

FACTS ABOUT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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CONG. WYMAN PUSHES CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

A Congressional resolution for a full UFO investigation—without waiting for the Colorado Project findings—has been introduced in the House of Representatives. Submitted on Oct. 17 by Congressman Louis Wyman (R., N.H.), the resolution calls for the Committee on Science and Astronautics to “conduct a full and complete investigation and study of unidentified flying objects.”

After the Condon project begun, NICAP was privately informed by friends on Capitol Hill that there would be no Congressional investigation or hearing on UFOs until the Colorado Project report is made public. The Wyman proposal, House Resolution 946, seems to indicate a break in this general agreement. In the past year, NICAP has learned that a number of Congressmen and Senators are disturbed by some negative statements from Dr. Condon (see separate story.) If House Resolution 946 is approved, it would certainly have a strong effect on the Colorado Project operations, and it might possibly lead to a Congressional investigation of the project.

The Wyman resolution, if passed, would require the Committee on Science and Astronautics to “report to the House as soon as practicable . . . the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.” If it is approved by the Rules Committee, the investigation could begin before the next session.

Wyman stated that the Science and Astronautics Committee should have full subpoena powers in calling witnesses.

“There have been so many sightings of UFOs,” Wyman said in a House floor speech, “that I think time has come for a committee of the Congress to take sworn testimony on this subject . . . Again and again, officials poo-h-poo the sightings . . . Yet the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena—NICAP—has accumulated a book of sightings (THE UFO EVIDENCE) going back more than a decade reporting many instances of dual pilot corroboration by radar and otherwise . . . It seems to me that the American people are owed a documentary analysis and cross-examination into this subject by a responsible committee of the Congress.”

The Wyman resolution strongly indicated that many members of Congress are concerned about UFOs—and especially about seeing that any investigation, including the Colorado Project, shall be objective and truly scientific. If approved, the resolution would be the most significant Congressional action ever taken on UFOs. If disapproved by the Rules Committee, it would still show that Congressional interest has not died out, and it could lead to further such attempts—especially if there is any question about Dr. Condon’s reported bias on the subject.

NICAP SAYS “THANKS”

We are very grateful to the hundreds of members whose generous response to our emergency letter has now ended our financial crisis. The next issue, IV-3, will be published in November to make up for the July-August issue, which we had to skip because of the financial problem.

Worldwide Sightings Showing Increase

A series of at least 11 UFO sightings in Georgia by police is being investigated by NICAP. From Oct. 20 through 22, law officers reported seeing, chasing and being chased by a variety of objects, including one “ice blue ball”, a “yellow rectangle with a red side” and a small ball of light.

In one instance, according to UPI, two officers chased a ball of light for about eight miles, gave up the chase and turned around, only to have the ball reverse course and chase them. It finally caught up with them, then pulled up into the sky and emitted a beam of bluish light that illuminated the road.

Among the communities which participated in this latest flurry of sightings were Newnan, Milledgeville, Greenville, Talboton, Fayetteville and Taylor County, as well as towns and cities in eastern Georgia.

Three weeks before, on Oct. 5, Superior Court Judge Charles E. Bennett, of Denver, Colo., along with his wife and mother, saw a formation of three orange-red, fuzzy rings flying rapidly through the sky. Judge Bennett reported hearing a soft humming sound as the rings flew along, in the three-second sighting.

He estimated each disc was 50-75 feet in diameter and that the formation was flying at an altitude of 2-3,000 feet.

A number of interesting, first-hand UFO accounts have been received from NICAP Subcommittees and witnesses, including a radar-visual sighting by an airline pilot and ground control personnel; an object that hovered near a military installation; E-M effects; car-pacings; UFOs that frightened witnesses; signalling cases; animal reactions; landings; near-landings; and objects that emitted noises. Some of the witnesses involved were airline pilots, a private pilot, two former radar operators and a forestry fire lookout observer. Investigators from the University of Colorado project worked closely with several NICAP Subcommittees in checking out the reports.

At 9:48 p.m. AST, August 23, Captain Pierre Guy Charbonneau was piloting his Air Canada Viscount over the Atlantic Ocean south of Pineherst, Nova Scotia, on the Halifax to Boston run when he saw a series of white lights that flashed on and off in “one or two seconds duration...” The pilot immediately contacted the Halifax departure radar tower:

“Departure from Air Canada 345. Do you show traffic at 10 o’clock?”

“Roger, A/C 345,” came the quick response. “Return on our scope 10 o’clock your position, 36 N.M. [nautical miles].”

“Could it be something over the ocean?” Charbonneau asked the tower.

“I doubt it,” came the answer. “Our scope is blocked to the ocean in that direction. It has to be in the sky and lower than 50,000 feet.”

Captain Charbonneau’s visual contact with the strange lights lasted less than a minute, but Halifax radar tracked the objects as they closed on the plane from 36 to 16 nautical miles or less. A half-hour later, the strange blips were still visible on the radar screen, after the pilot continued his flight to Boston.

NICAP and the University of Colorado UFO Project have asked for copies of the complete radio communication transcript, on file in the Department of Transport, Halifax.

THE **UFO INVESTIGATOR**

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EDITORIAL

As indicated on page 1, the threatened suspension of operations was averted by the prompt and generous response by hundreds of our members. About 10% sent in contributions, or advance renewals, gift memberships, or orders for THE UFO EVIDENCE.

We are especially grateful for all the warmly encouraging letters we received, praising NICAP for its achievements. Some of the other members wrote and told us they would contribute later if NICAP was able to continue operations.

While we do not have enough reserve to add an extra full-time writer to expedite Volume II, THE UFO EVIDENCE, we hope that increased regular income will enable us to employ another capable writer. It is extremely important that Volume II be published as soon as possible. The massive new evidence it will contain, along with reports on crucial developments, almost certainly will receive national publicity, and increase public pressure for an end to withholding of UFO information.

Again, to all of you who so generously helped us, our heartfelt thanks.

COLORADO PROJECT

When the Air Force-sponsored scientific UFO project was established at the University of Colorado in 1966, both the Air Force and Dr. Edward U. Condon, project head, stated that this was to be an unbiased, independent investigation.

In the past year, NICAP has supplied the Colorado project with hundreds of factual UFO reports, many of which we believe prove UFO reality. We have visited the project, aided its scientists in investigations and provided valuable background information—all on the premise that this was an honest scientific investigation. Based on our personal acquaintance with the scientists involved, we firmly believe that most of them are operating on an honest basis and intend to arrive at a conclusion based on solid evidence.

Several times, however, Dr. Condon has made negative public statements about UFOs, even though he has taken no part in any field investigations of sightings. Some press media and members of the public have, therefore, questioned Condon's objectivity.

"I'm almost inclined to think such studies ought to be discontinued unless someone comes up with a new idea on how to approach the problem," the project head said in a September speech. An effective investigation program, he further stated, would cost \$50 million a year and "even then you wouldn't have any guarantee you'd have anything."

We believe, however, that most of the scientists are sufficiently enough impressed by the evidence that they would strongly object to a negative unilateral conclusion.

In order to clarify the whole situation, NICAP has put several important questions to Dr. Condon and to administrator Robert Low. We have been promised the answers within a short time and we expect to report the full situation in the next issue.

Assistant Director Hall Resigns, Is Replaced By Gordon Lore

Richard H. Hall resigned as Assistant Director of NICAP, effective September 11, 1967, but has continued temporarily in an advisory capacity. Senior staff member Gordon I. R. Lore, Jr., replaces him as the new Assistant Director.

When Mr. Hall graduated with honors from Tulane University, New Orleans, in 1958, receiving his B.A. degree in philosophy, he had no plans to make UFOs a career, and he did not foresee, when he joined NICAP, that he would remain for almost 10 years. His original intention was to become a writer in the scientific field, and his decision to leave NICAP will enable him to work toward this goal. In addition, his recent marriage to the former Mrs. Martha D. Triche has brought him new financial and family responsibilities.

Mr. Hall's first activity in the UFO field was to publish a monthly magazine, "Satellite: Science and the UFO," which appeared from May through September, 1957. In July, 1958, about the same time he came to NICAP as Secretary, he became associated with J. Escobar Faria of Sao Paulo, Brazil, as joint editor of the bi-monthly "UFO-Critical Bulletin," which ceased publication in 1959. In 1961, he published, with the late Professor Charles A. Maney, Defiance College, Ohio, a collection of essays on the UFO problem entitled *The Challenge of Unidentified Flying Objects*. His most recent contribution is a summary article on UFOs for the 1967 Year-book of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

Both NICAP and UFOlogy as a whole are greatly indebted to Mr. Hall for his varied contributions to the field, and for his part in helping to keep NICAP going during its difficult earlier years.

In his work as editor of *The UFO Evidence*, the most important UFO reference document to date, his sound judgment and logical reasoning were invaluable. His conservative approach has made him one of the few real authorities in the UFO field.

It is understandable that Mr. Hall, after ten years of total immersion in UFOs, wants to change his activities and concentrate on other interests. He expects, however, to retain an avocational interest in UFOs and will probably be available to NICAP as a special adviser.

The new Assistant Director, Gordon Lore, has been a member of the NICAP staff for over two years, and his personal interest in UFOs extends back for more than a decade. After majoring in journalism at Louisiana State University and in music at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, he entered the Army in 1958 and was Medical Librarian at DeWitt Army Hospital, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. After several trips to Europe and jobs at a publishing house and an engineering institute in Washington, D. C., he became a NICAP staff member in October, 1965.

As a staff member, Mr. Lore has processed and analyzed sighting reports, has taken part in important field investigations, and has written regularly for *The UFO Investigator*. He has represented NICAP on numerous radio and TV programs in this country and Canada, and has spoken on UFOs to many important scientific, engineering and technical groups. He has collaborated with former NICAP staff member Harold H. Deneault, Jr. in writing a book about the history of UFOs, entitled *Mysteries of the Skies; UFOs in Perspective*, which will be published early in 1968 by Prentice-Hall. The Introduction and Epilogue are by Mr. Hall, who also acted as editor and aided the authors in their research.

Mr. Lore's deep interest in UFOs and NICAP, his careful approach to the many problems involved, and his experience with the press and public give every reason to expect NICAP's continued development under his Assistant Directorship.

Witness Instructions Coming

A special feature with suggestions on what to do in case of close-range UFO encounters has been prepared for the next issue. This will cover close approaches to cars, aircraft, boats and persons on highways or in open country. Actual cases will illustrate the various possible situations.

Sightings (Cont'd.)

A series of sightings in central California prompted intense investigations by Colorado Project members and two NICAP Subcommittees. Although some reports proved to involve planes landing or taking off, one "solid" case was investigated by Colorado team members and NICAP's Bay Area Subcommittee.

UFO Circles Fire Tower

At 9:30 p.m., July 28, California Division of Forestry employee Randy Higgins was at his fire lookout tower in Pacheco Pass, near Gilroy, when he saw an oval-shaped, blue-white light coming toward him. The UFO had a dark band around the middle, a bright white light on top, and its overall surface appeared porous, "like a sponge."

As the object continued its approach, it stopped, hovered, then came closer. It turned, passed by the tower to the east, then stopped and hovered again, using a blue-white light to illuminate the ground directly below. After this, the UFO circled the tower and emitted a variable pitch whining noise. Higgins noted that the sound actually came through his citizen's band radio, causing loud interference with his attempts to transmit.

When the UFO had completed circling the tower, it accelerated to "about slow jet speed and headed toward Mt. Hamilton, leaving a trail similar to a comet behind it."

The witness saw the object for about six minutes. NICAP is awaiting further reports in the area from our California Subcommittees.

A UFO that landed, then streaked away to the north from an area near Sawyer, North Dakota, was seen by two men in a car at 11:30 p.m., August 5. Donald E. Flickinger, Chairman of NICAP's North Dakota Subcommittee, investigated the report.

Ronald Sherven and Robert Bodine said they saw a "white and glowing" object traveling from west to east just north of Sawyer. The UFO then disappeared behind some high hills.

Arriving at a cemetery for a clearer view of the sky, the witnesses stated that the object "all of a sudden appeared there, as if it had suddenly turned on its light." It hovered about 100 feet in the air, then sped rapidly toward the northwest point of the cemetery, where it stopped again.

The object slowly descended until "it touched the ground. . ." Then its light suddenly went off. Sherven and Bodine later saw the UFO slowly ascend to an altitude of about 50 feet, then speed away to the north.

Witness Signals UFO

Two signalling cases, one in California and the other in New Hampshire, also have been reported.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald O. Ameral and family were returning to their home near Hessel, California, at approximately 7:15 p.m. April 1. As they neared home, they saw an "unusual reddish light" on the eastern horizon. Using a damaged headlight that threw a beam up at a 45-degree angle, Ameral began to signal the object. As if in response, the UFO headed directly toward the witnesses. The family noticed that the object appeared as "a glowing reddish upper object with a hazy indefinite lower part at least as large."

"There was a peculiar high-pitched whine sound from it that bothered our ears," Ameral stated in his report to a Bay Area Subcommittee member, Dr. John Blemer. "I stood there, in awe, fearful yet not afraid. I was starting to walk toward it, when Shareise [daughter] came. . . screaming, 'No, no, Daddy,' and pulled me back by the arm. . ."

Shortly thereafter, the object began moving slowly away over the treetops. Then it "gave off a brilliant light and swooshed away."

Numerous sightings in Massachusetts and New Hampshire have prompted a series of investigations by field members of the Colorado project in conjunction with NICAP's Boston Subcommittee. UFOs that landed, frightened witnesses, signalled, emitted noises and displayed flashing lights have been reported since April.

During the late evening and early morning hours of July 26 and 27, NICAP Subcommittee member Gary M. Storey was observing the stars with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Frappier. Storey, a former Air Force radar operator, said in his report to Subcommittee Chairman Raymond Fowler that

a "very bright, star-like light. . ." was first observed over Newton, New Hampshire, at about 11 p.m., July 26.

Two hours later, the light began to move. Through a small telescope, Storey saw that the UFO changed color from white to orange as it moved. As it approached, "two white lights forming the base of a triangle and a red light forming a point just above and in the center of them" were discernible.

Lights Flash In Response

The detailed, "baton-shaped" UFO made about 10 passes over the witnesses before five centered lights were seen to flash on and off in a definite sequence. At one point, Mr. Frappier signalled his flashlight at the object with "three one-second interval flashes." The UFO quickly retraced its path. As it got about halfway across its backward path, its lights dimmed, the two end lights sending back "three flashes seemingly in response." This signal pattern was repeated and responded to by the UFO "a number of times. . ."

As a jet plane headed toward the object, the UFO's lights quickly disappeared. Then it suddenly reappeared "10-15 times brighter than. . . before." Soon after, the object disappeared toward the east.

Drs. Norman Levine and Roy Craig, of the Colorado project, worked with the NICAP Subcommittee investigating the sighting.

Exactly three months earlier, from 10:10 to 10:20 p.m., April 27, several witnesses in the Kingston, N.H. area saw a detailed object with two "legs." The UFO emitted a "shrill beeping noise" and displayed flashing lights. Subcommittee member John H. Reynolds investigated the report.

As Mrs. Alan J. Keiran was returning home, she observed a UFO skimming over the treetops parallel to her car, about 100 or 200 feet away. The object dipped or tilted, turned from the southwest to a westerly direction, then disappeared behind the treeline.

At its closest approach, the UFO appeared about 30 feet long with a circular pattern of seven or eight lights around its edge. There were two protrusions or "legs" under the object. The body itself appeared oval with a bubble on top.

At the same time, in the nearby town of Salem, Mrs. Dora Lowe reported seeing the same or a similar object. She observed at least six bright red lights, two or three of them flashing. She also saw a bright white light in the center of the circular red light pattern. Mrs. Lowe stated she heard a "shrill beeping noise" that got louder as the UFO disappeared in the distance. Richard Tobin, of Kingston, also reported seeing the red lights on the object.

New Exeter-Type Sightings

The NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee also joined with Colorado investigators, Drs. Levine and Craig, on a series of Exeter-like sightings in the Cape Ann, Massachusetts, area around 9:30 p.m., August 2. There were at least 19 groups of witnesses and the Colorado investigators estimated that 250 observers were involved.

At Rockport, Henry L. Witham, Jr., a NICAP member who assisted the Subcommittee in investigating the sightings, saw a series of a dozen yellow lights that "blinked out in two steps." They all appeared to be on one object. High School students in Gloucester, including Carol Chisolm, Paula Scola, and Kevin McCarthy, reported a similar phenomenon. "It seemed at first to be a plane crashing because there were two bright lights, but it seemed to stop and almost revolve, and we saw about six or seven of the same lights," Miss Chisolm stated in her report to Raymond Fowler.

Some of the witnesses, frightened, began screaming. Carol Chisolm started running toward the UFO but abruptly stopped when the lights began going out.

Miss Scola said the object was solid. "It had two discs with six or seven yellow-orange lights between the two," she reported. "It moved at a tremendous speed. . . It was in view for 45-60 seconds and then disappeared. . . The lights vanished one by one as though they blinked off. . . I just kept screaming until I realized it wasn't going to harm us."

(Continued on Page 4)

Sightings (Cont'd.)

Meanwhile, in Ipswich, Winthrop Ashworth, with other witnesses, saw between six and 12 lights that "rose only slightly on the horizon and disappeared without descending." "The lights went out on the left and right sides of the object as we faced it," Ashworth commented. "They came back on, then faded quickly as a light loses intensity when it is turned off."

Chester M. Ladd, a pilot for Eastern Airlines, was with a group of other pilots in the Beverly Airport parking lot when they saw an object with two rows of red and yellow lights that approached the witnesses, "then moved back" and blinked off its lights.

At Rockport Harbor, Stephen P. Aro, a pilot for North Atlantic Airways, said he saw yellowish-white lights that "lit from left-right in a slight arc." Apparently attached to a single object, the lights looked the size of car headlights at a distance of 100 yards.

"My estimation is that the object was approximately the size of a 727 Boeing and at an elevation of 700 feet," Aro said. "The lights went out in a left-to-right sequence after which there was no visible trace of the object."

Similar observations by many other witnesses confirmed the above sightings. Checks with a planetarium, an observatory, airports and weather bureaus have ruled out the probability of a meteor train or other known phenomena.

Two animal reaction cases from Florida and North Dakota also included UFOs that paced a car, landed, made noises and hovered near a military installation.

UFO Chases Car

At 11:30 p.m., July 20, Barbara Fawcett was driving in the vicinity of Jewfish Creek, Florida, when she saw lights in her rear-view mirror. "The large light stayed in the middle of the road and seemed to float six to eight feet off the ground," she stated in a South Dade News-Leader story. As the "burning yellow light" came closer to the car, Miss Fawcett panicked and accelerated to speeds up to 100 mph. The object quickly overtook the car and appeared as if it were going to land on top of the vehicle. As a car approached from the opposite direction, however, the UFO emitted a "tremendous bright yellow glow" that lit the road briefly and disappeared.

On her return trip to Pompano Beach from Islamorada at 2:30 the next morning, Barbara was again in the Jewfish Creek area. This time she was accompanied by her sister and a dog. The dog suddenly started and "began to shake violently." It was at this time that the girls saw a yellow light rise from the ground, wobble from side to side and float up and down. The UFO then approached to the front of the car about 15 feet off the road. It looked as if they were going to collide with the bright object, but, at the last minute the UFO veered to the right under some power lines and landed on a sand dune.

"The light became smaller and smaller until it . . . disappeared," Miss Fawcett declared, "but less than a minute later the large light [or another one] again appeared to the rear of our car."

Later, a large scorched area was reportedly found on top of a sand dune in the area.

At 10:30 p.m., July 25, LaVern Affeldt was in his barnyard just east of Garrison, N.D., when his dog and cattle "became extremely nervous." Looking up, he saw a UFO in the southeast hovering over a military installation. The rest of Affeldt's family rushed outside as the bluish-white object began to move north in "very fast, rapid bursts." It would then abruptly stop, hover, and take off north again, following this pattern a number of times. With each new movement, it appeared to pick up speed and change to bright red, then back to blue-white. The UFO also traveled up and down, at times very closely approaching the ground. Then the object either "shot out of sight very fast or blinked out. . ."

Other reported sightings in the area revealed that objects have been seen disappearing in the direction of a Launch Control Facility seven miles north of the Affeldt farm. A check with Minot Air Force Base, the local airport and the U. S. Weather Bureau revealed that no air traffic or weather balloons were flying in the area at the time of the sighting.

Colorado Horse Death Ruled No UFO Case

The strange case of "Snippy the horse," found dead under allegedly mysterious circumstances near Alamosa, Colo., has been determined to be neither a UFO case nor especially mysterious, as a result of on the spot investigating by NICAP's Denver Subcommittee, headed by Herb Roth.

As pieced together, the story looks like this: The pet palomino horse disappeared from the Harry King ranch, 20 miles northeast of Alamosa, on Sept. 7. The mutilated carcass was found on Sept. 9, a quarter mile from the ranch house, with no marks on the body, but all the skin and flesh gone from the neck and head. Rancher King and his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Berle Lewis, inspected the area on Sept. 10 and found the ground around the horse damp, but otherwise undisturbed by tracks or marks. There was no blood on the ground or on the carcass.

The flesh ended in a very clean cut around the neck, and there was a medicinal smell in the air. On the advice of Dr. James Craft, chairman of the Division of Science and Mathematics at nearby Adams State College, the Lewises and others again inspected the area on Sept. 16. They found a set of "exhaust-like" black marks on the ground, 100 yards from the horse and a small piece of flesh with horse hairs in it, in the center of a bush. Mrs. Lewis punctured the material and found a light green paste inside, which touched her hand in an area which shortly afterwards began to burn. Thorough washing relieved the burning and accompanying redness.

On Sept. 23, Duane Martin, associated with the U.S. Forest Service, checked the carcass and surrounding ground with a radiation monitoring device and reported finding a considerable increase in radioactivity at a distance of almost two city blocks from the carcass, a decrease as he approached the horse, and an increase as he walked away, on the far side of the horse.

On Oct. 8, an unnamed pathologist performed an autopsy on the month-old corpse, and reported abdominal, spinal and brain cavities completely empty, even though there was no indication that those areas had been punctured or otherwise entered prior to the autopsy. The pathologist told reporters that the horse was "definitely not killed by lightning," even though that was the official conclusion of local officials. Roth noted that part of the animal's flesh appeared to have turned into some sort of gelatinous mass.

According to Roth, who arrived on the scene before the pathologist, the rear of the horse had apparently been chewed into by predators, exposing the stomach cavity. The cavity was empty and apparently consumed. Reports that the animal had been drained of all its blood was likely based on a speculative opinion by Mrs. Berle Lewis, who only "assumed" that the blood had been drained by some mysterious means. According to Dr. Robert Adams, an expert on horse diseases from Colorado State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, who examined the carcass, there should have been no blood in the horse anyway, after being dead for a month. He also stated that "Snippy" probably died as a result of a severe hind leg infection.

The "exhaust-like" markings on the ground may have been infection drainage from the animal as it walked in an agonizing circle. Further educated speculation was that someone found the horse dying and cut its throat to end its suffering. The smell of fresh blood then drew the predators, thus resulting in the head, neck and abdominal flesh being eaten away. Wire stories of no visible entry into the stomach cavity were incorrect. Also, a thermometer of the type used by veterinarians was found close to the carcass, as if someone had been nursing the animal in its last hours.

Dr. Adams also stated that he detected nothing unusual or bizarre in connection with the death. Although the pathologist's identity still remains unknown, Roth did talk to a member of the party, who claimed that the pathologist did not perform an autopsy but merely conducted a preliminary examination and made no speculation that the horse may have been killed by UFO occupants. All such speculation apparently came from the Kings and Lewises. In summation, stories that "Snippy" was killed by the inhabitants of a flying saucer are decisively inconclusive.

AF Explanation Backfires

An AF-backed magazine story entitled "These Saucers Nearly Fooled The Air Force," has now been revealed as either a clumsy debunking effort or a rather incredible blunder.

Ostensibly describing a close-guarded "mystery" of strange radar blips received at Anderson AFB, Guam, the story was written by Lloyd Mallan with full AF cooperation. It appeared in the May 7th issue of This Week Magazine.

As approved by the AF, the Mallan article describes how a Guam radarscope picked up mysterious blips indicating that unknown, maneuvering objects were nearby or overhead, although nothing could be observed visually. According to the story, the mysterious blips, seen from August 2 to 9, 1966, remained unexplained for ten months. During this time, Mallan says, the reports were classified as secret, and the matter was considered so important that AF, Federal Aviation Agency and other radar experts were sent to Guam to investigate.

The unidentified blips, the experts at last discovered, were caused by "propagation anomalies"—with "electrified portions of the atmosphere acting as giant, invisible lenses." Disclosing this solution of the mystery, Mallan cites as his source the AF-provided "Final Report on the Investigation of FAA phenomena, Anderson AFB, 2-9 August 1966."

Since then, the unclassified portions of this report have been examined by Dr. J. E. McDonald, senior physicist, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, University of Arizona. Dr. McDonald, widely accepted as an authority on radar, has made an extensive study of UFO evidence, under a grant from his university.

The technical analysis sent to NICAP by Dr. McDonald is too long to present here, but the gist is simple enough.

Neither the "sighting" nor the AF-FAA explanation have the slightest relevance to the real UFO problem. What "nearly fooled the AF" was not a "saucer" phenomenon but a readily understandable effect within the radar system. The case does not involve UFOs and never did. The only mystery is why it took the AF and FAA and a team of so-called experts ten months to discover what was happening.

In his evaluation, Dr. McDonald shows that the strange blips resulted from a combination of factors, all of which should have been quickly recognized by operating personnel. The blips were first noted when increased C-141 traffic began moving to Vietnam, along airlines just outside the nominal 200-mile range of the Anderson AFB surveillance radars. The C-141's carried a new higher-output transponder causing a response beyond Guam's normal range. Though the results described by Dr. McDonald, are technical, the basic points are included so the AF cannot claim any evasion of the facts:

1. The Guam "Identification, Friend or Foe" radar output involved staggered modes with two distinct types of IFF codes being sent out via alternating pulses.
2. The "mysterious blips" were strictly IFF blips, received at Guam as so-called "second-return echoes," from aircraft beyond 200 miles.
3. These echoes were automatically "gated" into portions of the system designed to listen for IFF returns in the second mode, though emitted (by the C-141's) in the first mode. Hence they were displayed as "invalid" blips.

But, Dr. McDonald emphasizes, these blips' characteristic hyperbolic trajectories and descending and rising motions were [or should have been. Ed.] readily explained in terms of the geometry of the problem of second-return echoes. This, states Dr. McDonald, is a rather simple matter that no one notices until the team of experts was flown out from the U.S.

Commenting on the apparent garbling in the Mallan story, Dr. McDonald says:

"If this article was checked and approved by the Pentagon personnel who released the report to Mallan, then they must themselves have missed the entire point of the investigative team's analysis. If it was not checked, following special release to Mallan of the previously classified report, it should have been, for its net effect on knowledgeable readers will have been to arouse suspicion over a seemingly unreasonable 'explanation' of a UFO case."

It is more than probable, however, that Mallan's article was not aimed at any such knowledgeable audience, but at the much larger number of readers who do not know enough about radar to realize

when seemingly authoritative pronouncements are false. The most significant aspect of this case is the way the Air Force used it:

First, they gave it an air of hush-hush importance by classifying the entire period. They then released it to a "friendly writer, one who had defended Project Blue Book in previous articles. Finally, they allowed or encouraged the writer to publish this so-called explanation of a so-called UFO mystery, even though the mystery had nothing to do with UFOs and the explanation was not the right one.

DITTER PHOTOS REJECTED

Two of the most widely publicized UFO photographs of recent years have failed to survive an intense analysis by NICAP. Taken November 13, 1966, by barbershop-owner Ralph Ditter, 40, of Roseville, Ohio (see page 7, UFO Investigator, Vol. III/No. 11), the pictures evaluations contradict Ditter's report of a car-sized object hovering over his home and moving off over his yard in the space of approximately a minute and a half. The present evidence indicates that a small object of only a few feet in width was suspended before the camera, with a multi-minute time lapse between the two exposures.

The first of two major discrepancies between the pictures and the report was discovered at the outset of the analysis. According to Ditter, he took the first picture when the UFO was over the house, snapped another that did not turn out, and took a third while the UFO was departing. However, on the prints submitted to NICAP—prints certified in writing by Ditter as the original Polaroid photographs—the number on the alleged first photo is 8 and on the alleged third photo 6. Since there is no significant possibility that Polaroid film can be manufactured in misnumbered rolls (NICAP checked this), there are only two reasonable explanations for the numbering discrepancy: either the prints submitted to NICAP were not the originals, or Ditter's report is erroneous. Examination of the prints by NICAP's photographic consultant showed the former alternative to be most improbable.

The second discrepancy came to light when a study was made of the shadows in each picture. Although to the untrained eye there may appear to be no change in the position of any given shadow from one picture to the other, there is in fact considerable change. Three independent shadow analyses were conducted (each without consultants' knowledge of the other two), and all agreed that far more time elapsed between the pictures than the brief interval reported by Ditter.

In addition to NICAP's analysis, a special study of the Ditter photos was performed by the Raytheon Company, an aerospace firm, as an unsolicited demonstration of the company's photo-analytic capability for the University of Colorado's UFO project. Approached informally by Raytheon for a photo case suitable for technical evaluation, NICAP suggested the Ditter pictures because they contained the desired detail and provided Raytheon's analyst with copies of them and with supporting data. The analyst made instrumented measurements at the site where the alleged UFO pictures were taken (Ditter's front yard) and developed special mathematical equations for determination of the critical unknowns. Performed in part by an electronic computer, the study disclosed the same discrepancies previously uncovered by NICAP.

During NICAP's contacts with Ditter, he gave no indication of attempting to execute a deception. Until NICAP sought him out to secure details of his supposed sighting, his only public use of the UFO pictures was to display them in his barbershop as an item for conversation. The only clue NICAP found as to whether he might have been predisposed to produce trick photos was his strong interest in photography and in subjects related to UFOs. He is an amateur astronomer, a collector of materials on space travel, and an avocational photographer who has been known to experiment with special camera techniques.

On completion of its analysis, NICAP confronted Ditter with the evidence against his claim of having photographed a true UFO. To the discrepancy in the numbers on the prints, Ditter answered that copies must have been inadvertently switched for at least one of the originals during the many periods when he loaned the originals to friends. Told that the prints given to NICAP gave every indication of being originals, he offered no further explanation. To the discrepancy of the time lapse, he had no comment other than that he would not change his original report.

Another Wild Book

The paperback mart has spawned still another hodgepodge entry into the UFO field; *Flying Saucer Occupants*, by Coral and Jim Lorenzen, the wife and husband co-founding team of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO).

This disjointed book, which frequently wanders from the main theme of UFO occupants, jumps from an introduction by biologist Dr. Frank B. Salisbury to a tired recounting of the Villas-Boas (by Dr. Olavo Fontes and Joao Martins) and Hill cases and on to a chapter on censorship and "psychological implications" (by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle). The part of the book not written by the Lorenzens is more interesting than the rest, though often highly speculative.

But the height of speculation and reporting of dubious cases comes from the Lorenzens. Tales of abductions by space creatures, sexual contacts with extraterrestrial maidens and fluorescent beings only serve to add to the sensationalism so rampant in UFO literature. Nor does a sympathetic chapter on the contactees (the group that has done most to set back serious UFO research) help the once serious image of APRO. By far the most thoroughly authenticated occupant case was barely mentioned: The report by Officer Lonnie Zamora in Socorro, New Mexico -- and even here the wrong year was given.

Either the authors were sloppy in checking their facts or were inexcusably bad proof-readers, for the book is replete with incorrect information: Wrong dates are given; incorrect dates and addresses abound in the Sprinkle bibliography. Even the now defunct but highly respected organization to which NICAP staff member Isabel Davis belonged, Civilian Saucer Intelligence, (CSI), New York is constantly confused with the Los Angeles CSI and is mentioned throughout the book as Civilian Saucer Investigations.

The early 1965 Brooksville, Florida, hoax case is accepted as fact by the authors; the Lorenzens also appear to believe that Project Blue Book has been "essentially honest" in issuing their outlandish explanations. Physicist Dr. James E. McDonald, who has done more than any single scientist to force his colleagues to take a serious look at UFOs, is deliberately smeared despite the fact that he has risked his professional reputation to get scientists, the press and the public to look at the subject objectively and rationally.

If the Lorenzens intended to add to sensationalism and confusion by issuing such a book, they have admirably succeeded. If, by any chance they feel they have served the cause of science and reason, then they have been hopelessly deluded.

FAA WARNS HOAXTERS

The Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) has assured NICAP that balloons launched as phony "UFOs" are illegal (see UFO Investigator, Vol. III/No. 11, page 5) and will be treated as such if the agency is called in to investigate. Consulted by NICAP for clarification of the FAA's position on hoax balloons, the agency stated it has both the authority and resources to determine who is responsible for such activities and to prosecute them. The FAA affirmed that the balloons are a threat to person and property, both in the air and on the ground, and are a needless problem for the various officials who must check them out.

The devices are being launched nation-wide by young students who apparently have no inkling of the harm they are doing. Aside from contributing background noise and confusion which complicates serious investigations, the hoaxers are endangering life and limb by lofting candles and flares. In dry, tinder-box areas of southern California and elsewhere, the fragile balloons could easily start forest fires.

One serious danger was illustrated on August 23 following a flurry of apparent hoax balloons in the Washington, D.C., area. On the night prior to a batch of sightings over northwest Washington, a NICAP staff member and others chanced to see a plastic balloon carrying lights rising from the Georgetown area. Next night, a dozen or more witnesses observed red lights meandering about the sky, all adjacent to the Georgetown area. The apparent balloons floated in the area of the Potomac River, which is an

airliner approach path to National Airport, and were often seen below scattered cloud layers. An airliner pilot descending through clouds and suddenly confronted with a brilliant light would probably take violent evasive action. In a crowded air corridor, this could lead to a collision, with fatal results. NICAP feels that such hoaxers should be tracked down and prosecuted. Stern warnings should be issued to avoid tragic air disaster. College authorities, in particular, should warn students who may not realize the seriousness of their activities.

The dearth of information on UFOs for many years, at least in conventional news media, has left a wide-open field for irresponsible people now that UFOs are a matter of popular interest. Another partial antidote would be more responsible reporting of hoaxes by the press, which all too often has given the hoaxers what they seek -- publicity. While an elaborate hoax may be newsworthy, it should not be treated as a joke and newspapers should condemn dangerous pranks. At the same time, news media could fill the information gap by objectively reporting some of the serious facts about UFOs and reports by reputable citizens.

Why No Sonic Booms?

One of the more puzzling pieces of the UFO mystery is the almost complete absence of sonic booms from craft obviously moving much faster than sound.

Ordinarily, anytime an object moves faster than sound in the atmosphere, a shock wave is created, much like the wake left by a boat. When this wave passes the spot where a person is, the sound of a sonic boom is heard, and sometimes felt. An especially strong boom can break windows and crack plaster.

While no one knows why UFOs fail to cause sonic booms, recent research has shown one way booms may be eliminated.

In the course of attempting to eliminate or at least reduce the sonic boom noise from its forthcoming supersonic transport (SST), the Boeing Co. has done considerable research in its wind tunnels with unusual shapes for aircraft. One of these -- a flat-bottomed craft -- shows signs of being able to fly supersonically without causing a sonic boom.

An aircraft with a flat bottom would leave an ordinary shock wave from its upper surface which would slant upward and rearward. The shock wave from the lower surface, however, would go straight back from the craft. As long as the craft was flying level, the shock wave would be parallel to the ground and therefore would never reach a person standing on the ground.

As yet, there seems to be no way to fly a flat-bottomed aircraft without its being slightly tilted in relation to the ground, in order to provide lift. This tilting would cause the shock wave to slant toward the ground and thus be heard by a person on the ground as a sonic boom. If some way can be found to support such a craft without aerodynamic lift, then a boom-less supersonic aircraft will be possible.

Since many UFOs apparently have flat bottoms and domed tops, it is conceivable that the lack of booms from them could be linked with this theory. No study has yet been made, however, attempting to correlate shape and boom-less supersonic flight of UFOs.

Witness Procedures Studied

A Canadian study to develop procedures to be followed by witnesses while observing UFOs was announced on September 19 by the University of Toronto. The University's Institute for Aerospace Studies will conduct the study, to be complemented by the Colorado project.

"The USAF has in the past adopted the attitude that unexplained sightings were all products of hoaxes, hallucinations or misinterpretations of data," stated Dr. Gordon Patterson, the institute's director. "I do not feel that all such sightings can be explained away in this fashion."

Dr. Patterson further said that he hoped the project "would provide scientifically-useful information."

Scientific UFO Symposium

Approximately 250 members of the American Psychological Association (APA) heard a five-man panel present a serious discussion of UFOs on Sept. 4, in Washington, D.C. Representing NICAP was Assistant Director Richard Hall, the first speaker on the program. Chairman of the symposium was Dr. Gustave J. Rath, Department of Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences at Northwestern University.

The symposium theme was: "Problems and Methods of Gathering Data on UFOs." Chairman Rath keyed the discussion to unusual events which might be reported by astronauts and aquanauts, and the problems related to interpreting their reports. In his opening remarks, Dr. Rath said, "We want to be sure that when an expert reports having perceived something new that we know how to properly interpret his response. . ."

Mr. Hall reported on "National UFO Data Collection Programs," and cited statistics obtained from circulating questionnaires to 21 groups and individuals engaged in gathering UFO reports. Somewhere between 10,000 and 20,000 reports have been gathered since 1947, he said, and about 20% of these represent substantial unexplained cases which ought to receive serious scientific attention. He urged the psychologists, in particular, to help explode the myth that "mass hallucinations" or "mass delusions" could explain radar-visual sightings and others involving physical evidence.

Guides Needed For Meeting Space Beings

Other panelists were Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, psychologist at the University of Wyoming, who stated his personal conclusion that UFOs are extraterrestrial. Another panelist, Charles W.N. Thompson of Northwestern University, agreed. Mr. Thompson, after giving a critical discussion of the subject, said the "Ugly American" was bad enough but that the "Ugly Earthman could be fatal." The statement was made in the context of the need for legal and moral guidelines for the first encounter with space beings. Lawyers, he said, should be helpful in evaluating UFO reports since they are experienced in evaluating human testimony.

Dr. Harold Greenwald, New York psychoanalyst, discussed the possible uses of hypnosis in UFO investigations and said that it could be a valuable tool in the hands of trained professionals. In a discussion of the Hill case (in which a couple thought they were abducted by spacemen), Dr. Greenwald said he concurred with the couples' psychiatrist that the incident was fantasy rather than fact.

Dr. David Saunders of the Colorado UFO Project, gave a report on the problems and methods of their task. He said Colorado was testing the extraterrestrial hypothesis, actually pursuing any signs of intelligence on the part of UFOs, and the null hypothesis (that UFOs are not extraterrestrial), to decide which should be accepted. In the process, he said, light would be shed on other hypotheses which might be advanced. Press reporting which excites the public, opportunists and jokers, abnormal personalities, and well-meaning amateurs, he said, complicate their work considerably.

Most of the questions which followed indicated that the psychologists treated UFOs seriously.

NICAP POLICY UNCHANGED

NICAP's basic policies, carried out more than 10 years, will be continued unless and until major developments indicate the need for a change. Briefly, these policies include careful investigation and evaluation of reported UFO sightings; publicity on important factual sightings; exposure of proven frauds; continued efforts to end unwarranted secrecy on the UFO situation; and presenting of all significant information to Congress, the press and the public.

Opinions of scientists and other authorities on various phases of the UFO evidence may be published from time to time, and these may include serious discussions of possible implications. However, it will be made plain that these are opinions, not proven facts, and NICAP will continue to avoid the type of sensational speculation which has often kept responsible citizens from examining true UFO evidence.

CHRISTMAS GIFT ORDERS

We are indebted to the Southern California Affiliate for the following suggestion printed in its September "NewsNotes:"

"It is only about three months until Christmas. . . Why not order now copies of THE UFO EVIDENCE and NICAP Gift Memberships as holiday gifts?"

"1. You can order gift memberships and request NICAP to send you the membership cards, introductory letters and first issues of the Investigator. You can then present these . . . along with a holiday card in your own special envelope.

"2. You can send NICAP a signed greeting card and ask NICAP to enclose the card with the first material sent to whomever you designate.

"The same holds true for THE UFO EVIDENCE. But since NICAP is unable to gift wrap orders, we suggest you order the books now and have them sent to your address. You can then gift wrap them or have them wrapped."

NICAP note: Copies sent at book-rate (postage paid by NICAP) may require two weeks to a month or more for delivery, depending on the distance. If quicker delivery is desired, we will send orders by first-class mail, which costs \$1.00 extra. NICAP membership, \$5.00; UFO EVIDENCE, \$5.00, book rate, \$6.00 first-class mail. Combination of NICAP membership and THE UFO EVIDENCE, \$9.00—or \$10 for first-class mailing of THE UFO EVIDENCE.

We appreciate the Southern California Affiliate's suggestion and we shall process Christmas orders as soon as they are received.

"LITTLE GREEN MEN"

Many times, the gag phrase "little green men" has been injected into factual UFO news stories and broadcasts without the slightest excuse. Often this worn-out phrase has offset an otherwise impressive account by competent and reliable observers. More than one witness, finding himself the butt of this lame joke while attempting to give a serious report, has tried to retort but failed from lack of proper information.

It may help to know that not one of the thousands of UFO sightings listed in NICAP files has been tied to any "little green men" report. It is true that some people have reported seeing small-sized figures—as well as various other sizes—near UFOs. But these stories have not been proved, and none described green-colored beings. It would seem time for this aging gag to die a long overdue death.

Report On 1947 Sighting Wave To Be Published In November

Marking the twentieth anniversary of the event, the Report on the UFO Wave of 1947, by Ted Bloecher, will be ready for mailing in November. Research for this report has been carried on by Mr. Bloecher over a period of five years. NICAP had originally hoped to issue it as a NICAP publication but is unable to do so at this time for financial reasons. Cost of production will be paid by Mr. Bloecher, and any proceeds above cost will be divided with NICAP. As Mr. Bloecher's work takes him out of town regularly, NICAP has agreed to handle orders.

The report is photo-offset, 8 1/2 x 11, paper bound, 180 pp., 100,000 words. Introduction by Dr. James E. McDonald, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, University of Arizona. Contents are: Sec. I, Summary of 1947 wave through July; Sec. I, Description of 100 cases showing patterns of appearance and behavior; Sec. III, Description of 100 cases reported by special types of witnesses; Sec. IV, Description of 20 cases involving empirical evidence; Sec. V, Detailed chronology and references, 850 cases in June and July. Photographs, bibliography, maps, index. The material includes newspaper reports not previously referred to in UFO literature; reports from Project Blue Book files previously unpublished; and reports from NICAP files.

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