

# UFO INVESTIGATOR

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON  
AERIAL PHENOMENA  
NICAP

NICAP ■ 3535 UNIVERSITY BLVD. WEST, SUITE 23 ■ KENSINGTON, MARYLAND 20795 ■ A NONPROFIT CORPORATION FOUNDED 1956

## DON'T CALL US, WE WON'T ANSWER

**NASA Public Services Branch, Office of External Relations has issued the following press release.**

NASA—Reports of unidentified objects entering United States air space are of interest to the military as a regular part of defense surveillance. Beyond that, the U.S. Air Force no longer investigates reports of UFO sightings.

This was not always the case. On December 17, 1969, the Secretary of the Air Force announced the termination of Project Blue Book, the Air Force program for UFO investigation started in 1947.

The decision to discontinue UFO investigations, the USAF said, was based on: (1) an evaluation of a report (Often called the Condon Report) prepared by the University of Colorado and entitled "Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying objects;" (2) a review of the University of Colorado report by the National Academy of Sciences; (3) past UFO studies; and (4) Air Force experience investigating UFO reports for two decades.

As a result of these investigations and studies, and experience gained from investigating UFO reports since 1948, the conclusions of the Air Force were: (1) no UFO reported, investigated and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security; (2) there has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings categorized as "Unidentified" represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present day scientific knowledge; and (3) there has been no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as

"Unidentified" are extraterrestrial vehicles.

With the termination of Project Blue Book, the Air Force regulation establishing and controlling the program for investigating and analyzing UFO's was

rescinded. All documentation regarding the former Blue Book investigation has been permanently transferred to the Modern Military Branch, National Archives and Records Service.

## We'll Answer But . . . .

NASA—In July of 1977, Dr. Frank Press, Director of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, wrote to Dr. Robert A. Frosch, the NASA Administrator, suggesting that NASA should answer all UFO related mail and also to consider whether NASA should conduct an active research program on UFO's. In a letter dated December 21, 1977, Dr. Frosch agreed that NASA will continue to respond to UFO related mail as it has in the past [Ed. Note: By referring the writer to NICAP, or other organizations] and, if a new element of hard evidence that UFO's exist is brought to NASA's attention from a credible source, NASA will analyze the unexplained organic or inorganic sample and report its findings.

Quoting from Dr. Frosch's December 21 letter: ". . . If some new element of hard evidence is brought to our attention in the future, it would be entirely appropriate for a NASA laboratory to analyze and report upon an otherwise unexplained organic or inorganic sample; we stand ready to respond to any *bona fide* physical evidence from credible sources. We intend to leave the door

clearly open for such a possibility.

"We have given considerable thought to the question of what else the United States might and should do in the area of UFO research. There is an absence of tangible or physical evidence available for thorough laboratory analysis. And, because of the absence of such evidence, we have not been able to devise a sound scientific procedure for investigating these phenomena. To proceed on a research task without a sound disciplinary framework and an exploratory technique in mind would be wasteful and probably unproductive.

Ed. Note: We hope that Dr. Frosch and NASA do not use the criteria of the presence of "tangible physical evidence available for thorough laboratory analysis" as being necessary to the funding of other NASA programs. If they do the agency might as well terminate all of their exobiology programs now.

"I do not feel that we could mount a research effort without a better starting point than we have been able to identify thus far. I would therefore propose that

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## WE'LL ANSWER BUT . . . .

NASA take no steps to establish research in this area or to convene a symposium on this subject.

"I wish in no way to indicate that NASA has come to any conclusion about these phenomena as such; institutionally, we retain an open mind, a keen sense of scientific curiosity and a willingness to analyze technical problems within our competence."

## Editorial Comment

For 14 of NICAP's 21 years the organization has eked out an existence largely dependent upon member response to continual pleas for donations. It is regrettable but true that we must again request that you consider a donation.

Along with NICAP's privilege of acting as an individual membership organization dedicated to factual, sympathetic research of the UFO phenomena, goes the dilemma of having its financial support come primarily from member dues. Each passing year we feel the pinch more. Prices have skyrocketed; NICAP dues have not. Membership handling, publishing costs and mailing are gradually pushing some of the vitally needed new programs we hoped to institute into obscurity.

NICAP needs your donations. A \$5.00 donation from each member could make the difference. Your tax deductible dollars can fund desired programs and ease the load of existing ones. NICAP belongs to its members. Please help us take the best possible care of your possession by acting today and sending your donation.

# AIR QUAKE ACTIVITY CONTINUES TO PLAGUE EAST COAST

Ernest Jahn, NICAP's regional investigator in New York, recently spent several weeks investigating reports of air quakes occurring along the Eastern Coast of the United States. The areas affected experienced loud rumbling sounds accompanied by shaking of the ground. In some cases there were reports of a brilliant yellow flash occurring simultaneously with the phenomena.

Continuing his investigation of the East Coast air quake phenomena, NICAP Investigator Ernest Jahn recontacted the University of South Carolina Geological Unit and was advised that additional air quakes had been reported in the vicinity of Charleston, South Carolina from January 3 to January 8.

On January 5 at 9:00 am and 11:00 am EST, air quakes were once again reported on Folly Beach, South Carolina. These reports as well as those on January 3 were not recorded by seismographic equipment but were heard and felt by residents of the area and caused moderate shaking of the ground.

Jahn was advised by USC that the seismic equipment had been placed inland from the beach and recorded the sonic waves on minute after the initial wave had struck the beach area. It was their opinion that the disturbance was definitely sonic in nature. To support this statement they indicated that based on the air wave moving at 1,100 ft. per second, the distance between the beach and inland seismic equipment would have caused the one minute delay between the

two readings. They also calculated the frequency of the wave at burst of two cycles per second.

The next reported air quake activity was on January 8, 1978 at 8:30 and 9:30 am EST. Two additional air quakes were felt but not recorded in the vicinity of Moncks Corner, South Carolina approximately fifty miles from the Charleston area.

On January 12 at 11:25 am and at 2:40 pm, air quakes were again felt and registered in Charleston, Beaufort, Moncks Corner, South Carolina. This quake was accompanied by a loud boom and moderate to severe shaking of the ground. Citizens reported the rattling of windows, scattering of small objects and in one case a report of a crack in a newly finished interior wall was verified by an insurance adjuster.

On January 18, at 7:26 am, air quakes were once more felt and registered at Folly Beach, Moncks Corner and Summerville, South Carolina. Their infrequency was determined to be two cycles per second and of a low amplitude not characteristic of normal seismic readings resulting from earth tremors.

Jahn has requested that copies of all available records of registered quakes be forwarded to him for authentication so that information of these occurrences may be charted. As always, Our readers will be kept informed of future developments.

Meanwhile information received by NICAP investigator Jahn from contacts in England indicate that on December 21, 1977, at 2:00 pm Greenwich Mean Time, Coastguardsman Peter Baker reported hearing and feeling an air quake at

(Continued on next page)

(Air Quakes continued)

's station located on St. Just Island in the village of Cornwall, five miles north of Land's End. He had stated that the tremor caused by the quake made him run from his station because of severe shaking. He also stated that a fellow Coastguardsman stationed at Gwennap Head, which is in the same vicinity, had felt the air quake too. A check by English investigators indicated that no Concorde Aircraft were known to be in the area at the time and no offshore oil rigs were operating in the area or using explosive devices.

lends it hope. Maybe, one day, even the Air Force will admit that intelligent life forces from other parts of the universe exist and make witnessed visits to our

planet. Until then we'll have to content ourselves with *Project UFO*, a program which is, after all, only one more form of entertainment.

# FEEDBACK / Readers write

Dear Sirs,

Enclosed is a copy of a paper clipping found among other papers from an estate in the process of liquidation. It appears to have been cut for the purpose of use as a pattern piece, perhaps a shirt or dress.

The paper seems to be from the *Cleveland Herald*. Dates from articles on the reverse side support the assumption that it was printed on December 29. The year is obvious, 1883. The state, Ohio.

Although there is no easy way to investigate the sighting, it may belong in your files. Anyone interested is welcome to see the original.

The article is viewed by us as amusing due to the similarity in descriptions of sightings today and this one in the year 1883. I believe that the Air Force can be found blameless this time.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Wm. Hart

## Review—Project UFO

Project Blue Book, terminated by the Air Force in 1969, has been resurrected in Jack Webb's new NBC production, *Project UFO*. Borrowing from some of the project's most spectacular moments, Webb's new show emphasizes a certain integrity in its makeup. Air Force procedure is factually reported, sensationalism left to the few kooks let into each show for comic relief. Dialogue is scanty and serves more as a lead in for some of the unusual (and unusually good for TV) special effects that actually carry the program. Perhaps too many revivals of *Dragnet* (a show that goes back farther than I can remember engender my feelings of dislike for the two sticklike lead characters, one of whom is a younger, uniformed version of good old "Joe Friday." The show's biggest fault, and perhaps the only one, can actually be blamed on the Air Force. People who are not knowledgeable about UFO phenomena will not stay with the program long if they continue to neatly explain away some very fascinating accounts as "swamp gas" or reflected moonbeams. There are those of us who feel that such explanations are so much short change—the conclusions too definite, the answers too pat. But if its endings are the show's failure, then the genuine interest and sympathy shown the sighters during the course of the Air Force's investigations

of Pres. and States and the substitution of as adopted.

**A MYSTERIOUS VISITANT.**

A Strange Object Observed in the Heavens at Newcomerstown.

NEWCOMERSTOWN, Dec. 28.—[Special.]—A very singular phenomenon was observed in the heavens here last night, and people are much puzzled to account for the strange occurrence. A short time after dark a large bright light appeared suddenly in the eastern sky a few degrees above the horizon, and started in a direct northern path. The object had the appearance of an almost square volume of white light, and in its flight across the heavens left a bright trail which lighted up the woods just east of town over which it passed so brilliantly that small trees and bushes could be observed distinctly by many persons here who were watching the object. A very singular circumstance was the remarkable slowness with which the object traversed the heavens, it being seen for a long time by the numbers of citizens who were observing it. There have been several hypotheses as to the probable cause of this peculiar astronomical phenomenon, and some think the object was an aerolite, but the slowness of its progress across the sky leaves abundant room to doubt the correctness of this supposition. The superstitious are troubled.

**AN HONEST INDORSEMENT.**

A Card From One of Thatcher, Primrose & West's Minstrels.

CLEVELAND, O. Dec. 23, 1883.

Hart Medicine Company:

It affords me much pleasure to add my testimonial to the many now in your possession. I can say that your cough medicine did me more good than any other I ever used, and in less time. Respectfully,

W. W. HANKIN.

Dr. Hart's Cough Syrup costs nothing if it does no good.

CASE HALL

**THE STODDARD LECTURES**

Absorbing in Interest, Refined in Character, Artistic in Illustration.

**COURSE OF FIVE LECTURES.**

Monday, December 31—MADRID and LISBON.  
Thursday, January 10—PARIS.  
Saturday, January 13—BERLIN and RANS-SOUTH.  
Monday, January 14—MUNICH and VIENNA.  
Wednesday, January 16—CONSTANTINOPLE.

In answer to repeated requests, the opening night has been changed to Monday evening, December 31st.

Subscription Tickets, for series of five, with reserved seats, \$3.00, at Van Epps & Co.'s.  
Single admission 50c. Reserved seats 75c. For sale on Monday, 31st.

BURDITT & NORTH, Managers.

CASE HALL.

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24.**

CONCERT BY

**YALE A NEW WARBLER**  
WITH  
NEW WARBLERS.

**GLEE CLUB**

GLEES, SOLOS, PART SONGS, AND CHORUSES.

General admission 50c. Reserved seats 75c, to be had at Van Epps & Co.'s, on and after Saturday, Dec. 23rd.

**FURS.**

# NICAP

*The largest private organization investigating UFOs . . . founded 1956.*

## WHAT IS NICAP?

The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Inc. (NICAP) is a private, nonprofit corporation devoted to conducting research in the field of aerial phenomena and specifically on the subject of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). NICAP was founded to answer the need for a serious-minded civilian organization that could scientifically investigate UFO reports and make reliable information available on the UFO subject.

## WHAT ARE UFOs?

UFOs are unexplained phenomena. They have been reported by many different people, under many different circumstances, for at least 25 years. Various theories have been offered to account for them, but scientists do not agree on which theory is correct. Not all UFOs, of course, are equally difficult to explain. Many, in fact, cease to be mysterious once a proper investigation is made and a qualified researcher has evaluated the evidence. But a substantial number of reports remains unidentified even after careful analysis, and it is these residual hard-core cases that constitute the nucleus of the UFO problem.

## WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE UFO PROBLEM?

UFOs are a real and continuing phenomenon, documented by thousands of reports from all over the world. If science is to solve the riddle of their identity, a thorough and on-going program must be conducted that is not subject to political considerations or the changing moods of the news media. NICAP has made a major contribution toward implementation of such a program, and is continuing to urge the scientific community to share in this effort. But any program of this magnitude needs public support, and NICAP regards further public participation in UFO research as vitally important. The answer to this problem depends on the work of organizations like NICAP, the scientific community, and the determination of people who believe that man should explore his environment with an open mind.

## WHO ARE NICAP MEMBERS?

NICAP has a world wide membership made up of individuals who have a serious interest in the subject of UFOs and meet the membership requirements, i.e. have a sincere interest in the objectives of NICAP.

## HOW YOU CAN JOIN NICAP

Membership application is a simple procedure. Just complete the attached membership form and mail it with your first year's dues to NICAP.

## WHAT YOU RECEIVE AS A NICAP MEMBER

You will receive 12 monthly issues of NICAP's newsletter, *UFO Investigator*, which contains reports on UFO sightings evaluated by NICAP, related science and news articles, photographs and their analysis, and, in general, a complete reporting on what is happening in the UFO field.

You will be given the opportunity to purchase books and other UFO-related items at a discount from the regular price.

You will become part of an international organization and thus support research and dissemination of information on the perplexing problem of UFOs.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

NICAP • SUITE 23 • 3535 UNIVERSITY BLVD., W. • KENSINGTON, MD. 20795

Please enter my name as a member of NICAP. I understand this entitles me to receipt of a monthly newsletter and other benefits. I have signed the application form.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Here \_\_\_\_\_

### ANNUAL DUES

United States	\$ 10.00
Foreign	\$ 12.00

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NICAP  
SEND U.S. CURRENCY ONLY**

Dues payment enclosed.