

THE U.F.O. Investigator

FACTS ABOUT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Published by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

VOL. 11, NO. 7

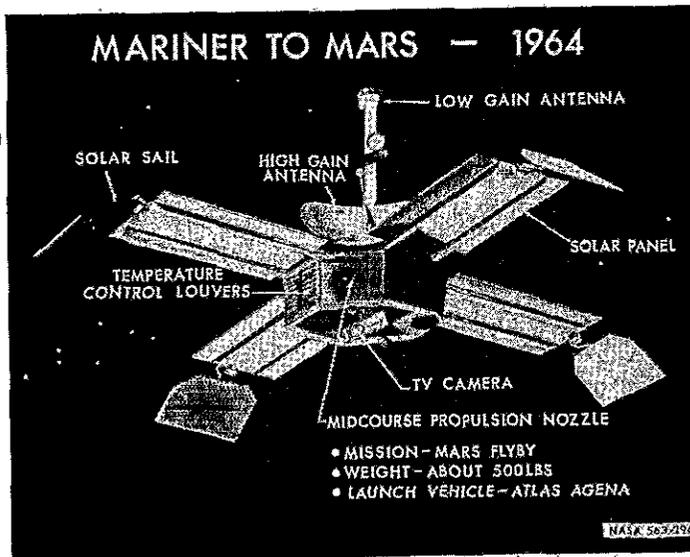
JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1963

NASA TO PROBE MARS MYSTERY MOON

Space probes are now being prepared to determine whether the Mars moon Phobos actually is a huge orbiting space base, according to a high official of NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration.)

The disclosure that NASA is seriously considering this possibility was made by Raymond H. Wilson, Jr., Chief of Applied Mathematics at NASA, in a discussion with members of the Institute of Aerospace Sciences. Wilson revealed to the group that investigation of Phobos, long an enigma because of its strange orbit, is one of the main purposes of the Mars probes.

Previously, several prominent astronomers had agreed that Phobos might be a gigantic orbiting space base launched long ago by an advanced race on Mars. But this is the first time the possibility has received official backing.



After stating that Phobos might be artificial, Wilson said Mars probes would contain spectroscopic equipment to determine whether Phobos gives off absorption lines of aluminum. If so, he said, this would be a "most interesting discovery."

The NASA official said that the Space Agency's decision to investigate Phobos was based on the fact that it goes around Mars faster than the planet turns on its axis. This could not occur naturally, he stated, according to accepted ideas of planetary formation. Phobos, he said, is the only satellite in the solar system to have a period of rotation shorter than that of its main body. (About one-third the time of Mars 25-hour rotation.)

The first suggestion that Phobos was artificial was made in 1959 by Dr. I. S. Shklovsky, a leading Soviet scientist. Using calculations by Dr. Bevan Sharpless, U.S. Naval Observatory, Shklovsky said Phobos was being slowed by air and electromagnetic drag and tidal friction far more than a solid moon would be. He concluded that Phobos, which is about 10 miles in diameter, actually is a hollow sphere equipped for the survival of a colony which fled from Mars when the planet began to lose its oxygen.

Dr. Shklovsky's explanation has been accepted (on condition that the basic U.S. Naval Observatory data are correct) by a number of space experts, among them Dr. Fred Singer, University

Continued on Page 2, Col. 2

TOP PRIORITY SEARCH FOR SPACE LIFE...

The Space Science Board has dramatically urged an intensive speed-up in the search for other-world beings. Calling it the most exciting scientific challenge today, the Board stated:

"The discovery [of life on other planets] will have an enormous and lasting impact on people of every race and culture . . . finding and exploring extra-terrestrial life should be acclaimed as the top-priority goal of our space program."

The Space Science Board, which is a part of the National Academy of Sciences, has outlined an all-out program that inevitably will bring hidden UFO facts into the open. Some key points of the Board report appear under "Expectations for Detecting Life in Specific Regions," as follows:

MARS. Scientific evidence that life exists on Mars will "add zest to the coming explorations." The first robot landing-devices should include microphones that can hear and relay "motion" sounds from any "animal-like forms." (For more advanced suggestions on recording deliberate interference with our probes, or other actions by any intelligent beings on Mars, see the complete Mars story, page 1, Issue No. 8, printed with and following this issue.)

MOON. Possibly sub-surface life exists on the moon, but "it seems more likely that the moon harbors fossil evidence of extinct life . . ." (This surprising "fossil" suggestion is contrary to previous scientific insistence that life could never have existed on the moon.)

VENUS. Apparently Venus is "inhospitable to life as we know it." But the possibility is not ruled out, though the likelihood is compared with that of moon life. (Latest NASA-Venus report, p. .)

SPACE MESSAGES. The National Science Foundation's Ozma project to listen for intelligent space signals should be continued. (Enthusiastically launched in 1959 by Dr. Otto Struve, noted astronomer, Project Ozma was later reported shut down, and the possibility of its resumption was subsequently ridiculed by Dr. Struve himself.) "This project," states the Space Science Board, "may prove to have an importance whereby it overrides all other exobiological studies . . ."

PANSPERMIA—the theory that living entities have drifted from planet to planet. The Board and other leading space scientists strongly recommend serious exploration of the panspermia theory, in the area beyond Mars and other "near" planets.

To accelerate the search for space life, the Board and cooperating space experts urge: Immediate training of scientist-astronauts; building of enough orbiting astronomical observatories so that one will be in operation at all times; launching of artificial planets around the moon, Venus and Mars; step-up in moon flight plans, and setting up a telescope on the moon.

The 1963 NASA appropriation to expedite the space-life search is 263 million dollars.

In strongly advising the Nation to speed up its search for intelligent life on other worlds the Space Science Board states:

"The scientific question . . . (is) the most exciting, challenging and profound issue, not only of this century but of the whole naturalistic movement that has characterized the history of western thought for 300 years . . . at stake is the chance to gain a new perspective on man's place in nature, a new level of discussion on the meaning and nature of life."

Continued on Page 2, Col. 1

THE UFO INVESTIGATOR

Published by
the National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena,
1536 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

NICAP PANEL OF SPECIAL ADVISORS (NATIONAL)

Scientific & Technical: Dr. James C. Bartlett, Jr., member Assoc. of Lunar & Planetary Observers, Md.; Norman S. Bean, Dir. of Engineering Development, WTVJ, Fla.; Robert Beck, Pres. Color Control Co. (electronics & photography), Calif.; Jack Brtozman, Naval Research Lab. physicist, D.C.; Dr. Hugh S. Brown, (M.D.), Wash.; A. L. Cochran, electronics engineer, Texas; Dr. Fred C. Fair, prof. emeritus of engineering, N.Y.U.; Dr. Robert L. Hall, Nat'l Science Foundation program director, D.C.; Frank Halstead, former curator Univ. of Minnesota Darling Observatory; Dr. Leslie K. Kaeburn, Univ. of S. Calif. biophysicist; Prof. N. N. Kohanowski, Univ. of N. D. geologist; D. C. Newhouse, former chief photographer (Aviation), U.S.N.; Ralph Rankow, prof. photographer, N.Y.; Frank G. Rawlinson, NASA physicist; Kenneth Steinmetz, experienced amateur astronomer, Colo.; Walter N. Webb, planetarium astronomy lecturer, Mass.

Aeronautics & Space: Capt. C. S. Chiles, Eastern Airlines pilot, N.Y.; George W. Earley, aviation company engineer, Conn.; Samuel Freeman, past pres. Nat'l Aviation Trades Assoc., N.J.; Morton Gerla, aviation ordnance, N.Y.; Capt. R. B. McLaughlin, U.S.N., missile expert, Calif.; Maj. John F. McLeod, USAFR, former AF pilot, Fla.; W. R. Peters, former pilot, Pan American Airways, Fla.; L. D. Sheridan, Jr., former fighter pilot, U.S.M.C., Fla.

News & Public Relations: James C. Beatty, N.Y.; Albert M. Chop, ex-AF PIO, Texas; Lou Corbin, WFBR radio news, Md.; Lee R. Munsick, N.J.; L. H. Stringfield, Ohio; George Todt, columnist, Calif.

LIFE ON MARS *Continued from Page 1*

As a careful scientist, Webb does not claim the canal system is full proof of an advanced Mars race. But no one, even the strongest skeptic, has been able to explain how this strangely precise network could have occurred naturally.

Most skeptics cite the "harsh" climate as an argument against Mars life. Because of Mars' bitterly cold nights, Dr. Hubertus Strughold, AF Aerospace Medical Division, insists that only low-order, cold-blooded creatures could exist there.

To this, Dr. James C. Bartlett, Jr., well-known Baltimore astronomer and NICAP adviser, takes strong exception:

"Such conditions are simply the natural conditions of Mars, and therefore would be as agreeable to a Martian organism as our steaming rain forests are to equatorial zone creatures on Earth. All life must come into harmony with its environment if it is to survive. . . . Do you suppose a fish feels uncomfortably wet, immersed in the sea? Or that a walrus feels uncomfortably cold because it takes siestas upon ice floes?"

The Martian climate, says Dr. Bartlett, is neither harsh nor mild -- it is simply Martian. Martian creatures, in his opinion, would not necessarily have to be "low forms" of life.

There are no positive clues to probable types of life in the scientific reports on Mars conditions. The gravity is 38% that of Earth; a 150-pound Earth visitor would weigh 56 pounds on Mars, and because his movements would be easier, he would have to exercise to stay healthy. In the planet's low-oxygen air, nothing would burn. The sun would look one-fourth smaller than on Earth, and sky is supposed to be whitish blue.

Scientific opinions and speculation on Mars life cover a wide range: 1. No life; Mars is dead. 2. Plant life only. 3. Plants and

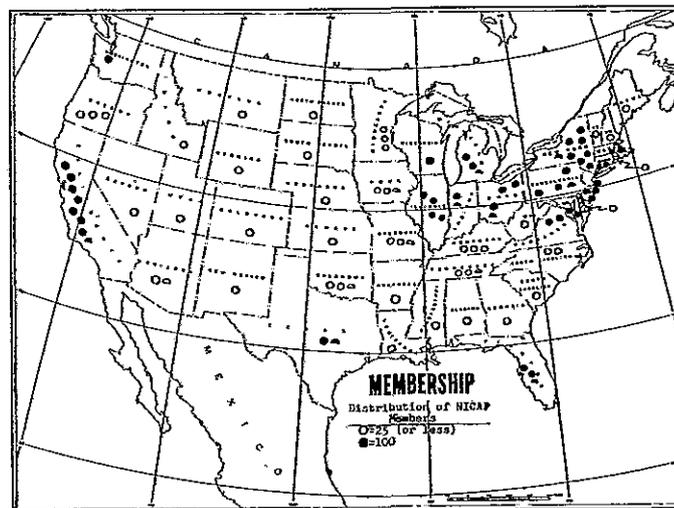
microbes. 4. Animals, unlike Earth's, possibly very large. 5. Intelligent Martian creatures unlike us, more advanced, or less, than on Earth. 6. An advanced race from another planet, using Mars as a base, or for colonies. 7. Descendants of an original Mars race, which evolved when the planet had oceans, oxygen and an atmosphere similar to Earth's, and which took refuge in artificial, pressured shelters when Mars began to lose its water and atmosphere.

The truth cannot be long in coming. The Soviet probe, to reach Mars on June 25, could bring important news. It may take a year or two, until our "fly by" probes or landing-robots with radio and TV relay the answers to Earth.

If Mars proved barren, or only low-order life were found, it would remove the planet as a possible UFO source. Even if an advanced world were found, there still might not be any UFO link, though the discovery would end skeptics' arguments that no neighboring planet could support intelligent life.

Finding an intelligent race on Mars would be the most dramatic discovery in Earth's history. If they were beings like us, living in sealed cities, under an equatorial roof, or inside an artificial "moon," we could hope for early communication and eventual meetings. The chances would be greatly increased if we found they already knew of us, through UFO operations and observation of the Earth.

The Mars beings might be unlike us, so different that understanding each other would take years. But even if we never fully understood, if meetings proved impossible, discovering that intelligent life does exist elsewhere still would be a tremendous achievement, profoundly changing our lives.



By error, the name of Miss Miriam Brookman, President of the NY-NICAP Affiliate, was given as "Muriel" Brookman in Vol. II, No. 6. Since we have known Miss Brookman for five years, during which time she has frequently assisted us in securing UFO information, there is simply no explanation (or excuse) for such a mistake. We regret the error very much.

CANADIAN UFO INVESTIGATOR DIES

Word has reached NICAP (via a letter from the Royal Canadian Air Force to a NICAP member) of the death of Adviser Wilbert B. Smith, former head of the Project Magnet UFO investigation in Canada. Mr. Smith, an electronics expert and a responsible official in the Department of Transport, had been a NICAP Adviser since the beginning of the organization, though he was not active as such in recent years. The letter states he died shortly after Christmas, 1962. We regret his passing.

Although Mr. Smith and NICAP differed about certain contact claims, his technical advice and leads to valuable information were greatly appreciated. A detailed report on his investigations will appear later on.

NEW AIR FORCE ATTACKS ON NICAP

We sincerely regret the need for this report, for we realize that the AF officers involved in attacking NICAP are merely carrying out UFO censorship policy. These spokesmen may privately disagree with the secrecy; many AF members do, and some have publicly opposed it. But since the untrue charges reflect on all NICAP members, they must be fully refuted. If not, they might endanger the success of our Five Year Report, on which Congressional action depends.

It is not impossible that this is the purpose behind the attacks.

* * * * *

Many of the recent AF attacks, made by Public Information Officers in the Office of the Secretary, show increasing attempts to destroy NICAP by discrediting its director. The following charges, made by Lt. Col. William Lookadoo in writing Mr. John L. Black, Sacramento, Calif., are typical of AF accusation in letters to Congress and the public.

1. The charge: The director of NICAP is a science-fiction writer. As such he is an authority; however this hardly qualifies him to investigate and evaluate a sighting.

The facts: NICAP's director has never written science fiction, and Lt. Col. Lookadoo cannot produce a single science-fiction story to back up this claim. Maj. Keyhoe's UFO books are based on hundreds of AF documents and UFO reports. Unless all this AF material is "science fiction," the books are factually correct.

As for technical qualifications, the director holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Naval Academy; he served as a Marine Corps aircraft and balloon pilot; and later as Chief of Information, Civil Aeronautics, Dept. of Commerce; in World War II he was executive officer of a section which produced Naval Aviation technical publications, and he has had many aviation articles in national magazines.

Also, Lt. Col. Lookadoo omits all mention of NICAP's Board, advisers and subcommittees which include scientists and technical experts—several of them reserve, retired or former AF members—fully capable of evaluating UFO reports.

2. The charge: NICAP has continually refused to cooperate with the AF.

The facts: NICAP records (available for examination) show a 1957 eight-point offer of cooperation to AF Secretary Douglas—and the signed AF rejection; a second 1957 offer to the AF Chief of Staff, by the Board and director, also rejected in writing; other attempts, including two 1962 offers to the present AF Secretary Adolph Zuckert, one rejected, the other still unanswered.

3. The charge: Of the more than 7,000 cases in our files, none are from NICAP.

The facts: Individual NICAP members have reported cases to the AF at our suggestion, and we have repeatedly offered our UFO reports.

4. The charge: Major Keyhoe's claimed cooperation with the AF and his investigation of cases are unknown to the AF.

The facts: Maj. Keyhoe's long investigations at the Pentagon and cooperation with the AF are shown in statements signed by Capt. E. J. Ruppelt, then UFO Project Chief, and Mr. Albert M. Chop, AF Headquarters Information Officer who handled UFO information.

5. The charge: NICAP's investigating methods and conclusions are not supplied to the AF, although the AF has offered to accept their information, evaluate the cases scientifically and report the findings to them.

The facts: Lt. Col. Lookadoo has reversed the truth. It was NICAP that made the offers and the AF which rejected them. In the 1962 offers to Secretary Zuckert, NICAP promised to submit all but a few cases reported to us confidentially for fear of reprisals or ridicule. NICAP asked for joint AF-NICAP evaluations, in private to avoid controversial publicity. We agreed to correct publicly all proven errors in UFO reports and conclusions, and in our censorship claims, provided that the AF produce specific proof of errors—not merely issue a blanket denial of secrecy and a claim that it had explained all of NICAP's evidence. As stated, the first offer was rejected; the request for reconsideration was never answered.

Because of the above charges, a UFO case involving Lt. Col. Lookadoo may be of interest to members unaware of it. On Sept. 29, 1958, Nike missile men reported the landing and takeoff of a glowing UFO near their base. As an AF PIO, Lookadoo, then a major, issued a press statement that power company workers had been repairing a transmission line and the Nike men had seen their welding torches "reflecting eerily" from the orange-colored tops of the workmens' trucks. When the power company denied any workmen were in the area, the AF discarded Lookadoo's answer and said the glow came from a 200-watt bulb on a farmer's barn. NICAP investigators checked with the Nike witnesses and photographed the area. The only structure in sight was a deserted shed not even wired for electricity.

Another AF attack appeared in a recent UFO magazine whose editor blasts NICAP. The charge involved AF Manual 190-4, under which Lt. Col. Tacker's book, "Flying Saucers and the U.S. Air Force," was cleared. Earlier, Maj. William Coleman, former UFO spokesman, had written a NICAP member that AFM 190-4 required manuscripts by AF personnel, on military subjects, to be cleared for conformance with policy as well as security. Since AF policy denies that UFOs are real objects under intelligent control, NICAP stated that AFM 190-4 would compel deletion of any such evidence.

Writing to the anti-NICAP editor, Maj. Coleman evaded his own "policy" admission, insisting NICAP's claim was out of context and untrue. The present UFO spokesman, Maj. C. R. Hart, repeated Coleman's charge and added:

"Any position that must be bolstered by fallaciously twisting the truth and/or facts is certainly weak and lacking in credibility. . . . the AF technique of being straightforward and truthful will one day be recognized, and the 'too-soon-old-too-late-smarts' will fall by the way."

NICAP repeats that under the AFM 190-4 policy rule, no member of the AF can publish evidence proving UFOs are unknown objects under intelligent control.

While the policy of explaining away factual UFO evidence may, to those responsible, seem justified, it cannot truthfully be called straightforward treatment of the American people.

It is this policy, the errors, inconsistencies, and misinformation which NICAP opposes—not the Air Force or the individuals assigned to carry out the policy.

We ask our members to help us in refuting untrue charges against NICAP by showing the factual evidence in our publications.

THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE UP NICAP

This is a unique organization. Some members, newer ones especially, may not realize how many varied vocations are represented in NICAP. It includes: Federal and state legislators, scientists, doctors, business executives, pilots, career women and housewives, teachers, artists, lawyers, entertainers, farmers, editors, newscasters, space and electronics experts, students, judges, police, merchants—almost every profession and trade.

Several Government departments and agencies have members in NICAP: The Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and the Coast Guard; the Naval Research Laboratory, NASA, Post Office Department, the FAA, etc. Private organizations include the American Meteor Society and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

To cover all vocations would take a column or more. But there are enough here to show how NICAP won its standing as a serious, high-level group—a competent organization respected by many of the press and public.

As a member, you can take pride in NICAP. We have been attacked, and will be again. But the facts and our honest record should be sufficient answer.

FORMER AF OFFICER OPPOSES SECRECY!

Former AF Major F. Thomas Lowrey, of Pittsburgh -- a new NICAP member -- has expressed his concern at the UFO censorship policy:

"I am thoroughly convinced that the 'flying saucers' do exist and that they must come from some extraterrestrial source, probably Mars," Lowrey wrote. "I cannot understand the Air Force's policy of pretending that flying saucers do not exist. If they -- the Air Force or CIA -- are afraid that the Russians will beat us to duplicating this phenomenal feat of engineering and science, they should indicate to you and others interested in this subject that this is the case. (*) Otherwise, I think the public would be interested to learn more."

Mr. Lowrey is a graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology. He served as an engineer with Curtiss-Wright until World War II, when he transferred from the Army Corps of Engineers to the Air Corps and was assigned to the Experimental Engineering Division, Aircraft Laboratory, at Wright Field, Dayton. In 1944 he was reassigned, with the rank of major, as military chief of the Inspection and Liaison Branches of the Aircraft Laboratory. He is now engaged in private engineering work.

(*) Since both the U.S. and the USSR are aware of the UFO evidence, each naturally will expect the other to try to duplicate the UFOs' performance. The AF secrecy would be justified only if we had succeeded, and to date we have not even approached a vehicle with the UFO speeds and performance. Also, several times since undertaking UFO investigations, the director has asked Navy and AF contacts if any projects or plans would be jeopardized by such inquiries. Each time, he has been told there is no such danger.

ROCKET SOCIETY REPORT ON SPACE SIGNALS

At a recent American Rocket Society meeting, a report on unexplained radio signals suggested the possibility that they were intelligent transmissions from another world. Entitled "An Historic Report on Life in Space: Tesla, Marconi, Todd" the A.R.S. paper was given before the 17th Annual Meeting of the Society, held in conjunction with a Space Flight Exposition in Los Angeles, November 13-18, 1962.

The authors, C. D. Jackson and R. E. Hohmann, report three instances of detection of signals between 1899 and 1924. In 1899, the electronic genius Nikola Tesla picked up signals at his Colorado laboratory, "with such a clear suggestion of number and order" that he concluded they were "the results of an attempt by some human beings, not of our world, to speak to us by signals."

In 1921, Marconi reported receiving regular pulses which he believed to be a code from "outer space." Finally, in 1924, during a close approach of Mars, Dr. David Todd recorded signals which were converted to light and recorded on photo-sensitive paper for posterity.

It was suggested that these possibly were answers to earth signals received by Marconi and Todd since the ones were very similar to signals transmitted from earth 22 years previously. Two stars currently considered possible abodes of planetary life-- Epsilon Eridani and Tau Ceti--are 10.8 and 11.8 light years distant, respectively. If signals were sent to these stars, and were answered immediately, the time required for message and the answer would be 21.6 and 23.6 years, respectively. In a letter to NICAP, Prof. Dr. Hermann Oberth named these two stars as possible sources of the UFOs. In each case cited, the authors show that the historical data are consistent with modern theory on how communication with intelligent beings on another planet would be likely to occur.

The authors emphasize that they are only reporting historical facts, and reserving interpretation of the data for the future, but they implicitly advocate experiments to attempt contact with life in space.

VENUS LIFE POSSIBLE, NASA EXPERT SAYS

According to a new evaluation by the NASA Director of Space Sciences, Homer E. Newell, life on Venus is still possible in spite of its "apparently high surface temperatures."

The NASA official revealed that recent high-altitude balloon experiments prove our stratosphere contains large numbers of micro-organisms. If further investigations prove that these organisms live out their entire life cycle at high altitudes, said Director Newell, it is obvious that the question of life on Venus is not necessarily settled by high temperatures that appear to exist at its surface.

The Venus data secured by Mariner II, which flew by Venus at a distance of 21,648 miles, are still under scientific study. A preliminary examination led to a NASA press release indicating 800-degree temperatures near the planet's surface. This was generally taken by the public to mean that life on Venus was impossible.

If final evaluation proves the data correct, then life for earth-type beings would be impossible, without special protection. Considered as an Earth project by our future astronauts, construction of heat-resistant shelters under the surface would seem a tremendous if not impossible task. But though the existence of Venus beings like us seems very unlikely, the evolution of other types is certainly possible, as Director Newell has stated.

Complete answers to the Venus life question probably will require the landing of heat-resistant robot-observer units. Meantime, the 129-day trip and fly-by scanning by Mariner II have given us new and helpful information for later probes. The main points follow:

Venus rotates so slowly that it may, in fact, not rotate at all. NASA sets the rotation rate as 230 plus or minus 40-50 days, retrograde. (A 225-day period is defined as non-rotating.) As a result, fixed stars would not appear to move, and the sun would rise in the West and set in the East.

A bright reflecting spot, unexplained so far, was seen to move across the face of the planet. It appeared, in the spectral returns, as a small hump moving outward from the center.

An unexplained "cold spot" on Venus was discovered by infrared instruments. "An interesting possibility," says the NASA report, "is that this cooler section of the cloud layer is associated with some hidden surface feature." The cold spot is located in the southern hemisphere.

There is an unbroken layer of cold dense clouds in the upper atmosphere.

In addition, Mariner II proved that deep space communication to and from spacecraft is possible within the solar system, to at least 53 million miles. Precise tracking in deep space was proved practical, and Earth-based guidance was far better than expected. Previously, says NASA, it was feared a spacecraft would need a homing device so that "it could 'sense' the planet and home in on it" for a landing. Now, says the Space Agency, on-board guidance will be required only for extremely precise target error control.

Some 65 million bits of information were relayed to Earth by Mariner II. After final evaluations, further NASA conclusions may be released.

NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC ADVISER

Mr. Ralph Rankow, a professional photographer with studios in New York city, was added to the NICAP Panel of Special Advisers last fall. He has already examined several photographs and will continue to do photographic analysis work for us. Mr. Rankow is extremely critical of most existing UFO photographs, and has stated that he could reproduce many of them himself. His critical approach and professional advice should be of great value to the Committee. Members or others who have authentic photographs which they wish to submit for analysis should include the following data: A description of the visual sighting on a NICAP report form with date and time indicated; type of camera used, lens setting and type of film used.

IS THERE ANY LIFE ON EARTH?

The above question was used by the magazine Missiles and Rockets in commenting on a photograph taken by TIROS IV, the weather satellite launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

As transmitted to earth by TIROS, the photo (below) shows the entire Great Lakes area -- but not a single indication of a highly advanced civilization on this planet. Located in the area shown are Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Toronto, Buffalo, Cleveland and many other large cities, but not a trace of them can be found in this photograph.



Only one of the thousands of TIROS photographs has given any sign that our planet is inhabited. In that solitary picture, a number of white criss-crossed lines were observed; they were later identified as snow-clogged logging roads cutting through a Canadian forest.

Even photos from aircraft, taken at a much lower altitude, sometimes fail to show any sign of civilization because of haze or other conditions.

Without highly superior telescopes or other advanced equipment, dwellers on other planets probably would feel justified in deciding that Earth is devoid of life. Lacking equipment superior to what we now possess, they could however determine the existence of our civilization by: 1. Close-range observations by probes or manned spacecraft operating near the Earth. 2. Evaluating our radio transmissions and realizing they were intelligent signals or messages.

The same probably will hold true regarding the question of life on Mars or other solar system planets. Balloon-borne telescopes such as the one used for an infra-red examination of Mars' atmosphere may indicate evidence for or against life as we know it. But until close-range observations are made, we probably will not have absolute proof either way -- unless a reactivated Ozma, or a similar listening project, meantime receives intelligent signals from Mars or another planet.

Optical Devices For NICAP Investigators

Mr. Jose A. Cecin, of the Castillian Company (import-export), Jamaica, N.Y., has offered to supply binoculars and telescopes to NICAP-affiliated groups at a cost-and-handling basis (a Discount of approximately 45%). For authentication purposes, Affiliates and Subcommittees should send their inquiries to NICAP. We will certify the letters and forward them to Mr. Cecin.

VENEZUELA UFO FILM EXAMINED BY USAF

A moving picture showing two or more UFOs, recently filmed from an airplane near Auyantepuy, Venezuela, has been reported to NICAP by Dr. Askold Ladonko, our adviser in Caracas. A detailed report was secured by a U.S. Air Force attache.

The film was taken in December, 1962, by Mr. Ali Rafael Diaz, who was flying over Angel Falls with his family and guests. Mr. Diaz was photographing the falls, using an 8 mm camera and color film, when a luminous object rose from the base of a mountain and ascended vertically at high speed. When the UFO cleared the mountain top it passed in front of cumulus clouds, indicating its proximity to the observers and also that it was not an astronomical object.

When first viewed by the staff of the newspaper El Universal, the luminous shape appeared as an oval-shaped object. But according to a later report to NICAP, enlargements showed two shapes, and a more complete analysis was then made by Dr. Herman Kabe, Director of the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Investigation. The report to NICAP states that filtered green light resolved the glowing area into four disc-shaped objects, one in the center, the others around it.

A USAF attache at the U.S. Embassy is said to have viewed the film and to have asked for either the original or a copy. Mr. Diaz is reported to have filled out the U.S. UFO questionnaire which is used for reporting sightings in foreign countries.

NICAP was invited to send a representative to examine the film, but costs of the trip prevented this. Efforts are being made to obtain a copy, also the detailed analysis by Dr. Kabe.

SPACE WARS LIKELY, AF GENERAL SAYS...

Some space races are undoubtedly far superior to us, according to Brig. Gen. John A. McDavid, USAF, Director of Communications-Electronic for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The statement was made in an AF-approved speech at Milliken University, Decatur, Ill.

General McDavid said we must be prepared for the future. "Our relation to other life in the universe is a part of this future, for as the British interplanetary scientist and author, Dr. Arthur C. Clarke, believes, 'there can be little doubt we will ultimately come into contact out in space with races more intelligent than our own.'

General McDavid added, "Before long, people may be forced to realize and accept as a fact that this earth is only an infinitesimal grain of sand in an infinite universe, that the human is one of many forms of life with which God is concerned and that others are far superior to us."

"And if this is true," he warned, "Our meeting with other types of existence in other places in the universe quite likely will increase the potential element of conflict rather than reduce it.... This imposes an even greater burden of leadership on your generation," he told the Milliken University students.

Interim membership cards and special reports to members appear in the March-April section.

Queries have been received about the color film of a maneuvering UFO sighted on Sept. 24 by a dozen Hawthorne, N.J. police officers and the chief reporter for the N.J. State Press, Mr. George Della Penta. The film was mentioned in Vol. II, No. 6. Since then, it has been learned that the film is owned by an assistant of Mr. Della Penta, and he has refused to release it, possibly because it might be sold for magazine use. If this is done, or the film is released, it will be reported by NICAP.

U.S. SPACE PLANS OFFER CLUES TO UFO PROBLEM

For several years, outstanding scientists have agreed there must be hundreds of millions—perhaps billions—of inhabited planets, some technically far ahead of us. It is also widely believed that many older civilizations achieved space travel long ago, solving the problems we now face. Though the techniques of each world would naturally vary, fundamental space-travel requirements would cause some plans and operations to be basically similar. Examining our own plans therefore should give us some clues to the nature and operations of advanced space explorers—including any now observing our planet.

Supermen Astronauts

According to present plans, the first Earth astronauts who land on a far distant world will be a special breed. Some types being considered would be so different they would give other-world beings a false—and perhaps dangerous—picture of the Earth's inhabitants.

One disturbing plan, backed by some scientists, would surgically transform spacemen into semi-robots. Tied in with surgery would be "chemical mind-changers," a drug process urged by some researchers to create new, controlled personalities. The resulting "Cyborg" (cybernetic organism) is described by Dr. Toby Freedman, North American Aviation scientist, who strongly opposes the plan:

"This surgical tampering would produce a weird being who accomplishes his space mission by trading most of his physiological systems for electronic ones, whose mouth is sealed, lungs collapsed, body wastes recycled through himself, neural pathways partly severed and all his emotional feelings dissected out. He would be so fantastically changed he could never rejoin the human race."

In contrast, Dr. Freedman and his associate, Dr. Gerald Linder, urge an "Optiman" who is changed but still human.

"His outward appearance is normal," says Dr. Freedman. "But he has been adapted to the oxygen requirements of a Himalayan Sherpa and the heat-resistance of a walker-on-coals. He needs less food than a hermit, has the strength of Sonny Liston, and runs the mile in three minutes while solving problems of sensor analysis in his head."

The Cyborg idea may still prevail, especially on long journeys where emotions could wreck a "human" spaceman. But if such emotionless semi-robots landed on a planet like ours, on which beings like us had evolved, they could cause lasting fear of all Earthmen. Even Optiman would create a false (though less dangerous) picture of a "Superman" Earth race.

Reversing the picture, we should realize that other worlds also may have special breeds of spacemen. If we or our astronauts some day encounter strange, frightening other-world explorers it will not necessarily mean all their race are the same. They could even come from a world with inhabitants like ourselves.

Until recently, many scientists believed no other-world race could resemble us. But men like Dr. Melvin Calvin, Nobel Prize winner, have changed this. Director of the bio-organic group, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, University of California, Dr. Calvin believes it highly probable there are many planets with the size, temperature and conditions of our Earth and that similar life will have evolved.

M. Angrist, Soviet bio-organic researcher, states that higher evolution of intelligent beings reduces the number of limbs to the necessary minimum (i.e. two legs and two arms, from our viewpoint.) Space writer Willy Ley, accepting human beings as tops in evolution, says all spacemen will look "just like the man next door."

Most scientific authorities do not agree with Ley. Their general consensus: On the millions of inhabited planets there will be different kinds of creatures, ranging from highly intelligent beings down to lower forms of life. We can reasonably hope to meet beings like ourselves; human-type races would logically try to seek out and contact their own kind.

Other-World Communications

In trying to communicate with extraterrestrial creatures the biggest obstacle will not be technical. It will be the problem of mutual understanding, through spoken words, radio and television, visual symbols or some entirely new method.

With other-world creatures who differ greatly from us, mutual understanding might seem like a man and a dolphin discussing their various interests.

It may come as a surprise, but dolphin-man communication attempts already are underway—an official Navy project. At a school in Los Angeles, the Navy is having a young dolphin educated just like a human child. This is a school for retarded children, but tests have shown the dolphin is not retarded at all, even by human standards. The dolphin has a high rate of intelligence, according to the Navy and Dr. John C. Lilly, Director of the Communications Research Institute, who has already developed an initial man-dolphin understanding. If this project succeeds, the principles will be used in attempting communication with extraterrestrial beings.

But since complete mutual understanding will require face-to-face meetings over a period of time, the first attempts probably will be by radio and television. For example, assume that our fly-by probes, orbiting satellites and close-range observer devices reveal that Planet M is inhabited. If they picked up radio or TV-like transmissions, these would be recorded, and communication experts would try to learn the meaning. If this required a long study, we might try some short-cut steps.

Robots with symbol and picture messages and automatic radio transmitters broadcasting easy numerical codes might be landed on Planet M. Unmanned observer units might be sent down to low altitudes, with blinking lights matching simple radio signals, showing a desire to communicate.

By this time, our explorers would have made checks for any poisonous atmosphere, weather problems, dangerous diseases, etc. These tests, by low-altitude observer units and landing-robots, would be routine—unless the devices were destroyed by attacks before they could report.

If there was no sign of hostility, or the blinking lights were answered, our astronauts might risk a landing. Provided there was no trouble from initial misunderstandings, they could then proceed with symbols, pictures, speech sounds, and whatever techniques the dolphin project and others had taught.

If landings were impossible because of attacks on our approaching craft, we would probably withdraw to a higher altitude and continue the study of Planet M transmissions, hoping eventually to communicate, reassure the inhabitants and land for peaceful meetings.

In reverse, such a situation may explain the long period of UFO operations without any disclosure of their motives and their source. Since 1947 they have been continuously pursued by interceptors. Some pilots have fired, trying to bring UFOs down. If they still do not understand our radio and TV broadcasts, they cannot transmit any explanation of their purpose here. Possibly face-to-face attempts, over a period of time, would bring mutual understanding. But because of the constant jet chases, even to attempt landing could appear dangerous—except for the few touch-and-go landings which seem to have been made at isolated spots.

It also may be that meetings have been delayed because of certain Earth diseases for which the UFO controllers have not found protection, whereas two-way communication might have solved the problem long ago.

In connection with the importance of communication before meetings, Maj. Gen. D. J. Keirn, USAF, some time ago urged a listening base on the moon or aboard a space station, because of the valuable knowledge to be gained from more advanced races. Gen. Keirn said that the UFO reports had "emphasized our innate curiosity" regarding intelligent other-world beings. The Space Science Board's prompting about Project Ozma probably will speed up plans for such a space station or moon listening-base

and also a separate project for beaming messages at various star systems.

In 1958, the Joint Chiefs of Staff wrote NICAP that no communication had been established with UFOs. "You must be aware of the technical difficulties involved," the JSC stated.

But the main problem may be one of understanding. A new attempt, a space-communications project transmitting simple codes and signals might have surprising results—an answer from a nearby planet, or a UFO in our atmosphere, instead of a long-delayed response from outside our solar system.

Motives in Space Exploration

What happens after our astronauts land on inhabited planets will depend largely on our space-exploration motives.

We now plan bases on the moon, Mars, other planets in our solar system and probably the large asteroids.

Before 2000 A.D., Earth colonies will be established according to many space experts, including Dr. Simon Ramo, head of Space Technology Laboratories (AF space consultant), Dr. G. G. Quarles, chief scientist, Army Ordnance Missile Command, and Andrew G. Haley, former president of the American Rocket Society, now president of the International Astronautical Federation.

To avoid population overcrowding, Mr. Haley predicts we will establish large planet colonies, the first one on Mars. Huge rocket ships, making daily round trips, will carry thousands of engineers and construction workers to build sealed cities on the Red Planet, or underground. According to Haley and other space planners, there probably will be millions of Earth people in our future planet colonies.

Mr. Haley has qualified this by stating that no landings should be made on inhabited planets without permission. Recently, he said "We will soon need an international commission to negotiate with these [extraterrestrial] beings." But many planners ignore this angle.

Trouble between Earthmen and space beings could come long before any colony attempts. Even if two-way communication partly paved the way, there would be many problems.

1. Diseases. Space-medical experts warn that Earth germs could start epidemics on other worlds. We plan to sterilize our spacecraft, even robot-probes. But our astronauts could be carriers of Earth-disease germs (to which they had natural or medical immunity) against which another race might be helpless. Would they radio the planet government (if it did not already know) and suggest a quarantine period?

Since other-world diseases might endanger our astronauts two-way protection steps would seem imperative. However, highly-advanced robot tests of atmosphere and soil might indicate no serious hazard. Our explorers might be under strong pressure -- an emergency, or an urgent need to establish a base. Would they keep silent, gambling against an epidemic, or warn the planet and risk an order not to land?

2. Different beings. If our explorers encounter strange-looking (but intelligent) creatures, could they hide instinctive revulsion or fear? Could the planet beings hide their reactions to the "strange" creatures from Earth? Would both be able to tolerate wide differences in living habits, foods, racial customs and beliefs? Plans for interplanetary missionaries already have been discussed on Earth. Would an other-world race, with or without a religion, react violently to such attempts?

3. Changing planets' natural conditions. Several scientists have seriously suggested improving Earth's climate by nuclear-explosion changes on other planets or in their orbits. Recently Mr. Andrew Haley suggested that Saturn might be propelled into orbit nearer the sun, to make it suitable for "life as we know it."

Changing a planet's orbit might upset the balance of its solar system. Even if it did not, tampering with its climate could have disastrous effects on beings living there.

Will our general space motives lead to peace, or hostility?

Brig. Gen. John A. McDavid, USAF, states that meeting superior other-world beings could lead to space wars. But a peaceful exploration policy should reduce the risk: No landings without permission; no bases or colonies without approval; no attempts at taking over, once colonies are started; withdrawal from areas near planets whose inhabitants resist contacts; and the use of force only as a last resort for self-defense.

Reversing this motive discussion gives no real clues to UFO purposes, because we still lack communication. There may be technical obstacles, or the UFOs may be controlled by beings unable as yet to understand us, despite long observation.

The colony motive was once suggested by AF Intelligence Col. W. C. Odell -- the idea that UFO beings came from a dying world and were carefully examining the Earth to see if they could migrate to it when they had to flee their planet. If so, they may be mapping the globe and checking all angles -- diseases, atmosphere, gravity, our type of beings and our civilization, before they finally decide.

Other suggested motives range from a hope of peaceful contact, exchanging information and perhaps Earth materials, to an intent to restrain us forcibly if our space operations appear to present a danger. The most encouraging point is that, in spite of a few disturbing incidents, there is no real evidence of a hostile purpose.

Because of the ridicule caused by official debunking of UFOs, most space scientists publicly avoid the UFO question. Though many agree there must be many inhabited worlds - some certainly advanced enough for space travel.

But the newly urgent search for extra-terrestrial life is sure to change this attitude. In the mass of factual UFO evidence are patterns and clues that undoubtedly can short-cut the search for other-world life. The drive set off by the Space Science Board will inevitably bring a new, careful study of the UFO facts, and finally an end to the secrecy.

UFO PROGRAMS

A steady increase of interest in the UFO subject has followed the Space Science Board's report urging that the search for other-world life be our No. 1 goal. The greatest interest has been shown by radio and TV stations, some of which have been running weekly UFO programs. Following is a partial list:

KYW, Cleveland. A "UFO Round-table" program every Thursday night. Time: 10:10-11:00 pm. NICAP members Earl Neff, Bob Grove, answer phone calls. One special guest was Prof. C. A. Maney, Board Member; taped comments by the NICAP director have also been used.

WLEX-TV, Lexington, Kentucky. A series of weekly TV debates between a retired AF major (a fighter pilot), and former AF Maj. William D. Leet, WW II bomber pilot, now president of the Bluegrass-NICAP Affiliate.

WBZ, Boston. Periodic UFO broadcasts; questions and answers; phoned reports from NICAP.

WCAU-TV, Philadelphia. Single program, "The Dissenters," debate between moderator and NICAP director.

WCAU, radio, question-and-answer program, "Talk of Philadelphia," with NICAP participation.

WFBR, Baltimore. Frequent mention of UFOs by News Director Lou Corbin, NICAP adviser.

WTOP, Washington. Question-and-answer program, "Opinion, Please," with NICAP director.

WRC, Washington. Interview of director, on Betty Groebli program.

In addition to these and other programs around the country, NICAP has been frequently promoted by Board Member Frank Edwards, well-known TV and radio commentator. Besides his regular broadcasts from WTTV, Indianapolis, and his syndicated radio programs, Mr. Edwards has appeared on many network shows, from coast to coast. He was recently a guest on the Long John Nebel program, at WOR, Newark (broadcast from N. Y. City.)

WTFIC, Hartford, Conn. Periodic programs arranged by NICAP-CONN Affiliate, George Earley, President.

Harrisburg, Pa., radio interviews with the director, in connection with a Rotary Club talk.

We hope that NICAP affiliates, subcommittees, advisers and members familiar with radio and TV procedures will take advantage of opportunities for additional programs, and also for factual newspaper publicity.

Our present and previous publications offer a wealth of strong UFO cases and other broadcast material, and we suggest that key items be marked for quick reference, if there is not time to memorize them. Please give NICAP's address if possible so that interested listeners can write us.

SIMPLIFIED RENEWAL POLICY

Beginning in December 1962, NICAP has taken steps to simplify and clarify its renewal system. Basic reasons for past confusion about renewals were reductions in membership fees and changes of publication schedule since 1957. (Initial membership fee was \$15, cut to \$7.50 then \$5 by the current Director. Before May 1960, NICAP attempted to maintain a monthly publication schedule. In that month, the schedule was changed to bi-monthly.)

Membership fees were due annually. But when a member had not received his full quota of publications at the time a notice was sent, he was automatically retained on the mailing list or granted an "extension" on our records, until the full quota was received. If he did not renew after receiving a second notice, his membership was dropped. Some early members who joined and renewed one or more times before May 1960 still are owed a number of issues because of the monthly schedule in effect during that period.

Gradually, the membership dates showing on our records began to get further out of accord with the number of issues due to a member when we were unable to publish all, or nearly all, issues promised in a year. Although members were assured of receiving their full quota of publications by our "extension" system, it understandably proved to be too confusing and is no longer feasible.

New System

To eliminate these problems and clarify renewals for members, we are discarding the system of annual renewals and, in effect, granting all extensions now. In the future members will not be due to renew and will not be sent notices until they have actually received six bi-monthly issues of the UFO Investigator for a membership period. Renewals will come due with a specific volume and issue number of the magazine. This number can be calculated by members. (See "Explanation of membership Cards", below.) By converting to an "issues received" basis, memberships are updated for those who are owed a number of issues on past payments.

For example, if you joined in February 1961 at \$5, the first issue you received was the January 1961, V. I No. 11. On the annual system you were due to renew in January 1962, but were still owed two issues missed during the period of membership. The credit for two more issues showed in our records but not on the renewal form. Under the new system, if the first issue

you received was V. I No. 11, you would not have been due to renew until you had received V. II No. 4, your sixth issue, which was mailed in June 1962.

(If you joined in September 1961 at \$5, the first issue you received was V. II No. 1. The membership covers six bi-monthly issues, therefore it expired with V. II No. 6 which was mailed in December 1962. If the first issue you received was V. II No. 2 (October 1961), your membership expires with this issue, V. II No. 7, etc.)

DISCOUNT BOOK SALES...

The publisher of the director's last book, "Flying Saucers: Top Secret," has offered the regular 40% trade discount to NICAP members. The price (\$3.95) has been reduced to \$2.76—\$2.37 plus packaging-postage charges of 39¢. Anyone interested may send us a check for \$2.76 per copy, made out to: G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS (Not NICAP). We will confirm the membership, and copies will be mailed from New York. We shall ask the publishers Michel, of books by Capt. Ruppelt (first version only), AF Col. Tacker, Dr. Menzel, and other non-contactee authors if they will grant the same discount. Holt, Rinehart and Winston state they have very few copies of "The Flying Saucers Conspiracy" (Keyhole) but about 660 copies of "Flying Saucers From Outer Space" remain. They offer these at \$3.00, postpaid, but we shall ask them to give the trade discount to any interested NICAP members.

WHAT DID NASA MEAN

A surprising comment on space travel is contained in the NASA technical report on space radiation measured by the Mariner II probe to Venus. After describing the monitoring of cosmic radiation by Space Agency scientists, including Prof. James Van Allen (discoverer of the Van Allen radiation belts), the NASA release states:

"During the entire mission the dose (inside the ionization chamber) was only about 3 roentgens, predominantly from very penetrating particles. Since an astronaut could accept doses considerably larger than this amount over a four-month period without serious effects, it appears that space posed no radiation hazard to any space travelers that may have been abroad last autumn."

The entire report, NASA Release No. 63-36-2, is written in a formally technical manner, with no hint that this comment was facetious. The statement does not prove that the scientists involved believe other-world beings are traveling in our solar system. But no other explanation suggests itself for including this curious comment in a technical report.

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

1536 Connecticut Ave. N.W.,
Washington 6, D.C.

Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage PAID Washington, D. C. Permit Number 41063
