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June 21, 1960

CONFIDENTIAL NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS

" DANGERS OF SECRECY ON UFOs (UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS)
AND DIGEST OF DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE "

Early in 1960, because of the growing hazard from Air Force UFO secrecy, Congressional hearings were urged by the majority of NICAP Board members and technical advisers. (See partial list below.)

There is a serious and growing danger that UFOs may be mistaken for Soviet missiles or jets, accidentally setting off war. Several Air Defense scrambles and alerts already have occurred when defense radarsmen mistook UFO formations for possible enemy machines. NICAP agrees with this sober warning by General L. M. Chassin, NATO Co-ordinator of Allied Air Services:

"It is of first importance to confirm these objects ... the business of governments to take a hand, if only to avoid the danger of global tragedy. If we persist in refusing to recognize the existence of these UFOs we will end up, one fine day, by mistaking them for the guided missiles of an enemy -- and the worst will be upon us." (The two preceding paragraphs were added to the confidential report after the first group of photo-copies was completed; members of Congress receiving the first copies have now also received this addition.)

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

By AF policy, members of Congress and committee chairmen have repeatedly been told that the UFOs are non-existent, and that hearings would benefit only the sensation-seekers and science-fiction publishers. Since it is too late for hearings in the 1960 session, the following evidence is submitted to interested members of Congress, as proof of the need for immediate emergency action.

There is an increasing danger -- as the NICAP Board has warned the AF -- that Russia could exploit the muddled UFO situation at any time. If successful, this trick would greatly increase tension in the U.S. and allied countries. It could be planned to upset the 1960 political campaigns, or at any desired time to increase fear of USSR attack power. The documented UFO evidence beginning on page 3 indicates how vulnerable the U.S. would be to such a Soviet scheme. Details of this possible trick, probable results, and a plan for blocking it now will be outlined after the documented digest.

Partial list of NICAP officials, consultants and technically qualified members urging prompt Congressional action:

Vice Adm. R.H. Hillenkotter, USN (Ret.)
 Major Dewey Fournet, USAFR, (Intelligence), former AFHQ monitor for the UFO project
 Mr. J.B. Hartranft, president, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Ass'n.
 Rear Adm. H.B. Knowles
 Col. R.B. Emerson, USAR, head of Emerson Testing Laboratories
 Col. Joseph Bryan, III, USAFR, recently on staff of Gen. Norstadt
 Lt. Col. Jas. McAshan, pilot, USAFR
 Capt. W.H. Nash, Pan American Airways, whose sighting of eight 100-foot discs maneuvering below his airliner (confirmed by co-pilot) was checked by AF Intelligence, listed unsolved.
 Dr. Leslie Kaeburn, space consultant, Univ. of S. Calif.
 Former AF Maj. Wm. D. Leet (three officially reported UFO encounters while a bomber pilot)
 Mr. Frank Rawlinson, physicist, National Aeronautical and Space Agency
 Prof. Charles A. Maney, astrophysicist
 Mr. Frank Kaistead, astronomer, 25 years Curator of Darling Observatory
 plus over 200 other technically trained members--pilots, missile and radar engineers, officers in the Army, Navy, AF, USMC, and responsible citizens in 50 states (lawyers, executives, editors, newscasters, etc. Names available.)

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

DIGEST OF UFO EVIDENCE

(Documents, tape-recordings and transcripts in NICAP possession)

The documented cases briefed below are examples of the hundreds concealed, denied or falsely explained by the AF.

1. Kinross case, Nov. 23, 1953. Disappearance of an F-89 jet from Kinross AFB during a UFO chase. Pilot, Lt. Felix Moncla; radar officer, Lt. R.R. Wilson. No trace of jet or airmen found. AF statement to Associated Press: The plane was followed by radar until it merged with an object 70 miles off Keweenaw Pt. in upper Michigan. Letters to NICAP by Moncla's mother, brother-in-law, cite conflicting AF explanations given them and show disbelief in AF answers. Loss of jet, airmen confirmed to NICAP director by Capt. R.C. White, AF Press Desk. (Listed as probable crash, cause unknown.)

The AF now denies this case ever occurred. Denial signed by Maj. L.J. Tacker, AF PIO (Public Info. Officer) on UFOs, in statement to NICAP member Richard Levine. Intelligence officers connected with the UFO project, "Blue Book", at ATIC (Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center) at Dayton, also denied knowing of the case; this denial took place in an interview with Richard Vaughn, staff member WTTG, Washington, and NICAP member Harold E. Salkin, on May 31, 1960. Tape and transcript of interview, Tacker and Moncla family letters, photostat of AP story, all available.

2. Airliner-UFO chase by AF order. On April 8, 1956, Capt. Raymond L. Ryan, American Airlines, encountered fast-maneuvering UFO west of Albany. Radioed Griffiss AFB, was ordered to abandon next landing, pursue UFO, aid jcts in interception. (Against Civil Aeronautics Board policy.) In investigations by CAB and CAA (now Federal Av. Agency) Capt. Ryan and American Airlines -- evidently under orders -- denied any deviation to chase the UFO, cited flight-log entry as proof of normal flight time Albany-Syracuse. NICAP request for AF report evaded.

Proof of AF-ordered chase, with possible danger to passengers, also indicating false or altered flight-log entry: A previously tape-recorded interview with Capt. Ryan and his first officer, Wm. Neff, with both admitting the AF order, describing the chase to Lake Ontario, where the UFO speeded up, heading for Canada. CAA tower operators at Albany, Watertown, and one AF witness in Albany airport tower, said by Ryan to have observed UFO also. Tape, transcript, Ryan and AA denials, CAA and CAB reports to NICAP confirming Ryan denials, available, with proof tape is genuine.

3. Report of AF transport captain indicating possible UFO attack. During 1958 night flight over Pacific, AF transport radarmen picked up nearby UFO. Strange flashes or explosions followed, like anti-aircraft bursts but blue-green in color. Transport captain fired a challenge rocket. A red flare, other blue-green bursts followed, but no damage to plane. AF captain later told Intelligence he believed they were "shot at." Intelligence Report summary stated: Entire crew were aware of the previous disappearances of AF transports in this area, and all appeared to believe their experience was related to the previous disappearances. (Extract from unclassified summary sent to NICAP by a member serving in AF Intelligence. Original or certified photo-copy available.)

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

On May 31, 1960, ATIC officers denied any such report, in conference previously cited. (See Kinross case). Documented denial available

(Other documented cases listed on following pages)

AIR FORCE DENIALS OF SECRECY DISPROVED

Since the AF investigation began, UFO censorship has been constantly denied in AF press releases, broadcasts, letters to Congress, press and the public. Examples follow:

1. Ass't AF Secretary R.E. Horner, CBS nationwide telecast (Armstrong Circle Theater) Jan 22, 1958: "There has been a mistaken belief that the AF has been hiding from the public information concerning unidentified flying objects. Nothing could be further from the truth. And I do not qualify this in any way."

AF admission, 24 hours later, in official letter by Capt. G.H. Oldenburgh, AF PIO (Public Information Officer) at Langley AFB: "The public dissemination of data on unidentified flying objects is contrary to AF policy and regulations, specifically AF Reg. 200-2." (Letter to NICAP member Larry W. Bryant; available for inspection.)

2. Gen. Joe W. Kelly, USAF, Dir. of Legislative Liaison, to Sen. Francis Case, Rep. Lee Metcalf, other Congressmen, and private citizens: Denials that UFO reports were withheld from the public.

Signed statement to NICAP by Acting Commandant of Coast Guard, R. Adm. J. A. Hirshfield, after NICAP request for a visual-and-radar UFO report from the Coast Guard Cutter Sebago: This official report, said Adm. Hirshfield, had been forwarded to the "designated agency" in the Dept. of Defense. He added: "Federal law prohibits the release of official files concerning such cases to other than specified channels. I therefore find it necessary to refuse your request." (The Sebago case involved high-speed UFO maneuvers about the cutter. The AF later publicly implied the officers and radarmen were incompetent.)

(Other documentary proof of secrecy available.)

EXPLAINING AWAY OF UFO REPORTS

In 1956, Capt. Edward J. Ruppelt, former chief of Project Blue Book, publicly disclosed the AF policy of debunking UFO reports: "I was continually told to 'tell them about the sighting reports we've solved -- don't mention the unknowns.' ... After the AF order of Feb. 11, 1949, everything was evaluated on the premise that UFOs couldn't exist. No matter what you see or hear, don't believe it.... There have been definite indications that there is a movement afoot to get Project Blue Book to swing back to the old project philosophy of analyzing UFO reports -- to write them all off, regardless Some good reports have come in and the AF is sitting on them. . . . Some investigators were 'purged' because they had refused to change their original opinions about UFOs. . . . There were two factions. One believed the spaceship answer but felt we should clamp down on information until we had all the answers. Another group favored giving more facts to the public, including the best cases, the unsolved movies

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

of UFOs, and the AF conclusions. A press showing of the "Tremonton" UFO movie -- which the Navy analysts said showed unknown objects under intelligent control -- was planned early in '53. . . A new publicity policy went into effect -- don't say anything. "(From: The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects.)"

TYPICAL CASES "WRITTEN OFF" BY AF POLICY

1. Washington UFO operations over White House, Capitol, Washington Airport, 1952; tracked by expert CAA and AF radarmen, speeds from 140 to 7200 mph; objects seen by CAA towermen, pilots, exactly where radar indicated. In 1959, Sen. Keating, NY, was told by AFHQ that weather phenomena had caused the radar blips; no mention of the visual sightings. In the May 31 ATIC conference, officers first denied any visual reports, then admitted them. (Record available.)

Capt. Ruppelt statement: "In 1952, the press was led to believe the Washington radar-visual sightings were only weather phenomena. Actually, they're still unknowns. The press conference did take the pressure off Project Blue Book, but behind the scenes it was only the signal for an all-out drive to find out more about the UFOs"

2. Oxnard case. Maneuvering UFO seen over Oxnard AFB, Calif., and nearby areas, by AF personnel, police, sheriff deputies. Report to NICAP by CAA tower operator detailed CAA radar tracking, by four operators, of UFOs at 3600 mph, one directly over Oxnard AFB. AF denied radar tracking, stated UFO probably a weather balloon.

CAA report, certified by Adm. Knowles, six Board members, available.

3. Nike case. Brief landing, take-off of UFO near Nike base, Derwood, Md. Reported by Army missile men. First AF public answer: Light from torches of welders on transmission-line tower. (Maj. Wm. Lookadoo, PIO, Bolling AFB.) Canceled when Potomac Electric Power Co. official told NICAP no welders in area. New answer, floodlight on farmer's barn, given Newsweek, also to NICAP by Maj. Tacker, AF UFO spokesman. (Letter available.) NICAP investigators searched area; only structure near UFO "touch-down" spot not even wired for electricity.

4. Report by AF Col. D.J. Blakeslee. then a wing commander, of high-speed UFO outmaneuvering his F-84 jet in two chases. UFO, described as having rotating lights, also tracked by AF ground radar.

Intelligence Report summary: "Definitely in family of UFO." (also sighted by other AF plane crews.) Jan. 1953 ATIC conclusion: Unknown object. Sept. 1953 answer given Look Magazine: Wing commander misled by twinkling of planet Jupiter. How AF radar, range 200-500 miles, tracked Jupiter in high-speed evasion of F-84 not explained. On May 31, 1960, ATIC admitted Col. Blakeslee sighting never solved. Documents proving contradictory claims available.

5. AF jet chase of UFO, Redmond, Ore. Official FAA logs released to NICAP describe round, high-speed, illuminated UFO alternately hovering and changing locations near FAA station, Redmond. Both Redmond and Seattle FAA said that AF radar was tracking UFO. As AF jets approached, UFO discharged exhaust-like flame downward, escaped jets with swift

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

ascent. AF statement given Congressmen, NICAP, public: "FAA logs misleading; AF radar did not track; object believed to be a balloon." Official FAA logs, AF written denials, available.

Other documented cases, photographic evidence, and military orders silencing witnesses will be cited in explaining a possible Soviet trick. Because of the massed evidence, 25% of the public (by national polls) reject AF denials and answers. Some suspect a disturbing reason for secrecy -- that the UFOs are either Russian or hostile space machines. Since 1947, scores of magazine and newspaper articles have discussed the Soviet secret-weapon theory -- some have warned it is the true answer. Factual records, going back to World War II, prove it false, but most citizens in the U. S. and allied countries are not aware of these facts.

HOW KRUSHCHEV COULD EXPLOIT THE UFO SITUATION

With such explosive possibilities, Krushchev and the Kremlin masterminds could not fail to recognize this psychological weapon. Without a direct claim -- or even mentioning UFOs -- they could effectively plant widespread fear that these strange objects are secret Russian devices. With Krushchev's skill at such tricks, he undoubtedly could contrive a more ingenious plan, but one method could be: A world-wide "disclosure" linked with our Midas spy-satellites, which are scheduled to photograph Soviet Missile and air bases to prevent a surprise attack.

Krushchev, Malinovsky, or other high Soviet officials could claim:

1. That Russian machines far surpassing the Midas had secretly mapped all U.S. and allied targets.

(The USAF has publicly listed UFO sightings at most rocket centers, air bases, etc.)

2. That ordinary defenses are useless.

(Futile jet chases have been officially admitted by AF, Navy and Marine Corps pilots; and abroad, by air force pilots in England, Norway, Sweden, So. Africa, Australia, Portugal, Brazil, etc.)

3. That these secret Soviet devices could be used as global H-bomb weapons, in case of "Western aggression."

(Logical since most long-range missiles now can carry H-bombs, and UFO sizes reported (discs over 300 feet in diameter) suggest the ability to carry large loads.)

4. That the U.S. and its allies, knowing they are helpless, have kept the truth from their people.

(In addition to U.S. secrecy, withholding of UFO reports has been officially admitted to NICAP by England and Norway, and indicated by other nations.)

To back up these claims, Krushchev could point to USSR capture of top German rocket experts in 1945 and the Russian lead in space operations. Also, he could "confirm" press stories of strange flying objects reportedly seen across Russian borders. Examples: A Christian Science Monitor story from Finland; a news story from Sweden quoting airline Capt. Ulf Christiernsson and co-pilot as to a fast, saucer-shaped metallic device they believed to be Russian; a Danish air force

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

pilot's UFO encounter, and Scandinavian government's speculations about possible Russian ownership of unknown flying objects. Krushchev could also cite published reports by supposed Nazi rocket experts that they were building a "flying saucer" device which the Russians confiscated in 1945. (Few people realize that known experts like Hermann Oberth, who helped develop the V-2, have flatly denied these stories.)

To launch the false Russian claim, Krushchev could combine Radio Moscow broadcasts with a Kremlin press conference, or it could be timed for some important occasion. The United States could be caught off-guard; if unprepared, confusion and contradictions might be far more disastrous than the U-2 situation.

Presumably the U. S. and other West nations would deny the claim as ridiculous. But the injection of the UFO problem, by Communist stooges here and abroad, would require more than official denials. Even without Communist prompting, the U. S. press would inevitably comment on the implied UFO angle, even if only to brand it nonsense. But once the UFO situation had been spotlighted, then many long-hidden facts would come to light. If the Soviet claim were skillfully handled, some Americans who reject the AF answers might fear it was true. To disprove it, our Government might be forced to release the hidden AF evidence that the UFOs are interplanetary.

But this belated release would cause two bad reactions:

1. Confusion, and possible alarm, among the millions who believed previous AF denials.
2. A Soviet charge that the interplanetary evidence was hastily manufactured to offset the Russian disclosure.

At best, such a Soviet trick could cause uneasiness in the U.S., allied and uncommitted countries. If adroitly put over, the results could be serious.

Listed below are some of the AF admissions and contradictions which could be used, besides the evidence already cited, to bolster belief in the false Soviet claim.

1. The AF Inspector General's private instructions to training and operating commands that "UFOs are serious business." Dated Dec. 24, 1959, these instructions directed that trained AF investigators be equipped with Geiger counters, binoculars, etc.
2. The classified AF Intelligence conclusion, Sept. 23, 1947, that the reported objects were real. (Revealed by Capt. E.J. Ruppelt, former chief of Project Blue Book.)
3. Admission to Rep. Lee Metcalf, in letter from then Maj. Gen. Joe W. Kelly, Director of Legislative Liaison; That AF jets pursue UFOs as a matter of security and to determine technical characteristics.
4. AF Reg. 200-2, section A-3, stating AF interest in UFOs: First, as a possible threat to the U.S.; second, to determine the technical or scientific characteristics of any such UFOs."
5. JANAP 146, instructions by Joint Chiefs of Staff, including reporting of UFOs as "vital intelligence sightings," with priority transmission, and Espionage Law penalties for revealing such reports.

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

6. AFR-200-2; high priority reports (teletype, phone, radio) to Sec'y of AF; Air Defense Command; Commander, ATIC; Ass't Chief of Staff (Intelligence) USAF.

7. Censorship provisions of AFR 200-2, Section B-11, ordering AF personnel not to discuss UFO information with "unauthorized persons" except when so directed and then only on a "need to know" basis.

8. A Nov. 1957 order at the Missile Development Center, Alamogordo, warning both military and civilian personnel not to reveal UFO reports publicly, under threat of disciplinary action. In official letter to NICAP the order was explained as approved by the commanding General for fear of panic in the neighboring community.

9. Civil Defense directors' protests against AF UFO secrecy: CD Directors of Baltimore, Cleveland, Geauga County, Ohio; other CD officials on record.

10. ATIC signed admission AF pilots have fired on UFOs, also 1955 firing case near Rockford, Ill., and earlier ones admitted by Maj. Jere Boggs, USAF, Intelligence, at press conference in Pentagon, Dec. 30, 1949. Though Maj. Boggs stated firing was ordered as means of securing a UFO for examination, Soviet spokesman could claim this proves USAF fear of Russian machines.

There have been several Far East cases where the proximity of Russian territory could be wrongly emphasized as indicating a USSR source:

1. Chase by AF F-86 jet, Dec. 1956. Strange electronic interference from UFO noted, apparently attempt to jam jet's radar. Pilot switched frequencies. held radar "lock-on," got close enough to see huge, round machine, flat on bottom. (Later calculated from 250-300 feet in diameter.) UFO suddenly accelerated to about 2,000 mph, disappeared. Note: size, description similar to large UFO encountered in 1956 by Navy crew over Atlantic, reported to NICAP via Capt. J. O. Taylor, USN, Ret. and Adm. D. S. Fahrney (former Navy missile chief.)

2. Sightings by USAF pilots in Japan, including "controlled pass" at an F-84 by small flying disc (believed remote-controlled); report declassified in 1953, now on record.

3. Korean area report by Navy pilot (certified by seven Board members, NICAP). Describes UFO observation of U. S. Navy-Korean fleet, 1951, maneuvers tracked by radar operators of 14 ships: UFO invaded interception at speed over 1,000 mph.

4. Sightings in India, Malay area, other Asian territories.

There are many other documented cases and official contradictions which could be mis-used by the USSR. Besides possibly causing tension in the West, such a false claim would tend to offset Krushchev's admission of frequent U.S. flights over the USSR, which disturbed many Russians, led to believe the country invulnerable. If the Kremlin should plan a surprise attack, the muddled UFO situation could be used to increase pre-attack fear and thus weaken our defenses.

PLAN TO REDUCE THE DANGER

By prompt action, the danger can be greatly reduced. Following the majority vote, NICAP herewith offers its documented evidence, proving the UFOs could not be of Soviet origin, as a stopgap until the USAF releases its hidden proof. Selected NICAP evidence to be placed on public record would include:

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

1. The majority conclusion that the UFOs reported by competent observers are interplanetary machines far superior to any earthmade devices. (NICAP would stress its verified, factual evidence, as opposed to the wild stories, frauds and delusions unfortunately publicized.) This conclusion would carry an impressive list of names, including some non-NICAP members: Examples: R. Adm. H.B. Knowles; Col. J. Bryan, USAF; Capt. R.B. McLaughlin, USN, missile expert; Wm. Lear, aircraft and electronics expert with AF space contracts; Hermann Oberth, noted space-travel authority; Dr. Leslie Kaeburn, space-travel consultant, Univ. S. Calif; Capt. W.E. Nash, PAA; Capt. Jas. Howard, BOAC; Mr. Albert M. Chop, former AF PIO on the UFO subject; Col. Jao Adil Oliveira, Brazilian AF; Gen. L. M. Chassin, French Air Force, NATO coordinator; former RAF Marshal Lord Dowding; and scores of other technically trained and responsible individuals.

2. Massive documented evidence confirming UFO reality, their tremendous speeds, intricate maneuvers, unique shapes (disc and rocket types) and proof they are not earthmade.

Typical unsolved cases:

A. Official White Sands report, visual sighting and theodolite tracking of UFO; calculated speed, 18,000 mph. Certified by Capt. R.B. McLaughlin, Navy missile expert.

B. Official AF report of giant UFO tracked on B-29 radar at over 9,000 mph, and three groups of smaller units (also seen streaking by the bomber) one of which merged with the large machine, which operated in the manner of a mother-ship. Report declassified 1953, confirmed to Look researcher later, with ATIC conclusion: Unsolved.

C. Official AF report of eight-UFO formation seen below airliner by Capt. W. B. Nash and co-pilot. Speeds calculated in excess 4,000 mph. Sharp turns beyond capability any known craft or missile.

D. Official AF report of doubled-decked "spaceship" encountered on airway by EAL Capt. C. S. Chiles, co-pilot J. B. Whitted. Confirmed also by AF observer at Robins AFB. Power exhaust-blast of UFO rocked the airliner as unknown machine veered to avoid collision.

Other verified reports of revolutionary type craft encountered by armed forces and airline captains, weather bureau observers, tower operators, etc. Names, dates, details on record.

Photographs confirmed by Capt. E. J. Ruppelt, former project chief.

A. Moving pictures of UFOs at White Sands, April 27, 1950 and May 29, 1950. Taken by Askania cine-theodolites for tracking missiles.

B. AF gun-camera pictures of UFO near Wright-Patterson AFB

C. Moving-pictures of UFO formation, disc-shaped objects seen visually over Tremonton, Utah. Filmed during high-speed maneuvers by Navy aviation photographer. Navy analysis confirmed by Ruppelt: Unknown objects under intelligent control; could not be aircraft or balloons or birds; excessive speeds indicated. UFOs in three groups; each appeared to rotate about an axis.

Evidence of electro-magnetic forces created by UFOs, from unknown type of propulsion. Cases on record showing interference with electrical ignition, radio, television. Statement by Hermann Oberth on probable artificial gravity fields involved. Evidence of radiation involved: Case in Geauga County, Ohio, Nov. 1957; ground checked with Geiger counters by Civil Def. Director Kenneth Locke, found highly radioactive after brief landing by UFO. Confirmation of UFO radiation reports by

CONFIDENTIAL
 (NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

Capt. E. J. Ruppelt.

3. Reasons why UFOs could not be Russian machines, in addition to proof of superior performance. Records showing UFOs officially reported in World War II, when Russia's best aerial machines were propeller-driven aircraft. Official AF reports:

A. Capt. Alvah Reida, B-29 bomber pilot, encounter with high-speed oval-shaped machine; outmaneuvered B-29 during Reida's attempts at evasion. Capt. Reida's conclusion: Interplanetary.

B. Capt. Jack Puckett, Army Air Corps; 1946 encounter with high-speed rocket-shaped craft (similar to Capt. Chiles report) while piloting C-47 over Florida. Witnessed by co-pilot, engineer.

C. Maj. Wm. D. Leet, 1944 encounter while piloting AAF bomber; mysterious device unlike any known craft.

(Similarly, the U. S. had no such devices in 1944-5, nor does it possess such machines now. If it did, we would be superior to USSR both in space and global operations. We would not be spending large sums to investigate UFOs (\$10,000 per major case, stated by Lt. Col. Spencer Whedon, ATIC, Nov. 1957,) plus high costs of jet chases, etc. Nor would we be firing on U.S.-owned objects. This point should be stressed to end any complacent belief that we are holding back some superior secret weapon.)

In addition to NICAP analysis and majority conclusions, important opinions about intelligent life in space could be used.

1. Statements by noted astronomers, such as Dr. Otto Struve, Dr. Harlow Shapley, etc., many millions, even billions of inhabited planets must exist in space, and many civilizations would be farther advanced than ours.

2. Dr. Fred Singer, White House adviser on space projects: The moons of Mars, according to the evidence, are artificial satellites launched by an earlier Martian civilization.

3. Statement by Dr. Frank Drake, director of U.S. Project Ozma observatory now listening for messages from other planets: We may possibly hear signals between other planets and space-probes they have launched.

4. Wm. P. Lear, aviation-electronics expert who, with other witnesses, sighted a UFO: "I believe they are intelligence-gathering devices from outside our solar system."

Since the USAF has resisted Congressional hearings on UFOs, NICAP urges the following steps before Congress adjourns, to prevent any false Russian claim involving UFOs:

1. That the opinions of the NICAP majority and recognized experts, and the interplanetary conclusion and supporting evidence, be immediately made public in the public interest.

2. That every effort be made to secure immediate release of the hidden Air Force evidence, as official proof that the UFOs could not be Russian. That this evidence also include the Top Secret AF Intelligence Estimate of the Situation: THE UFOs ARE INTERPLANETARY SPACESHIPS.

(Existence of this conclusion was disclosed by Capt. E.J. Ruppelt in 1956 (Report on UFOs.) Top AF officers and the AFHQ spokesman have

CONFIDENTIAL

(NICAP REPORT TO CONGRESS ON UFO SECRECY DANGERS AND EVIDENCE)

repeatedly denied it, in letters to Congress and the public. NICAP is prepared to produce a signed statement by Maj. Dewey Fournet, USAFR, former Intelligence monitor for the UFO program, that the document referred to was drawn up and was kept secret.)

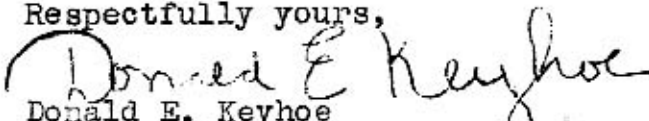
It is realized that some public uneasiness might follow an official AF admission. But NICAP's research indicates there would be no widespread hysteria at the interplanetary answer, unless the AF created suspicion by withholding some of its evidence. It is true some cases might appear to indicate hostility: The Kinross case; the death of Capt. Mantell in a UFO chase; near-collisions on airways, when airline pilots unavoidably injured passengers in evading unknown objects, etc. But evaluation of thousands of reports gives no proof of belligerence. If the AF releases its evidence now, without waiting for a possibly Soviet-inspired emergency, the public probably will accept a frank statement that censorship was invoked in the public interest until more answers were known.

NICAP earnestly requests your opinion as to placing its evidence on record. If you agree it should be made public, will you join other Members of Congress in such a step? Or would you prefer to make an individual statement regarding this problem? If you believe it should be discussed on the floor of the Senate or the House, or both, we shall appreciate your suggestions.

The Director of NICAP will be glad to provide additional information if you desire it. We hope you will help NICAP to block any exploitation of the UFO situation in the crucial months ahead.

Respectfully yours,

For the majority:


Donald E. Keyhoe
(Major, USMC, Ret.) Director of NICAP

(Maj. Keyhoe is an Annapolis graduate; served as a Marine Corps pilot,)
(aide to Col. Lindbergh; chief of information, Civil Aeronautics;)
(WW II, Naval Aviation Training; writer on Soviet espionage, aviation,)
(other subjects, in national magazines.)

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