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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,000

This is Luke Corbyn, Happy Easter to all of you.

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00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:09,760

Today we take a topic under discussion that has been in and out of the headlines for the

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00:00:09,760 --> 00:00:11,240

past 20 years.

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00:00:11,240 --> 00:00:16,120

Indeed, we have had it under investigation on our own news desk for all that period of

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00:00:16,120 --> 00:00:17,120

time.

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00:00:17,120 --> 00:00:24,720

I'm referring to unidentified flying objects, or as they are more popularly known, UFOs.

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00:00:24,720 --> 00:00:29,600

Unless you've been in complete isolation for the last month or so, you're aware of the

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00:00:29,600 --> 00:00:35,560

fact that the elusive UFOs have been popping up in communities all over the country.

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00:00:35,560 --> 00:00:40,240

Today I have two guests for you, both in the National Investigations Committee on Aerial

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00:00:40,240 --> 00:00:41,240

Phenomena.

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00:00:41,240 --> 00:00:46,440

NICAP is surely among the more responsible researchers in this field.

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00:00:46,440 --> 00:00:51,480

My guest, Mr. Richard Hall, an assistant to the director of NICAP and Mr. Don Berliner,

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00:00:51,480 --> 00:00:53,800

his close associate in Washington.

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00:00:53,800 --> 00:00:58,120

Both have been working in the field for years, and in the last several weeks have been up

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00:00:58,120 --> 00:01:01,720

to their necks in UFO sightings coming in from coast to coast.

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00:01:01,720 --> 00:01:04,480

An exciting 30 minutes ought to be dead ahead of us.

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00:01:04,480 --> 00:01:08,480

Gentlemen, thank you very much for joining me for this week's tape recorded discussion

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00:01:08,480 --> 00:01:09,920

on issues in the air.

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00:01:09,920 --> 00:01:14,120

Take all, let's start with you, and to begin with, let's get a background on NICAP.

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00:01:14,120 --> 00:01:17,720

I'm sure many of our listeners are familiar with the organization, and they know that

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00:01:17,720 --> 00:01:23,960

I'm a consultant with NICAP, actually, but let you give us some of the vital statistics.

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00:01:23,960 --> 00:01:30,240

NICAP was formed in late 1956, originally by a group of Washington area professional

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00:01:30,240 --> 00:01:38,520

men who thought there was a need for a private organization that could help cut some red tape

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00:01:38,520 --> 00:01:42,720

and help bring this thing out in the open by working through independent scientific

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00:01:42,720 --> 00:01:43,880

agencies.

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00:01:43,880 --> 00:01:52,080

Originally, the board of governors included a number of these professional people, and

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00:01:52,200 --> 00:01:57,240

Major Donald Kehoe, who became the director early in 1957, persuaded a few of his former

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00:01:57,240 --> 00:02:03,960

classmates, Navy Adberles, including Admiral Delmar S. Farny, to join the board.

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00:02:03,960 --> 00:02:09,960

The organization really got rolling about mid-1957 when it issued its first publication,

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00:02:09,960 --> 00:02:16,800

the UFO Investigator, and it has grown now to be a membership organization of something

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00:02:16,800 --> 00:02:18,920

just over 8,000.

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00:02:18,920 --> 00:02:23,720

In those days, of course, originally there were just a few hundred, and now it's in

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00:02:23,720 --> 00:02:27,600

the past year or so, we've taken a boost of about 2,000.

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00:02:27,600 --> 00:02:32,560

Well I can say this, that I certainly have had a very pleasant association with Don Kehoe

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00:02:32,560 --> 00:02:39,560

over the years, and yourself too, and I met every word of it when I said a moment ago

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00:02:39,560 --> 00:02:44,600

that NICAP was among the more responsible researchers in this field for good heavens.

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00:02:44,600 --> 00:02:49,800

We do know that there are a lot of researchers who are not what you would call objective

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00:02:49,800 --> 00:02:53,960

legitimate researchers, and we're getting a lot of information from that area which

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00:02:53,960 --> 00:02:58,520

really retards the course of serious examination.

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00:02:58,520 --> 00:03:00,720

Don Berliner, let's get you into the conversation.

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00:03:00,720 --> 00:03:03,720

Don, you're one of the newer members of the NICAP team.

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00:03:03,720 --> 00:03:06,440

When did you join, and from where?

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00:03:06,440 --> 00:03:13,440

Actually I joined NICAP in the middle of 1957, not long after its founding.

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00:03:13,480 --> 00:03:18,800

However, I was inactive, I merely received the publications.

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00:03:18,800 --> 00:03:25,800

I didn't really tie in to things until about 1960 when I was a newspaper reporter in the

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00:03:26,120 --> 00:03:32,880

Midwest, got a very interesting case, got no satisfaction from the Air Force on it, sent

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00:03:32,880 --> 00:03:39,520

the information to NICAP, and then became very much interested in NICAP's activities.

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00:03:39,520 --> 00:03:45,400

When I came to Washington in 1962, my first stop was the NICAP office, and I really haven't

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00:03:45,400 --> 00:03:47,080

gotten very far away from there since.

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00:03:47,080 --> 00:03:51,920

Well, I think that we've just about established the credentials of our witnesses today.

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00:03:51,920 --> 00:03:57,200

I might also tell all of you that not only does Major Donald Keough, the NICAP director,

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00:03:57,200 --> 00:04:03,080

have a number of books to his credit on this subject, but Dick Hall, too, has a research

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00:04:03,080 --> 00:04:06,200

piece on UFOs, and a very nice one, isn't that right, Dick?

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00:04:06,200 --> 00:04:07,960

Is that still being published?

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00:04:07,960 --> 00:04:09,480

Are you referring to the UFO evidence?

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00:04:09,480 --> 00:04:10,480

Yes.

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00:04:10,480 --> 00:04:11,480

Yes.

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00:04:11,480 --> 00:04:15,360

This, of course, was a culmination of many years' work, and a lot of people chipped in

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00:04:15,360 --> 00:04:19,920

on this, and we worked day and night for a long period of time to accomplish it, and

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00:04:19,920 --> 00:04:26,920

it is a document of over 200,000 words accumulating the best cases from our files from about,

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00:04:27,720 --> 00:04:33,200

at that time, I believe we had something, just over 5,000 firsthand reports in the files,

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00:04:33,320 --> 00:04:40,320

and from these we called the best approximately 600 cases after putting them through a rigid

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00:04:40,320 --> 00:04:46,560

test, and these are 50% of them come from trained or experienced observers such as scientists

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00:04:46,560 --> 00:04:47,560

and airline pilots.

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00:04:47,560 --> 00:04:52,560

Well, you did a script, too, with a professor, didn't you, in conjunction with?

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00:04:52,560 --> 00:04:53,560

What was his name?

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00:04:53,560 --> 00:04:55,960

Oh, yes, Professor Charles A. Manny.

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00:04:55,960 --> 00:04:56,960

Yes, right.

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00:04:56,960 --> 00:05:01,720

Oh, yes, we co-authored a privately published book called Challenge of UFOs.

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00:05:01,840 --> 00:05:03,000

I found that very interesting.

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00:05:03,000 --> 00:05:04,280

I still have it on my shelf.

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00:05:04,280 --> 00:05:09,840

Well, I suspect the current flap of UFOs, gentlemen, as far as a substantial nationwide

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00:05:09,840 --> 00:05:13,560

attention goes, started in Michigan just recently.

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00:05:13,560 --> 00:05:17,280

Let's remind our listeners of this story, and then let's see what sort of an evaluation

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00:05:17,280 --> 00:05:18,760

we can make of it.

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00:05:18,760 --> 00:05:22,000

Now, this happened, I believe, in the community of Dexter.

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00:05:22,000 --> 00:05:24,000

Is that correct?

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00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:31,000

How about giving us a background on just exactly what did happen to trigger the eventual personal

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00:05:31,000 --> 00:05:33,200

investigation of Dr. Allen Heineck?

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00:05:33,200 --> 00:05:38,600

Well, the first really publicized sightings happened in Dexter, Michigan, as it happens,

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00:05:38,600 --> 00:05:43,000

when after we investigated this thing, it turned out that the sheriff's department in

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00:05:43,000 --> 00:05:47,040

Washington, Awe County, had had sightings there for over a week, and some of the most

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00:05:47,040 --> 00:05:50,360

significant cases actually occurred before the 20th.

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00:05:50,360 --> 00:05:55,160

For some reason, the wire services picked up the sightings on the 20th, perhaps because

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00:05:55,160 --> 00:06:01,120

they occurred in the vicinity of Ann Arbor and at the near the radio telescope site of

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00:06:01,120 --> 00:06:02,840

the University of Michigan.

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00:06:02,840 --> 00:06:06,280

We don't know the real reasons why it suddenly captured national attention.

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00:06:06,280 --> 00:06:12,520

I'm sure part of it is because ever since last July, there's been a steady wave of sightings.

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00:06:12,520 --> 00:06:14,880

It's hardly had any let up.

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00:06:14,880 --> 00:06:20,000

John Fuller's excellent article in Look Magazine about the sightings in Exeter, New Hampshire

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00:06:20,000 --> 00:06:24,720

last September created a tremendous amount of interest, and I think the press and public

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00:06:24,760 --> 00:06:27,920

were really ripe for something to happen.

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00:06:27,920 --> 00:06:32,240

The new services were primed for it, and so it hit big this time.

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00:06:32,240 --> 00:06:33,240

Well, that's done.

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00:06:33,240 --> 00:06:35,240

You meant something to say on that.

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00:06:35,240 --> 00:06:39,960

Well, I think another part of it is the fact that it was quite close to a major city,

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00:06:39,960 --> 00:06:44,080

Detroit, and there were a great number of witnesses.

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00:06:44,080 --> 00:06:46,120

It was not just one single individual.

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00:06:46,120 --> 00:06:49,520

There were men from several different police forces.

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00:06:49,520 --> 00:06:53,560

It was seen for quite an extended period of time and followed up immediately the next

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00:06:53,600 --> 00:06:58,760

night by another sighting of a similar thing that was witnessed by a large number of people.

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00:06:58,760 --> 00:07:03,080

Did not cap people have an opportunity to evaluate the character of these witnesses

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00:07:03,080 --> 00:07:07,680

or to examine just the type of person who was reporting this?

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00:07:07,680 --> 00:07:10,720

Well, we sent two people to the scene.

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00:07:10,720 --> 00:07:18,000

They spent a great deal of time out in the field interviewing witnesses, talking with

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00:07:18,040 --> 00:07:25,040

the police and the sheriff's departments, and sent us back a great deal of very impressive

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00:07:25,040 --> 00:07:26,040

evidence.

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00:07:26,040 --> 00:07:27,040

They were quite impressed.

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00:07:27,040 --> 00:07:33,880

I must say that I was a little less than wildly exhilarated over the conclusions drawn

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00:07:33,880 --> 00:07:40,240

by Dr. Alan Heineck, who came up with the assessment of swamp gas.

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00:07:40,240 --> 00:07:42,240

Did this seem to have...

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00:07:42,240 --> 00:07:46,680

I suppose he came to this conclusion, or do you think it was really a valid one?

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00:07:46,720 --> 00:07:49,360

Do you think this is what he really thought?

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00:07:49,360 --> 00:07:55,360

Sometimes I wonder if it wasn't a deliberate move on his part, but I can't really be sure.

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00:07:55,360 --> 00:08:00,200

But this has sent us all scurrying to our textbooks to find out exactly what swamp gas

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00:08:00,200 --> 00:08:05,560

is and so-called will of the wisp, which is the visual phenomenon.

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00:08:05,560 --> 00:08:11,760

And it turns out it's nothing but basically methane gas and the will of the wisp phenomenon

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00:08:11,840 --> 00:08:17,960

and just little flickering lights that rise from decaying matter in swampy areas and it

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00:08:17,960 --> 00:08:22,960

doesn't go more than a few inches off the ground or a few feet maximum and flickers for a moment

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00:08:22,960 --> 00:08:24,720

and flares out.

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00:08:24,720 --> 00:08:29,160

We contrasted this with the reports from many of these sheriffs of objects seen plainly

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00:08:29,160 --> 00:08:31,560

to have disc shapes to them.

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00:08:31,560 --> 00:08:36,080

Sometimes there were two, three, or four, even flying in formation and maneuvering all across

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00:08:36,080 --> 00:08:39,440

the sky and the explanation just made no sense at all.

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00:08:39,440 --> 00:08:40,640

Why he made it?

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00:08:40,720 --> 00:08:41,720

We don't know.

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00:08:41,720 --> 00:08:46,840

There were suggestions in some newspapers that Heineck wasn't happy with the explanation

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00:08:46,840 --> 00:08:47,840

himself.

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00:08:47,840 --> 00:08:52,120

It was suggested that he was pressured into giving this statement by the Department of

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00:08:52,120 --> 00:08:53,120

Defense.

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00:08:53,120 --> 00:08:54,360

There's no way to document that.

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00:08:54,360 --> 00:08:55,360

Oh, there isn't.

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00:08:55,360 --> 00:08:57,440

And he later denied it, of course.

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00:08:57,440 --> 00:08:58,440

This was suggested.

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00:08:58,440 --> 00:09:04,360

It does seem rather strange, however, for such an explanation to be coming from a man

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00:09:04,360 --> 00:09:06,760

of his scientific credentials.

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00:09:06,760 --> 00:09:12,840

No one questions his knowledge, especially in his own field of astrophysics, but no

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00:09:12,840 --> 00:09:15,440

one seems to accept this swamp gas explanation.

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00:09:15,440 --> 00:09:19,400

No, well, I think, too, I think I reported to you, Dick.

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00:09:19,400 --> 00:09:26,680

I took the trouble to discuss the problem of whether or not swamp gas could be tracked

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00:09:26,680 --> 00:09:27,680

by radar.

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00:09:27,680 --> 00:09:34,000

And I took this up with the folks at the Bendix Corporation here and sure enough, one of their

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00:09:34,040 --> 00:09:42,720

scientists said to me, he said, yes, he said, we do have exotic tracking devices that could

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00:09:42,720 --> 00:09:49,280

conceivably pick up so-called swamp gas or wind or things like that.

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00:09:49,280 --> 00:09:52,920

But he said, I can assure you none of them are operational in the state of Michigan.

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00:09:52,920 --> 00:09:57,360

So it seemed to me that this sort of ruled that out.

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00:09:57,360 --> 00:10:02,600

And I suppose that in the course of legitimate investigation, we have to take all the various

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00:10:02,640 --> 00:10:08,840

elements and make sure they're ruled out, regardless of how peculiar they might sound

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00:10:08,840 --> 00:10:14,320

to some segment of our observing community.

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00:10:14,320 --> 00:10:17,800

That's really one of NICAP's main purposes in the system.

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00:10:17,800 --> 00:10:22,560

Well, you know, some months ago, there was an incident in, wasn't it in Soraco, New Mexico?

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00:10:22,560 --> 00:10:24,120

I believe it was down in that area.

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00:10:24,120 --> 00:10:25,120

Socorro.

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00:10:25,120 --> 00:10:26,120

Socorro, New Mexico.

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00:10:26,120 --> 00:10:27,120

That's right.

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00:10:27,120 --> 00:10:28,120

Thank you for cracking me.

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00:10:28,160 --> 00:10:33,640

Peter Heineck, I remember, personally investigated that and he came away with one of the quotes

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00:10:33,640 --> 00:10:35,120

that we used from our desk.

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00:10:35,120 --> 00:10:39,400

He said, I am impressed with the witness.

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00:10:39,400 --> 00:10:44,480

He also stated that when he left, he was more puzzled than he was when he arrived and had

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00:10:44,480 --> 00:10:46,040

good reason to be puzzled.

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00:10:46,040 --> 00:10:50,600

I'm wondering if there was anything that he was able to observe in that case that he

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00:10:50,600 --> 00:10:55,480

was, that was better than what he had seen in Michigan.

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00:10:55,840 --> 00:11:00,760

Yes, he saw physical evidence on the ground where this object had rested.

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00:11:00,760 --> 00:11:05,480

This occurred on April 24, 1964.

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00:11:05,480 --> 00:11:11,520

And the witness saw, the witness was a police officer, Lani Zamora, who saw this egg-shaped

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00:11:11,520 --> 00:11:15,080

object resting on the ground, resting on four stilt-like legs.

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00:11:15,080 --> 00:11:20,480

And where it had rested were four imprints, which corresponded with the legs, and there

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00:11:20,480 --> 00:11:24,040

were scorch marks, and scorch bush in particular.

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00:11:24,440 --> 00:11:29,040

Lani Zamora had an excellent reputation in the community, and Heineck and everyone else

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00:11:29,040 --> 00:11:33,400

agreed that he was beyond reproach as far as his character was concerned.

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00:11:33,400 --> 00:11:37,480

So with this sighting from a reputable observer and the physical evidence involved, Heineck

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00:11:37,480 --> 00:11:39,440

had no choice but to be puzzled.

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00:11:39,440 --> 00:11:43,600

You remember the Stokes case done in that general part of the country two or number

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00:11:43,600 --> 00:11:44,600

of years ago?

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00:11:44,600 --> 00:11:48,920

I remember I interviewed the intelligence officer at the Holloman Air Force Base, and

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00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:56,000

he immediately vouched for the witness, a Mr. Stokes, who had allegedly been stopped

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00:11:56,840 --> 00:12:00,760

on the road, he and a group of scientists, by the way, who were in the car with him.

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00:12:00,760 --> 00:12:06,400

Their engine died when a so-called egg-shaped, oval-shaped object hovered over their car

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00:12:06,400 --> 00:12:11,880

and raced up and down the mountain area there, right in plain view of them and so forth.

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00:12:11,880 --> 00:12:18,880

And I won't go into all the fascinating details on it other than to say that shortly they

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00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:24,200

were there after the Air Force publicly stated that the Stokes observation was a complete

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00:12:24,200 --> 00:12:30,880

hoax and fraud, and then about a day or so after that it was verified that Mr. Stokes

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00:12:30,880 --> 00:12:37,880

had just been given a promotion by the Air Force in his, I suppose, double service rank

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00:12:39,840 --> 00:12:40,520

and so forth.

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00:12:40,520 --> 00:12:45,720

And I asked the Pentagon at the time if it was the practice of the Air Force to reward

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00:12:45,720 --> 00:12:50,640

people who perpetrated a fraud and hugs upon the American public to promote them, and they

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00:12:50,640 --> 00:12:53,600

just looked at me at that point and said, we have no comment.

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00:12:53,600 --> 00:13:00,600

Now I think that when this sort of response is produced by the government, there is reason

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00:13:01,880 --> 00:13:07,360

for legitimate researchers to be skeptical that there must be something there in the

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00:13:07,360 --> 00:13:10,720

background that we're not hearing about.

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00:13:10,720 --> 00:13:15,640

And I just, in those cases alone, I think this is something, you know, there's something

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00:13:16,240 --> 00:13:19,080

that I wanted to ask you, fellas, this.

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00:13:19,080 --> 00:13:24,040

Sometimes when you have so-called physical evidence on the ground, one of the things

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00:13:24,040 --> 00:13:30,160

that happens is somebody goes rushing out right away with a Geiger counter, assuming

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00:13:30,160 --> 00:13:37,160

that for some reason or other, that if we have something that is coming from somewhere

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00:13:37,360 --> 00:13:43,640

that may be, that may have, let's say, an implied, I'm careful to say this, an implied

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00:13:43,640 --> 00:13:48,160

extraterrestrial origin, that it must be radioactive.

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00:13:48,160 --> 00:13:53,320

Must it be, do you think, is there any reason why something like this must be radioactive?

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00:13:53,320 --> 00:13:59,480

I don't think there's any reason, no, but a test for radioactivity with a Geiger counter

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00:13:59,480 --> 00:14:02,840

is one of the easiest to perform in the field.

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00:14:02,840 --> 00:14:08,160

All you have to do is turn the Geiger counter on, and if it clicks wildly, you've got something.

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00:14:08,160 --> 00:14:11,960

You don't need any elaborate equipment or extensive training.

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00:14:11,960 --> 00:14:16,040

You could just turn the machine on and I'll give you the answer.

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00:14:16,040 --> 00:14:20,320

All you have, though, is that something in the area is radioactive.

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00:14:20,320 --> 00:14:23,320

Yes, well, there has to be a reason then for this radioactivity.

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00:14:23,320 --> 00:14:23,820

Yes.

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00:14:23,820 --> 00:14:27,520

If you do have a high level, that means something unusual has happened.

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00:14:27,520 --> 00:14:29,360

Something unusual has happened, yes, it seems that way.

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00:14:29,360 --> 00:14:36,160

Now, one case where this might be very significant occurred in December 1964, December 21st,

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00:14:36,160 --> 00:14:41,760

near Stanton, Virginia, where a person saw a cone-shaped object across the highway ahead

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00:14:41,760 --> 00:14:43,000

of his car.

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00:14:43,000 --> 00:14:44,120

His car stalled.

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00:14:44,120 --> 00:14:47,200

He experienced one of these electromagnetic failures.

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00:14:47,200 --> 00:14:48,680

The car coasted to a stop.

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00:14:48,680 --> 00:14:50,840

The object set down in a field.

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00:14:50,840 --> 00:14:55,000

Then after a few moments, it took off and rose and crossed the highway again and shot away

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00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:56,400

and disappeared.

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00:14:56,400 --> 00:15:01,320

Now, this landing area was checked with a Geiger counter and it was very hot.

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00:15:01,320 --> 00:15:02,840

They've got a very high reading.

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00:15:02,840 --> 00:15:07,320

It was checked by Professor Ernest Gaiman at the Eastern Mennonite College and also by

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00:15:07,320 --> 00:15:10,120

two Dupont engineers.

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00:15:10,240 --> 00:15:13,000

So when you do have a positive reading, you really have something.

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00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:16,080

This is further evidence of something strange definitely was there.

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00:15:16,080 --> 00:15:20,680

Well, I would imagine that, I don't have to imagine.

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00:15:20,680 --> 00:15:25,800

I know it's a very fascinating subject, but what continually puzzles me is why it isn't

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00:15:25,800 --> 00:15:31,880

given a wider distribution on the part of the wire services over the country, for example.

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00:15:31,880 --> 00:15:41,160

I know that the United Press International seems to be more impressed with the investigation

229

00:15:41,160 --> 00:15:47,240

of this field than the Associated Press, although they sort of go back and forth as far as their

230

00:15:47,240 --> 00:15:48,240

attention goes.

231

00:15:48,240 --> 00:15:49,240

Why is this?

232

00:15:49,240 --> 00:15:54,400

Well, of course, this is just speculation really, but the whole subject started off as

233

00:15:54,400 --> 00:15:57,000

a great target for ridicule.

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00:15:57,000 --> 00:15:58,840

It was really funny.

235

00:15:58,840 --> 00:16:03,800

I think probably all of us laughed the first time we ran into this UFO thing.

236

00:16:03,800 --> 00:16:10,680

Also, until rather recently, the press in general, I think, considered it just some

237

00:16:10,680 --> 00:16:12,440

more of the same old thing.

238

00:16:12,440 --> 00:16:17,560

We've been having UFO sightings for many, many years and there wasn't any particular

239

00:16:17,560 --> 00:16:18,560

change.

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00:16:18,560 --> 00:16:23,280

Now, we've apparently got quite an increase in the frequency of these sightings.

241

00:16:23,280 --> 00:16:24,760

There was a wave last August.

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00:16:24,760 --> 00:16:27,320

There's a wave this March.

243

00:16:27,320 --> 00:16:32,040

At least something seems to be increasing, and so this in itself is a story.

244

00:16:32,040 --> 00:16:38,920

Little by little, individuals pick up the scent and it does catch on.

245

00:16:38,920 --> 00:16:43,440

As was mentioned earlier, this article in Look Magazine by John Fuller, who was a highly

246

00:16:43,440 --> 00:16:50,440

respected reporter, no doubt impressed a great many of his colleagues.

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00:16:50,440 --> 00:16:56,160

Then shortly thereafter, when these Michigan stories hit, they were ready.

248

00:16:56,160 --> 00:17:03,360

We also had, who was the reporter that wrote one that appeared in one of the scientific

249

00:17:03,360 --> 00:17:06,160

magazines, the science mechanics or something like that?

250

00:17:06,160 --> 00:17:10,560

It came up with a story that was associated with the chief of the Air Force at one time.

251

00:17:10,560 --> 00:17:17,800

Oh, yes, McKinley Cantor, well-known novelist, came up with a very good article describing

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00:17:17,800 --> 00:17:22,480

a personal sighting, which he had had in about 1954, as I recall.

253

00:17:22,480 --> 00:17:26,440

He had personally suppressed this information until recently.

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00:17:26,440 --> 00:17:30,760

Another factor in why this news reporting situation seems to have changed and why more

255

00:17:30,760 --> 00:17:35,480

people have the courage to report their sightings these days seems to me.

256

00:17:35,480 --> 00:17:41,880

The past years, the crackpots or kooks in this subject have been publicized all out of proportion,

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00:17:41,880 --> 00:17:47,040

and this has in turn misled the newsmen, the people they have been exposed to in this subject

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00:17:47,040 --> 00:17:51,320

frequently have not been the sanest, most rational individuals.

259

00:17:51,440 --> 00:17:55,400

Now they're beginning to see the other side of it and it's been very encouraging to me

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00:17:55,400 --> 00:18:00,000

to note in all the recent reporting practically nothing in the kook line.

261

00:18:00,000 --> 00:18:01,000

Right.

262

00:18:01,000 --> 00:18:02,000

I understand.

263

00:18:02,000 --> 00:18:03,000

I understand.

264

00:18:03,000 --> 00:18:09,240

I must say and compliment our own audience here in Baltimore and thank them for the fine

265

00:18:09,240 --> 00:18:12,360

cooperation they've given our own news desk in this regard.

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00:18:12,360 --> 00:18:17,800

I suspect that one of the reasons they are disposed to call us with some of their observations

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00:18:17,800 --> 00:18:22,800

to make a determination on them is the fact that we have not treated them in a way in

268

00:18:22,800 --> 00:18:26,400

which they might possibly be ridiculed and of course we'll continue this.

269

00:18:26,400 --> 00:18:33,840

I was talking to Colonel Forbush over in Washington at the Pentagon Press Desk not too long ago

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00:18:33,840 --> 00:18:40,960

and we were talking about this and this general area and he keeps telling me, well the Air

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00:18:40,960 --> 00:18:43,960

Force has a very open mind in this and no doubt they have.

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00:18:43,960 --> 00:18:49,040

I begin to think fellas after looking over the Air Force statements.

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00:18:49,040 --> 00:18:54,480

Now we know what these statements are very generally that they've had 10,000 cases and

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00:18:54,480 --> 00:19:01,240

out of that they've had what is it, 600 and some things that they have been unable to

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00:19:01,240 --> 00:19:02,240

explain.

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00:19:02,240 --> 00:19:06,080

This is a pretty large number of things that they're unable to explain but they quickly

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00:19:06,080 --> 00:19:10,040

add 10,000 out of 10,000 and they think that's a pretty low figure.

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00:19:10,040 --> 00:19:14,840

Of course if there was only one that they couldn't explain then this would be enough

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00:19:14,840 --> 00:19:20,200

I think to justify more than just a casual look and I'm quite certain as you well know

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00:19:20,200 --> 00:19:24,040

the Air Force is giving this subject more than just a casual look and we'll get to that

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00:19:24,040 --> 00:19:30,000

in just a minute because I believe they're even enlarging their investigation.

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00:19:30,000 --> 00:19:31,640

But are we really wrapped up?

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00:19:31,640 --> 00:19:36,040

I get the feeling we're sort of wrapped up in an exercise in semantics with the Air Force.

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00:19:36,040 --> 00:19:38,840

It's the sort of question that is being asked.

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00:19:38,840 --> 00:19:43,040

I mean years ago I remember asking somebody over in the Pentagon if the Secretary of the

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00:19:43,040 --> 00:19:48,600

Air Talbot had ever observed a flying saucer and the answer quickly came back said no and

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00:19:48,600 --> 00:19:52,800

I said well did he ever observe an unidentified flying object and the answer came back?

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00:19:52,800 --> 00:19:53,800

No comment.

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00:19:53,800 --> 00:19:55,400

So I mean here we are.

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00:19:55,400 --> 00:19:58,200

Are we in an exercise in semantics do you think?

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00:19:58,200 --> 00:20:03,600

I think there's a very strong element of this or there has been in past years coming from

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00:20:03,600 --> 00:20:10,840

the Air Force and I commented some about this in my book seems to me that they use the word

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00:20:10,840 --> 00:20:17,000

flying saucers in most of their releases just as you suggest to indicate interplanetary spaceships

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00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:22,920

and many of their statements deny any evidence any physical evidence to indicate visitations

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00:20:22,920 --> 00:20:27,040

by interplanetary spaceships they don't say that their evidence doesn't indicate the reality

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00:20:27,040 --> 00:20:30,680

of something real solid and unexplained in our atmosphere.

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00:20:30,680 --> 00:20:31,680

That's right.

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00:20:31,680 --> 00:20:39,080

I was mentioned that they're apparently expanding their investigation and I suspect that we can

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00:20:39,080 --> 00:20:45,200

gather this from the testimony that just occurred in recent days before the House Armed Services

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00:20:45,200 --> 00:20:49,280

Committee the Pentagon's top brass went over there and they were told to bring their UFO

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00:20:49,280 --> 00:20:53,680

experts with them and I believe Alan Heineck at the time was testifying.

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00:20:53,680 --> 00:20:55,200

How have they expanded this?

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00:20:55,200 --> 00:20:57,840

I heard a little bit about it but not too much.

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00:20:57,840 --> 00:21:03,760

Well on April 5th the date of these hearings the Air Force Secretary revealed for the first

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00:21:03,760 --> 00:21:10,560

time that after the Exeter sightings in New Hampshire in September of last year the Air

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00:21:10,560 --> 00:21:16,520

Force had set up an advisory board to review the Project Blue Book UFO investigation and

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00:21:16,520 --> 00:21:20,680

to see if it needed any changes.

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00:21:20,680 --> 00:21:25,920

This panel decided that the unexplained UFO cases were important enough to justify an

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00:21:25,920 --> 00:21:35,120

intensive review of this data and this panel itself the quality of it is very indicative.

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00:21:35,120 --> 00:21:39,600

Some of the members we have the names of all six members of the panel and just a few of

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00:21:39,600 --> 00:21:45,280

them Dr. Carl Sagan is a noted astrophysicist with a PhD from the University of Chicago

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00:21:45,280 --> 00:21:51,560

and he's on the member of the Exobiology Committee National Academy of Sciences.

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00:21:52,560 --> 00:21:58,000

Dr. Brian O'Brien who has a PhD from Yale is a specialist in optics he's done a lot of

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00:21:58,000 --> 00:22:03,200

work with pilot training and visual acuity tests he's also a member of the National Academy

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00:22:03,200 --> 00:22:04,200

of Sciences.

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00:22:04,200 --> 00:22:10,280

Now the mere fact that scientists of this caliber have endorsed the need for a real thorough

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00:22:10,280 --> 00:22:15,560

study of the unexplained cases to me is a tremendous breakthrough and if the Air Force

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00:22:15,560 --> 00:22:22,040

proceeds with the recommendation of this advisory board this board recommended that

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00:22:22,040 --> 00:22:29,240

contracts be let to civilian universities scientifically oriented universities to study

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00:22:29,240 --> 00:22:33,880

the cases if they follow through with this I would say that NYCAP had pretty well accomplished

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00:22:33,880 --> 00:22:35,480

its main goal.

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00:22:35,480 --> 00:22:42,680

I think so and I think it would be a really an even more going concern if this happens

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00:22:42,800 --> 00:22:46,240

I when I was talking to Colonel Forber was not too long ago I said you know you fellas

324

00:22:46,240 --> 00:22:49,040

are going to get a joke one of these days I said one of these things are going to come

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00:22:49,040 --> 00:22:52,560

down the Pentagon's courtyard and I said you said one of these things are going to come

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00:22:52,560 --> 00:22:56,480

down the Pentagon's courtyard and I said you're going to find yourselves in a very untenable

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00:22:56,480 --> 00:23:01,600

position he agreed he laughed about it he says I hope I'm not right here at the desk

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00:23:01,600 --> 00:23:02,600

when it happens.

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00:23:02,600 --> 00:23:06,920

Listen you know when President Johnson was in the Senate I recall vividly that he was

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00:23:06,920 --> 00:23:11,240

favorably disposed toward NYCAP and indeed I believe he permitted himself to be quoted

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00:23:11,240 --> 00:23:15,080

by NYCAP on a number of occasions have you folks had any contact with him since he entered

332

00:23:15,080 --> 00:23:16,080

the White House?

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00:23:16,080 --> 00:23:22,680

No once he became Vice President he no longer issued any statements on the subject and if

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00:23:22,680 --> 00:23:28,960

he did he sort of brushed it aside and gave the sort of neutral political comment that

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00:23:28,960 --> 00:23:31,840

has very little meaning.

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00:23:31,840 --> 00:23:38,840

I remember too that in the UFO investigator NYCAP published a quite an impressive list

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00:23:39,040 --> 00:23:46,040

of lawmakers who had studied the book the UFO evidence and has this have you just continued

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00:23:48,400 --> 00:23:49,920

to grow their interest?

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00:23:49,920 --> 00:23:56,920

Yes as a matter of fact Representative Gerald Ford of Michigan whose call for hearings resulted

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00:23:57,440 --> 00:24:03,280

in the House Armed Services Committee grilling the Air Force a little bit has stated in letters

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00:24:03,280 --> 00:24:08,720

in response to people who have congratulated him and backed him up in his stand he has

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00:24:08,720 --> 00:24:13,240

stated that the UFO evidence too he said he was aware of it and that it too raised a lot

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00:24:13,240 --> 00:24:16,400

of questions that couldn't be brushed off with not answers.

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00:24:16,400 --> 00:24:23,400

Well now as you folks know the common question always has centered and I get this almost

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00:24:23,720 --> 00:24:29,720

every day on our own news desk here on whether the UFOs could be ours or belong to Soviet

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00:24:29,760 --> 00:24:34,440

Russia now can this be reasonably well defined so that we can dispose of it at least on this

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00:24:34,440 --> 00:24:35,440

program?

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00:24:35,440 --> 00:24:39,080

I think we can take care of that one pretty well we only wish we could answer the rest

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00:24:39,080 --> 00:24:41,680

of the questions.

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00:24:41,680 --> 00:24:46,600

As far as there being ours we know they've been flying around in great quantity since

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00:24:46,600 --> 00:24:53,600

at least 1944. They've been exhibiting performance totally beyond anything that we can come up

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00:24:54,680 --> 00:24:59,640

with. Some of the things they were doing over 20 years ago we don't even have any

353

00:24:59,640 --> 00:25:06,640

ideas how to do. Obviously if we had machines 20 years ago that would perform in this way

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00:25:07,000 --> 00:25:12,200

we wouldn't have wasted tens of billions of dollars on conventional bombers and fighters

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00:25:12,200 --> 00:25:19,200

and we wouldn't be struggling through these crude attempts to get into space. It wouldn't

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00:25:19,240 --> 00:25:23,640

make any sense. Also if they were secret we wouldn't be flying them around all these

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00:25:23,640 --> 00:25:28,240

years where people could see them and this also would go for the Soviet Union or for

358

00:25:28,320 --> 00:25:33,320

any other country. You don't keep something secret by flying it over another country's

359

00:25:33,320 --> 00:25:37,480

territory where people can see it or where it may crash.

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00:25:37,480 --> 00:25:42,120

So we're actually pursuing something which seems to be far in advance of our own technology

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00:25:42,120 --> 00:25:44,520

I think it's a simple advantage you can say that.

362

00:25:44,520 --> 00:25:51,520

Yes they just do things that are totally beyond us they make abrupt maneuvers at terrific

363

00:25:51,520 --> 00:25:58,520

speeds and they can fly silently and this alone is something that baffles the experts

364

00:25:59,080 --> 00:26:05,920

completely because generally when we come out with a higher performance machine it makes

365

00:26:05,920 --> 00:26:11,800

considerably more noise than the last one. The more speed the more noise is a fairly

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00:26:11,800 --> 00:26:17,040

solid rule and these things outperform us and they do it frequently without any sound

367

00:26:17,040 --> 00:26:17,960

whatsoever.

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00:26:17,960 --> 00:26:23,200

I think that probably it's valid to observe too that if this would have been something

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00:26:23,200 --> 00:26:28,560

or is if it's something from Soviet Russia which I personally feel is impossible but

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00:26:28,560 --> 00:26:33,800

if it would be it certainly would have a terrific impact on foreign policy of both the U.S.

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00:26:33,800 --> 00:26:40,600

and Russia. They would let us know in no uncertain terms if they were that far ahead of us.

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00:26:40,600 --> 00:26:47,600

You had mentioned Don that in the Midwest you had either investigated a rather unusual

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00:26:47,680 --> 00:26:54,440

case or did you see it yourself. I investigated it I got a call from a couple of people while

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00:26:54,440 --> 00:26:59,760

I was working on the newspaper two men who had seen apparently the same thing but separately

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00:26:59,760 --> 00:27:06,920

they met at work discovered that they had similar experiences and thus reinforced they

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00:27:06,920 --> 00:27:13,200

gave me a call and I ran the story sent the information to the Air Force got an answer

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00:27:13,200 --> 00:27:20,080

back that I couldn't swallow at all wrote a story to this extent asked the Air Force

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00:27:20,080 --> 00:27:24,720

for additional information they sent me the additional information which made it very

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00:27:24,720 --> 00:27:29,840

obvious that their first explanation was worthless so they tagged on a second explanation which

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00:27:29,840 --> 00:27:35,360

had no nothing to do with the first one so this was pretty clear to me that there was

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00:27:35,360 --> 00:27:42,360

more going on here than they let on. Was this a landing case or just no just a very startling

382

00:27:44,120 --> 00:27:47,960

visual observation of something in the sky. Dick have you ever seen one in the sky anything

383

00:27:47,960 --> 00:27:53,580

that you couldn't explain. Oh I saw something briefly years ago in New Orleans but I wouldn't

384

00:27:53,580 --> 00:27:58,280

classify it as a particularly good UFO sighting it didn't behave like anything under any kind

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00:27:58,280 --> 00:28:03,960

of intelligent control at any rate it was just a light source type of phenomenon which

386

00:28:03,960 --> 00:28:09,680

gyrated all over the sky I have no idea what it was but I haven't seen anything clear cut.

387

00:28:09,680 --> 00:28:13,880

Well you know NICAP is a very excellent UFO collection center do you encourage folks to

388

00:28:13,880 --> 00:28:18,680

send you information on sightings. Oh yes very definitely we're glad to have any UFO

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00:28:18,680 --> 00:28:23,360

reports regardless of date they might fit with others that are in our files. How about your

390

00:28:23,360 --> 00:28:31,760

address where can they send this. They can write to NICAP NICAP at 1536 Connecticut Avenue

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00:28:31,760 --> 00:28:37,880

Washington D.C. Oh that's good and also they can they can apply for membership and like

392

00:28:38,120 --> 00:28:43,560

if they want to can't they. Yes we'd be glad to send them literature. Right well now when you

393

00:28:43,560 --> 00:28:48,440

make a sighting we've got a couple of minutes here yet when we make a sighting what are some

394

00:28:48,440 --> 00:28:55,560

of the points to remember in making up a UFO report. Well I think a lot of people seem to have

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00:28:55,560 --> 00:29:00,240

a sighting and not bother to make notes I think one of the first important things to do is to

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00:29:00,240 --> 00:29:07,600

make some notes note carefully the time and if possible the exact direction of the object as

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00:29:07,640 --> 00:29:12,320

established by a compass preferably are some known landmark because people can be pretty far off

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00:29:12,320 --> 00:29:18,760

if they just guess at the direction and the visibility. Yes and basic information about

399

00:29:18,760 --> 00:29:24,040

exactly what the object appeared like whether it was a light source or had some size to it they

400

00:29:24,040 --> 00:29:30,080

could compare it to the size apparent size of the moon and the maneuvers that the object went

401

00:29:30,080 --> 00:29:37,580

through are important how far it moved in an angular sense degrees across the sky. We could

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00:29:37,580 --> 00:29:43,020

actually spend another hour and a half discussing this subject and I'm maybe I think maybe at some

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00:29:43,020 --> 00:29:49,220

future date we'll we'll bring you back again and get on it again but but we've been so wrapped up

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00:29:49,220 --> 00:29:56,140

in the current flap that we just didn't get in too much of the fact that a lot of reports are

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00:29:56,140 --> 00:30:00,740

coming in from other parts of the world this is true isn't it done. Life magazine had a rather

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00:30:00,740 --> 00:30:06,340

interesting picture of Perth Australia and some kind of a crazy looking light going across the

407

00:30:06,380 --> 00:30:12,580

harbor did you see that. Yes so the picture we had never seen it before and life did not include

408

00:30:12,580 --> 00:30:19,580

any real significant data with it so we couldn't begin to analyze it it was quite intriguing. The

409

00:30:19,580 --> 00:30:25,820

client was produced. Well it didn't it look something like a light leak however without a lot of

410

00:30:25,820 --> 00:30:30,460

information about the camera and the photographer and so forth you can't say anything. And of course

411

00:30:30,460 --> 00:30:35,660

too we have our astronauts up there and something always seems to happen when we get our astronauts

412

00:30:35,700 --> 00:30:41,940

up there something will happen and there will be some reference to what do they call them fireflies

413

00:30:41,940 --> 00:30:48,140

or something else that's manifesting itself and they had a couple of pictures that they thought was

414

00:30:48,140 --> 00:30:54,020

another one of our satellites and that was remained unverified and as far as I know is quite puzzling

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00:30:54,020 --> 00:31:00,940

and there's been no further comment on that so it remains a puzzle of sizable proportions. But I'm

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00:31:00,940 --> 00:31:05,220

sorry to have to tell all of us that our time believe it or not is up for this edition of issues

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00:31:05,260 --> 00:31:09,780

in the air. I certainly want to thank you Mr. Richard Hall and you Mr. Don Berliner for coming over

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00:31:09,780 --> 00:31:14,100

from Washington to tell us about the work of the National Investigations Committee on aerial phenomena

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00:31:14,100 --> 00:31:19,060

and discussing the most recent UFO sightings. Good luck good fortune and may God bless both of you

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00:31:19,060 --> 00:31:23,500

and all your future endeavors. Next week we'll encounter yet another topic of our times and we

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00:31:23,500 --> 00:31:28,420

will have another expert or team of experts on hand to help us explore its many interesting facets. We

422

00:31:28,420 --> 00:31:32,980

hope you too will be on hand and be listening attentively to issues in the air. Now this is

423

00:31:32,980 --> 00:31:39,220

your moderator Luke Corbin saying so long from Studio E at 130 on your radio WFBR in Baltimore.