

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS

COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

4 THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, '56
'Project Skylight'

New Group Setting Sights on Saucers

By JIM G. LUCAS Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

The brass plate at 1536 Connecticut-av nw reads, "National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena." Inside they refer to it as Project Skylight.

T. Townsend Brown of Leesburg, Va., who runs it, identified himself as executive vice chairman pro tempore. He formerly was a consulting physicist for the Clevite-Brush Electronics Co. of Cleveland, O.

"I wince whenever anybody refers to 'flying saucers', he says. 'But, actually, that's what we're after. We want to know whether they exist. If they do, we want to know what they are. And we think it's high time.'"

WILL ELECT BOARD

National Investigations Committee—that's how they answered the phone—is just now forming. On Nov. 1 it meets to elect a nine-man board of governors.

Mr. Brown says he is representing a group of approximately 75 "scientists, educators and church leaders" interested in saucers. He expects to be around until Nov. 15, when he goes back to London as research director for Whitehall-Rand. He's also a consulting physicist in Paris for a French aircraft company. But the saucers?

"I frankly don't know," he says. "They may or may not exist. And that seems to be the general feeling of all our people. But we want to know."

FACT-FINDING BODY

The National Investigations Committee, Mr. Brown says, will be a "privately supported fact-finding body serving the national public interest." It has applied to the Treasury for tax-exempt status.

Mr. Brown has written several hundred public figures seeking their opinion on what he terms "a subject of inevitable concern in every major phase of human welfare."

One of Mr. Brown's letters went to Larry Cates, Washington representative of the Airline Pilots Association. Cates says airline pilots turn in reports of saucer sightings almost nightly.

- Tolson _____
- Nichols _____
- Boardman _____
- Belmont _____
- Mason _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

1008-1

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INDEXED - 51

SE-28

NOT RECORDED
191 OCT 29 956

- Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
- Wash. News _____
- Wash. Star _____
- N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
- N. Y. Mirror _____
- N. Y. Daily News _____
- Daily Worker _____
- The Worker _____
- New Leader _____

Date *10-23-56*

Handwritten signature

50 NOV 1 1956

AIRPORT OFFICIALS TOO

Mr. Brown says he's talked to officials at National Airport here in Washington—where radar sightings have been made—"and they are as interested in getting the facts as we are."

In his prospectus, he suggests a "considerable amount of effort will have to be directed toward general promotion and fund-raising." As his goal, Mr. Brown talks about the day "we'll have money in the bank—\$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000."

Memberships come high. A founder's endowment costs \$1000; a sustaining membership, \$500. Delegates are admitted for \$100. Regular memberships sell for \$15 and associate memberships, \$7.50. The committee hopes to publish a magazine to be known as "Space Flight."

345 Romano Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida
April 2, 1957

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

About two years ago I attended a lecture on
Flying Saucers at Pade County Auditorium.
At that time, cards were distributed requesting
you to sign your name and address so
that I could be supplied with more information
about Flying Saucers. During the lapse of time
I have received all sorts of letters from
many states. Today the enclosed letter I

received and I don't know how they
got my name and address - possibly
from the card I signed. **RECORDED 987**
62-103581-2

ENCLOSURE If what I'd like to know, is **APR 13 1957**
recognized organization? Can
requesting this information as a **ORIGINAL CO.**
4-10-57 PJH

point of interest. I don't intend
to participate in any functions
pertaining to flying saucers but
only interested as a listener.

Very truly yours,
Marshall S. Major
(MARSHALL S. MAJOR)

RECEIVED
FBI
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

APR 1 3 28 PM '57
MR. JONES

24
4-6

April 10, 1957

RECORDED-98
INDEXED-98

Mr. Marshall S. Major
345 Romano Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida

Dear Mr. Major:

Your letter of April 2, 1957, with enclosures,
has been received.

Although I would like to be of assistance,
information in the files of the FBI is confidential and available
for official use only. I know you will understand the reason
for this rule and will not infer from my inability to be of
service either that we do or that we do not have the information
you desire.

I am returning your enclosures since they may
be of value to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (2)

Form letter from the National Investigations Committee on Aerial
Phenomena and its enclosure sent in by correspondent.

NOTE: On the basis of information available, correspondent was not
identifiable in Bufiles. The Washington News for October 23, 1956,
reflects that an organization known as "National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena" was located at 1536 Connecticut Avenue
Northwest, Washington. No other identifying data was located in Bufiles
re this organization.

64 APR 16 1957
FJH:cag
(3)

MAILED 6
APR 10 1957
COMM-FBI

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Mr. Holloman
- Miss Gandy

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

TELEPHONE: NORTH 7-9434
CABLE ADDRESS:
SKYLIGHT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
1536 CONNECTICUT AVE., N. W.
April 3, 1957

Ch...
8-1

Dear friend:

Your interest in our investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects (flying saucers) is greatly appreciated. Since 1950 the Air Force has kept thousands of authentic UFO reports from the public. While we believe we know their reasons, we are convinced that Americans have a right to the truth. To that end, NICAP has set up a nationwide network—soon to be worldwide—for reporting UFO sightings and hidden developments.

All this information — uncensored — will be revealed to NICAP members in a monthly magazine and in confidential bulletins. The magazine will include dramatic, authentic sightings by veteran pilots and other competent witnesses; behind-the-scene stories of the Air Force secret investigation; proof of the censorship which has muzzled hundreds of pilots; the pro's and con's of the question, "Is there life on Mars?"; and special articles on the UFO problem and our own space-travel plans.

In addition, NICAP will hold public hearings on claims of contacts with spacemen—to expose hoaxes and also to ferret out the facts. All this will be covered in the monthly magazine, with many other features, such as—a serialized history of UFO's with new sidelights on famous sightings; frank answers to readers' questions; and a monthly department in which I shall reveal some "inside stories" I have learned in the last two years.

As an Associate Member of NICAP—for an annual fee of \$7.50—you will receive the monthly magazine and the special bulletins. You will also be privileged to join a NiCAP club in your area and become part of our large reporting network. Most important of all, you will be playing a vital role—not only in aiding to end the censorship—but in helping to find all the answers to the UFO mystery.

To become a NICAP member, merely forward your \$7.50 membership fee to

EX-116
SE 12
NICAP
1536 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 6, D. C.

62-10358-1
NOT RECORDED
14 APR 18 1957

We hope you will join us in this factual yet fascinating work.

Sincerely yours,

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

DEK:RHC

A privately-supported fact-finding body serving the national public interest.

66 APR 27 1957

- BOARD OF GOVERNORS
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USN (RET.)
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- REV. ALBERT H. BALLER
ROBBINS MEMORIAL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
- BRIG. GEN. THOMAS B. CATRON,
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NUCLEAR PHYSICIST
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PRESIDENT HOTEL CORPORATION
OF AMERICA
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
- TALBOT T. SPEER
SPEER FOUNDATION
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

EVALUATION OF INFORMATION

GEN. ALBERT C. WEDEMEYER,
USA (RET.)
POOLESVILLE, MARYLAND

FEDERAL BU. OF INV.

APR 9 1957

DEK:RHC

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

A non-profit organization

1536 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.

Telephone North 7-9434

Cable Address SKYLIGHT

Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects by Admiral Delmer S. Fahrney, USN (Ret.) Chairman of the Board of Governors of NICAP

"Reliable reports indicate that there are objects coming into our atmosphere at very high speeds... No agency in this country or Russia is able to duplicate at this time the speeds and accelerations which radars and observers indicate these flying objects are able to achieve.

"There are signs that an Intelligence directs these objects because of the way they fly. The way they change position in formations would indicate that their motion is directed. The Air Force is collecting factual data on which to base an opinion, but time is required to sift and correlate the material.

"As long as such unidentified objects continue to navigate through the earth's atmosphere, there is an urgent need to know the facts. Many observers have ceased to report their findings to the Air Force because of the seeming frustration—that is, all information going in, and none coming out. It is in this area that NICAP may find its greatest mission.

"We are in a position to screen independently all UFO information coming in from our filter groups.

"General Albert C. Wedemeyer will serve the Committee as Evaluations Adviser and complete analyses will be arranged through leading scientists. After careful evaluation, we shall release our findings to the public."

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

"To carry out the policy stated by Admiral Fahrney, NICAP is developing investigative units and clubs which interested persons may join. Membership in NICAP, at \$7.50, also will include a monthly newsletter containing recent UFO (or flying saucer) sightings, reports on secret developments, exciting articles by scientists, pilots and UFO researchers, a new serialized history of flying saucers, and many other features.

"Regardless of membership, we would greatly appreciate receiving news clippings or firsthand UFO sighting reports."

62-103581-3

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: September 26, 1958

FROM : S. B. DONAHOE

- 1 - Nease
- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Donahoe
- 1 - [REDACTED]

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Nease _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- Clayton _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

SUBJECT: DONALD E. KEYHOE
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Nationalities Intelligence)

W.C. Sullivan
John C. Sullivan
Whitten

W. C. Sullivan
On (UFO)

Subject, Director of National Investigations Committee Aerial Phenomena, by letter of 9/22/58 requested particulars of Bureau's participation concerning unidentified flying objects. The committee he heads is described on letterhead as "A privately supported fact finding civilian committee serving the public interests" and he lists several prominent individuals among "our Board members and Special Advisers." He is a retired Marine.

Keyhoe has been known to the Bureau since 1935 and was, and may still be, a free-lance writer. In 1948 he was described by Mr. Nichols as "a flamboyant writer and we have found from previous experience that much of his material is irresponsible." In 1951 the Director concurred with Mr. Nichols' statement that "We should not get involved with him."

As an example of his writing, the January, 1941, issue of "Cosmopolitan" magazine carried an article written by Keyhoe and John J. Daly entitled "Hitler's Plan to Seize the United States Merchant Marine." This article indicated the Bureau had in its possession documents concerning such a plan by Hitler which indication was completely false.

EX - 133 REC-21 62-103581-A

The attached suggested letter to Keyhoe responds in a very general way to his questions, some of which are extremely pointed such as "Have FBI Agents told witnesses not to talk about UFO sightings?" and "Does the Bureau make character investigations of UFO witnesses in some cases?" The answers which have been furnished are designed to avoid the charge we have not answered questions yet they are broad in nature to avoid his apparent pointed inquiries. His request for an interview with a Bureau official concerning our policy concerning unidentified flying objects has been side-stepped since there appears to be no point in discussing this matter further with him. JANAP 146 is Defense document re reporting intelligence sightings.

ACTION:

That the attached suggested letter be forwarded to Keyhoe. In view of Air Force interest, copy of incoming with copy of our reply being sent Air Force separately.

62-103581
Enclosure
ESS:jas
(5)

Jan 26-59

W.C. Sullivan
John C. Sullivan
Whitten

53 OCT 9 1958

OCT 3 1958

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

MAJOR DONALD E. KEYHOE, Director
1536 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 6, D. C.
NOrth 7-9434

N I C

Rose Hackett
Richard
Bess C
Elizabeth An

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Sept.
August 22 1958

National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Some time ago I wrote to you about the subject of unidentified flying objects. I congratulated you and the FBI for the exposure of the so-called "Venus swindle"; at that time I told you that this committee is making a serious, factual investigation of UFOs; we have a mass of verified evidence which disproves suggestions that these sightings are caused by mirages, hallucinations, etc.

The standing and serious aim of our committee may be judged by examining a list of our Board members and Special Advisers. Among them are such distinguished citizens as: Vice Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter, USN (Ret.), former director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Rear Admiral H. Knowles, USN (Ret.); Colonel Robert Emerson, USAR; Major Dewey Fournet, USAFR, formerly on the Air Force UFO project; Mr. J. B. Hartranft, president, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; and other citizens well known in the fields of education, religion, and science.

I am writing to ask what part, if any, the Federal Bureau of Investigation plays in the official investigation of UFOs. Some years ago, Air Force Intelligence officers once told me, FBI agents helped the Air Force interrogate witnesses on some occasions -- particularly when Air Force representatives were not immediately available. I understand that to a limited extent this has occurred in the last year or so. I have also been told that the FBI has a general directive to help the Air Force in its collection of any UFO information.

These of course would be normal functions of which anyone would approve. In this connection, however, we have received several reports which may or may not be correct. We have been told that on certain occasions FBI agents ordered, or warned witnesses to UFO sightings not to discuss what they had seen, nor to reveal that they had been interviewed officially.

J.E. ...

[Redacted]
b7c

SEP 24 1958

REC-93

62-103581-5

*2 Photos
9/1/58 ESS/...*

It is possible that the agents suggested or advised such action, rather than giving direct orders.

So far as I know there is no authority to command a private citizen to withhold such information and I am sure the FBI would not approve of such orders without legal authority.

Also, we realize that in some cases even a routine visit by an FBI agent could be misconstrued as carrying serious implications, even requiring silence.

We have been asked about this possibility several times, and I have been questioned once or twice during lectures. We should greatly appreciate having whatever information you can give us so that we may answer such questions, correctly.

Specifically we have been asked:

Does the FBI officially investigate UFO sightings in any way?

Have FBI agents told witnesses not to talk about UFO sightings?

Does the FBI make character investigations of UFO witnesses in some cases?


Does the FBI have any information on UFOs, which can be released?

Is the FBI bound by JANAP 146, as regards the release of UFO sighting reports coming into its possession?

Our Committee believes that censorship of UFO information is not warranted since the Defense Department has repeatedly declared there is no danger involved and no threat to national security. We believe on the contrary, that the policy of secrecy could under certain circumstances lead to hysteria and possibly even panic. We should like to know whether, in the event that the UFOs prove to be extraterrestrial, the FBI has any assigned part in any official plan to prepare for possible communication with extraterrestrial vehicles from another planet.

Several of our Board members have suggested that interviews with Federal agencies involved in this question could be of mutual benefit. If possible, I should like to have an interview with an FBI official acquainted with the facts, and with the FBI policy which may be involved. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely yours,



DONALD E. KEYHOE, Major USMC (Ret.)
Director of NICAP

Nease
Belmont
Donahoe

b7c

REC-101 62-103581-5

September 26, 1958

Major Donald E. Keyhoe, Director
National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena
1536 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In response to your letter of September 22, 1958,
the following requested information is furnished:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation does not investigate sightings of unidentified flying objects. When the details of such a sighting are reported to representatives of this Bureau, the information is forwarded to the Air Force.

Representatives of this Bureau do not issue instructions to individuals who have sighted unidentified flying objects that they should not talk about such sightings.

It is not a function of this Bureau to make character investigations of individuals who have witnessed unidentified flying objects.

This Bureau does not have information on unidentified flying objects which can be released. This does not imply that this Bureau has information concerning unidentified flying objects which cannot be released.

It is understood that ~~JAN 146~~ 146 is a Department of Defense document and is not, as such, applicable to the operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Possible communication with extraterrestrial vehicles from another planet, should the unidentified

ESS:jas See cover memo Donahoe to Belmont, captioned (6) "Donald E. Keyhoe, Miscellaneous - Information Concerning (Nationalities Intelligence)," dated 9/26/58, ESS:jas.

REC'D - POLICE
COMM - 20
MAILED 20
OCT 14 1958
MAIL ROOM
Sullivan

REC'D READING ROOM
SEP 26 3 25 PM '58

1-WFO-w/e
ESS:jas
10-2-58

Major Donald E. Keyhoe

flying objects prove to be extraterrestrial, is not a function of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This Bureau is, of course, interested in any aspect of any development which would affect the internal security of the United States.

Your letter of September 22, 1958, requested an interview with an official of this Bureau concerning the matter of unidentified flying objects and this Bureau's policy in connection therewith. Since this Bureau's policy in connection with unidentified flying objects has been fully set forth above, you may feel that the requested interview is not now necessary.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

1 on
1

62-103581

Date: October 2, 1958

To: Director of Special Investigations
The Inspector General
Department of the Air Force
Building Tempo E
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

3 *Investigation in Committee on AERIAL PHENOMENA*
Subject: DONALD E. KEYHOE
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Nationalities Intelligence)

For your information, there are enclosed two Photostats of a letter dated September 22, 1958, addressed to this Bureau by the subject and two copies of this Bureau's reply dated September 26, 1958.

Enclosures - 4

1 - WFO (Enclosure - copy of Bureau reply to Keyhoe dated September 26, 1958)

NOTE:

Subject's letter made pointed inquiries relating to Bureau's participation in investigations relating to unidentified flying objects. Our reply was general in nature. Copies of incoming and ~~are~~ reply being furnished to OSI since Air Force coordinates matters relating to unidentified flying objects.

ESS:jas
(6)

BY COURIER SVC.
6 2 OCT 2
COMM - FBI

REC-93 62-103581-
OCT 14 1958

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60 OCT 14 1958
MAIL ROOM

FBI - WASHINGTON
REC'D REG. MAIL
5 OCT 7 1958

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

51896

TELEPHONE NORTH 7-9434
CABLE ADDRESS:
SKYLIGHT

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
1536 CONNECTICUT AVE., N. W.

March 21, 1960

MAJOR DONALD E. KEYHOE
USMC (RET.) DIRECTOR

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
9th & Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

According to a report in the Detroit Times, March 9 (a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience), FBI agents from the Flint, Michigan office viewed a color photograph of an unidentified flying object (UFO), then took the photograph for analysis. The photograph in question was taken by Mr. Joe Perry and reportedly showed a disc-shaped object with a dome, silhouetted against the moon.

In a letter last year you stated that investigation of UFOs was not within the jurisdiction of the Bureau, and that the Air Force is the responsible agency. In view of the Detroit Times report, we would appreciate having answers to the following questions:

- (1) Has there been a change in FBI policy in regard to UFO investigation since last year?
- (2) If not, does the FBI gather evidence of UFOs on behalf of the Air Force (and does this explain the action by FBI agents in the case of the color photograph)?
- (3) If the above-mentioned photograph has been analyzed in FBI laboratories, or for FBI purposes, may we have a copy of the analysis report and be informed of the final disposition of the photograph?

ENCLOSURE

REC-88

2-103581-7

20 MAR 28 1960

Sincerely yours,
Richard Hall
Richard Hall
Secretary of

Handwritten notes:
JFW
memo prepared to [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]
JFW
[unclear]

Handwritten note:
A privately-supported fact-finding body serving the national public
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

EXP. PROC.
MAR 22 1960

FBI WANTS TO KNOW

P. 1

Pizza Pie—Or Flying Saucer?

GRAND BLANC, March 9 (AP)—The FBI today probed into a color photograph of the moon taken by Joe Perry, a talented pizza pie maker, who also takes potshots at the sky with a home-made telescope camera.

The FBI is interested in the picture Joe snapped last month on the second night of the full moon.

The picture shows a saucer-like object silhouetted against the moon.

The "thing" radiates a trail in green and appears nearer to the earth than the moon," Joe said. "It is round, much smaller than the moon, and it has a dome."

JOE DID not think anything of the photograph until customers in his restaurant

asked to see it again. "It's a flying saucer," they said. The FBI got wind of it last Friday and the next day two agents from the Flint office visited Joe's place here.

"I showed them several slides of photographs I took on that particular night," Joe said. "They didn't seem to be interested. I showed this particular one and then both of them jumped up."

The agents took the photograph and several others.

JOE, A grandfather at 44, hopes he has been of some service to government experts in their search for answers in outer space.

"But I hope I get that picture back," he said.

Detroit Times; Wed., March 9, 1960

62-105581-7
ENCLOSURE

- 1 - Par...
- 1 - DeLo...
- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Donahoe
- 1 - [redacted] b7c

March 25, 1960

REC- 88 62-103581 - 7

Mr. Richard Hall
 Secretary
 National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
 Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hall:

In response to your letter dated March 21, 1960, this is to advise that there has been no change in this Bureau's policy in regard to unidentified flying objects; that we do not gather evidence pertaining thereto for the Department of the Air Force, although any information volunteered is, of course, accepted; and that the photograph mentioned in your letter was not examined by the FBI Laboratory or anyone else for FBI purposes.

With respect to the article which appeared in the "Detroit Times," issue of March 9, 1960, entitled "FBI WANTS TO KNOW Pizza Pie--Or Flying Saucer?" it is noted that certain of the facts in this article as they pertain to the FBI are not set forth accurately and the appropriate officials of the "Detroit Times" have been so advised. Actually, although Mr. Perry, mentioned in the article, did voluntarily furnish two photographs to representatives of this Bureau who contacted him at his request, the FBI did not conduct any investigation in this matter. We did, however, furnish these photographs to a representative of the Department of the Air Force for whatever action was deemed appropriate by that agency.

I trust that the above clarifies this situation.

Sincerely yours,

JFW:bcm (9)
 Note: See cover memo Donahoe to Belmont, dtd 3/23/60, subj: Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO), Jos. Perry, Grand Blanc, Mich., Complainant, JFW:bcm
 John Edgar Hoover
 Director
 1 - WFO (Enclosure)
 1 - Detroit (Enclosure)

Note for SACs WFO and Detroit: Enclosed is copy letter received from Hall. No action desired.

MAILED 19
 APR 25 1960

50 APR 4 1960 TELETYPE UNIT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

TO : A. H. Belmont *W*

DATE: March 23, 1960

FROM : S. B. Donahoe *W*

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Donahoe

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFO),
JOSEPH PERRY, GRAND BLANC, MICHIGAN,
COMPLAINANT

MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(NATIONALITIES INTELLIGENCE)

This memorandum encloses a letter to Secretary Richard Hall, National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), Washington, D. C., pointing out that our policy re UFO incidents has not changed and that certain data in the "Detroit Times" article of 3-9-60 are inaccurate.

The NICAP is described on its letterhead as "a privately supported fact-finding body serving the national public interest." In a previous letter from this outfit dated 4-3-57 its purpose was set out as reporting UFO sightings and developments. We have received no derogatory data concerning this organization and have conducted no investigation pertaining thereto. Its Director is Donald E. Keyhoe, a free-lance writer described by former Assistant to the Director Nichols as "irresponsible." In 1958 Keyhoe asked the Bureau questions pertaining to our investigation of UFO and in our letter of 9-26-58 we pointed out that we did not investigate such occurrences but furnished information concerning them to Air Force.

The "Detroit Times" 3-9-60 carried an article indicating that Joe Perry, a pizza pie maker in Grand Blanc, Michigan, had taken pictures of the moon with his homemade telescope camera; that a photograph resulting therefrom portrayed a saucer-like object silhouetted against the moon; that "the FBI got wind of it" and contacted Perry; that the FBI "probed" into the photograph taken by Perry. Detroit airtel 3-9-60 furnished letterhead memorandum containing facts of this matter indicating that Perry on 3-5-60 was contacted by agents at his request; that he furnished two photographs; that these photographs were turned over to OSI at Selfridge Air Force Base, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Detroit teletype 3-9-60 pointed out that "Detroit Times" was advised FBI has not and is not conducting investigation concerning the photographs but had turned over the information to the Air Force.

Letter 3-21-60 from Richard Hall, Secretary of NICAP, referred to the "Detroit Times" article and to fact that we had previously advised

Enclosure *det*
65-103501

REC-88 62-103501-8

JFW:bcm:tp
(6)

11 MAR 30 1960

50 APR 4 1960

5-JFW

Memo Donahoe to Belmont
Re: Unidentified Flying Objects
62-103581

that investigation of these matters was not within jurisdiction of Bureau but that Air Force was responsible Agency. Hall wanted to know whether there had been any change in our policy; whether the Bureau gathered evidence of UFO for the Air Force; and whether the photograph described in the article had been analyzed at FBI laboratories or for FBI purposes. Bufiles contain no identifiable data re Hall.

ACTION:

Enclosed is a letter to Hall pointing out that the article erred and the appropriate officials at the "Detroit Times" have been advised; that Perry asked to be contacted and voluntarily furnished our agents the photographs; and that we turned these photographs over to Air Force taking no further action.

DEW

OK
APM
3/15

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Parsons	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. McGuire	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

23 August 1960

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am inclosing an article from this morning's Washington Post concerning the new law designed to prevent trading on the name of the Federal Government for non-governmental purposes.

As you well know, the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena has done this for many years and has been a thorn in the side of many governmental agencies during this period including the FBI, the Air Force, Department of Defense, various Congressional Committees and individual Congressmen and Senators.

Could not we possibly invoke this law to curtail the activities of this organization in a manner similar to that described in the inclosed article?

Sincerely,

William J. Tucker
 W. J. TUCKER
 Chief, Information & Book Branch

Inclosure

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington 25, D. C.

EXP. PROC.
 AUG 25 1960
 85-300

8/31/60
 JRT:mm

REC-42

62-103581-9

4 SEP 2 1960

ENCLOSURE

[Handwritten signature]

Trading on U. S. Name Charged

FBI Invokes New Law to Arrest Woman in Debt-Collection Scheme

By Milton Viorst
Staff Reporter

The FBI arrested a 53-year-old Silver Spring woman yesterday under a new law designed to prevent trading on the name of the Federal Government for nongovernmental purposes.

Ann J. Wacksman of 8600 Carroll ave., was charged with using a name "calculated to convey the false impression" that her debt-collecting business was a Federal agency. This is the first arrest under the law, the FBI said.

Mrs. Wackman operated the "National Deposit System" in the Woodward Building, 733 15th st. nw., the FBI said. She sold printed forms that looked like IBM cards and were designed to convey an official look, the FBI said.

The form stated that "there is a sum of money on deposit for you not in excess of \$100"

if the recipient answered a series of questions. Mrs. Wacksman sent the forms, in brown window envelopes, to addresses designated by her customers.

The FBI said such official-looking letters got to the addresses while others did not. The merchants were then free

Picture on Page A9

to follow up in the debt collection.

The FBI charged that use of an eagle the term "National Deposit System Certificate," the format and phraseology and the mailing from Washington "misleads persons . . . into the erroneous and mistaken belief" that the form comes from a branch of the United States Government.

A disclaimer which points out on the form that no Feder-

al agency is involved does not destroy the overall effect of the display, the FBI said.

After returning the form, the sender usually received 2 cents, the FBI said, as the sum "not in excess of \$100."

Mrs. Wacksman had been issued a "cease and desist" order by the Federal Trade Commission several months ago, the FBI said, and the arrest was made in response to an FTC complaint.

Mrs. Wacksman was arraigned before Municipal Court Judge Thomas C. Scally and held under \$500 bond. The case was continued until Aug. 30.

The Justice Department said the law was passed last year to combat repeated use by collecting agencies and private detectives of names suggesting the authority of the Federal Government.

ENCLOSURE

62-103581-9

August 31, 1960

REC-42 62-103581-9

Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence J. Tacker
Chief, Magazines & Book Branch
Department of the Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Colonel Tacker:

I am in receipt of your letter of August 23, 1960, concerning the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

The public law to which you refer, Section 712, Title 18, U. S. Code, applies only to skip-tracing or collection agencies for bad debts, and private detective agencies. In view of this fact, no investigation can be conducted concerning the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena under the afore-mentioned statute.

Your interest in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
AUG 31 1960
COMM-FBI

AUG 31 12 59 PM '60
READING ROOM

JRF:mmm

(3)

NOTE:

Air Force Colonel read newspaper publicity on the "Ann J. Wacksman, T/A National Deposit System" Bufile 43-15022. The Colonel apparently feels that any organization with the words National, Federal etc. in organization name comes within purview of Section 712, Title 18, U. S. Code, whereas such applies only to skip-tracing and private detective agencies.

NOTE CONTINUED PAGE TWO

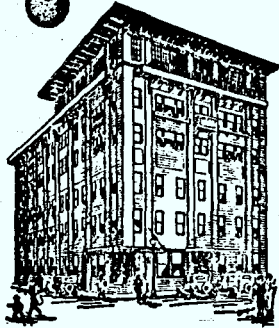
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Tolson
- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

R W W JPA

NOTE CONTINUED:

The National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena (Bureau file 62-103581) has corresponded with Bureau since 1957 forwarding various material concerning flying saucers. This matter has been referred to the Air Force for any action. No investigation of the organization has been conducted by the Bureau. To date, there has been no complaints received against the organization alleging violation of law over which Bureau has jurisdiction.



HOTEL Nesh
2ND AND MARKET
SUNBURY, PENNA

214 West Broad Street
Tamaqua, Pa.

March 13, 1961

EXP. PROC.
MAR 15 1961

Edgar J. Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

On March 1, 1961, I subscribed for a one year membership (\$5.00) to "~~The~~ U.F.O. Investigator," published by the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena - NICAP. This organization is located at: 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Today, I received acknowledgement of membership and my first issue of "U.F.O. Investigator."

The contents of this issue points up the pressure being applied to the United States Air Force, Congressional leaders and others to divulge secret information regarding Flying Saucers, etc.

If our Air Force (or any other agency) has such information and our government desires to keep same secret in the interest of national security, I would appreciate your answering this question for me.

11 "IS N I C A P a Communist sponsored outfit???"

If so, I have inadvertently contributed my name and support to their cause, by my membership for one year.

Thank you for your interest and reply.

62-103581-10

REC-85
EX-100

Sincerely yours, MAR 15 1961

Francis X. Schork
Francis X. Schork

CORRESPONDENCE
502

21-61
FD-302

March 21, 1961

REC-85 62-103581-10

Mr. Francis X. Schork
214 West Broad Street
Tamaqua, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Schork:

I have received your letter dated March 13, 1961, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is indeed appreciated.

This Bureau has conducted no investigation of the organization about which you inquired. In addition, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

In view of your interest in the internal security of the United States, I am enclosing some literature which you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 22 1961
COMM - FBI

Enclosures - 5

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

JFF:eab

(3)

66 MAR 27 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

239

MAR 21 4 55 PM '61

RECEIVED
MAR 21 1961

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