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ED/5LT 370/93

26 JAN 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Evaluation of UFO's

1. This memorandum is for your information in response to your request.

2. As you know, there has been a recent spate of reports of UFO's (unidentified flying objects) in news media. Widely publicized UFO reports during the past 18 months include: the July 1963 Chaffee, California, incident in which the UFO was later identified as an aircraft; the UFO's reportedly associated with the Gemini launching in April 1964 which probably were due to fragments causing radar reflection; and the Patuxent, Maryland, incident in December 1964, in which the objects were apparently tracked by radar, but later analysis attributed the sighting to malfunctioning radar circuitry. Evaluation of these and other reported phenomena reveals no evidence that UFO's are of foreign origin or are a threat to the security of the United States.

3. The Office of Scientific Intelligence/2D S&T monitors reports of UFO's, including the official Air Force investigation reports, and concurs with the Air Force conclusions, which are unclassified and available to scientific investigation. Of some 121 UFO reports investigated during 1964, only 33 are classed as unidentified; 11 investigations are still pending. Attached are the official Air Force statistics for the time period 1956-1963 by year and for 1964 by month.

[Signature]
 EDWARD F. CHAMBERLAIN
 Assistant Director
 Scientific Intelligence

COMMENTS:

[Signature]
 Deputy Director (Science and Technology)

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STATISTICAL DATA FOR YEARS 1954 - 1962
(Compiled 1 Nov 64)

TABLE 1. BY C THEORY

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	TOT
Astronomical	127	135	125	141	151	144	130	103	138	89	127
Aircraft	85	124	143	117	103	53	68	75	67	73	167
Ballon	33	102	89	113	57	30	22	37	19	24	3
Insufficient Data	101	14	120	153	111	64	163	115	62	37	18
Other	36	63	61	120	60	72	93	74	64	56	71
Satellite	0	0	0	3	15	0	21	69	77	61	27
Unidentified	45	23	15	16	11	13	14	12	16	13	1
Total	387	342	394	1005	623	257	500	333	409	353	571

ASTRONOMICAL SIGHTINGS

Comets	93	79	33	179	104	100	137	119	94	57	113
Stars & Planets	44	32	131	144	56	40	43	78	30	23	64
Other	1	4	3	18	7	4	3	5	5	5	3
Total	137	115	267	341	267	144	283	295	129	85	180

OTHER CASES

Comets, Halley's, etc.	0	17	17	37	33	13	12	17	11	15	17
Unreliable Reports and Psychological Cases	1	1	3	2	6	14	12	12	9	13	7
Miracles and Eclipses	6	4	3	2	7	10	9	3	3	0	4
Flares & Fireworks	4	6	0	8	3	3	7	4	3	3	3
Mirages & Inversions	2	4	1	5	2	4	6	6	3	0	3
Aurora & Groundlights	6	14	9	12	6	6	6	1	3	2	3
Clouds & Contrails	3	2	1	9	3	2	4	5	4	5	4
Chaos	3	0	1	2	6	1	4	3	5	2	1
Wires	7	2	6	1	1	0	3	2	2	2	1
Star Analysis	7	0	7	27	2	3	6	8	0	1	6
Video Analysis	1	2	4	1	6	4	6	3	2	3	3
Physical Specimens	6	3	3	6	10	3	7	4	18	3	4
Latitude Study	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	3	3	3	1
Other	7	4	0	6	3	3	3	3	1	4	3
Total	53	53	61	123	60	72	93	73	64	56	73

TO : Chief, Contact Division
Attn: [REDACTED]

72-65
DATE: 25 January 1965

FROM : Chief, [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP)
Case [REDACTED]

1. This confirms [REDACTED] conversation 19 January 1965, at which time various samples and reports on UFO sightings procured from NICAP were given to [REDACTED] for transmittal to OSI. The information was desired by OSI to assist them in the preparation of a paper for [REDACTED] on UFO's.

2. In accordance with [REDACTED] request, we met on 19 January 1965 with Mr. Richard Harris Hall, Acting Director of NICAP. Though Major William Kehoe, founder of NICAP, is still listed as Director of the organization, we gather that he is present on the premises at 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., only infrequently.

3. The material which was given to us on loan by Mr. Hall is representative of the type of information available at NICAP. Their past and present correspondence from all over the US relative to UFO sightings is voluminous. They have slack periods, as was the case in December 1964, thus there were no "Investigators" reports immediately available for the month of December. NICAP has active Committees scattered throughout the US. Investigators active with these committees call upon the sources of reported UFO sightings to obtain first hand, eye witness accounts of the sightings. A printed form, prepared by the Air Force for NICAP's use, is utilized during the interview, and submitted to NICAP headquarters along with the source's eye-witness account as told to the investigator. It was our understanding that copies of these reports go directly to various Air Force bases. There apparently is a strong feeling on the part of NICAP officials, i.e., Kehoe and Hall, that the Air Force tends to downgrade the importance of UFO sightings because they (the Air Force) does not care to have too much made of the sightings by the US press. We were told by Mr. Hall that there have been instances where the Air Force has attempted to intimidate witnesses and get them to sign false statements relative to UFO sightings.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE 16 Nov 78

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25 January 1965

Case [REDACTED]

4. The most recent UFO sighting of considerable interest to NICAP was the series of pick-ups of UFO's on the radar screen of the Patuxent Naval Air Station between 1500 and 1530 on 19 December 1964. This incident was reported in the press as a single sighting, a UFO approaching Patuxent at speeds up to 3300 miles per hour. The Air Force a day or so later stated in the press that the blip was caused by faulty radar equipment. Actually, according to Hall, who talked with an unidentified person close to the situation, there were three separate sightings:

- (a) Two UFO's about 10 miles apart, southeast of Patuxent, approaching at a high rate of speed, disappeared from the screen;
- (b) A single UFO picked up 39 miles southeast of Patuxent, altitude estimated somewhere between three thousand and 25 thousand feet, approaching base at estimated speed of six thousand miles per hour. UFO lost from screen about 10 miles out;
- (c) A single UFO eight miles northeast of Patuxent, approaching at high rate of speed, made 160° turn, and dropped off the screen.

The Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) station at Salisbury, Maryland, was contacted to determine if any reported UFO's; a radio operator had received a message from a US Coast Guard ship reporting "visual objects sighted" in same locale at approximately the same time of day. Hall did give us the name of one of the radar operators at Patuxent--a Chief Pinkerton.

5. There was another UFO sighting reported in the area by the Washington Post within the last week or 10 days. Several men watching from the windows of the old Munitions Building on Constitution Avenue watched several UFO's on the horizon traveling at high rates of speed. They have promised to fill out NICAP's sighting questionnaire, which Hall says we are welcome to see when available.

6. [REDACTED] informed us that she is requesting a security clearance on Mr. Hall predicated upon biographic information provided by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]