

CONFIDENTIAL -- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

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Dear Members:

This was to have been a letter announcing that NICAP would close. For some unknown reason we had been steadily losing members. It was not the negative Condon Report (CR) -- this slump had begun months before. On the verge of breaking up, we made a last attempt to find the source of our trouble. The result was a jolt -- some frank explanations from drop-outs.

Most members, it appears, are tired of reading about the Condon Project and our fight against secrecy. They joined NICAP with high interest, to learn more about UFOs - unusual aspects, new discoveries, important developments and recent sightings. Bored with all the CR discussions filling Investigator issues, they see no reason to renew. Unfortunately, few complained to us; knowing it was vital to upset the Condon Report, we assumed most members were satisfied.

As a result of these drop-outs' blunt answers, we have radically changed our program to interest ALL members.

1. Most UFO Investigator space will be used for new or especially interesting details about UFOs, from recent sightings or significant earlier cases with new angles or developments. There will be special features on various aspects (including those suggested by members.) We shall not ignore CR items, but they will be condensed -- usually less than a page -- and selected for special interest, such as the sharp CR criticism by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chief AF-UFO consultant for 20 years. (In the next issue.)

2. We have started a series of special NICAP publications, each to cover an interesting part of the UFO story, with full details from our thousands of reports and inside information (details not possible in limited Investigator space.) Examples with tentative titles: Hidden Reports, with confidential and other records certified by NICAP Board Members; Scientists' Report On Occupant Cases, based on the NICAP Panel findings, with detailed evaluations and a discussion on possible space beings; Strange Physical Effects From UFOs, with detailed reports; The Missing AF Project Cases, from a verbatim copy secured by NICAP's Director; Blackouts And UFOs, with many little-known incidents with EM (electromagnetic) effects; The 1952 Story, the most exciting UFO "flap", with behind-the-scenes developments and the biggest cases Others to be listed later.

Getting out the Specials and the Investigator will be no easy job with our reduced staff, but we are ready and willing to take it on. Our CR Rebuttal Report, well under way, will benefit all members. Dr. James McDonald is providing invaluable aid. A former U.S. Congressman, who was connected with the 1968 UFO hearings, will advise us on questions of congressional investigations. The rebuttal report is assured wide publicity, strengthening NICAP's position, reviving general interest, and increasing our income.

All this and our new program will be achieved--if NICAP is not forced to close.

This is no hard-luck story to get extra funds. We are in the worst spot in years, with bills piled up for five months. It is humiliating to beg members for help, and I have never sent an emergency letter unless we were near disaster. My appeal in the last issue failed, apparently because it was based on the rebuttal fight. I should have warned you then that we were in a desperate situation, but I dreaded the publicity that an Investigator story would bring.

The five-month bills, including back and current taxes, come to \$11,800, and they must be paid before the end of April--\$5750 at least by April 24. April costs, including the next issue, total \$7870, and all April bills must be paid on time. May and June, besides regular expenses, will include another issue and printing charges for the rebuttal report and the first special publication. If we are saved from closing, the new program and the specials are certain to boost our income, along with sales of the rebuttal report.

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