

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

The Greatest Story Never Told

fran ridge



Rear-Admiral Delmer Fahrney

In December of 2017 the New York Times released their blockbuster report on UAPs. The internet went slightly more bananas than usual over this Times' story implying that extraterrestrials were real and the U.S. government had been tracking them for years. Entitled "Real U.F.O.s? Pentagon Unit Tried to Know." As if wary of the waters into which it was about to wade, the piece started out in a sober and measured tone, describing the existence of a heretofore little-known Department of Defense program, but then after the jump to page 27 loosened up and gave free rein to claims that the program had found evidence of strange aircraft that flew in seemingly impossible ways. Since then a lot has happened. But the implications were that this was really something new.

About 70 years ago something similar had occurred. I was in high school and I learned about it when I joined NICAP in 1960. On January 16, 1957 - the day after NICAP's Board of Governors met for the first time - Board Chairman Delmer Fahrney called a press conference. Rear Admiral Delmer S. Fahrney was the foremost Navy pioneer for the development of guided missiles. His vision of future weaponry, technical excellence and tireless advocacy formed the basis for the post-World War II Navy missile programs. Fahrney's early work in guided missiles and his foresight in planning for future generations of missiles earned for him recognition by many peers as 'the father of naval air guided missiles.

Fahrney shocked the readers by stating that "Reliable reports indicate there are objects coming into our atmosphere at very high speeds. The way they change position would indicate their motion is directed." Fahrney was chairman of NICAP's Board of Governors for one week, and then, for personal reasons, had to resign. You know the story there!

But his replacement was, get this, the first CIA Director and DCI, Roscoe Hillenkoetter, who

was recruited in April or May 1957, and this must have infuriated the CIA.. Fahrney was a NICAP member for a long time, visited the office when Richard Hall was there after early 1958, and later exchanged a lot of information with Dr. Jim McDonald. Throughout, he kept funnelling good Navy pilot and missile officer cases to us.

Fahrney also mentioned that "no agency in this country or Russia is able to duplicate at this time the speeds and accelerations which radar and observers indicate these flying objects are able to achieve." He said he never has seen a flying saucer but has talked with a number of scientists and engineers who reported seeing strange flying objects. He added there are signs that "an intelligence" directs such objects "because of the way they fly. They are not entirely actuated by automatic equipment," he said. "The way they change position in formations and override each other would indicate that their motion is directed." He also told reporters he has no information or preconceived ideas as to whether the unidentified flying objects are from outer space, but believes they involve "a tremendous amount of technology of which we have no knowledge," and that their development must have taken a long period of time.

So by the time I joined NICAP in 1960 and was approved as a Subcommittee Chairman, investigation team leader, NICAP was recognized as a professional organization with big names. We had plenty of whistleblowers! To name a few more:

There were two major sources of intelligence reports for Maj. Keyhoe, for his books and publications - Albert M. Chop and Maj, Dewey Fournet. They both later joined NICAP, but before that they were instrumental in getting us some of the hottest cases. Chop released over time 42 formerly-classified reports to Keyhoe.

Mr. Albert M. Chop, served on the original NICAP Panel of Special Advisers. As Press Chief for the U.S. Air Force in 1952, he was a direct participant in the famous July 1952 radar-visual UFO sightings around Washington, D.C. Chop became Press Chief for the Air Materiel Command in Dayton, Ohio, in 1951. He was transferred to the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C. in 1952 where he served as Press Chief and was public spokesman for the Air Force UFO project. Maj. Keyhoe's dedicated and persistent interest resulted in his obtaining the good information that he did on Air Force cases. He (Chop) also describes being present at Washington National Airport on the night in July 1952 watching on radar and hearing the communications when an Air Force F-94 pilot reported being surrounded by UFOs. He quotes the pilot as saying, "They're closing in on me! What shall I do?" Chop: "There was dead silence in the radar room; no one knew what to say. I don't mind telling you this, it scared me! It was frightening! And I think everybody in the room was very apprehensive. They had to be intelligently controlled." His experience that night convinced him that UFOs probably were from another planet. Below is the clearance list.

<https://www.nicap.org/chop.htm>

Major Dewey Fournet, USAFR, was a former AF HQ Monitor to Project Blue Book. Fournet took over UFO duties in the TCB (liaison officer between Project Grudge/Blue Book and the Pentagon) from Lt. Col. Milton D. Willis in Feb 1952. (Capt. Ruppelt told us that Dewey got hot on the subject right away and helped us a great deal in getting things straightened out in the Pentagon. His job was just supposed to be part time, but within a matter of months he was working on it full time) Fournet was the most confirmed believer Ruppelt had run into in the Pentagon. He had access to all of their reports, read them all over very carefully, and was

absolutely convinced. His most notable effort was the famous "motion study" that "proved" the UFOs operated under intelligent control.

https://www.nicap.org/motionstudy/motionstudy_ufois.htm

In 1979 interviews with Brad Sparks, Col. William A. Adams and Col. Weldon H. Smith said that in Jan 1953 Smith signed Fournet's study and sent it to Adams who also signed and approved Fournet's study concluding that UFO's were extraterrestrial. Col. Adams said he sent the study up the chain of command, to the Deputy Director for Estimates, Col. Jack Morrow, who also signed and approved the study and sent it to the D/I, Maj. Gen. John A. Samford.) This study was presented to the Robertson Panel in January of 1953 and was rejected. After being released from active duty from the Air Force, Fournet became a member of NICAP's original Board of Governors.

Other members included:

Rear-Admiral H.B. Knowles, USN, Ret. Admiral Knowles was a veteran of both World War I and World War II. He held important submarine commands and was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Wilbert B. Smith (head of the Canadian government's UFO project, Project Magnet) claimed that in 1952, a time of the great UFO wave, the Air Force had recovered a piece of a UFO that had been shot off near Washington, D.C. He said that the U.S. Air Force had loaned him a piece of the recovery. He showed it to Admiral H. B. Knowles. Statement by Rear Adm. M. Herbert B. Knowles: "I shall be very glad to accept appointment as a member of the (NICAP) Board of Governors and be listed as a 'believer' in the reality of UFO's, with the understanding that I shall resign if it appears at any time that your big group is being used to cover up for the top brass. I know that there is a real need to break through the official Washington brush-off and get the truth home to the people. There seems to be a great fear among the powers that be that the American people will panic if told the truth. How little they know and understand their countrymen. I feel that millions of our people already believe in the reality of the UFO's."

Capt. C.S. Chiles, Eastern Airlines pilot.. At 2:35 a.m. on July 24, 1948, Montgomery, Alabama, pilots Captain C.S. Chiles and First Officer J.B. Whitted reported that a cigar-shaped object with lights like portholes approached head-on, accelerated and climbed away. Chiles was a member of the original NICAP Panel of Special Advisers

Capt. R.B. McLaughlin, USN, missile expert. Robert McLaughlin was an engineering graduate of the Naval Academy and an expert on anti-aircraft gunnery. He migrated into guided missiles work and worked on a primitive beginning of what we would call an "intelligent" missile, able to alter flight on its own to destroy evasive targets. McLaughlin was active in the Pacific Theater during the war, and in 1946 was assigned to White Sands Proving Grounds in charge of navel research units at the base. As we have seen, there was a great deal of UFO activity in the vicinity of White Sands, and Commander McLaughlin heard about it. He was one of the first to hear from Charles Moore's group about the theodolite observation of an object during their balloon launch of April 24, 1949. McLaughlin himself saw a UFO during a WAC-B rocket launch at the Proving Grounds. These were not the only incidents he had heard about, and on May 12, 1949, he wrote his friend, the legendary atmospheric physicist Dr. James Van Allen, about the phenomenon. McLaughlin was more than intrigued, all this excited him.

Capt. William B. Nash, Pan American Airways pilot. Famous UFO case. An original member of the NICAP Panel of Special advisers. This is apparently case #6 of Major Dewey Fournet's "motions study" UFOs cases as presented to the Robertson Panel in January of 1953, whereby he deduced that UFOs were guided by intelligence and the flight characteristics indicated that the intelligence was beyond "us". It is also case #24, on the official clearance list. of 41 formerly classified Air Technical Intelligence UFO reports cleared for Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe by Albert M. Chop, Air Force Press Desk.

Mr. Delbert C. Newhouse, former Naval Aviation Photographer. He was a Warrant Officer in the U.S. Navy. He had over 1000 hours of in-air experience in photography at the time of his famous sighting. July 2, 1952 at Tremonton, Utah. He and his wife and two children were driving across the state, saw, and using a 16 mm movie camera, imaged a group of 12-14 shiny silver objects milling around in the sky. The Air Force and the Navy, considering Newhouse's credibility, spent considerable time and money on the analyses and to classify the Utah Film as "Secret". And, surprisingly, an FBI letter documents the importance placed on this incident. I interviewed him in 1999 and his story never changed. Shortly after that he passed away.

Mr. Leonard H. Stringfield, public relations, Ground Observer Corps, Cincinnati, Ohio
Leonard Stringfield(1920–1994) was an American UFOlogist who took particular interest in crashed flying saucer stories. Stringfield was director of Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects (CRIFO), and published a monthly newsletter, ORBIT. In 1957 he became public relations adviser for NICAP. During the 1970s, he wrote a number of books about alleged recoveries of alien spaceships and alien bodies. He self-published "Status Reports" on alleged UFO "crash-retrievals" until his death.

Interesting persons associated with NICAP and friends of Maj. Keyhoe:

Rear Admiral Calvin Bolster was a major figure in naval aerotech and missile development post-WWII. An accomplished engineer, he was involved with jet-assisted take-off planes and the air-to-air guided missile program. As a classmate and friend of Donald Keyhoe from US Naval Academy days, he served as an inside source for information coming to Keyhoe and NICAP during the 1950s. One particularly valuable piece of such information was Bolster's confirmation that the planes of Secretary of the Navy Dan Kimball and the Navy's Chief of Staff Admiral Arthur Radford had indeed had close passes from one or more unidentified objects while crossing the Pacific in 1952.

https://www.nicap.org/520314hawaii_dir.htm

Long before all this history that I was personally involved in there had been periods of imminent disclosure, such as after the huge sighting wave of 1953. The pro-UFO faction was beaten out by the silence group, by the famous CIA (Robertson) panel decision of January 1953.

There were a few other attempts such as after the Michigan sightings in 1966 at Dexter and Hillsdale that led to the Hearings Before the House Science & Astronautics Committee in 1968.

https://nicap.org/books/1968Sym/1968_UFO_Symposium.pdf

Until the New York Times article broke in 2017, UFOs/UAPs never had a chance in hell of getting any respect. Each time that it looked like a full disclosure was going to happen, something went wrong. And each time it wasn't persons in the Air Force pushing for transparency, it was persons in the Navy.
