

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA  
1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Phone: NO 7-9434

Director: Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe (USMC, Ret.)  
Ass't. Director: Mr. Richard H. Hall

NICAP POSITION PAPER

GOALS, AIMS, PROGRAM: The basic NICAP goals are to gather, evaluate and disseminate reliable information about UFOs, and ultimately to bring about a full scientific investigation, making use of instruments and the full resources of the scientific community.

Policies and methods are established by a Board of Governors (see list) and implemented by the executive staff.

To achieve the goal of scientific investigation, NICAP has:

- (a) Established field investigation units and Affiliates across the country;
- (b) Obtained the volunteer services of scientists and other qualified specialists to assist in investigations and evaluations in the U.S. and foreign countries;
- (c) Made materials available to Congress and the press;
- (d) Urged a Congressional inquiry;
- (e) Published our findings and evidence in the "UFO Evidence", a documentary report of over 200,000 words.

OFFICIAL NICAP POSITION ON:

Interplanetary UFOs --- The idea that UFOs may be extraterrestrial in origin is considered a reasonable hypothesis worthy of the most urgent consideration. Furthermore, it is the opinion of many individuals associated with NICAP that this is the most likely explanation of UFOs. However, all theories have been and will continue to be carefully considered.

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All UFOs --- There is no doubt that many sincere persons are deceived by conventional objects such as large research balloons, fireballs and bright planets. But hundreds of extremely well-qualified observers have reported unknown objects, flying singly or in formations, and maneuvering under intelligent control, which no conventional answers can explain. These "unknowns" (USAF term) show definite patterns of appearance and performance. The observers on record include pilots of all the Armed Services and all major airlines, FAA and military control tower operators and radarmen, missile and rocket trackers, government and civilian scientists and engineers, and similarly competent and reliable witnesses in many foreign countries.

The USAF and Project Blue Book --- Our opinion that the U.S. Air Force has practiced excessive secrecy and has withheld significant UFO facts from the public is confirmed by members of the USAF (reserve or retired) on NICAP's Board of Governors and Panel of Technical Advisors. We have also documented the secrecy during our nine years of investigating and evaluating UFO reports. But our criticism is directed at the official secrecy policy, which may be set at a higher level. We realize that Project Blue Book and USAF HQ spokesmen are under orders to explain away UFO sightings and deny UFO reality.

Contactees --- We have investigated numerous claims of individuals who say they have taken trips in spaceships with noble beings from other planets. We have not found a single bit of evidence to back up any of these claims, but we have found frequent evidences of fraud. Because of their circus-like performances, they often have received excessive publicity, and their sensational statements tend to cover up serious facts and substantial reports from reputable persons.

## NICAP BACKGROUND

(1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036)

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NICAP--the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena-- is the only full-time private organization investigating UFOs in the United States.

It was founded in 1956 to fill the need for an independent agency which could conduct research openly and seriously on a subject which was bogged down in official secrecy, public ridicule and the baseless wild tales of publicity seekers.

Among NICAP's more than 7500 members are over 300 professional scientists and engineers, at least 200 professional pilots, active and retired military officers, doctors, lawyers, businessmen, and other professional persons.

NICAP's operations involve:

1. Collecting data on UFO sightings;
2. Investigating the most promising cases through 25 Subcommittees composed of technically-trained volunteers throughout the country;
3. Analyzing and evaluating this data with the help of a Panel of Advisers--specialists in many branches of science and engineering;
4. Making the significant data available to the scientific community, Government and the press.

Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, USMC (Ret). was appointed NICAP Director in 1957, and Richard Hall was appointed his assistant in 1958.

In 1964, NICAP submitted its "UFO Evidence" report to Congress. This thoroughly-documented 200,000 word report is an analysis of investigations through 1963, containing data on the best 750 UFO cases selected from more than 5,000 in NICAP's files. More than 10,000 copies are now in the hands of scientific research organizations, government agencies, universities, military installations and libraries.

FEDERAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE  
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA  
1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, USMC (Ret.) -- Director  
Mr. Richard H. Hall, Assistant Director

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