whitewash

The fact that the Air Force is financing Dr. Condon's inquiry has led some of those who take the reports seriously to prophesy that his report would be a "whitewash." There are UFO believers on the campus at Boulder, as there are in other such communities, and Dr. Condon has been asked at student gatherings whether his mind was not closed on the subject. He has vehemently denied this, arguing that the mind of a scientist should not be closed to anything.

The Air Force has obviously hoped that the prestige of Dr. Condon, a former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will counteract any charges that he is a party to a conspiracy to hide the truth. A few days ago the University of Utah made public a speech by Dr. Elie A. Shneour, a molecular biologist on its faculty, attacking the Condon project as fruitless.

His theme was that UFO's rep-

"elves and hobgoblins." People, he said, "have been seeing things for a long time." Anyone today who explained a puzzling observation as a hobgoblin would be laughed at, but to many the flying saucer idea is plausible. The current inquiry, he said, is unlikely to throw any new light on the problem. "It will not silence those who have made either a religion or a business of UFO's."

Despite the scorn with which most scientists look upon the UFO reports, there are a few who would have them taken seriously. Among them is Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the observatory at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Dr. Hynek has been an advisor to the Air Force in its UFO investigations. Another is Dr. James E. McDonald, Professor of Meteorology and Climatology at the University of Arizona and a leading authority on cloud physics. He has been conducting his own investigation of UFO's and seems prepared to consider the possibility that they are vehicles from another world.

While there have been a number of UFO reports from other countries, no government-sponsored investigations are under way abroad, so far as could be learned last week.

The Condon inquiry has grown out of the demand by many Americans for an authoritative assessment. They have been fed so many accounts of sightings, landings and even voyages on board such craft that they want to know the truth. If the one common denominator of such reports is the frailty of the human mind, as an observing and remembering device, then they will want such peculiarities of the mind documented. The trouble is that the science of cognition is in its infancy and its findings are not widely known, even among

UFO SIGHTING, PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK, ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA, JULY 31, 1966

There is no apparent correlation between the four phases of this sighting: the lights and the alleged black monster observed on the night of July 31, 1966, and the indentations and damp sandy area found on the beach on the morning of August 1, 1966.

As yet, there is no explanation of the lights that were observed. The Smithsonian Institution at Cambridge, Massachusetts, was contacted for information on any meteors that might have been observed at this time and place; their answer was negative. The Park Police and nearby United States Coast Guard base were contacted for information on any unusual lights over the area at that time; they also gave a negative report.

Raccoons and bears are known to be in the woods in that area. There is no evidence to substantiate the presence of a black monster.

With regard to the three indentations found on the beach, there is no evidence which indicates that a landing of any type occurred. This was verified by the Flight Dynamics Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. There was nothing unusual in the soil sample except urine. This was verified by the Air Force Materiel Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (PUBLIC AFFAIRS)

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

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AIR FORCE TO CONTRACT WITH SCIENTISTS
FOR UFO INVESTIGATIONS

The Air Force is taking steps to strengthen scientific investigations of reports it receives on unidentified flying objects (UFO).

The help of more individuals within the scientific community will be sought through contracts calling for prompt, in depth investigation of selected UFO reports. Air Force officials are now discussing the project informally with university and other scientific leaders to determine their interest.

The decision to award the contracts was based on a recommendation by the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board which reviewed the resources, methods, and findings of Project Blue Book - the Air Force program to investigate and evaluate UFO reports.

In its report, which was submitted to the Air Force in March, the investigating committee recommended expanding the program to include investigation of selected sightings by independent scientists. The committee also concluded that there has been no evidence that unidentified flying objects are a threat to national security, and complimented the Air Force on the organization of Project Blue Book.

The Air Force is preparing work statements for the new contracts now. Funds for them will be requested from FY 67 and FY 68 budgets.

- E N D -

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

RAVENNA, OHIO
April 17, 1966

Police Chief Gerald Buchert of Mantua, Ohio, and Sheriff Dale Spaur of Ravenna, Ohio, reported to the Air Force that they had observed an unidentified flying object at approximately 5:00 on the morning of April 17, 1966.

Mr. Buchert took a picture of the object he observed. He submitted the negative of the photograph to the Air Force for analysis. Photoanalysis of the negative indicates that the object which he tried to photograph does not appear as an image. The two images which appear on the negative are probably the result of processing defects due to old fogged film and poor handling.

Mr. Spaur reported that he chased the object for some distance. Since there were no aircraft or balloons in the area and since no unidentified objects were tracked on radar, the most probable cause of the sighting was the passage of a satellite over northeastern Ohio and the planet Venus. As the satellite approached the southeast portion of the sky, it disappeared, and Mr. Spaur focused his eyes on the planet Venus. Venus was rising in the southeast and was at a magnitude of -3.9 which would be brighter than any star in the sky.

EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

3 SEPTEMBER 1965

One observer (Muscarello) was hitch-hiking on Route 150 at 0200 hours when a group of five bright red lights appeared over a house about 100 feet from where he was standing. The lights were in a line at about a 60° angle and they were so bright they lit up the area. Only one light would be on at a time. Observer watched these lights for approximately 15 minutes when they finally disappeared behind some trees and seemed to go into a field. At one time the objects came so close that observer jumped into a ditch to keep from being hit. Observer caught a ride to Exeter Police Station and reported what he had seen.

Second observer (Bertrand) arrived at Police Station after consoling a lady in a car who claimed a light had been following her and stopped over her car. Bertrand and Muscarello left for the area where Muscarello had seen lights. After arriving in the area a group of five bright lights came from behind a group of trees. These lights were extremely bright and flashed one at a time. The lights started to move around over the field. At one time the lights came so close Bertrand fell to the ground and started to draw his gun. The lights were so bright Bertrand was unable to make out any distinct form. There was no sound or vibration but the farm animals nearby were upset and making a lot of noise. When the lights started coming near again, Muscarello and Bertrand ran for the car.

Third observer (Hunt) arrived after having been called by Bertrand. Hunt also observed the lights which were still over the field but not so close

as before. The lights moved out across the field at an estimated altitude of 100 feet and finally disappeared in the distance at the same altitude. The lights were always in line at about 60° angle. When the object moved the lower lights were always forward of the others. Total time that the lights were in the area was approximately two hours.

COMMENTS

The general description of flashing lights is consistent with previous reports of aircraft, refueling operations or low level photographic missions. An investigation was made as to the possibility of aircraft in the area at the time of the observation. Results of the investigation indicated that an 8th Air Force operation "Big Blast" was conducted in the New England area and B-47 aircraft from Pease AFB between 0044 and 0135 local time. The crews were questioned and they reported no unusual sightings during the time period of the unidentified flying object report. Although several reports were noted, the only report submitted to the Air Force for evaluation, was the observation made by the police officers and Muscarello.

The preliminary impression was that an aircraft from "Big Blast" was the cause of the lights. These aircraft were in the traffic pattern over Exeter between 0044 and 0135, which does not correspond to the time of the observation. Since no aircraft can be placed in the area at 0200 hours the case is listed as unidentified by the Air Force.

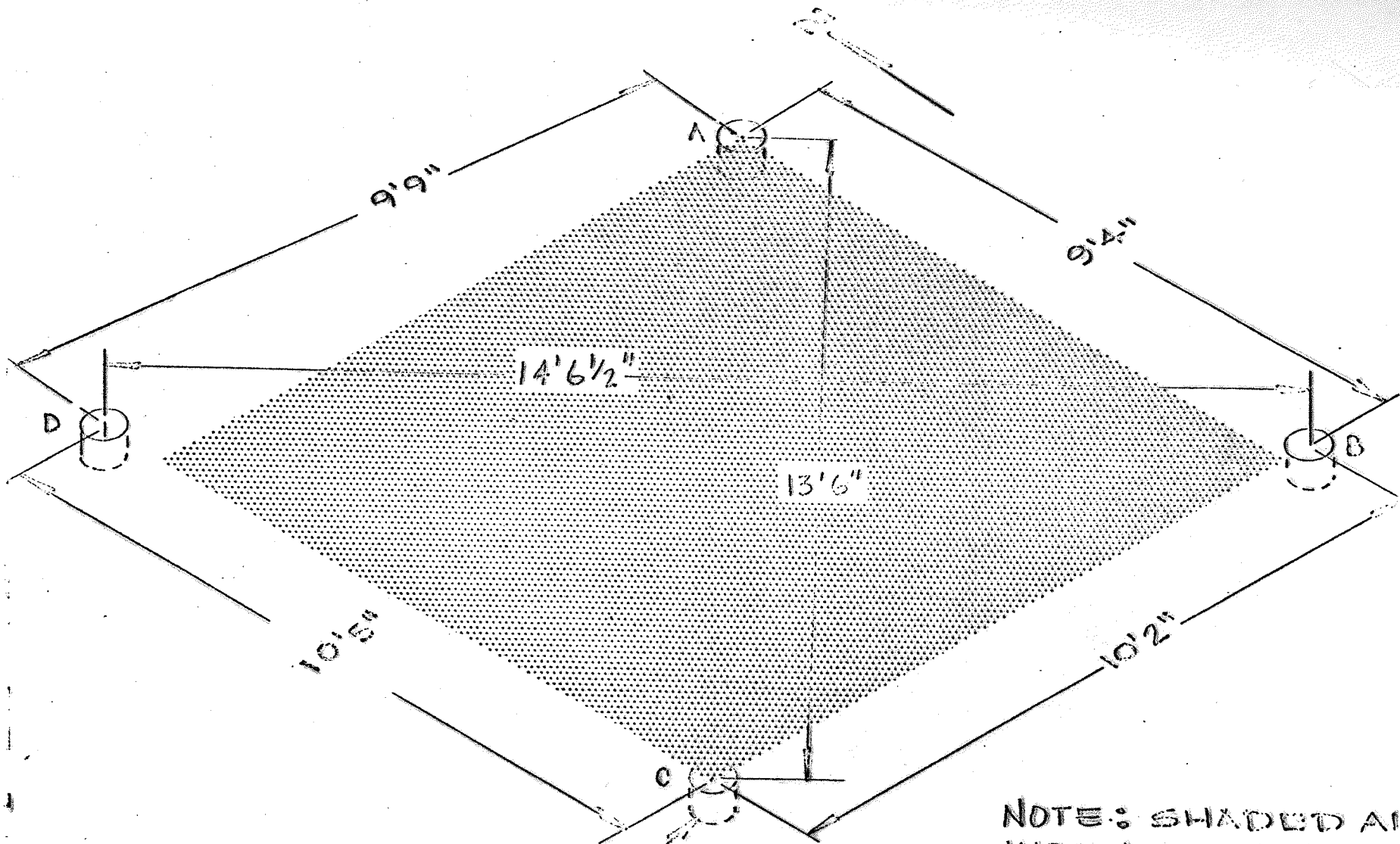
BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA
2 MARCH 1965

The alleged landing of a spacecraft at Brooksville, Florida, on 2 March 1965, was apparently a hoax according to information obtained by Air Force investigators from MacDill AFB, Florida, and by Dr. C. W. Bemiss, Pan American Airways technical staff member of the Eastern Test Range, who conducted an additional investigation.

The report submitted to the Air Force investigators by the alleged eyewitness contained several statements which cannot be confirmed as facts.

1. The spacecraft allegedly took off straight up at 5000 miles per hour and was out of sight in ten seconds. It is extremely doubtful that a twenty to thirty-foot object could have been seen for more than five seconds at which time the object would have reached an altitude of 36,430 feet.
2. The blast-off from a vehicle taking off at this speed would have disturbed the sand and soil in the immediate area. There was no evidence of any abnormal disturbance in the area.
3. The sketch of the alleged spacecraft showed four stilt poles which protruded at an angle as the landing gear. The holes which were purportedly caused by the landing gear were straight and appeared to have been scooped or dug as opposed to indentations caused by an object of any sizeable weight. See attachment 1.
4. There was no radioactivity in the area.
5. Two papers which contained unreadable hieroglyphics were reported dropped by an occupant of the spacecraft. An analysis of the papers was made by the Institute of Paper Chemistry in Appleton, Wisconsin. This analysis indicated that the paper is composed of fibers which are common worldwide. The fiber composition corresponds to that used in lens and stencil papers.
6. The hieroglyphics on one of the papers was deciphered by means of simple substitution and was determined to be the work of an amateur. The deciphered hieroglyphics reads as follows: "Planet Mars - Are you coming home soon - We miss you very much - Why did you stay away too long". See attachment 2.

Since no other implications were apparent, it was not feasible for the Air Force to expend further time and money in deciphering the second sheet. Based on the above, it is the opinion of the Air Force that an attempt was made to perpetrate a hoax.



Attachment 1

HOLES ARE 8" DIA X 6" DEEP

NOTE: SHADED AREA INDICATES A SOLID DRAWN THRU A-

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT REPORT
SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO, 24 APRIL 1964

On April 24, 1964, a Socorro, New Mexico policeman, Mr Lonnie Zamora, reported sighting an object about a mile south of the town at approximately 5:45 pm, in an unpopulated area full of hills and gullies and covered with sagebrush. Following is a summary of his report to Air Force investigators:

Mr Zamora reported that while chasing a speeding car north on US 85, he heard a roar and saw flames in an area where a dynamite shack was known to be located. He abandoned chase of the auto and proceeded to where he believed an explosion had occurred. After traveling a little-used road and experiencing considerable difficulty in trying to drive his car up a gravel-covered hill, he said he then observed what he thought was an overturned car standing on end. At this point he was about 800 ft distant from the object and his car was at the crest of a hill with the object ahead of him in a gully. He reported that during this first glance he saw one or two figures in coveralls whom he assumed to be occupants of the object. This is the only time he saw these figures; he did not see them again. After radioing to Police Headquarters at Socorro that he was proceeding to investigate what he believed to be an auto accident, he drove to a point about 150 ft from the gully where the object rested and stopped the car to proceed on foot. He said the object was white, egg or oval-shaped and apparently supported on girderlike legs. He said he heard a roar and saw smoke and flame coming from the bottom of the object. At this point, Mr Zamora believed that the object was about to explode and he became frightened, turned, and ran to shield himself behind the police car, bumping his leg and losing his glasses on the way. He said that he crouched down, shielding his eyes with his arm while the noise stopped and he glanced up. He reported that the object had risen to a point about 15-20 ft above the ground and the flame and smoke had ceased. At this point, he reported, he noted a design on the object which he described as markings in red about 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft in height, shaped like a crescent with a vertical arrow and horizontal line underneath. He stated that the object remained stationary for several seconds and then flew off in a southerly direction following the contour of the gully.

Within moments afterward, Sgt Chavez of the New Mexico State Police arrived on the scene in response to Mr Zamora's earlier radio call. He observed no object, but he reported that there were some slight depressions in the ground and apparently burned brush in the area where Mr Zamora had reported seeing the object. The brush was cold to the touch. Sgt Chavez reported the incident to local military authorities who conducted the initial investigation.

The Air Force sent investigators from their project office at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The investigation disclosed the following facts:

No other witnesses to the object reported by Mr Zamora could be located.

There were no unidentified helicopters or aircraft in the area.

Observers at radar installations had observed no unusual or unidentified blips.

There was no unusual meteorological activity; no thunderstorms. The weather was windy but clear.

There was no evidence of markings of any sort in the area other than the shallow depressions at the location where Mr Zamora reported sighting the object.

Laboratory analysis of soil samples disclosed no foreign material or radiation above normal for the surrounding area.

Laboratory analysis of the burned brush showed no chemicals which would indicate a type of propellant.

There was no evidence presented that the object was extraterrestrial in origin or represented a threat to the security of the United States.

The Air Force is continuing its investigation and the case is still open.

For several days following this report, other sightings were reported in the New Mexico area. In each case the sighting was determined to be a known object or natural phenomena. Two of the reports were determined to be hoaxes.

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

UFO SIGHTING OVER PENNSYLVANIA

Captain P W Killian

24 February 1959

Departing Newark 1910 arriving Detroit 2252.

It was approximately 2045 when I noticed these three lights off my left wing in the vicinity of Bradford, Pennsylvania. I was flying 8,500 VFR on top of broken clouds. Visibility was unlimited with no upper clouds observed. It was extremely difficult to ascertain the distance of the lights. The color of the lights was from a yellow to a light orange. The intensity of the lights also changed from dim to a bright brilliant. Sometimes the interval of the three lights was identical to the Belt in the constellation Orion. Occasionally the rear lights lagged somewhat behind. Also changed altitudes. During the 40 minutes of observation, the three lights occasionally came forward from a 9 o'clock position to an 11 o'clock position and then fell back to the original 9 o'clock position. Also, occasionally the lights extinguished completely alternating from one to another, sometimes the whole three were extinguished and during this whole operation, as I mentioned before, the lights changed in intensity. This action was not only seen by myself but four crew members and passengers on board and also by two other airplanes in the area.

The only possible explanation, other than flying saucers, could be a jet tanker refueling operation. Never having witnessed refueling operations at night, I am not aware of the lighting of the jet tanker.

My air speed during this complete flight was 250 knots indicated. I also do not know the air speed of tankers during operation if this could be so. I contacted ATC to find out if they had any airplanes on a clearance and no three airplanes were given.

In summary it was difficult for me to believe they were jets because of low speed and configuration. If they weren't jets I still don't know anymore than I did before, even though I watched them for 40 minutes before. Due to the dark and strong lights I was not able to ascertain any size or shape. The altitude of the objects was 30 degrees above my horizon. Distance away is unknown.

A check was made with the aircraft support systems project office, Wright-Patterson AFB, to determine the characteristics of a night refueling operation. The tanker has several groups of lights which at a distance would appear to be one or more lights. The time duration of a refueling operation varies, can last well over an hour, depending upon the type of operation. Refueling would take place at approximately 17,000 feet and approximately 230 knots true.

During the investigation the Air Force determined that there were three B-47's in the area of Capt Killian's flight path during the hour of the sighting. These B-47's were on a night refueling mission.

All evidence indicates that Capt Killian probably saw a B-47 refueling operation.

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

THE KINROSS INCIDENT

23 November 1953

This incident was not reported to ATIC as a UFO sighting and therefore we have no case file. Due to the great amount of public interest in this incident ATIC contacted the Flying Safety Division at Norton AFB, California for information pertaining to this aircraft accident. It was determined from Norton AFB that the F-89 was scrambled to intercept an unidentified aircraft which was successfully accomplished. The aircraft was reported in as a Dakota (Canadian C-47). From the time that the F-89 started to return to base nothing of what happened is definitely known. It is presumed by the officials at Norton AFB that the pilot probably suffered from vertigo and crashed into the lake. The wreckage has never been recovered.

This case is carried in Air Force Aircraft Accident Records.

WASHINGTON, D C SIGHTINGS
19/20 and 26/27 July 1952

On 19/20 and 26/27 July 1952, a great amount of excitement was generated in the Nation's Capitol due to sightings of unidentified flying objects, both visually and on radar. Most of the sightings occurred between midnight and dawn. The objects were picked up by more than one radar in the Washington area and were reported to have speeds on the order of 7500 miles per hour. Jet intercepts were unsuccessfully attempted. FTD reports contained unconfirmed information that the President of the United States had taken an active interest in the sightings.

Visual sightings were reported by both ground and airborne witnesses. The descriptions by the witnesses were generally the same. The objects were described as changing from orange to green and back to red. The numbers varied from one to six, with no apparent set formation. Three objects were reported to have left trails. The motions of the objects for the most part appeared erratic. In some instances the objects were described as meteors.

Unfortunately the only day for which weather data was obtained was for 26 July 1952. The data on this day showed that there was a temperature inversion at 800 feet and at 4000 feet.

The radar portion of this report was analyzed by the Electronic Division of FTD. It was concluded that the radar sightings were probably due to anomalous propagation; sometimes referred to as "bending", "ducting", "guided propagation," "tapping" or "super refraction" of the radar electromagnetic wave; the inversions and moisture conditions being responsible for the unusual functioning of the radar. The "ducting," "tapping," etc, being responsible for detecting ground targets which are not normally seen. Bending of the radar waves, so that ground targets were not giving "solid" returns for every antenna sweep, thereby caused the misinterpretation that what were probably stationary ground targets were in motion.

As to the visual sightings, these individuals were probably experiencing the same effects as the radar (mirage), and were seeing objects normally beyond their range of vision. There is also the possibility of inconsistencies in the layers of air of different temperature causing lenses of air which resulted in distortion of some of the lower stars. It is significant to note that all instances where it could be determined the altitude of the airborne witnesses was approximately 4000 feet, the level of the higher inversion layer. Sightings of meteors coupled with the normal excitement of the witnesses also contributed to this sighting.

The FTD conclusion is that the radar and visual sightings on 26 July 1952 were due to the mirage effects created by a double inversion. It is also concluded that since the circumstances of 19/20 and 27 July 1952 parallel to those of 26 July 1952, that similar conditions existed and that the sightings were due to the same cause.

THE MANTELL CASE

7 January 1948

On 7 January 1948, at 1320 (1:20 pm) hours, the tower crew at Godman Field, Kentucky sighted a bright disc shaped object which they were unable to identify. The presence of this object was brought to the attention of the Base Operations Officer, Base Intelligence Officer, and eventually the Base Commander, but the object remained unidentified. At 1445 (2:45 pm), a flight of five P-51's flew over Godman Field. The object was still visible, and the Flight Commander was requested to investigate and attempt to determine the nature of the UFO if his mission allowed. The Flight Commander, Captain Mantell, stated he was on a ferry mission, but would investigate. Captain Mantell then started a spiraling climb to 15,000 feet, then continued to climb on a heading of 220°, the approximate direction of the UFO from Godman Field. At 15,000 feet the wing men turned back because they were not completely outfitted for flights requiring oxygen. The wing men attempted to contact Captain Mantell by radio but were unsuccessful. Captain Mantell made a transmission at 15,000 feet to the effect that he had the object in sight, and was still climbing to investigate. The 15,000 foot transmission was the last known of Captain Mantell.

It is the ATIC opinion that Captain Mantell lost consciousness due to oxygen starvation, the aircraft being trimmed continued to climb until increasing altitude caused a sufficient loss of power for it to level out. The aircraft then began a turn to the left due to torque and as the wing dropped so did the nose until the aircraft was in a tight diving spiral. The uncontrolled descent resulted in excessive speed causing the aircraft to disintegrate. It is believed that Captain Mantell never regained consciousness. This is borne out by the fact that the canopy lock was still in place after the crash, discounting any attempt to abandon the aircraft. The UFO was in no way directly responsible for this accident. However, it is probable that the excitement caused by the object was responsible for this experienced pilot conducting a high altitude flight without the necessary oxygen equipment.

There were two conceptions as to the identity of the object; Vemas, one of the brightest objects in our heavens, or a large balloon used for high altitude experimental flights and known as "sky hooks". These balloons fly at altitudes in excess of 60,000 feet and reach diameters of approximately 100 feet.

During the period of this sighting the Navy was conducting a program utilizing "sky hook" balloons. The Navy program was classified at this time and therefore these balloon flights were known only to those with a "need-to-know". It was subsequently determined that on the date of the Godman sighting a balloon was released by the Navy from Clinton County airport in Ohio. The release time of the balloon was related to a wind plot for 7 January 1948, and it revealed that the balloon would have been in the area of Godman at the time of the sighting.

On 7 January 1948, at the time of the sighting, Venus was also in a directional position which coincided with that of the UFO. This planet's angular distance from the sun was rather small, but bright enough to be seen in the daytime. It is possible that Venus was also a cause to this sighting, and was observed by some of the witnesses on the ground. However, the prime culprit is believed to have been the sky hook balloon released by the Navy. Captain Mantell was attempting to close in on this balloon which was still more than 40,000 ft above him.

It is the Air Force conclusion in this case that Venus was probably the original cause of the sighting since the object remained in the area for a long period of time and was relatively stationary. The object pursued by Captain Mantell is believed to have been the sky hook balloon, and this object was probably seen by other witnesses who described the object as pear shaped and metallic.

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

MT RANIER, WASHINGTON
24 June 1947

On 24 June 1947 at 1400 Mr. Kenneth Arnold took off from the Chehalis, Washington Airport in his personal plane and headed for Yakima, Washington. Mr. Arnold's trip was delayed for an hour in search of a large marine transport that supposedly went down near or around the southwest side of Mt. Ranier. After take-off Mr. Arnold flew directly toward Mt. Ranier at an altitude of approximately 9,500 feet, which is the approximate elevation of the high plateau from which Mt. Ranier rises. He made one sweep of this high plateau to the westward, searching all of the various ridges for the marine ship and flew to the west near the ridge side of the canyon where Ashford, Washington is located. Unable to see anything that looked like the lost plane, Mr. Arnold made a 360 degree turn to the right above the town of Mineral, starting again toward Mt. Ranier and climbing to an altitude of 9,200 feet.

Mr. Arnold reported that the air was so smooth that it was a real pleasure flying, and, as most pilots do when the air is smooth and they are at a higher altitude, he trimmed out the aircraft and simply sat in his plane observing the sky and terrain.

Mr. Arnold reported that there was a DC-4 to his left and rear at approximately 14,000 feet. The sky was reported to be as clear as crystal. He hadn't flown more than two or three minutes on his course when a bright flash reflected on his airplane. He couldn't find where the reflection came from, but to the left and north of Mt. Ranier he did observe a chain of nine peculiar looking objects flying from north to south at approximately 9,500 feet. They were approaching Mt. Ranier very rapidly, and he assumed that they were jet aircraft. Every few seconds two or three of the objects would dip or change course slightly, just enough for the sun to strike them at an angle and reflect brightly. The objects being quite far away, he was unable to make out their shape or formation. As they approached Mt. Ranier he observed their outline quite clearly. Mr. Arnold stated that he found it very peculiar that he couldn't find their tails but assumed they were some type of jet aircraft. The objects were observed to pass the southern edge of Mt. Ranier flying directly south to south-east down the hog's back of a mountain range. The elevation of the objects was estimated to have varied approximately one thousand feet one way or another but remained very near the horizon, which would indicate that they were near the same elevation as the witness. Mr. Arnold stated that the objects flew like geese, in a rather diagonal chain-like line as if they were linked together. They seemed to hold a definite direction but swerved in and out of the high mountain peaks. The witness estimated the distance between him and the objects to be approximately 25 miles. Using a Zeus fastener, or cowling tool, he estimated the size of the objects to be approximately two thirds that of a DC-4. He observed the UFO's passing a high snow covered ridge in between Mt. Ranier and Mt. Adams and reported that as the first object was passing the south crest of this ridge the last one was entering the northern crest of the ridge. Later measurement of length of this particular ridge revealed it was approximately five miles, so it was estimated the chain of objects was five miles long. Mr. Arnold timed the objects between Mt. Ranier and Mt. Adams and determined they crossed this 47 miles in one minute and forty-two seconds. This is equivalent to 1656.71 miles per hour.

In a subsequent interview Mr. Arnold described the objects as appearing like saucers skipping on water. This description was shortened to "Flying Saucers" by newspaper men and resulted in the popular use of this term.

It is the Air Force conclusion that the objects of this sighting were due to a mirage. Mr. Arnold's statement concerning how smooth and crystal clear the air was is an indication of very stable conditions which are associated with inversions, and increase the refraction index of the atmosphere.