

UFO INVESTIGATOR

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON
AERIAL PHENOMENA
NICAP

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SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER JOINS NICAP BOARD OF GOVERNORS

During NICAP's last Board meeting potential board members were discussed. The name heading the list was that of Senator Barry Goldwater. NICAP Board Chairman John L. Acuff placed the Senator's name in nomination with the provision of election based on Senator Goldwater's willingness to serve as a member of the board. The board unanimously approved the nomination, and Mr. Acuff was asked to contact Senator Goldwater to determine whether he would be willing to join NICAP's Board of Governors.

Senator Goldwater promptly responded to NICAP's invitation by letter in which he stated, "I'll be happy to serve on the Board of Governors and am honored that you have asked me".... The honor is NICAP's. Very few public officials have matched the Senator's courage in his willingness to speak out on controversial issues or in his willingness to fight for what he feels is right for his country and his constituents. NICAP is pleased to have Senator Goldwater on the board and will profit from his talent, experience and character in its goal of finding the answer to the UFO mystery.

Most individuals in the United States have an awareness of Senator Goldwater's background. We will, therefore, only briefly summarize his background for the readers of the "UFO Investigator".

Senator Barry Goldwater was born on New Year's Day in 1909, in Phoenix, Arizona. In 1934, Senator Goldwater married Margaret Johnson of Muncie, Indiana. They have two sons and two daughters. The Senator was the Republican presidential candidate in 1964. When Senator Goldwater was running for president, he was completing his



SEN. BARRY GOLDWATER

second term as a U.S. Senator from Arizona. During World War II, the Senator served as an Army Air Corps pilot overseas. After the war, he helped organize the Arizona Air National Guard. He remained active in the Air Force Reserve, and became a Major General in 1962. He was working outside of politics after the 1964 presidential election until 1968, when Arizonians again elected him to the Senate.

Senator Goldwater has written several publications. He outlined his political ideas in *The Conscience of a Conservative*. He also authored, *Why Not Victory* and *Where I Stand*.

On May 8th, Board Members General Robert Richardson and Mr. John Acuff met with Senator Goldwater to brief him on NICAP's present status and plans and to answer any questions the Senator might have about the organization. The Senator was already very knowledgeable about the field of UFO research and of NICAP's activities.

The Senator first became interested in the UFO phenomena shortly after

Kenneth Arnold's famous sighting in 1947. A friend of the senators was a member of a five man hunting party, two of which were Air Force pilots, which observed UFO's exhibiting characteristic high speeds and maneuverability. When Goldwater received a telephone call from his friend asking for information on UFO's and describing the sighting he was the recipient of first hand information from a trusted and trained observer. In the ensuing years Senator Goldwater has received reports from many highly qualified sources and has reached the same conclusion as NICAP, i.e., these phenomena have not been explained and that continuing research is needed.

ROCHESTER SIGHTINGS BELIEVED SOLVED

The January issue of the *UFO Investigator* contained an article reporting the sighting of an arrangement of unusual lights in the sky by astronomer Terence Dickinson and several of his students. This formation puzzled many sky-watchers for a month until Professor John Stull, Chairman of the physics department at Alfred University, allegedly solved the mystery. Stull, whose astronomy class used a more powerful telescope than Dickinson's, says he is "absolutely certain" that the formation of lights comes from airplanes. He has observed them three times at about the same time each night. Dickinson, who says he is satisfied with Stull's conclusion, checked with the nearest U.S. Air Force bases and the North American Air Defense Command, but they said they knew of no flights at those times.

NICAP INVESTIGATES SIGHTINGS IN MASS.

NICAP just recently completed compiling and researching data concerning reported sightings of UFOs from different cities throughout Massachusetts. The first cases involved an object viewed at 8:00 P.M. one evening by three children, Laura, Denise, and Donald Bellandi, who immediately called to their mother to witness the phenomenon. Mrs. Bellandi promptly came outside, just in time to observe a "round dark object, rotating, as it went in a northwesterly direction. Each time it rotated, a red light blinked on and off. It was located on the bottom right. I watched it for about three and one-half minutes." Amazed at what she saw, Mrs. Bellandi went for her husband; however, the noiseless object was gone when both returned outside.

Prior to the children's discovery, the Bellandis had begun to experience interference on their television set. Their dog became abnormally agitated and began pacing back and forth. Mrs. Bellandi noted that the TV interference and the dog's anxiety occurred simultaneously with the children's calling their mother and commented further that both ceased when the object disappeared.

Five minutes earlier (7:55 P.M. E.D.T.) over Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts, approximately sixteen miles from the Bellandi residence, a Christian missionary reported a UFO sighting. He described it as moving silently with a wobbling motion. It "had a steady pink halo around it and a blinking pink perimeter." He further stated that he saw others on campus watching this abnormality in the sky.

OBJECT LIGHTS CITY

Several weeks later in the same general vicinity the residents of Quincy, Massachusetts, experienced an object in the skies that lit up the city in the early morning hours with a flash of red light. The police station switchboard was immediately flooded with calls. Officer Robert Hanna who was on an ambulance call with his partner when the event occurred was dispatched to the scene. According to Hanna, "It was quite bright... all of a sudden a red light lit the sky with a large bright flash—greater

than a bolt of lightning." NICAP investigator Ray Fowler contacted Massachusetts Electric Company which confirmed a report of a blackout in that area at 3:00 A.M. that same morning. A spokesman for the company said that it looked as if lightning had hit a connector, yet strangely enough there were no electrical storms that night, and, according to the spokesman, such a thing would be unusual even if there were electrical activity. Lights alternately dimmed off and on between the time the object was sighted and full blackout at 3:00 A.M.

SECOND BLACKOUT

Still another case involved a second blackout several weeks later at Ipswich, Massachusetts. One night at suppertime, all of the lights and power went out for fifty-five minutes. Both the main tie line and the back-up tie line supplied to the community failed. Several residents who went outside when the power ceased reported to NICAP the witnessing of

unusual lights in the otherwise dark sky. Each person gave a similar account of what he saw: bright, round luminescent flashes hovering low near the power station, sighted just after the blackout commenced. The power company's initial response was that a line was down and arcing. However, further investigation showed no lines were down and that a circuit breaker had inadvertently opened. The electric company admitted to the NICAP investigator that this could not be accounted for and that a restraining device was added to the breaker so that it would not happen again.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The NICAP staff in this issue of the UFO Investigator has commemorated the Regional Investigators for their fine work. We would at this time also like to thank our members for their continued support through membership, contributions and alert reportings. The UFO field is in dire need of research, study, and much more extensive investigations. Without you, the members, this goal could not be achieved.

SIGHTING ADVISORY

Preliminary information on new reports. Details and evaluations will be published when available.

March 25, 1974—Baltimore, Md. At approximately 4:25 p.m. John Wanger reported observing a solid, sharply outlined object hanging motionless in the Northeast sky. He estimated it to be two miles away at roof top level. The object reflected the sun, which was what caused the witness to take notice of the UFO. Wagner observed the object for forty-five minutes until the craft seemed to drop and disappear from sight behind the chimney of a large building.

February 17, 1974—Stuart, Fla. An unidentified flying object was reported to have landed on Fifth and Jackson Streets. The witness immediately called the local newspaper to report the sighting. The newspaper decided to send a reporter to the scene of the sighting, but as the reporter approached the intersection where the object had been reportedly seen, the area appeared to be completely deserted. The newspaper man then noticed a brilliant object only about 5,000 feet off the ground. It blinked on and off like a light bulb. The reporter was only able to view the UFO for approximately 15 seconds before it disappeared from sight at an incredible speed.

February 6, 1974—Denver, Col. Deputy Tom Bobay and his assistant, Joe Cope, while on duty, reported sighting an object in the early morning hours that they described as being approximately 5,000 feet in the air. It had a sequence of six or seven white lights. In between the white ones were red and green lights. The officers estimated the object to be the size of three jumbo jets. They watched the craft for about two to three minutes, "then it just wasn't there," reported Bobay. "It didn't move up or down—it just wasn't there anymore."

MYSTERIOUS STEEL SPHERE EXPLAINED

The Betz family of Jacksonville, Florida, and UFO researchers throughout the United States were recently puzzled by a metallic ball found in the Betz's backyard. The sphere seemed to have odd properties. For example, when placed in the middle of a table in the Betz's home, the sphere started rolling *without anyone touching it* until it reached the edge of the table and then rolled around the four sides until it again ended its motion in the middle of the table. The sphere appeared to be perfectly smooth and without any seams. When the sphere was shaken it had motion from the inside. The sphere was described by Mrs. Jerri Betz as metallic, a little smaller than a bowling ball and weighing about 25 pounds. Mrs. Betz stated while holding the "odd ball" that "it feels like a huge Mexican jumping bean." When the family dog, a toy poodle, was placed near the sphere, Mrs. Betz said, "she began to whimper and cover her ears with her paws, something I've never seen her do before."

ANALYSIS UNDERTAKEN

NICAP's regional investigator, George T. Sassen, Jr., has submitted the following results of a detailed analysis. After the Betz family discovered the sphere, it was given to USN Chief Chris Berninger, DOD Bomb Disposal Squad, Cecil Field and was X-rayed with a 150 KV machine. This unit was inadequate to penetrate the sphere which was then taken to the Materials Lab, Naval Air Rework Facility.

X-ray and emission spectographic analysis showed the material to be 431 stainless steel (a commonly used material). X-ray on a 300 KV machine showed the sphere to be uniformly hollow, with some inclusions and containing one 1/8 inch diameter ball, 2 or 3 balls each 1/16 inch in diameter, and a small amount of powdered residue described as possible sand. Ultrasonic measurements established the wall thickness as 1/2 inch within, an accuracy of .01 inch. The outside diameter was 7.96 inch and the weight 21.34 pounds.

Based upon this data, it was calculated that the sphere contained no appreciable mass of pressurants.

There was a plug (1/4-3/8 inch diameter) welded into the side, ground off and polished. This could explain the internal particulate. Surface finish was described as about 125 micor inches, badly abraded, as if it had been rolled on concrete, and had a small triangular chip missing. There were no identifying marks such as letters, numbers, etc. Since the 431 stainless metal is magnetic, the poles were located and marked by the laboratory. The sphere was apparently perfectly balanced and did not exhibit any unusual behavior on a flat surface plate. According to Chief Berninger, the odd rolling actions described were apparently due to the contours in the old stone floor of the Betz home.

The sphere has also been examined by five scientists who are members of the "National Enquirer" panel on UFOs set up to offer \$50,000 to anyone who can furnish proof of extraterrestrial life.

About the only thing we have not determined as yet is how the sphere turned up in the Betz's backyard. The most logical speculation to date concerning its use is that the sphere was part of a valve used in moving corrosive liquids for a plant where wood chips were converted into pulp.

Officials of St. Regis Paper Company stated that they had discarded this type of equipment about 15 years ago. "There's no telling who got it from a junk dealer's pile," stated a spokesman for the paper company.

The UFO Investigator staff would like to encourage its membership to feel free to submit ideas or suggestions as to what you, as the member, would like to have appear in the monthly newsletter.

FEEDBACK/Readers write

Dear Editor,

I take issue with the lead article concerning Ezekiel's vision. There is no such quotation as "It descended from the heavens and out of the midst thereof came the likeness of man," in chapter one, and I doubt in the whole book.

Before one adopts such far-out explanations, even if advanced by persons of great intelligence, perspicacity and ingenuity one should exhaust the field of natural phenomena first. To what does the vision of Ezekiel most closely relate in meteorological phenomena? A winter perhelion of the sun . . .

Ezekiel was hard put to describe what he had never seen before with the words he had, but the person who has seen a similar occurrence has little trouble in understanding what he tried to describe. Ezekiel's subjective or psychological reaction is, of course, not being considered.

I haven't read such, but I would not be surprised if somebody is not claiming that St. Paul's encounter before Damascus was with a UFO. Again, no need to consider such, or a miracle or divine visitation. What phenomenon makes a blinding light combined with considerable noise, and occurs in a flash of time? A meteor. They are commonly noticed at night, but they can enter the atmosphere at any time. Nor can one blame St. Paul for taking the position he did. Almost anyone undergoing such an experience would consider they had a heavenly visitor, up until two hundred years ago. The encounter with the eye paralyzing light was one thing, the 'encounter' in his mind was something entirely different.

Very truly yours,
Mr. Holiday Phillips
Coatesville, Indiana

Due to the length of the above letter, some contents *not pertaining directly to the Ezekiel article* have been omitted. NICAP is always pleased to have readers comments about specific articles. Contents of the "UFO Investigator", may at times be presented in response to reader interest; without necessarily reflecting the opinion of NICAP.

In response to Clip Board, February, 1974, regarding a course on UFOs, one of our readers, Mr. James Watts, sent the details concerning the course. Bruce Henne, a psychology professor is conducting a study on the subject at Gordon Junior College in Barnesville, Georgia. Anyone interested may contact the college direct for further information.

NICAP REGIONAL INVESTIGATORS

The NICAP's regional investigators are the backbone of the NICAP organization. Their efforts make it possible for the tremendous influx of reports to be analyzed and researched efficiently and effectively.

The NICAP organization would like to express their sincere appreciation and give recognition to the investigators for their time and loyalty.

Stuart Appelle, B.S., M.A., Ph.D. Psychology
 Samuel E. Alexander, Mathematics Major
 Wright Babcock, B.A. Economics/Mathematics
 Harold Benny, B.S., M.A. Zoology
 Howard L. Berke, B.M.E. Mechanical Engineering
 William S. Bickel, B.S., Ph.D. Atomic Physics
 Jack M. Bostrack, B.A. Biology, Ph.D. Botany-Horticulture
 Robert J. Brown, B.S. Mechanical Engineering
 Kenneth B. Bruckart, B.S., M.S. Metallurgical Engineering
 Chester Cain, B.S. Engineering
 John B. Carlson, B.S. Physics, M.S. Astronomy, Ph.D. Candidate
 Wallace E. Carthright, Jr., B.A., Ph.D. Mathematics
 Ralph L. Chantrill, B.S. Electrical, Civil, and Mechanical Engineering
 Michael Cleary, B.A. Journalism Major
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 James Cook, B.S. Mechanical Engineering
 Emmett W. Davis, A.A.S. Mechanical Engineering
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 William Haydock, Computer Programmer/Analyst
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 Harry Lederman II, B.S. Mechanical Engineering
 Robert LeFrank, B.S., M.E. Mechanical Engineering
 Jacques LeMay, Biology and Physics
 James A. Liszewski, B.S. Pre Med, D.D.S.
 Charles Luddeke, Jr., B.S. Political Science, Economics & Engineering
 Allen S. Mariner, M.D. Psychiatry
 Richard F. Mason, B.S. Chemistry, M.A. Counseling
 Robert A. McClanaghan, B.S. Physics
 Richard McMahill, B.S. Electrical Engineering
 Ronald Miller, A.A. Engineering and Computer Science
 Raymond Montell, B.A. Psychology, Medical School
 Raymond Moody, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. Philosophy

S.B. Morehouse, E.E. Electrical Engineering
 George W. Nash, M.D. Neuro Surgery
 Jack L. Noragon, B.S., Ph.D. Political Science
 Dennis Piquadio, A.A. Electronics
 Bill Pitts, Business Administration, Industrial Sales
 Cedric M. Powell, B.A., Ministerial graduate
 Diana Russell, B.A. City Planning and Oceanography
 Geroge T. Sasseen, B.S. Mechanical Engineering
 Joel L. Shank, M.S. Computer Science
 Timothy A. Shankland, B.S. Engineering and Physics
 James M. Soileau, Television Broadcast Engineer
 C. Gary Southmayd, B.A. Philosophy
 Paul G. Spaulding, Consulting Engineer
 Jerome T. Stahl, Design Engineer
 Walter J. Stroud, B.S. Industrial Engineering
 Robert J. Szent, B.A. Sociology and Psychology
 Steven Takacs, Electronics and Miscellaneous Sciences
 Gary Vendetti, B.A. Political Science and Computer Science
 Marion Webb, Jr., B.S. Aviation Management
 Carol J. Wells, B.A. Psychology
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 George J. Wortell, B.A. Business

— SPECIAL OFFER — AVAILABLE TO NICAP MEMBERS ONLY.

UFOs: INTERPLANETARY VISITORS, by Raymond E. Fowler, is a new book that has just been released. NICAP is pleased to offer Mr. Fowler's book to members on a first come, first serve basis. You will receive:

- ★ A discounted price of \$7.90 (retail \$8.50) ★
- ★ An autographed first edition copy ★

Mr. Fowler's interest and research in the UFO field spans a period of 25 years. He is NICAP's regional investigator in Massachusetts. His experience and education has enabled him to author this book which is sure to become a collectors item.

UFOs: INTERPLANETARY VISITORS contains information on cases never before published. Opinions concerning government involvement, and information on types of UFOs as to shape, size, color, etc., are included in this well documented book. Mr. Fowler's works are a highly reliable insight into the subject of UFOs.

A limited supply is available, so please send your check or money order for \$7.90 to NICAP today. Be sure to include your return mailing address.