

UFO INVESTIGATOR



NICAP, 5012 Del Ray Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20014, (301) 654-8091

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UFOS ON THE MOON

APOLLO 11 CREW SEES, PHOTOGRAPHS ALIEN SPACESHIPS

That's what the National Enquirer says, An article in the September issue claims that when Apollo 11 landed on the moon, two spacecraft landed nearby to observe them. This information is credited to what the Enquirer calls a "former top consultant to NASA," Maurice Chatelain.

The Enquirer story continues with details credited to two Soviet scientists, who say they learned about the event two years ago. But the Soviets don't give the source of their information. They say that Neil Armstrong radioed to Houston that when Apollo touched down on the moon two large objects landed near it and watched them. This information was never made public to the American people because NASA censored the broadcast. The Soviets go on to say that Buss Aldrin took color motion pictures of the two UFOs, both from inside the Lunar Module and from outside on the surface of the moon. NASA put these movies under tight security wraps, the Soviets say.

The NICAP Washington office has checked this story directly with NASA officials. One official stated that no such person as Maurice Chatelain ever worked for NASA as a top consultant, and that this fact was told to the Enquirer reporter. In Houston, John McLeish, the NASA public relations officer who was on duty for the duration of the Apollo 11 mission, repeated his denial that NASA had censored any voice transmissions from or any photographs taken by Apollo 11 astronauts. Finally, NASA Headquarters in Washington issued the following statement to NICAP and authorized that it be quoted:

"There is no truth to the claim that the Apollo 11 crew saw or photographed any kind of UFO or alien spacecraft at any time during their mission."

SOME RECENT SIGHTINGS

A number of readers have asked that we publish more reports of UFO sightings. We are happy to when we get good ones. But as most experienced UFO observers know, and those who read the review of Allan Hendry's book in the June issue have learned, most of the sightings can be explained as conventional phenomena. However, here are some recent sightings of more than ordinary interest. The results of investigation will be published in an early issue.

Rural, New Columbia, Pa., 8 September 1979. 9:00 p.m. EDT. A husband and wife noticed a light, larger than any star, which remained stationary, low on the horizon. They observed this light for one hour. For most of the time of the observation the light did not change position.

At one time they observed a "shooting star" in the general area of the light but they do not believe that the two were in any way related. At the end of the observation period the light increased considerably in intensity until it was "bright enough to read a newspaper by." Then the light faded and disappeared.

Lenoir, North Carolina. 11 September 1979. 10:00 p.m. EDT. Three teenage boys and three teachers at a private school observed four night lights for a period of one and one half hours. Two were to the north, one to the northwest and one to the south. The objects would "dart around" for a while and then remain stationary. The teachers described the objects as football shaped, with red and green blinking lights. Original elevation was about 45 degrees. Toward the end of the observation two of the objects passed nearly overhead, about 80 degrees elevation. As the objects passed overhead the lights in a house on the school campus blinked at the same rhythm as the blinking lights on the objects overhead. Note: in this area of North Carolina there is a phenomon known as the Brown Mountain Lights. It is well known, has been observed for many years, and has been frequently reported in the press. The observers of this sighting believe that there is no relationship between their sighting and the Brown Mountain Lights.

Boonville, North Carolina. 14 September 1979. 10:10 to 10:28 p.m. EDT. Seven adults saw multiple points of light moving across the sky for a period of a quarter of an hour. The lights were about the size of a star but were yellow-amber in color. All had the same characteristics. They all came from the same part of the sky and moved along the same path from north to east at an elevation of about 25 degrees. There were a total of 28 or 29 such moving points of light and they appeared at regular intervals of about 30 seconds. Midway during the sighting the lights of an airplane were seen in the vicinity of the path of the lights, but the plane did not seem to notice or be affected by the lights.

Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. 16 September 1979. 10:00 to 11:50 p.m. EDT. A security officer at the Air National Guard helicopter field (which was closed for the night, no tower personnel on duty) saw a stationary light at high elevation to the northeast. After observing it for an hour, he got binoculars and with them saw a random pattern of red, blue-green and white lights on the top and bottom of the object. He confirmed this binocular sighting several more times during the remainder of his shift. He phoned Harrisburg airport, about 17 miles southwest, which reported that it had no radar contact in the area of his observation.

THE DECLINING DOLLAR

Readers may wonder about NICAP's need to increase membership dues. If so, consider this advertisement for a one year subscription (4 issues) to a journal on solar energy cells, which was mailed to NICAP. "Price, 160 Swiss francs (approx. US \$89). The dollar price is only approximate and is subject to exchange rate fluctuations."

*This is the final part of the review of Allan Hendry's The UFO Handbook.
The first part appeared in the June issue of The Investigator.*

The final half of the book is devoted to a detailed examination of 12 "tools" commonly used in the investigation of sighting reports. Space does not permit listing all of them, but the following are illustrative of Hendry's level headed and conservative approach. Animal Reactions: Since animals can't talk, in the end, an analysis of the animal's reaction, or lack of reaction, depends on human interpretation. Hypnosis: A lot more research into the use of hypnosis in the study of UFOs has to be done before it can be accepted as a clear cut tool to resolve the "truth." The Lie Detector: The machine does not detect lies. It measures breath rate, heart rate and sweatiness of the palm. A human interpreter decides which answers are the truth and which are lies. Magnetic Detectors: These devices can only detect strong magnetic fields, which are a characteristic of only a few UFOs. The absence of a magnetic signature does not disprove that a UFO may have appeared.

Multiple Witnesses: Those in a group may, unknowingly, cause other members of the group to change their recollection of what they saw, in order to conform to the group. It is like the sign in the doctor's waiting room: Please do not trade symptoms, it confuses the doctor. However, multiple independent witnesses are a far more valuable source of information. Optics: They are seldom around when you see a UFO. They tend to distort shape and color. The same is true of pictures taken through window glass. Photography: There are many problems here. People usually don't have their cameras with them. Poor exposure and focus. Misinterpretation of man-made objects. Double exposure. Susceptibility to hoaxes. The Press: In addition to a number of other areas of possible weakness, the press sees its job as providing interesting stories under a tight deadline. The press may not lie, but it is not a long range seeker of the truth. As James Thurber once wrote about reporters, they don't get it right, they get it written. Radar: It can be useful, especially when supplemented by a second radar station and visual observation. But it is subject to many well known aberrations, or false returns.

MEMBERSHIP-RENEWAL APPLICATION

NICAP * 5012 Del Ray Avenue * Washington, DC 20014 * (301) 654-8091

Please enter my name () or renew my standing () as a member of NICAP. I understand that I will receive the monthly newsletter, have access to the NICAP files, receive information on sightings, and other benefits.

Dues Payment Enclosed

Name _____	Annual Dues
Street _____	Effective 1 September 1979
City & State _____ Zip _____	U.S. \$15.00
	Foreign \$20.00
	Foreign Air Mail \$27.50

This review may make the book sound excessively negative or defeatist. The book is far from that. Two points bear this out. If 93 percent of the sightings are shown to be identifiable, that still leaves 7 percent of the sightings that after rigorous investigation are unidentifiable. That is where the real UFOs are. Second, by concentrating so heavily on the ways in which sightings can be shown to be identifiable, Hendry forces us away from those sightings that are merely entertaining or sensational and puts us back on the track of sightings which are truly unidentifiable, which is where our effort should be going.

This book is must reading for everyone, expert and man-in-the-street alike, who is interested in UFOs.

REGIONAL NICAP CLUBS

A number of members have written to ask if there are clubs or informal meeting groups of NICAP members in the area where they live. The Washington office has never taken an organizational hand in the establishment of such groups. But it is a fine idea and we encourage it. We may be able to get the computer to give us a list of all NICAP members living in a certain area, probably by ZIP code. If any of you are interested in organizing such a group, write to us and we will try to provide a list of names. In addition to meeting with other members, groups such as these would be an excellent way to spread the NICAP story to others who have not heard of our organization and want to become members.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Many of you have asked about our return to issuing membership cards. The problem is that with the temporary suspending of window envelopes, there is just no way to send them. We will be updating them and sending them out just as soon as we can get back to the use of window envelopes. But in the meantime you should know that you are and will continue to be a member of NICAP in good standing whether or not your card is up to date.

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