

The original documents are located in Box B48, folder “1966: Unidentified Flying Objects (folder 39)” of the Gerald R. Ford Congressional Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

1966: Unidentified Flying Objects - Form Response (folder
B48-39)
Gerald R. Ford Congressional Papers

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
HARTFORD, CONN.

H 1987

UFO

March 30, 1966

The Honorable L. Mendel Rivers, Chairman
House Armed Services Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

APR 1 - ANSD

Dear Mr. Rivers:

I have noted that you are considering whether your committee should have an investigation of the reports on UFO's. I hope your committee will favorably consider this matter and hold an investigation.

For many of us who have never seen UFO's and know nothing about them except what we read in the press, the most disturbing thing about the matter is not the reports but the secrecy with which the government deals with them. It is my understanding that licensed commercial pilots are obligated to report any alleged UFO sightings and that there is a fine of up to \$10,000 and threat of revoking their license if they talk about it to other people.

Also I understand that the Air Force has refused to make its files available to Congressmen or any other citizens who are qualified and interested in the subject. If, as the Air Force claims, there is nothing to these reports, then it would appear that there is absolutely nothing to hide. I think it is this secretive attitude which has shaken the confidence of the public in any statements made by representatives of the Air Force. I think the public is entitled to the truth.

Respectfully yours,

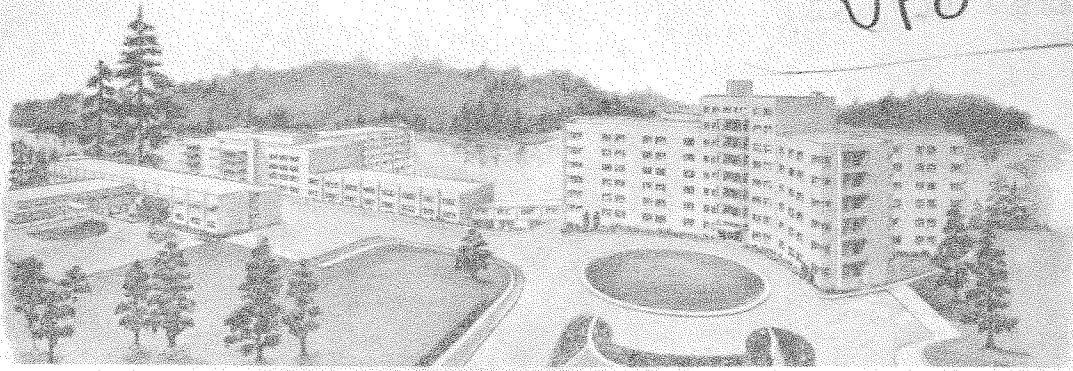
Keith B. Hook

KBR/jd

cc: The Honorable Emilio Q. Daddario
The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

C
O
P
Y

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY



Willamette View Manor

COURT AND HOSPITAL

2705 S. E. RIVER ROAD - PHONE OL 4-6581

PORTLAND 22, OREGON

March 27, 1966

Congressman Gerald Ford
Washington D. C.

APR 1 - ANSO

Honorable Sir:

I had the honor to hear you on "Face the Nation" today, the program was most interesting. You expressed the wish that you may hear from someone, who may have seen what is considered a "Flying Saucer"; which the newspapers describe as gas from decaying vegetable matter from a swamp. I live in a Retirement Home, about eight miles from Portland Oregon. About a week ago, I decided to go, before breakfast, to our auditorium which is on the eight floor of our building; just to see the beauty of the sunrise, which I often do. Instead of the sun, I saw a bright disk about the size of a dinner plate, so bright I could hardly look at it. I

decided to watch it. The disk was traveling
East and it continued on, until it was only
the size of a star. It was a thrilling thing to
see.

Thanking you

Sincerely

Emma Carroll

2705 S.E. River Road
Portland 22

Oregon 97222



3080 Lakebeach Blvd
Akron 19, Ohio
March 29th 1966

UFO

Rep. Gerald Ford (Rep. Mich.)
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

APR 1 - ANSO

Dear Mr. Ford :

I note with interest your statement that you intend to organize a committee to investigate and hold hearings on the UFO sightings.

This will be great work if you can do it. It is my understanding that, several years ago Senator Mc Clelland started to organize a hearing and was stopped by Air Force and/or the CIA . There are very powerful forces which are determined to keep the American people from learning the truth.

This writer has been studying this phenomenon for many years, and I'm convinced that they do exist and that they are under intelligent control. However, most of the qualified investigators presuppose that these objects are from some other planet. Could it be that the true explanation is so fantastic (another démentation etc.) that the Air Force finds it impossible to explain it in a way acceptable to the public ?

I suggest that you contact Major Donald Keyhoe of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 1536 Connecticut Ave., Washington 6, D.C. Also, Mr. Keyhoe's book " Flying Saucers Top Secret " you might find highly informative.

Mr. Ford, I hope you won't allow anything to stop your investigations. The American people will forever be in your debt, if you are the man who finally, without whitewash, presents this in it's true perspective.

Sincerely yours

Gerald Hepler
Gerald Hepler

SECURITY, HOW MANY CRIMES HAVE BEEN COMMITTED IN THY NAME

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Dear Sir =

APR. - ANSD
APR! - ANSD 3/29

WE SUPPORT A CONGRESSIONAL
INVESTIGATION OF UFO'S!

THE MANY BOOKS ON THE
SUBJECT TELL US THEY ARE
COMING FROM VENUS, MARS,
ETC., TO ASSIST THIS
PLANET AND WATCH OVER US.

EVEN THAT MASS LANDINGS
WILL BE MADE AT A PRO-
PER TIME, SOON. PLUS NUM-
EROUS OTHER REASONS.

SURELY, IT IS TIME THAT
EVERYBODY KNEW THESE FACTS!

I THINK THESE SIGHTINGS
WILL INCREASE SO MUCH, AS
TO FORCE A PUBLIC STATEMENT.
ALREADY WE HAVE 10,000+.

THANK YOU!

ORESTES WILSON
226 N. 4 ST.
READING, PA
19601

UFO

3-30-66

HON. G. R. FORD
HOUSE OF REP.
WASH. D.C.

Dear Hon. Mr. Ford:

APR 1 - AMSD

In reading the press and hearing the radio comments on your proposal to thoroughly probe the U.F.O or "flying saucer phenomena" I must commend you very highly for such an action. I feel if the truth were known regardless how shocking, it might have a tendency to shake the world leaders from their everlasting stupor of continually fighting among themselves and perhaps have them try to build a better world for all concerned.

The "flying saucer phenomena" is something I know a little about. I might add that in a very meager respect though.

I first became aware of this phenomena back in 1955 when an amateur astronomer
(over)

named George Adamski first wrote his ~~the~~ book entitled "The Flying Saucers Have Landed"

In this book he gave detailed accounts of how he saw, and was contacted by these strange craft. Also his claim to have conversed to creatures much like ourselves, who told him they were from the planet Venus.

It was not too long afterward that I attended two lectures given in Detroit by Mr. Adamski, where he produced photographs of the "saucers" which closely resemble the description given by people in and around the Dexter area.

Now in his book, he gave a run down of the recorded sightings of these "ships from outer space" and the dates. It seems that they have been sighted as far back as the 16th century in France, England etc. throughout Europe.

Now Sir! as far as I'm concerned ¹⁷⁷
I do not for a moment doubt that
our planet with its so called civilized
populace are unique in existence.
I think that the divine architect
created this planet with habitation
he probably created many many more.

It would be wise in my opinion
to try to contact these or it or whatever
intelligence controls these vehicles, perhaps
we could learn to become better people
with their aid or instructions. At
any rate they do not seem to show
hostility and people who immediately
take arms and start firing at them
are only displaying their unrestrained
animalistic tendency.

I wish you all the luck in
the world in pursuing this investigation

Respectfully

Teel Azybowicz
10166 Pelham Rd
Taylor, Mich 48180

Robinson's Grasses

Grower and Processor of
Southwest Native Grasses

C. A. Robinson
Tel. CA 4-2393

1107 Yonkers Street
Plainview, Texas

March 28, 1966.

Congressman Gerald Ford,
House of Representatives,
Washington.

APR 1 - ANSD

APR - ANSD

Dear Mr. Ford:

I admire very much your efforts to have a general investigation of UFO and the Air Force censorship of the true facts. American citizens have a right to know and not to be handed false information. Most citizens in this area know that the UFOs exist, want to know facts that are available and they laugh at the ridiculous remarks of Dr. Hynek. Such remarks undermine confidence in our government.

More power to you.

Kindest regards, C.A. Robinson

George Mahon is my representative.

Member Nicap.

Reference - CITY NATIONAL BANK

UFO

331 El Toyonal Road
Orinda, California

March 29, 1966

APR 1 - ANSO

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford (R) Michigan
House of Representatives
The Congress of U.S.A. - Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman:

I was delighted to learn through the March 28th edition of the San Francisco Chronicle of your interest in breaking the Air Force censorship on Unidentified Flying Object sightings.

An author of a new book, called "Incident in Exeter" (N.H.), recently appeared on NBC TV show "TODAY" which prompted a letter from me, a copy of which is attached. The Exeter sightings were at treetop level and were authenticated by dozens of reliable witnesses. Ordinarily the Michigan sightings would not have been carried by the news services because of the AAF "ARM TWIST". Apparently somebody goofed and the story was carried.

This rarely happens but when it does you can expect the following AAF action:

- (1) The AAF dispatches one of its experts, this time Dr. J. A. Hynek, to the scene who is under instructions to discredit the UFO as a flying saucer and provide some lame explanation for the news services to release to the public, which by the way, they are obliged to do. It has the psychological effect of a retraction.
- (2) They use another tactic which to me is inexcuseable conduct. They do everything they can to personally discredit the person reporting the sighting even to the point of ridicule. As a consequence, this policy serves to inhibit reports.

You will be doing our country a great service by exposing the AAF censorship and airing the facts. In the meantime I suggest you admonish the public to not report any sightings to the AAF. They simply cover up.

If you are going to spearhead this program I would suggest you contact Major Donald E. Kehoe, who is a regular contributor to TRUE MAGAZINE, on this subject. Another excellent contact would be Edward J. Ruppert, former head of AAF project investigating flying saucers.

Yours very truly,

Walter C. Hoeltje
WALTER C. HOELTJE

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

331 El Toyonal Road
Orinda, California

February 19, 1966

"TODAY"
N.B.C. TV
Radio City
New York, New York

Attn: Hugh Downs
Barbara Walters
Frank Blair

Hello you guys -- greetings from California:

I would appreciate it very much if you would give me the name of the author who recently appeared on your show in connection with flying saucers, and also the title of his book. I should like to purchase a copy.

I can understand your skepticism, which is shared by almost everyone except those who have had a personal confrontation. The reason for this is quite simple. Following World War 2, we all read about countless sightings at every important communications, industrial center and military installation on earth. In August of 1952 the lid of censorship went on, and is still on 13 years later. This is how it works: Any local newspaper can print a UFO story, but through typical Washington ARM-TWISTING techniques, the news services have agreed not to carry UFO stories.

I myself have seen several--the most vivid of which almost resulted in my death, and that of my fellow passengers on a National Airlines flight, back in about 1954. Actually, the UFO did not attack, but the pilot panicked and lost control of the plane. Fortunately, he was able to get the plane out of the spin and landed it safely.

The next edition of the WASHINGTON POST carried the story, but the news was then blacked out, and the story never appeared in any other newspaper, radio news or any other media.

TRUE MAGAZINE, fortunately refuses to be gagged, and does a good job in keeping it's readers informed of our progress in probing this great mystery. TRUE reports that despite the Air Force denials of UFO existence, more than 65 programs by government and private industry are under way, searching for the antigravity principle which the UFO apparently utilizes.

To me, personally, a much greater mystery exists than that of the UFO's. How does the Air Force have the temerity to refuse to make the facts public? Do they regard us Americans as a bunch of gibbering idiots who cannot be

-2-

trusted with the truth? Their policy appears to be the childish approach to anything they cannot understand--"If we pretend the UFO's do not exist maybe they will just go away." Even more frightening is the obvious implication that there may be other important news stories being kept from us.

I hope this information is of interest.

Very truly yours,

Walter C. Hoeltje

P. S. Incidentally, while you were in Athens recently, I wired your New York office to get word to you to inspect the very provocative fresco on the wall of a restaurant called the Cafe of the Seven Brothers. Did any of you see it?

cc: TRUE MAGAZINE

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

THE DEFIANCE COLLEGE
DEFIANCE, OHIO

UFO

APR 1 1966 AMSD

March 29, 1966

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
CHARLES A. MANEY

Honorable Gerald R. Ford, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: Please accept my heartiest congratulations on your stand calling for a "full-blown" Congressional Investigation of UFOs.

I am a Board Member of NICAP, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, with headquarters at 1536 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. Included in our membership are literally hundreds of scientists of repute who know of the reality of these space objects.

NICAP has ample evidence, scores and scores of cases proving the cover-up and misrepresentation policy of officialdom. Also, NICAP has stacks of material, detailed investigations of these phenomena.

I beg of you to contact NICAP. Major Donald Keyhoe ^{USMC Ret.} is Director of NICAP. I am sure that NICAP will co-operate with you one hundred percent in any investigation to bring out the facts pertaining to UFO phenomena.

The many intelligent persons in Southern Michigan, your constituency in Michigan, are anxious for you to get at the bottom of this. These Michigan witnesses know that what they observed in the recent spectacular aerial sightings were definitely solid objects of unknown space origin, maneuvering in the sky in a manner far exceeding the capabilities of recognized known aircraft.

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

THE DEFIANCE COLLEGE
DEFIANCE, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
CHARLES A. MANEY

It is unfortunate that so many so-called scientists today will blurt out ridicule about a subject which they know nothing about and which they have not investigated. However, NICEAP can put you in touch with many reputable scientists and prominent persons, including many members of Congress, who will be glad to support you in your laudable efforts.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Maney
Emeritus Professor of Physics and Astronomy
Board Member of NICEAP

address }
CHARLES A. MANEY
601 WASHINGTON
DEFIANCE, OHIO

A. A. SHAPER, M. D.

2941 YORKSHIRE BLVD.

LOUISVILLE, KY. 40220

APR 1 - AMSO

3/29/66

Dear Congressman Ford -

With regard to the U.F.O.
I see no reason why an
investigation should not be
made. I do not believe they
exist. Would like to know
whether U.F.O. have been
sighted other than in U.S.A.

In another matter my
daughter on Long Island, N.Y.
mentioned in a letter that the
U.S. State Dept. issued a pamphlet
7839 Pub. Far Eastern Series
130 released Feb 1965 Office
of Media Services, Bureau
of Public Affairs which the
State Dept later stopped
issuing same. Was it ever
released and is it now
available. I am not one of your
constituents - but would appreciate
your assistance
Sincerely

A. A. Shaper MD
Hon. Gerald R. Ford
Congressman from Michigan

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

Mrs.

C B KERR
802 UHRIG AV
DAYTON OHIO
45406

Dear Hon. Gerald Ford,

Topic: Flying saucer mythology in outer space. People know there has been several circular aircraft invented here in the U. S. A.

My son Jack's hobby has been flying & aircraft. Between 1942 and 1950 we saw pictures published in many newspapers, aeroplane periodicals and even an article in Popular Mechanics.

Then silence about the inventors & their inventions. You may expect to be silenced, intimidated, isolated and smeared if you pursue your investigation to its proper conclusion.

My husband who has always worked for big corporations has seen men harassed whose inventions would make oil, rubber & steel obsolete.

The design of one of the circular aircraft was pictured in a Columbus Ohio newspaper - Citizen or Despatch - we took both.

APR 1 - ANSW

One circular designed aircraft had windows closely spaced entirely around the edge or perimeter and the light from all those windows at night made a weird effect at night. Complete visibility from all directions made it seem safer than wing craft. The article in Popular Mechanics mentioned the great interest of our ally ??? Russia so one can only guess at what is really happening in jungle warfare in Vietnam & the uses of such a craft in peace time as well.

Big wing type airplane corporations buy up such inventions and junk them. Russia had Siberia after the gas chamber we have mental institutions for genius.

Sincerely,

Lotus Kew

Mar 28 1966

Mr Gerald Ford.
House of Reps.
Washington D.C.

UFO

APR 1 - AMSD

We are very appreciative of your efforts to have an investigation by Congress, of the information being withheld the public by the Air Force, and others, regarding the many sightings of U.F.O.'s.

Also hope to see you sponsor the proposed 23rd Amendment, The Liberty Lobby.

Sincerely

Paul R. Doane.

533 E. State Rd.

Lansing Mich

you do when the order comes to gather your children and ship them into State camps where they can become robots of the State?

Communist writings openly predict that they will seize control centers, and that the great mass of population will lie prostrate. Records show that the lawless of a nation will take this opportunity to swoop down on the helpless, motivated in part by the same drive that causes looting after floods have driven people from their homes. Can you be sure that this will not happen—especially after you read of the riots on Memorial Day in Griffith Park? There certainly was no motivation to justify attacks upon citizens and police, and the destruction of private property. How would these same people react if all law were suddenly eliminated?

Or, suppose you lived through the blood baths, and 15 years from now, your youngsters ask about the America that was. Will you tell them of the freedoms you had, the freedom to go where you wished, to do what you wished, to say what you wished? Will you tell them of the fun you had and the happiness you had? What will you say when they ask how these things happened to slip away?

Will you admit that you dismissed all efforts to halt the drift towards communism as "McCarthyism," that you helped smear everyone who tried to point out the danger?

It may seem a flight of fancy to ponder what could happen to America, but remember—the Pentagon, charged with protecting you and yours from all dangers, foreign and domestic, has already made a study as to the best time to surrender! Ponder that!

If you are a father or mother, look at your children. If they are asleep, walk in and look at them—peaceful, contented, trusting. Are you doing anything to prevent just such a terrifying picture as we have painted? Do you bother to inform yourself on the drift towards tyranny? Or do you plan to collaborate with the enemy, to "make friends" with the new order?

If America is to be spared this terror, it must be because her people have forbidden it. If the people will not stem the tide, then each American must face the terror that has already been visited upon Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, East Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Manchuria, and many, many other lands.

And, Mister, what will you tell your children?

Reprinted from *The Ledger*, Montrose, California
Reprints of this four-page center spread, as a single sheet printed on both sides and folded to fit a No. 10 business envelope, are available in any quantity at 50 copies for \$1.00, postpaid. Order from AMERICAN OPINION, Belmont, Massachusetts 02178

Editorial Opinion

MOSTLY POLITICAL

By Don Carpenter

What Will You Tell Your Children?

Oftentimes, for the sake of argument, one must stipulate to certain points as facts. Let's hope that our friends who see no danger in the communist program will agree for the time being, that there is such a danger and that the danger may suddenly overcome America, just as it did Czechoslovakia. What will you tell your children?

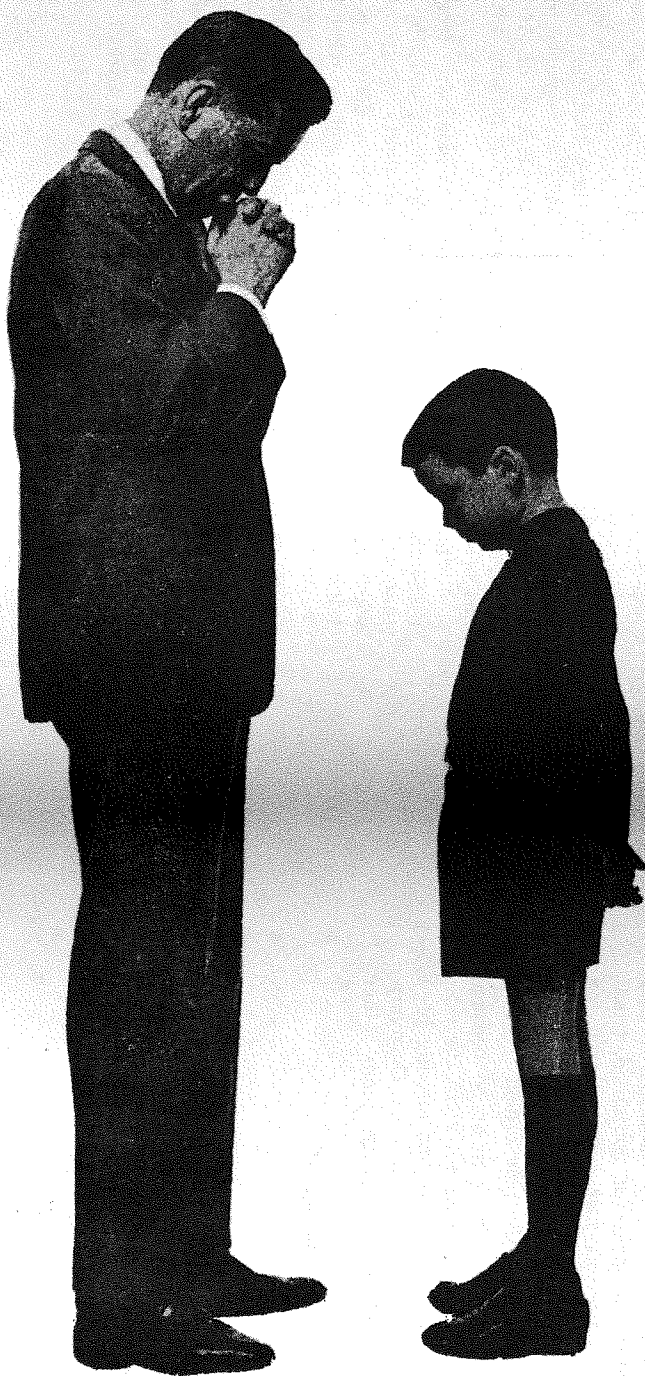
Let's say, for the sake of argument, that the Reds assume control, they are in control of communications, they are in control of public utilities, they have slaughtered or imprisoned the police, they have clobbered resistance, and America lies prone, awaiting the blood purges that must certainly follow, enduring the terrifying period of vacuum before the calked heel of Godless communist tyranny comes smashing down.

What will you tell those youngsters clustered at your knee? How will you tell them that their nation, strong, dynamic, compassionate a few years ago, is now gone? How will you tell them that you cannot go to the store and buy food for them because the store is locked against its owners and that your money is no longer any good? How will you tell them that the policeman on the corner is no longer a friend—he has been replaced by a tyrant from the steppes of Asia or from the jungles of Africa? How will you tell them that the America your fathers gave to you, has been lost?

What will you say when your little son, who feels you are a Marshal Dillon or a Hopalong Cassidy, asks you why you don't take a gun and go out to set things straight? What will you say when your teenager asks you what you have done to prevent this takeover? Will you tell him you played golf or went fishing or learned to waterski or worked in the garden or learned to make ceramics or hiked in the hills or a million other things, while your nation went down the drain?

What will you say when these children, whose lives have already been blueprinted for them, ask what they should do? How will you advise them when they ask if they should resist? What will you say if they ask you if they should continue to adore God, despite the ultimatum of the New Order? What will

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE



“My dear son

I am so sorry you are going to have to live under Communism.

It seemed to come so quickly.

I didn't think their lies could win.

I guess we were so busy with other things.

Not enough of us spoke up for freedom when we had the chance.

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY



TROUBLEMAKER

*He is the silent one. He never speaks up on issues. He never sounds off in the letter column of his local newspaper. He never writes his Congressman. He is quiet as a clam. How can the United States stay free . . . if all of us, like this one, withhold our opinions, our ideas, our criticisms? The *silent* troublemaker fails to understand this. He never dares to question an oppressive law. In his wish to offend nobody, he offends all. *Freedom begins at home.**

APR 1 - AMSD

GORDON H. EVANS
R.F.D. NO. 1
HUDSON, NEW YORK 12534


MARCH 27TH., 1966

HON. GERALD R. FORD
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FORD:

I HAVE READ WITH KEEN INTEREST THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORT OF YOUR CALL FOR A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF U.F.O. IT IS HIGH TIME. I THOUGHT THAT THE ENCLOSED ARTICLE COMMENTING ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U.F.O. AND THE NATIONAL SPACE PROGRAM MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO YOU. I REGRET THAT IT WAS NOT PUBLISHED IN A JOURNAL OF GREAT STANDING -- SUCH WILL NOT TOLERATE COMMENT ON SUCH FOOLISH TOPICS. I'M ENCLOSED A PUBLICATIONS LIST TO HELP ESTABLISH MY CREDENTIALS.

VERY TRULY YOURS,


GORDON H. EVANS

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

to respond to the letter A would peck at a clear disc at its own eye-level each time any A passed behind it. This peck opens a food magazine at the bird's foot-level. Alternatively, the birds would peck at keys whenever they saw their chosen letters, which in turn would record them on a typewriter.

In all innovations of this kind public acceptance of components, and especially consumable

items like drugs, inspected and passed by animals is naturally the greatest stumbling-block. Few people, at this stage at least, would be prepared to make a pigeon, no matter how well trained, a guardian of human life. We readily admit that 'to err is human', but most of us still prefer to trust human judgment, although in fact the responses of a properly trained animal are no less fallible than human decisions.

THE OTHER WORLDS REVOLUTION

by GORDON H. EVANS

The existence of higher life in the cosmos would revolutionize Man's outlook

SCIENCE tells us with increasing assurance that higher life exists in the cosmos in great profusion. Further, science speculates that before our century is out we may communicate with beings of other worlds. How should we greet the event? What problems will it bring? What solutions? Who may gain, who may lose? What will be the impact on society? On the community of nations? On the consciousness of man?

Our current discourse on affairs is incomplete, radically so. Atomic war, popular morals, economic development, social justice, each is of concern. But the list of *bona fide* issues, approved for public discussion, is too short. Tomorrow's world will have more to it than most people suspect. There is true prophecy in the lines of Evan S. Connell, Jr:

We understand that the supernova
kindling a light brighter than one hundred
million suns
occurs to our knowledge each three centuries
or so.

Now, three and one half centuries have elapsed
Since Kepler's phenomena horrified the world,
and therefore we have every right to believe
our heavens will be set ablaze
more strongly than the apparition born one

August morning
of secular winds across Japan.

A great revolution with the profoundest ramifications for our lives is preparing. It will be the third general moral and intellectual revolution of post-medieval times. The first, the Copernican revolution placed mankind in the inanimate uni-

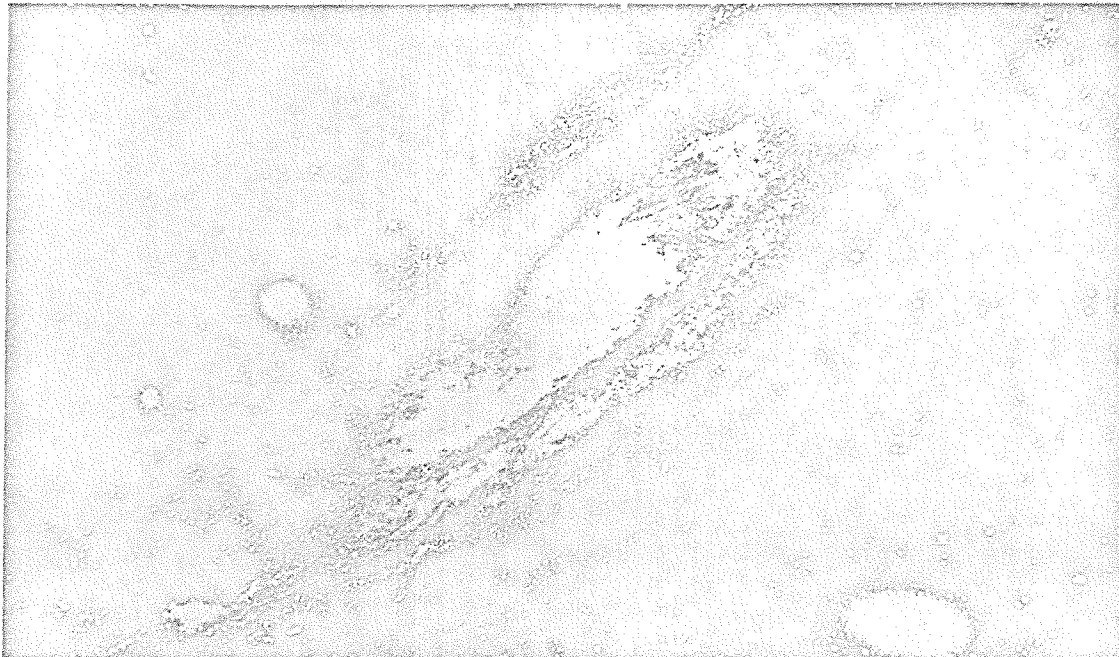
verse. The second, Darwin's revolution, placed him in organic nature. The third will reveal to us the other higher species of the cosmos. It may well be the most profound of the three, the most destructive-creative of them all. Man's very feelings toward the heavens will change; instead of a cold, empty vault, they will come alive—probably friendly, possibly indifferent, conceivably hostile.

Problem of Communication

In the nineteenth century scientific opinion held that planets, and life itself, were very rare, even unique, phenomena. The few men, such as Percival Lowell and Camille Flammarion, who believed otherwise were subjected to heavy professional censure.

Today, these old conclusions have been reversed. Gone is the theory that the planets are the result of a rare accident, a vastly unlikely near-collision of stars. Now planetary formation is thought to be a normal aspect of stellar evolution. Prof Lloyd Motz of Columbia University has estimated that in the Milky Way (our galaxy, one of thousands of similar ones) there are 'about three to four trillion stars . . . similar enough in their behaviour to be suitable centres of planetary systems that can give rise to an advanced form of life'.

Similarly, in the life sciences the old view that the origin of life was a mysterious, rare event has been all but overthrown. Biologists now think that given the right conditions life is nearly an



The Andromeda Nebula, one of many galaxies like our Milky Way, which may contain inhabited planets

inevitable consequence. The universe may be — indeed, must be — buzzing with life.

Yet we must go farther. The Nobel Laureat, Melvin Calvin, has told us '... we are led to the conclusion that there must exist somewhere in the universe not one but many terrestrial type planets which have a law of living systems of a kind that we would recognize as such . . . it is clear that some of these living communities may have existed much longer than the one on earth, and therefore, one might expect that multicellular organisms having had more time would have progressed far beyond the system that we know here.' In other words, not only primitive but highly advanced life may be liberally sprinkled about the stars. Considering the short period of evolution on this planet (compared to the cosmic timescale) it may be that advanced life is the rule, not the exception, in the universe. Primitive forms — up to and including contemporary man — are possibly rare. Organic nature may pass to high technical civilization.

Communications may soon be opened with other worlds. This speculation has been voiced in the last few years. And yet it remains more muted than the facts justify. Excitement among scientists concerned with such matters, particu-

larly among radio astronomers, is very great. Only a small tremor of it reaches the general public — or, indeed, to members of other scientific disciplines. The time is nearly upon us when discovery, contact, communication with higher species elsewhere will occur. Perhaps it will be by radio or laser, perhaps it will be face to face. Perhaps it has occurred already.

The public has been told of one communication effort — the celebrated Project Ozma, made several years ago at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, at Green Bank, West Virginia, USA. However, there have been other attempts to detect life beyond our planet; and the well-informed know that our experience is much larger than is generally supposed. At a private meeting held in the spring of 1962 a group of eminent men prepared a more ambitious search for extra-terrestrial signals. While it has not been officially announced, it is very likely that a new Project Ozma is already under way.

It is unfortunate that such heavy secrecy hides this historic effort. Many both within and without the scientific community feel that it is high time the secrecy should be lifted. One must speculate that both the American and Soviet space programmes (the public reasons for which are

very weak) may actually be part of a search for advanced species. If this is the true reason for the great space drive, it raises questions both for democratic government and for the new study of inter-spatial relations. If we are going into space because someone else may be up there, then our attitude towards other species and their attitude towards us is of crucial importance.

The public list of major public issues is not inclusive — there is another, rarely mentioned, as momentous as the nuclear war or the population explosion.

Higher than Man?

A number of years ago the late Bishop Barnes foresaw what may come. 'There are many other inhabited worlds . . . and on some of them beings exist who are immeasurably beyond our mental level. We should be rash to deny that they can use radiation so penetrating as to convey messages to earth. Probably such messages come now. When they are first made intelligible a new era in the history of humanity dawns. At the beginning of the new era the opposition between those who welcome the new knowledge and those who deem it dangerously subversive may lead to a world war . . . but we should like to be living then, when we begin this new era. We might get a truer understanding of the beginning of the universe.'

Perhaps the Bishop's prophecy of a world war is unlikely; we may hope so. However, the point is that the discovery of advanced communities beyond the earth may lead to an absolutely unparalleled expansion of human knowledge. So far we have lifted ourselves by self-help, by our boot-straps. But what if we could draw upon the accumulated wisdom of races millions, even hundreds of millions, of years ahead of us? Progress in all branches of practical and speculative knowledge may accelerate to an astonishing extent, limited only by our capacity to comprehend, assimilate, and use it.

Prof R. N. Bracewell believes that under such conditions mankind might in one 'giant leap' span or short-cut centuries, even millennia, of scientific work: 'As I write, a chain of communications may exist between communities in the galaxies who have passed the stage of development we are in. Further, they are experienced at locating emerging communities such as ours and bringing them into the circle. . . . Why not use

their knowledge to jump ahead of ourselves and complete our knowledge of the universe?'

May not higher creatures tell us things for which our thinkers and experimenters have long sought? True, they may themselves ponder questions quite beyond our comprehension; yet what to them are commonplaces may be solutions which have long eluded our best brains.

It is unfortunate that fiction since H. G. Wells has not prepared us for contact or communication with higher life. Its portrayal as sinister, monstrous, heartless has been the worst possible social conditioning for the event of recognition. Since higher life has not been fictionally invested with higher qualities we must expect the public to be somewhat nervous if they discover it is near.

Anyone who sees television or reads scientific novels will understand this. However, in the end good sense will prevail. Some ignorant or ungenerous interests will be rebuffed. If socialism is the principle of higher life and culture, today's Western economy may suffer. Our grandchildren may wonder how we could have believed in our foolish creeds. Such discoveries may upset us but this will be the price of escape from the parochial. The end of what Prof Harlow Shapley calls 'cosmic loneliness' will be beneficial. We will be like country folk coming to the metropolis.

There are grounds for thinking that the higher a creature becomes, the more decent and sanguine he is. Civilized men sometimes fall into pessimism, but they have little excuse to do so. Other races in the cosmos must have made our difficult transition. When we realize this it may have a tonic effect. It may act as an antidote to the gloom of the times. We may discover that our isolation is an illusion, and that we are not abandoned to self-destruction. We may be able to gather comfort from other species — perhaps millions of them — who have made the same passage we are making now.

The sombre mood of our times may reflect not only fear of the atomic bomb and the predicament of man but an adolescent ill-at-easiness with our transitional status. Soon, however, this frame of mind may evaporate and circumstances give rise to an entirely new perspective. Our species' future may be more glorious than we now suspect. It is in the realm of *weltanschauung* that the other worlds revolution will have its deepest effects.

The Humanist

EDITOR
HECTOR HAWTON

VOLUME 79 NUMBER 8 AUGUST 1964

CONTENTS

PERSONALLY SPEAKING	228
THE SINGLE CULTURE OF THE FUTURE	230
<i>Margaret Laws Smith</i>	
CRIME AND SANITY	233
<i>E. H. Hutten</i>	
AN ANTHROPOLOGIST ON RELIGION	235
<i>Cecil Howard</i>	
ADVANCES IN ANIMAL TRAINING	237
<i>David Gunston</i>	
THE OTHER WORLDS REVOLUTION	239
<i>Gordon H. Evans</i>	
RELIGION AND THE US CONSTITUTION	242
<i>Fredric Mitchell</i>	
THE RPA AND THE BHA	246
<i>Hector Hawton</i>	
TELEVISION AND RADIO	249
HUMANIST GUIDE TO BOOKS	250
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	251
HUMANIST FRONT	254
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	256

Editorial Offices
40 DRURY LANE, LONDON, WC2
COVent Garden 2077

Publishing Offices
2 ELLIS STREET, SLOANE STREET,
LONDON, SW1
SLOane 9464 and 9096

Advertisement Department
ALDRIDGE PRESS LIMITED
27 CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, WC2
HOLborn 8655

Annual subscription 14s 6d post free

*Second class postage paid at
New York Post Office, NY*

The Big Stick

CAN we force people to be good? Whatever our answer it must prompt the further question: ought we to try to do so? In a recent television programme Lord Devlin restated his well-known view that it is the business of the law to enforce morality. The argument is that a common public morality is the cement that holds society together. If the cement disintegrates the social order breaks down. This was the line taken by some of the opponents of the Wolfenden Report. It underlies the cries of alarm at what is now called 'the new morality', though it is anything but new. Needless to say, what these people have in mind is sexual conduct. To challenge the traditional sexual code is placed on a level with treason. Both are regarded as a threat to social cohesion. Yet not so long ago, as Lord Devlin was reminded, to publish a denial of the truth of Christianity was treated as subversion and punished by law. (The Blasphemy Act still stands, though it has become a dead letter.) He did not, however, base his claim on religious grounds. A Catholic himself, he nevertheless conceded the Humanist point that Britain is in practice a secular State. It follows that if the law is to be invoked the appeal must be made to social consequences. Lord Devlin admitted that nothing was gained by punishing homosexual acts between consenting adults in private. He agreed, too, that euthanasia did not necessarily infringe 'the sacredness of life'. It seemed to his interrogators, one of whom was also a Catholic, that by this utilitarian approach he was giving his case away.

For Humanists the issues raised in this discussion are of urgent importance. We accept that moral rules must be related to social consequences. We cannot accept that the current prejudices of the majority of people, however passionately held, should be a permanent standard. The voice of the people is not the voice of God. Nor, in a mixed society — for that is what we are — do the people speak with one voice. There are many moral questions, by no means to be dismissed lightly as marginal, on which there is disagreement. Minorities, too, have their rights. If we use the law to enforce what it takes to be a common morality it is hard to see how any reform can be brought about. Resistance to change is only hardened by ominous warnings about decline and fall. We cannot make people good by flourishing the big stick. Coercion and morality are poles apart. In a free society personal liberty is not provided by force but by persuasion.

The Editor

227

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT SPACE

By Gordon H. Evans



Mars Mission. Photo by Boeing Airplane Company.

OUTER SPACE is expensive, and in the years ahead it will be more expensive. In 1962 America will spend about \$3.5 billion to prepare its way in the heavens, and in 1963 the annual rate will rise to \$5 billion. Apollo, the voyage to the moon, will cost an estimated \$30 billion. During the 1960's our final bill for extramundane exploration may run over \$70 billion, and the figure is conservative. Why are we spending so much? President Kennedy has said that "our future on earth" may depend upon success in space. But the reasons given for the necessity to enter space are very weak. And people are beginning to notice it.

What are the reasons? Officially three: one military, one economic, one scientific. Even a superficial analysis reveals flaws. Satellites in the first few hundred miles above the earth have an unquestioned military utility. But what is the military value of the moon, even less the planets? As celestial missile bases against earth? Hardly. To lug missiles to the moon or Mars when they may be deployed on earth is something of the order of going from Manhattan to Hoboken via the South Pole. Further, an enemy would be given days of warning in the event they were fired. As a strategic observation post? Again hardly. If astronomers cannot see all the lunar features from earth, why

expect to gather detailed terrestrial data from the moon? Those who tell us that who controls the moon controls the earth never say exactly how. Close-in satellites could perform any terrestrial military mission far better than lunar or planetary operations. In fact, these could probably not perform any mission at all.

It is considerations such as these which give rise to grave doubts about the war value of deep space. For example, J.H. Rubel, Assistant Secretary of Defense, recently told a meeting of the Aerospace Club that years of heavy research and development have failed to uncover any new applications for military space activity. Indeed, when our national space effort is touted in military terms one hears only of "near space," communications satellites, manned orbital stations and so forth. Yet the largest portion of space funds will be spent on the lunar and planetary projects. For defense against an earthly enemy deep space is not only expensive, but virtually useless.

What of economic utility? In his report to Congress in January 1962 announcing a speed-up in Apollo's schedule, President Kennedy said that business and employment would be greatly helped by space expenditures. So they will. But if economic stimulation is the goal, what a way to do it! A condition of sound

pump-priming is creation of a social end-product. As an emergency step the WPA may dig pits in the ground, but everyone agrees that it is better to build good roads. Now surely there are other social areas which cry for public investment. Where is the space end-product which overrides new schools, cheap housing, medicare or any number of alternative desiderata.

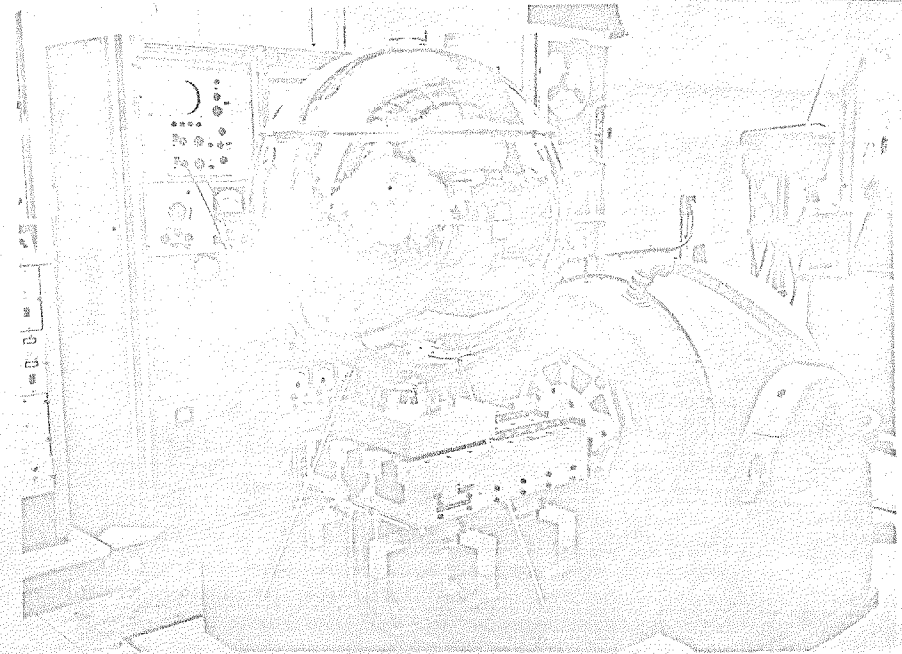
What of scientific purposes? To quote Professor Warren Weaver, past President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: "... most scientists consider the proposed expenditures unjustified on grounds of scientific considerations; and also consider the frantic pace... to be wasteful." Weaver's assessment is just. In terms of scientific research, the space venture is unbalanced. It will and must detract from many other scientific fields of immediate concern to man's welfare. First among these are the life and political disciplines. To these we must look for progress against hunger and hyper-populations. Vital terrestrial dilemmas must be solved long before interplanetary travel can offer any escape from them. Already there have been complaints over industry, the research institutes and universities being stripped to meet NASA's voracious appetite for technical manpower. True, as Vice President Johnson points out, re-

volutionary new cooking-ware will come from space-connected high temperature research. But such pleasant trifles may be developed by themselves - without the vast overhead of space projects. As measured against competitive scientific needs, space science, like military space applications are Hoboken via the Pole.

But someone will certainly say, "we may find out something wonderfully unexpected in space." We certainly may. However, research managers know that better results are had by probing areas of suggestive interest rather than by inquiring blindly. Scientists like treasure hunters employ clues and probabilities. They cannot profitably just dive at random in the ocean.

These are the official explanations. Singly or jointly they are insufficient. Moreover, they fall short both for America and for the Soviet Union. With a national product less than ours with ambitious economic plans and capital stringencies, Moscow's space venture is *pari pasu* even less reasonable than Washington's.

Still, we must anticipate another point. "We're both going into space for prestige, for standing and influence in the world." Here is a favorite rationale of the intellectuals. But one rarely mentioned by responsible officials. It is just too ridiculous. Imagine the



NASA's Explorer 17 Satellite tested first on MB equipment. The 405-lb. satellite is unusual in many respects. It contains a mass spectrometer and other ultra-sensitive instruments capable of making precise measurements of the atmosphere at the satellite's orbital altitudes, which vary from 150 to 575 miles. It is also the first satellite to have an all stainless steel shell. The shell, 35 inches in diameter, is only 0.025 in. thick, polished to a mirror finish. (Courtesy of MB Electronics.)

Cold War triumph we could have by merely sacrificing our deep space effect and diverting money saved to foreign aid! "The Soviets go to the moon," might be our slogan "but we give factories, hospitals, colleges." Would the

nations rally towards space-exploring communism or beneficent Westernism? There is only one answer. Similarly, the Soviet Union could steal a grand march upon us by the same *volte-face*. So much for the shallow, thoughtless argu-

ment from prestige.

One would think from an analysis of the given reasons for the space programs that the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union are a little foolish or a little crazy. Some have been edging toward this conclusion. More, however, are vaguely puzzled over the reasons for the great space drive. They sense something odd and diffident in them, a gulf between return and investment, between promise and possibility.

Of course, our leaders are not fools or madmen. They know quite well the weaknesses in all revealed reasons for space exploration. They know (just as we should know) that there is another reason, one that is never breathed officially. We are not the first in space. For years our earth has been under scrutiny from another planet. We have been observed by another world, by an unknown race, with unknown intentions and origins. Before World War II this scrutiny was occasional (even casual;) but after the atom bomb and the V-2, it has become intense and continuous. This is fact, not fiction. This is why both we and Russia are going into space. We are trying to find the source of our visitors, perhaps eventually to try to deny them access to earth, perhaps (oh! greatest folly!) to build an interplanetary deterrent.

PHOTOGRAPH FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

What evidence do we have for such a shocking conclusion. The evidence is the witness of thousands of people. People who have seen alien space craft. People who have seen them clearly, closely and unmistakably. Radar operators, pilots, sailors, groundlings unnumbered have observed, heard and even felt them. Accounts have appeared, and still appear, in newspapers around the world - hundreds of accounts. And the official reaction - laughter and ridicule.

In this country at least two highly reputable groups have tried to tell the public the truth. Both contain a large number of scientists and even retired military personal. Both are very different from the carefully contrived image of the typical "Flying Saucer" fan club: a collection of cracked-pots. Then National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) is headquartered in Washington, D.C. Its members have held key posts in the armed forces and the intelligence community. They have directed secret official inquiries. They believe that the objects are real and extra-mundane, and in their private capacity as citizens they believe that the public should be told about them. For example, a NICAP director, Rear Admiral D.H. Fehrney, formerly chief of naval missile development, has said publicly: "Re-



Spacesuits and Computers used in combination with a simplified mockup of NASA's Apollo moonship. (Courtesy of Honeywell)

liable reports indicate there are objects coming into our atmosphere at very high speeds and the way they change their position would indicate their motion is directed". Another group of unimpeachable professional and fictitious is the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization of Tucson, Arizona. APRO is heavily weighted with distinguished scientific talent, and has reached the same conclusion: The U.F.O. are foreign space craft. Yet these views, based either on inside data or special scientific competence are almost totally unknown and ignored by the public at large.

Ignored also are a multitude of first hand accounts such as that of Flight Lt. J.R. Salandin, RAF, whose jet nearly collided with a disk-shaped, turreted machine. "It looked metallic, it was traveling at tremendous speed," or the report of Maj. L.F. Baker, USAF, who with other Air Force personnel saw six objects which appeared "... circular, shiny like aluminum. They changed course instantaneously," or Captain W.B. Nash, Pan American Air Ways, who with his co-pilot saw eight large disks maneuver below his plane: "I believe they were controlled machines from outer space," or Captain J. Havend, BOAC, who with his crew and passengers saw a huge UFO and six small ones: "It must have

been a space ship," or Col. D.J. Blakeslee, USAF, or Maj. J.B. Smith or Capt. McLaughlin ad infinitum. They have told us that extra mundane life and its artifacts are a reality, not just a remote statistical possibility, but an established, present datum. And they have been met by amusement.

What is the history of this unique affair? We can only give a few highlights.

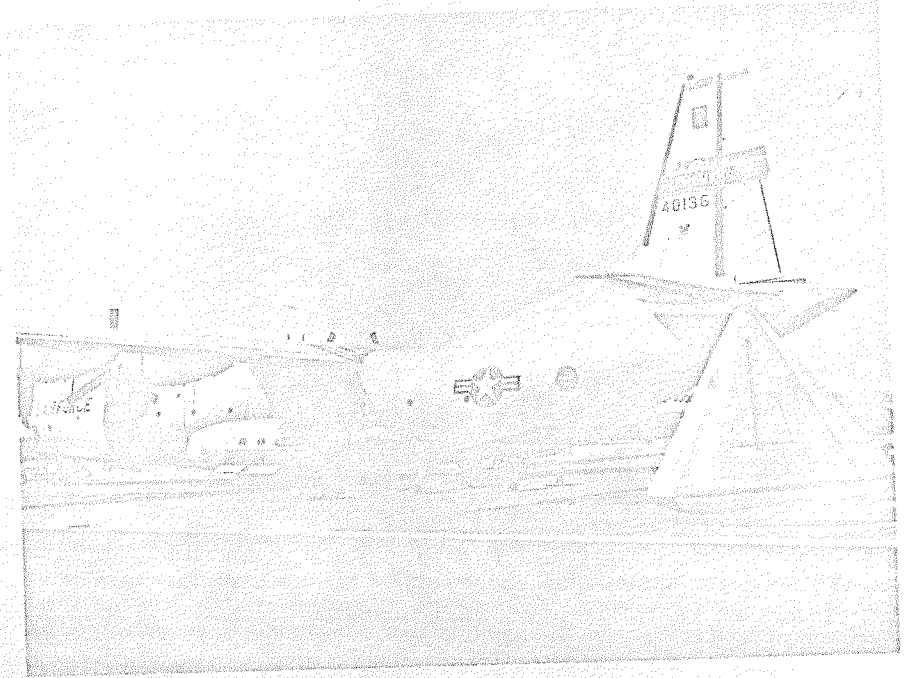
In 1944-1945 many allied and axis fliers saw miniature spheres nick-named "foo-fighters." Apparently under purposeful control, they caused no harm.

In 1946 flights of unidentified rockets passed over the Scandinavian peninsula. The Swedish Defense Staff was baffled.

In 1947 a great reconnaissance of earth was begun from space. Hundreds of disk- and rocket-shaped vehicles scanned the entire globe. One encounter was with Mr. Kenneth Arnold, who sighted a cluster of craft near Mt. Rainier in Washington state. The date was June 24, 1947. During the remaining week in June the newspapers in the Pacific Northwest and Rocky Mountain region, the Seattle Post Intelligencer, the Denver Post, the Spokane Chronicle, the Salt Lake Tribune, recorded dozens of similar metallic disks.

In 1948-49 sightings continued all over the world.

In 1950-55 a very heavy concen-



APOLLO TEST - A modified Air Force C-133A transport is being used for flight test drop program for full-scale models of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Apollo command module. Photo shows Apollo boilerplate test vehicle in drop position in cargo loading opening on underside of C-133A. (Courtesy of Douglas Aircraft Co., Inc.)

tration of space vehicles appeared. Typical of reports sent to the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) at Wright-Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio was one by the crew of a Mid-Continent Airlines DC-3 about to take off from Sioux City, Iowa in July 1951. The pilot, copilot and a colonel from military

intelligence saw a huge object shaped like "the fuselage of a B-29" rush by.

In 1952 the greatest number of U.F.O. ever reported came over this country. On December 10, for example, an F-94 chased a large, round, white "thing" with a red light shining through two windows.

When the fighter attempted to close in, the object would reverse direction and escape.

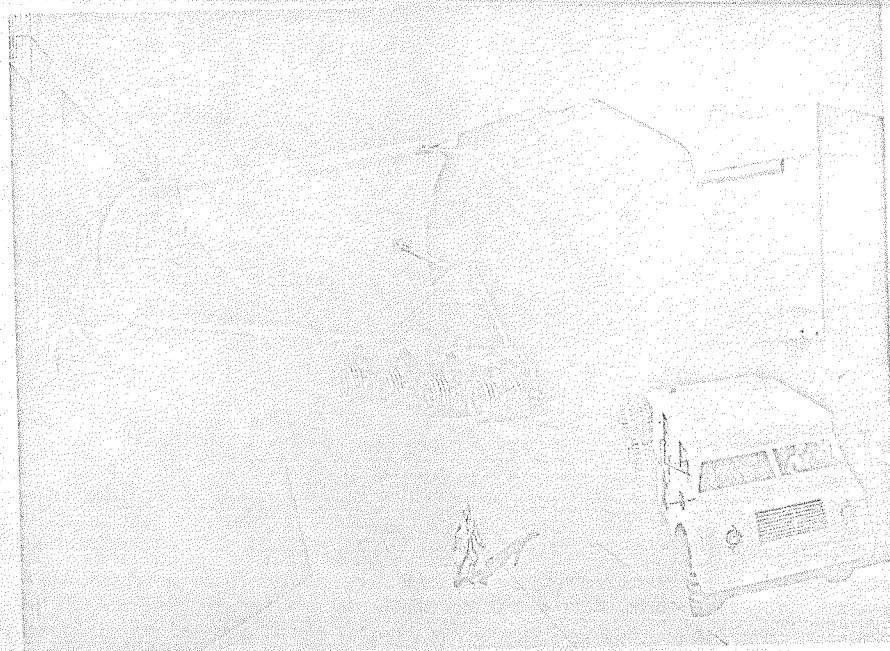
In the years since 1954 regular, but pacific, observation of all countries has been conducted from space. Reports may be multiplied almost without end. From Level-land, Texas in 1957 an AP story begins "Dozens of persons in this west Texas area told of spotting a big, brightly lighted phantom object squat in roadways and take to the air. James D. Long . . . reported the object, 200 feet long and shaped like an egg "cut off the engine and lights on his truck . . ."

And in 1962: Captain Gordon Pendleton of Aer Lingus flying over Wales on May 21 saw a U.F.O. "quite clearly." It ". . . appeared to be round, and had a number of projections . . ." Pendleton said the object was ". . . moving at 600 knots." In July a Reuters dispatch from Buenos Aires told of "cigar-shaped or saucer-shaped" objects in formation. They were seen in several parts of the country.

Behind the scenes, the appearance of extra-mundane visitors has caused frantic activity in governmental, military and scientific circles. A part of the story of the last 15 years has been told by the late Edward J. Ruppelt, an Air Force officer who was in charge of a technical inquiry about U.F.O. While written through heavy se-

curity, his Report On the Unidentified Objects is none-the-less a remarkable document.

Ruppelt tells us that on September 24, 1947 the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) advised the Commanding General of the Army Air Force that "the reported phenomena are real." The conclusion was based on a tentative study and the ATIC requested a full-scale investigation. Sometime in 1948 the results of this study were prepared. Intelligence officers at Dayton had been especially struck by an incident involving two Eastern Air Lines pilots, C.S. Chiles and J.B. Whitted, who had seen a torpedo-like U.F.O. with "Two rows of windows from which bright lights glowed" dash by their plane. From its rear trailed a "50 foot . . . orange-red flame." In Captain Ruppelt's words: ". . . the people at ATIC decided that the time had arrived to make an Estimate of the Situation. The situation was the U.F.O.'s; the estimate was that they were inter-planetary." It contained the Air Force's analysis of many incidents, all of them from "scientists, pilots and other creditable observers . . ." Quite a story. Could it conceivably bore the reader? Apparently it did the reviewer of the New York Times, Mr. Leonard, who called it the "longest and dullest of the current crop of saucer books."



This is an artist's concept of the Saturn V space booster being moved from a Marshall Space Flight Center assembly building on a unique ground transporter which Marshall Center engineers have designed. In tow, the 33-foot diameter booster and its tractor will be about 195 feet long. The first transporter will be ready for use at MSFC late this year. (NASA-Marshall Photo)

For over a decade the public has been told the truth about our elusive space visitors. In fact, we have been told the opposite of the truth. We have been deceived in a great matter. And much of the deception is so transparent that it is incredible that anyone should

believe it. For example, Captain Ruppelt tells us that the Air Technical Intelligence Center's 1948 estimate of alien space penetration was destroyed, burned, When questioned about the validity of his statement, governmental representatives will answer that no such

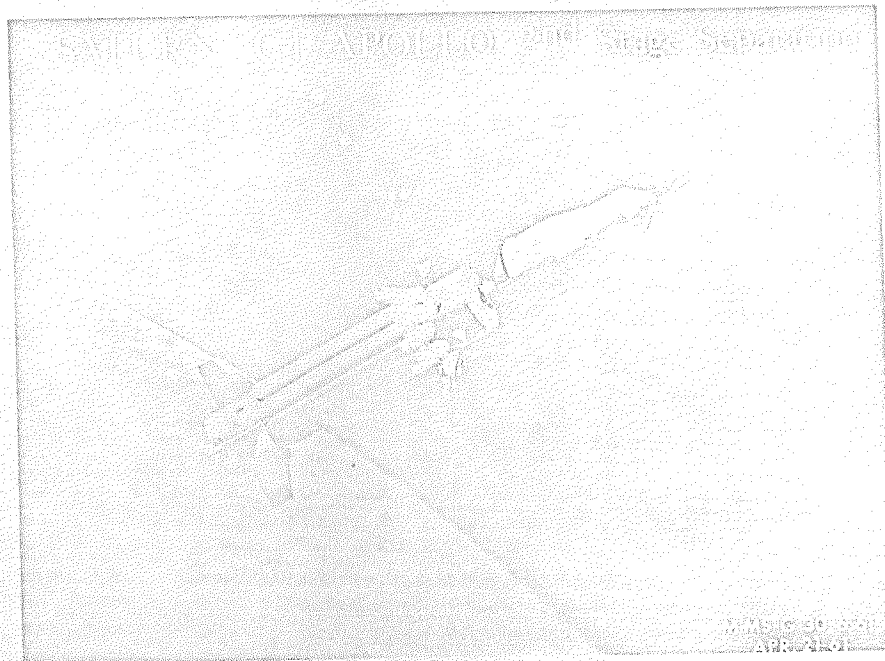
report "exists," which of course is the one if it was burned. Or they will concede that while some personnel may have entertained such a possibility, the "Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center" never made such an official estimate. Again, periodic "Fact Sheets" are issued summarizing the alleged results of U.F.O. investigations. The latest of these, bearing the legend of the Department of Defense, solemnly asserts that there is no "data to indicate that these unidentified sightings were extra-terrestrial vehicles under intelligent control," and that they represent "no threat to the national security." But it still asks those who feel "they possess evidence that would prove or tend to prove the existence of extra-terrestrial vehicles operating within the earth's nearspace envelope, to submit their evidence for analysis." And the "Fact Sheet" instructs "Anyone witnessing an unidentified flying object sighting should report it to the nearest military base as soon as possible." Why spend tens of thousands of dollars yearly to study something which doesn't exist? Why ask people to report nothing?

But most astonishing are the answers so glibly offered officially for most unconventional sights. Balloons have been seen traveling at over a thousand miles per hour. Venus has been again and

again mistaken for a great metallic disk. Brilliantly lit mirages have hung a few feet over observers, and even cut off the lights on their autos. Long-service air line pilots have been so drunk they have "seen things." Groups of scores of persons have had mass delusions of perfect sameness, consistency and detail. No preposterousness seems to be too much.

Of course, it is naive to criticize the Air Force for a program which it has not originated and of which many of its leaders may not even approve. National policy on such a cosmic scale must be laid down by the highest civilian authority, that is, by the President, his chief aides, senior Senators and Congressmen. If the air generals and their myrmidones have not told us the truth, it is because they have been told not to do so. It is civilian authority that sets policy towards our interplanetary visitors, and it is the Administration and Congress whom we should hold accountable if that policy is wrong.

How can this thought control with precedent in our country in practice possibly succeed? To a degree the truth is self-censoring. The reality is too incredible for most to accept. Yet further, that it has not found its proper level recognition is also due to a great deal of tampering with the press and open scientific discussion. Ed-



The first separation, as we see here, is when the booster separates from the remaining stage and Apollo capsule. The Apollo is not only an extension of the Mercury-man-in-space program, it has other capabilities. For instance, men can use it to observe the surface and environment of the moon before a manned landing takes place. (Courtesy of National Aeronautics and Space Administration.)

itors seem to be asked to withhold, minimize or withdraw news or commentary. Authentic sightings continue to be legion in the local press throughout the non-communist world, but they only rarely come over the wire services. The large newspapers and

news magazines rarely carry them; if they do, it is almost always on an inside page, and with a misleadingly jocular headline. The Reuters dispatch quoted before from Argentina was carried in an early edition of the New York Times, but was dropped

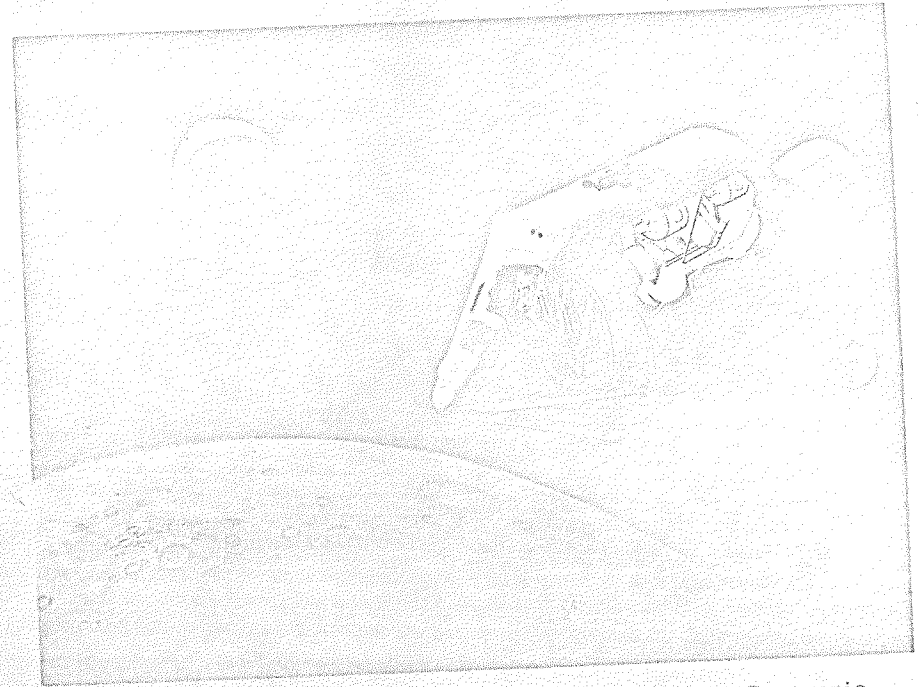
from later widely-read editions. "Bumping" is the normal fate of such accounts - often they are deleted after the first city edition.

A second means of idea control involves both persons and media of high repute or visibility. It is typical for a lone statement on U.F.O. to be made by a noted man or woman - followed by silence. A pattern is evident. The expression of curiosity, or suggestion that there may be something to the phenomena, will appear in a specialized publication or in the general press - but no further views or comments are ever forthcoming. The eminent personage seems to lose all concern with the subject. Even letters are unanswered or answered evasively. For example, in April 1958, Harold D. Lasswell of the Yale Law School lectured on "Man in Space" at a meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences. A noted constitutional lawyer and political scientist, he ended his remarks by saying: "The foregoing rests, of course, on the assumption that earth's inhabitants will be able to execute programs of the kind under discussion, which is no foregone conclusion. The implications of the unidentified flying objects (U.F.O.) may be that we are already viewed with suspicion by more advanced civilizations and that our attempts to gain a foothold elsewhere may be rebuffed as a threat to other systems of public

order." Professor Lasswell never developed this intriguing thought, and is very reluctant even to discuss it.

The intelligence service which is charged with suppressing public awareness of the U.F.O. is especially concerned to see that interest in them does not become associated with names of good scientific standing. Undoubtedly journals have been asked not to publish workable articles on the subject. Further, the author knows personally of at least two books written by outstanding scientists which were dropped by publishers at the last minute, and after both had been explicitly commissioned. One of these was by a distinguished young life scientist, another by a leading German rocket designer.

The picture which emerges, is one of quasi-voluntary censorship. Instances may be endlessly multiplied. The censors operate on the theory that if professional leaders are stilled as soon as they show any interest in U.F.O., their lesser colleagues will remain ignorant, or will at least be cowed into silence. Further, the truth will never attract the serious attention of the press or public, both of which depend upon the experts for their opinions. The desired result is to push entire topic down into the intellectual demimonde. And the theory works well. It accounts for the paradox of a



Beech Apollo Cryogenics Storage Subsystem. The Cryogenic Storage Subsystem forms the heart of the environmental control and electric power systems. It stores, controls and delivers - from an ultra-cold liquid to a gaseous state - the oxygen and hydrogen required for life support and power generating equipment during long Apollo missions. (Courtesy of Beech Aircraft Corp.)

conclusive case for alien space craft, and seeming - but only seeming - lack of reputable scientific interest in it.

* * * *

But the question of questions is whether or not we should be told. The balance of risks lies with

revolution. Two vital issues are at stake: one legal, the other pragmatic. The electorate, and only it, has the right of choice in matters of ultimate national policy. To be sure, we have a representative system - we select our rulers. But we select them to follow our

general mandate. Representative government cannot be made an excuse for denying the public this prerogative. And to do so by contriving at mass ignorance is as serious as denying it by force. Our elected officials are responsible to us for its acts and policies. But how are we to hold them accountable if we are not told essential facts or considerations? How are we to approve them or their policies, if we are not even told great issues exist? A free tradition of government cannot last if any but the most temporary exceptions are made to the rule of final public approval. Neither is private consent among the leaders of the major parties an alternative for it; the political opposition is not co-extensive with the electorate, nor is it a substitute repository for its prerogatives.

Unhappily, the courts have not given enough guidance in the realm of official secrecy. A loss of liberty has resulted from inadequate constitutional definition here. Still, official secrecy can only be justified to keep data from an enemy or a possible enemy. But there is little evidence that our visitors are enemies, and there is much evidence that they are not. True, they may become hostile as we probe into outer space. This is one of the great issues which the public should be allowed to ponder and

the electorate determine: Are we to enter a domain already occupied by unknown beings, with unknown intentions?

There are, today, voices which can only whisper: "It would be better to wait, to delay, not to seem precipitous in entering space". "We may distress or make fearful our visitors." "To act hastily bespeaks fear, and fear bespeaks enmity." "It might even be wise to let the Soviets go first, and see what happens." "Since we have been watched, overflowed for years, and have not been attacked, there may be little to be gained by speed, only much to be lost." "It might be best to save our treasure for terrestrial needs - and possibly gain more cosmic respect for doing so." These voices are stifled by security regulations. They should be allowed to express their views openly.

What reason does the President and Congress have for withholding knowledge from the public that is well known on the other side - in this case, on the other world? Our visitors know they are here! Further, they must certainly know that we know they are here. Can we possibly hope to sneak out into space without their realizing that we are responding to their presence? Do we really think to have some advantage by pretending that we do not officially

perceive them? Such expectations are for children. You can hardly humbug someone millions of years beyond you.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's there may have been good temporary grounds for concealing the fact that unknown space craft were about the earth. No more than the person, can the state cry fire in a crowded hall. Yet when a lack of gross hostility was shown by time, secrecy lost its only legitimate *raison d'etre*. Since the late 1950's it has been used to hide the meaning of the space effort - a purpose against the spirit of our constitutional institutions.

The second major argument for openness and disclosure is practical and pragmatic. It may be that we on earth are the subjects of some long-term alien plan. What it may be we can only guess: though some ingenious guesses have been made. Someday - perhaps, sooner than we think - there may be intervention in our terrestrial affairs. At worst there may be invasion, better perhaps a protectorship. More probably, limits may be set to our exploration of space, or to our research in certain techno-scientific fields. But if the people are unprepared for such events, there may be a nasty social reaction should they occur. A serious morale problem could cause many people who have been

over-protected from reality. Even a mild alien intervention may cause alarm in a society emotionally unready for it. Carl Jung once said in this very connection that the best way to dispel fear of an unknown is to dispel its mystery. Those who maintain this silence should consider that the plan to guard the public from panic may prepare the way for a large panic, for greater social dislocation. To suppress knowledge by state power, by official deception, is an unnatural thing, and one bound eventually to fail. It is that sort of "refined policy" which Edmond Burke declares always leads to final confusion.

Finally, warnings which have come from the social sciences are almost certainly alarmists. A report of the Brookings Institution, suggest grave social consequences to follow from the discovery of highly evolved life beyond the earth. "Anthropological files contain many examples of societies, sure of their place in the universe, which have disintegrated when they came to associate with previously unfamiliar societies espousing different ideas and different ways of life . . . It has been speculated that, of all groups, scientists and engineers might be the most devastated by the discovery of relatively superior creatures, since these professions are most clearly associated with mas-

tery of nature" With all respects, Dr. Brookings takes the human spirit for too fragile a structure. It is tougher than he thinks. A little realistic humility does no harm. How much does civilization owe to cultural borrowing? Proof that man is not alone in the solar system, the loss of what Harlow Shapley calls our "cosmic loneliness," will certainly have profound effects upon humanity's consciousness, effects of which we can only form a dim conception. But why expect the balance of these to be negative? Where social collapse has occurred in such circumstances it has been the result of greed or brutality. Our elusive visitors have

shown no such tendencies. They have even avoided all association with us. To be sure, special interests may eventually suffer: capitalism may be gravely embarrassed if socialism is the principal of higher communities; Marxist materialism may be discomfited if they turn out to be theologically minded. But why not assume that in the last analysis extra-mundane contact will be stimulating, uniting, enlightening rather than destructive, deadening and devious? In the over-view, if change is to come, why not let it come naturally, without lies, to the public, in the trust of popular good sense and the responsibility of higher species?

UFO

331 Leatrice Lane #3
Anaheim, California 92802
April 29, 1966

APR 1 1966 ANSD

Representative Gerald R. Ford of Michigan
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Representative Ford,

I endorse your idea for a Congressional investigation of UFO's. I am convinced that the Air Force is no longer a useful organization for conducting further probes, since they have conditioned the American public to expect automatic ridicule which deters many people from reporting sightings which could possibly be of interest. In my opinion, only large groups of people who feel "safety in numbers" and those individuals who have not perceived the derision they will certainly face are reporting UFO's. An organization that would have the confidence of the people, such as a Congressional committee, would probably receive thousands of individual reports that would benefit the United States from the better picture of UFO's that would unfold.

I have heard of three separate instances where small groups of five or less have seen UFO's, but would not consider reporting them for they knew what the result would be. Considering myself as a random sample, the number of people who have seen UFO's and not reported them must be staggering. A Congressional investigation is needed in order to obtain information that would not otherwise be forthcoming, and then to report the facts to the American people.

Very truly yours,

Raymond Spink

Raymond Spink

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

UFO

Box 2971, Allen Pkwy. Village
Houston, Texas 77001
March 29, 1965

Congressman Gerald Ford
c/o House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

APR 1 - ANSB

Dear Sir:

I wish to commend and support you in your far from timid stand in calling for Congressional investigation of the unidentified flying object situation.

As a member of NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington 20036), I am aware that previous whisperings in Congress in favor of open hearings on the subject have been bollixed by military assurances that no light would be shed by such hearings. I hope you will push hard for hearings now for the following reasons:

1. Public appreciation of the facts and possibilities of U.F.O.'s is greater than it has ever been. Since news of "flying saucers" began to hit page one in the late '40's, every major period of news coverage has ended quickly with a combination of Air Force pooh-poohing and public ridicule over "I rode in a flying saucer"-type stories. But since spring of 1964 the number of competent sighting reports and public interest have remained consistently high, indicating a degree of public maturity that has not been present before.
2. Awareness of the official Air Force whitewash of the UFO problem is at an all-time high, particularly via criticism channelléd through editorial columns of daily papers around the country. These editors have not suddenly become "flying saucer fans"; they've simply weighed the evidence at hand against the crude treatment by the Air Force in releasing explanations more unbelievable than the alien creature hypothesis they are meant to replace in the public mind.
3. To help the scientific approach. I believe that the UFO problem is important and difficult enough to warrant diligent study by the world scientific community. Little less will suffice. Scientists are interested today, but without government support, and with the risk of public censure, no organized effort has begun. A citizen's group such as NICAP cannot give a coherent scientific picture, and don't expect it to. No group of a few thousand citizens got a man in orbit.
4. To solve the political problem. Our biggest "flying saucer" problem is political. If, as I believe is likely, something is out there watching us, nothing less than a full release of our national imagination and scientific genius can be expected to begin to approach this "unthinkable" problem. This release will not occur without support from military and civilian aspects of government. A full hearing can create these conditions, I pray.

Very truly yours,
Michael O'Quin
Michael O'Quin

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY