

Journal of UFO History

A Publication of the Donald E. Keyhoe Archives



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Fund for UFO Research founders meeting in College Park, Maryland, in 1979
Left to right: Bruce Maccabee, Tom Deuley, Fanny Phillips, Richard Hall, Craig Phillips. (Story on page 2.)

In this issue . . .

Editorial	2
Dave Garroway Show UFO debate	3
Chronology of Early UFO History	7
News & Notes	8
Dialogue with Ted Bloecher	9

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EDITORIAL

The study of UFO history may be about to take a giant step forward, what with the advent of a major ABC-TV network, Peter Jennings Productions two-hour prime-time special on ET life and UFOs currently in production.

Many of the veteran scientifically oriented UFO researchers are assisting the producers with research, focused on early UFO history and credible sightings by competent and reputable witnesses that remain unexplained. A number of us have been interviewed for the program.

Our only reservation is having had experience with many such programs in the past that did not live up to the initial promise. In this case, so far, all signs are very positive. →

Cover Photo

The Fund for UFO Research, organized in 1979, has completed a quarter of a century of efforts to help finance quality research and public education.

This photo shows the participants in an early meeting held in College Park, Maryland. Tom Deuley, a now-retired Navy officer who served on nuclear submarines, and Richard Hall originally conceived the idea for the Fund.

The organizing meetings were held in the College Park offices of the International Fortean Organization (INFO), for which Hall was an editor of the *INFO Journal*. He is here wearing a Charles Fort T-shirt

Chairmen of the Fund for UFO Research successively have been Navy physicist Bruce Maccabee, writer-editor Richard Hall, and aerospace author Don Berliner (not shown here).

Fanny Phillips (recently deceased) was a biological technician, artist, and former NICAP staff member. Craig Phillips is a distinguished biologist and author, and former director of the National Aquarium in Washington, D.C.

See the Fund for UFO Research web site at www.fufor.com.

The researchers have given every indication of making a serious effort to seek out credible witnesses to the most impressive cases.

As initially outlined to us, the research phase will continue through early 2005. Allowing for final editing and program scheduling, we might expect to see the program aired next spring or summer. □ E-mail: dh12@erols.com

DAVE GARROWAY SHOW NBC-TV UFO DISCUSSION: TACKER VS. KEYHOE, DECEMBER 5, 1960

A brisk exchange of views between Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, USMC (Ret.), Director of NICAP, and Lt. Colonel Lawrence J. Tacker, USAF, Air Force spokesman on UFOs, occurred on the Dave Garroway Show, Dec. 5, 1960.

Garroway first interviewed Tacker, asking whether he believed that "flying saucers" exist. Tacker replied that it was a matter of semantics, but that the Air Force had been able to explain all the sightings "in most instances" as "conventional objects seen under extenuating circumstances," such as unusual light conditions or fog.

Keyhoe was then asked the same question. He replied: "Yes, I do...I believe that flying objects under intelligent control exist."

Discussion then turned to Tacker's new book *Flying Saucers and the U.S. Air Force* (Van Nostrand, NJ, 1960).

Garroway: This book, Col. Tacker, occupied me over much of the weekend. It was a very challenging book to read. I have read several of Major Keyhoe's books too. The Air Force figures, I believe, show that there have been 6,523 reported sightings over the past 13 years. What percentage of these, according to Air Force standards, remain unexplained?

Tacker: Well, I'd have to go back to the early days and admit at the very beginning when this was a new subject in, say, 1947...in 1950 the "unknowns" or unidentified cases ran as high as 20%.

By 1953 they were down to 9%, and now they run somewhere between 2 and 3%.

Garroway: Two and three percent?

Tacker: Yes, sir.

Garroway: Major Keyhoe, do you agree with that?

Keyhoe: No, I don't, because the Air Force has issued a statement -- in fact it is repeated in the Colonel's book here without any qualifications -- that the Air Force has explained all but about

2% of the totals. I have here a letter signed by an official in the Air Force who says that up to the end of 1959 there were 565 cases unexplained, a total of 9.4%. And, incidentally, the official was Col. Lawrence J. Tacker.

Tacker: That's right. That's what I just said.

Keyhoe: I know, but you keep putting out this statement that the Air Force has explained all but so and so of the total reported, and it doesn't qualify. It gives people the impression that you've only got a dribble left of those cases.

Garroway: What about that, Colonel?

Tacker: Well, I think I stated it correctly when you initially asked me, Dave. I said in the early days they probably ran higher, and the investigating techniques were not as good, and it was a new subject. This is where the science

(Continued on next page)



Dave Garroway Show, continued



Donald E. Keyhoe,
Maj., USMC (Ret.)

fiction type of thing that Major Keyhoe writes got started.

Garroway: May I read a paragraph from the book here?

“Many sightings by qualified and reliable witnesses have been reported. However, each incident seems to have an

unsatisfactory fact associated with it, such as shortness of time under observation.” If you saw Marilyn Monroe walking by, and you saw her for one second, would that be adequate?

Tacker: I would probably recognize her.

Garroway: That’s what I mean. “Inaccurate estimates of distance from the observer...” How is it known that they are inaccurate?

Tacker: Generally just by a simple mathematical computation at the [Air] Technical Intelligence Center.

Garroway: How do they know what the distance is?

Tacker: Well, just based upon the size of the object given, they can determine.

Garroway: But the object isn’t given.

Tacker: It generally is, in the report. The object and the size--the approximate size.

Garroway: If we don’t know what the object is, how can we give the size?

Tacker: Well, they give the size as it appeared in the sighting.

Garroway: Oh, the angular size?

Tacker: Yes, sir.

Garroway: That doesn’t tell you anything about the distance, does it?

Tacker: Oh, they can work out the distance from that, certainly.

Garroway: One sighting of an angular object like a star or planet, or anything?

Tacker: Yes, sir.

[The conversation went on in a similar vein about photographs as evidence and eyewitness testimony. After a station break, Garroway questioned Major Keyhoe.]

Garroway: Major, you’ve maintained for some years now, I believe, that the Air Force is, according to you, deliberately misinforming the public on this subject. How do you support such a serious charge?

Keyhoe: We sent a confidential report [confidential to Members of Congress] in July and since then, and this states a digest of the evidence. [Keyhoe then disputed Tacker’s contention that all Congressmen they had talked with were satisfied with the Air Force answers by citing letters from Congressmen that indicated otherwise.] Rep. Joseph Karth said in executive session they tried to get it [information about unexplained objects] from the Air Force and the Air Force took refuge in security and said this was involved with the nation’s safety.

Tacker: That’s absolutely erroneous. We’ve never taken refuge in security.

Keyhoe: Are you calling Representative Karth a liar? Are you calling...?

Tacker: Are you calling General White a liar? Did you read the Foreword to the book?

Keyhoe: Colonel, if I were in your...

Tacker: Have you called Mr. Horner

(Continued on next page)

Dave Garroway Show, continued

[Secretary of the Air Force] a liar? They made the statements...

Keyhoe: I don't use the word "liar" if I can...

Tacker: You made it; you were the one who brought it up.

Keyhoe: Now, wait a minute. You're trying to keep me from reading the rest of these letters.

Tacker: I'm not trying to keep you from doing it.

Keyhoe: We have letters here from a number of Congressmen who say they are completely and seriously concerned over the secrecy. This report they accepted as proof that these objects are real...

Tacker: Worst bunch of drivel I ever read, that report. [Garroway inserted a question to clarify a point. Then Keyhoe continued.]

Keyhoe: This "drivel" you talked about was approved by the former head of the Central Intelligence Agency, Vice-Admiral Hillenkoetter; [Rear] Admiral Knowles; Colonel Emerson, U.S. Army Reserve; Major [Dewey] Fournet, former monitor of your [Air Force UFO] project, and about 200 scientists, engineers, and others, none of whom could be called crackpot types. Now, in here these people say that they are concerned with it for two reasons: There is a danger involved in the present Air Force policy. You've had hundreds...

Tacker: Let me interrupt again to say there is no such policy. [Several more exchanges were made about secrecy and Air Force policy on UFOs.]

Keyhoe: Well, colonel, if you are going to talk me down and not allow me to present evidence--I have a statement here by which you brush off the [July 1952] Washington sightings as a

temperature inversion.

Tacker: As a temperature inversion, that's exactly right.

Keyhoe: All right. You stated in there that these things were not picked up on radar at Andrews Air Force Base.

Tacker: I did not state that.

Keyhoe: Oh, yes you did.

Tacker: They were picked up...

Keyhoe: I beg your pardon...

Tacker: Oh, at Andrews Air Force Base. Oh, that's right. They were on the radar at National Airport.

Keyhoe: I have here a signed report by an Air Force weather observer, a radar expert who was in the tower. It describes picking up these blips...

Tacker: We don't consider those people experts. I have 4,000 hours on radar scopes.

Keyhoe: That's all right. A lot of people are expert on radar because that's their livelihood. They guide airliners...

Tacker: Right.

Keyhoe: ...into the airport. If they're no good--if your air defense people are no good on radar, how are they going to tell us about Soviet bombers? Let me get to this. This person says they were picked up on radar--they had a group of them that came in in formation and split up, operated at speeds of over 900 miles an hour. Now you deny, flatly...

Tacker: Apparently, right.

Keyhoe: At Washington Airport the experts on radar tracked these things at speeds up to 7,200 miles per hour.

Tacker: A radar operator is not an expert, Major Keyhoe.

[All talking at once. After a break Garroway questioned Tacker about the Air Force position and policies on UFOs. Following are excerpts of some of the sharp exchanges between Tacker and Keyhoe.]

(Continued on next page)

Dave Garroway Show, continued

Tacker: I can prove that we haven't withheld information.

Keyhoe: You can't prove it because we have cases you have withheld. If you have...

Tacker: What do you mean *you* have cases that we have withheld?

Keyhoe: I'm talking about NICAP.

Tacker: What is NICAP? A UFO hobby group!

Keyhoe: Oh no, it is not! Are you saying that Hillenkoetter--we've got high Air Force officers: Colonel Joseph Bryan, Air Force Reserve; Colonel McAshan, Air Force Reserve...

Tacker: You're impressing me immensely, major.

Keyhoe: I'm not trying to impress you. As a matter of fact, if you would keep your temper we might get down to facts here.

Tacker: I have no temper here.

#

Tacker: I felt the book had to be written because the Air Force was being set upon by Major Keyhoe, by NICAP, by the other UFO hobby groups who believe...

Keyhoe: We're not a "hobby group."

Tacker: ...who believe in space ships as an act of pure faith....because there are these senseless accusations against the Air Force....I think it's ridiculous.

#

[Keyhoe cited the August 1960 Red Bluff, California, case which the Air Force explained as the planet Mars and the star Aldebaran. NICAP astronomy advisers noted that these two bodies were well below the horizon at the time.]

Tacker: Don't you understand what happened?

Keyhoe: I understand perfectly. You had to cover it up...

Tacker: There was a temperature inversion for six days. Do you know what

a temperature inversion is?

Keyhoe: I know exactly what it is.

Tacker: It causes refraction and a mirage above the horizon.

Garroway: How much refraction?

Keyhoe: Not for three hours--it doesn't pick up a star three hours below...

Tacker: Mars was just below the horizon. I'm not going to argue with you. I'm giving you what our scientific community told me, and that's that.

#

Garroway: We have to take a station break here. No, we have to leave here. I don't know where we are. [Laughter.]

□

4 Objects Reported Flying 3,600 M.P.H.

WASHINGTON, July 11 (UP)

—A Government radar set tracked four unidentified flying objects traveling up to 3,600 miles an hour over California last spring, a private research organization said today.

The incident was reported to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena by Civil Aeronautics Administration control tower operators in the Los Angeles area. The committee disclosed its report in the first issue of its monthly magazine.

The magazine said the tower operators reported that an object appeared on the tower radarscope on March 23. In the next few minutes, it said, three more objects were tracked at speeds estimated at nearly 3,600 M. P. M.

The committee was formed several months ago to investigate "flying saucer" reports.

New York Times, July 12, 1957

CHRONOLOGY OF EARLY UFO HISTORY, AUGUST 1950-FEBRUARY 1951

Aug. 15, 1950: Nick Mariana in Great Falls, Montana, took movie film of two luminous objects flying at high speed. The film was analyzed by the Air Force and later by outside scientists.¹

Oct. 3, 1950: A disc wobbling on its axis was observed by geochemist J.D. Laudermilk to pass behind a mountain peak, visible from Pomona, California. He computed its minimum speed to be 720 mph.

Oct. 12, 1950: The Atomic Energy Commission Security Service requested that anyone seeing a "flying saucer" near one of their plants inform them about it on a questionnaire specially prepared for that purpose.

Nov. 27, 1950: Weather Bureau, Civil Aeronautics Administration, and airline personnel in Huron, South Dakota, in the early morning saw a luminous object that changed colors from red to white to green as it darted around the sky.

Nov. 27, 1950: A commercial pilot and flight instructor in Evansville, Wisconsin, reported seeing six elliptical objects

flying in a loose echelon formation at an estimated speed of about 500 mph if at the estimated altitude of about 10,000 feet.

Dec. 27, 1950: A TransWorld Airlines pilot flying in the vicinity of Bradford, Illinois, reported seeing a luminous object that made violent and erratic maneuvers.

Jan. 16, 1951: General Mills Corporation technical personnel while tracking a Skyhook balloon near Artesia, New Mexico, saw two disc-shaped objects rapidly approach the balloon, tip on edge, circle the balloon, then speed off over the horizon.

Jan. 20, 1951: The crew of a Mid-Continent Airlines plane and control tower operators at Sioux City, Iowa, saw a dark cigar-shaped object with white and red body lights that buzzed the airplane. The object reversed direction and climbed away out of sight.

Feb. 14, 1951: Two Air Force pilots watching a large balloon in the vicinity of Alamogordo, New Mexico, saw a flashing white disc hovering at high altitude.

February: In LOOK Magazine, Dr. Urner Liddel, a Navy scientist, stated: "There is not a single reliable report of an observation [UFO] which is not attributable to the cosmic balloons [plastic 'Skyhook' research balloons]."

(To be continued.)

¹ See Jerome Clark, "Montana Film" in *The Emergence of a Phenomenon: UFOs from the Beginning through 1959*; *UFO Encyclopedia*, pp. 251-54; Robert M.L. Baker, Jr., *Photogrammetric Analysis of the "Montana" Film Tracking Two UFOs*, Douglas Aircraft Corp., Santa Monica, Calif., 1956.

HISTORICAL NEWS & NOTES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

Chaepo Cook, Director of the Central Meteorological Office, Republic of Korea, in a letter dated July 7, 1967, to Julian Hennessey stated "We have considered establishing [a] National Committee on the UFO."

An Associated Press newswire story from Prague published Feb. 20, 1969, reported that Czechoslovakia had established an institute to gather reports and data on unidentified flying objects.

A Church of England vicar in 1961 asked his parishioners to inform him of any "flying saucer" sightings. The Rev. F. Vere Hodges of Kingswood, Surrey, said: "I believe in these things, and although I have never seen one myself, I feel it is a good thing to hear of them and accustom ourselves to the idea of visitors from space." (London *Sunday Express*, Aug. 20, 1961)

In reply to a letter from a NICAP member, the Military Attache of the German Embassy in Washington, D.C., on June 7, 1963, said that Germany could not supply information about UFOs and had no official policy about them. Maj. Artur W. Heyer added: "I am sorry to give you this reply and i think your request deals with a matter which has not yet been exploited sufficiently."

In a letter addressed to NICAP on Oct. 29, 1958, the Air Attache of the Norwegian Embassy, Washington, D.C., stated that in Norway the Air Force's UFO material "is mainly of security graded nature and cannot be put to the disposal of NICAP."

GARY WILCOX FOLLOW-UP: PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION

Vol. 1, No. 2, contained a 40th anniversary follow-up on the Apr. 24, 1964, sighting by farmer Gary Wilcox of an object that landed on his farm in New York State and his close encounter with two small humanoid beings. This happened on the same day as the sighting by Lonnie Zamora in Socorro, N.M., of a landed object with two small humanoid beings.

Dr. Berthold Schwarz, a psychiatrist, conducted extensive interviews with Wilcox, his family, and friends. In a 1969 letter to Ted Bloecher, NICAP staff member, he said:

Yes, I take the Gary Wilcox experience seriously and this opinion is based on my first-hand examinations of Gary and his wife and also direct and/or telephonic interviews of his mother, two brothers, Miss Baldwin, various neighbors, and Sheriff Taylor....

Wilcox told his mother about his experience one hour after it happened, and before his father read (and several days later told his son) of the Zamora incident.

Gary Wilcox is more like Calvin Coolidge than Hubert Humphrey in his personality. Unfortunately (or fortunately!) he is not one who expands on his experience, etc. He was and is primarily interested in having his privacy maintained and "not being bothered."

COLORADO UFO PROJECT SCIENTIST DIES

Dr. Roy F. Craig, an investigator for the Air Force-sponsored University of Colorado UFO study in the 1960s died Mar. 18, 2004. He was 79. Craig, a chemist by training, contributed three chapters to the 1969 Condon Report that debunked UFO sightings as unworthy of continued study.

DIALOGUE WITH ►

Ted Bloecher

REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY YEARS

Ted Bloecher was one of the founders of Civilian Saucer Intelligence in New York during the 1950s. Between stints as a stage actor and singer, he conducted some pioneering UFO research on the 1947 UFO sighting wave, and also served as a valued staff member of NICAP.



Ted Bloecher standing left, with Isabel Davis, Peter Tomikawa, and seated, Jennie Zeidman and J. Allen Hynek, at the 1979 San Francisco MUFON UFO Symposium

Along with David Webb he compiled the "Humanoid Catalog" of all known UFO occupant reports during the 1970s, among many other major contributions to the field. We talked about the ups and downs and personal aspects of UFO research.

Hall: What is your current level of interest in the UFO subject?

Bloecher: I am still moderately interested in what is happening, constructively, in UFO research and investigation, although I suspect it is in a stalemate situation; but since I am no longer actively participating in the process, my information sources about recent developments are somewhat limited.

Hall: When and under what circumstances did you drop out of UFO research?

Bloecher: I "dropped out" of active research and investigation in the early- to mid-eighties (1984, to be precise). For one thing, I had become involved in investigation and hypnotic regression of a number of abductees, along with Budd Hopkins and psychologist Aphrodite Clamar, and increasingly found myself ill-equipped to deal with the degree of high-strangeness of these complicated cases.

Hall: Were you bothered by the abduction reports?

Bloecher: It troubled me deeply that such bizarre events could be going on at such apparently prodigious levels, and still remain so invisible to the general public. I simply felt that these reports
(Continued on next page)

Bloecher Interview, continued

required someone more professionally skilled than myself to deal with them. Also, by 1984, I was running out of steam. I first became directly involved with the subject in 1954 with CSI of New York, and it was apparent to me that after 30 years there was still little practical evidence to show for all the time and effort invested in the subject. I felt that there was little else I could contribute at that point.

Hall: Do you have any regrets about leaving the field?

Bloecher: I have no regrets at all about my "retirement" from active research -- I felt that I had earned the right to step down.

Hall: Tell us how CSI started and how you got involved.

Bloecher: Early in 1954 I was contacted by Bronx housewife Marilyn Feifer and UFO researcher Elliot Rockmore, from Brooklyn, about creating a UFO research and investigative group in New York. I subscribed to Rockmore's publication, that reprinted reports of UFO sightings from various newspapers, which was how I came to be contacted. After a series of meetings between the three of us, in February, and then in March, with the assistance of a few other active participants, we were able to establish Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York.

Hall: What sorts of things did CSI do at the beginning?

Bloecher: We began with small weekly meetings, and during the next several months these grew into open public lectures, by such people as Ivan

Sanderson and George Adamski. In the process, we managed to activate professional people like John DuBarry (an associate editor at TRUE Magazine, who earlier was responsible for publishing Donald Keyhoe's articles on "Flying Saucers"); and, most notably, Isabel Davis was recruited for active duty in CSI at the Adamski meeting in April of 1954, becoming an integral part of CSI after that.

Hall: Recruiting Isabel was a major accomplishment!

Bloecher: We also had the misfortune of drawing in a large number of loonies in that first year, which was probably one of the reasons why Elliot Rockmore dropped out; we lost Marilyn by the end of that first year, also, when she remarried, so Isabel Davis and myself, with the help of a small group of dedicated supporters, including Lex Mebane, as well as John DuBarry and Ivan Sanderson, continued to press on early into 1955 with our meetings and research.

Hall: Will you share a few thoughts about Isabel and Lex?

Bloecher: Well, enough cannot be said about the two of them. We had our differences, on occasion, but we seemed to work together very well. It was an interesting trio of people, one a professional chemist (Lex), and the other an editor (Isabel). I had no particular skills that I could contribute (my professional goal was the theatre), but I suppose I provided a good deal of the energy involved in our activities. Once the three of us started working together, it wasn't long before we began producing the *CSI Newsletter*.

(Continued on next page)

Bloecher interview, continued

We also made summaries of our public meetings and distributed them to our growing membership.

Hall: Some of those newsletters and documents have survived and are preserved in the Donald E. Keyhoe Archives. The *Newsletter* is extremely well written.

Bloecher: I have to confess that I learned how to write as a result of my relationship with Isabel Davis and Lex Mebane, both of them very skilled and articulate writers.

Hall: When did your stage career become active?

Bloecher: That began happening toward the end of the 1950s, when I was able to do several off-Broadway shows and summer stock in the area around New York. But then I began to do major touring productions, like *My Fair Lady* (1961-1962), and in the sixties, I was able to do three or four Broadway shows, as well as touring productions, and this certainly cut down on many activities with CSI.

Hall: How long did CSI continue in operation?

Bloecher: The effectiveness of CSI as a productive organization was, by and large, winding down by the late fifties, or early sixties. By the mid-sixties, Isabel had moved on to NICAP, Lex had suffered some major health problems, and I continued with my theatre career, until the spring of 1968 when, in between shows, I joined the NICAP staff as well. I wrote *Report on the UFO Wave*

of 1947 in Washington D.C. during the summer of 1967, after closing there with a touring production of *Half a Sixpence*. James E. McDonald was an instrumental factor in my writing of that report; in fact, he contributed the Introduction to it.

Hall: What became of the CSI files?

Bloecher: Sometime in late 1966 or early 1967, after Isabel had already moved to Washington, D.C., and had leased her New York apartment to another person, we decided that the CSI files should be



Isabel Davis and Ted Bloecher, 1979

transferred to NICAP and assimilated into the NICAP case files. I have a vague recollection of your being involved in that transfer -- didn't you rent a truck for the occasion?

Hall: That's possible, but my memory for 35-plus years ago is spotty unless I have written records to refresh my memory. I know we were delighted to receive the files.

Hall: What was it like working at NICAP?

Bloecher: Well, it was absolutely fascinating, as well as a bit frustrating, at times. For me it lasted a matter of
(Continued on next page)

Bloecher Interview, continued

about 15 or 16 months, from May of 1968 to the end of July 1969, when things began to come apart at NICAP. About a week after receiving my notice, a touring company of *Oliver!* passed through Shady Grove, outside of Washington, and they needed a tenor. I had already done the show both on Broadway and on tour, and had worked with the musical director before, so I was a shoo-in for the replacement, and so I made my way back to the New York area with it, by way of Painter's Mill Theatre, outside Baltimore, during August of that year. But that's a whole different story, although the irony of my rescue was certainly unusual.

Hall: What projects did you work on at NICAP?

Bloecher: One of the most interesting projects was the UFO Occupant Study, in which we selected a panel of scientists and professional people to review a carefully chosen selection of a half dozen CEIII reports. We had a difficult time convincing Major Keyhoe to go along with this project.

Hall: He was extremely cautious about discussing humanoid sightings publicly.

Bloecher: When he heard that we were already planning the study, he was upset at first. Eventually, however, he agreed to the project.

Hall: What other projects were you involved with at NICAP?

Bloecher: There were a couple of important publications we managed to produce while I was on NICAP's staff, including the *Project Grudge and Blue*

Book Reports 1-12 reprint. We worked very hard to make those historical documents available publicly [June 1968]. Ann Druffel recounts this publication in her book, *Firestorm* [pp. 234, 366] Another one that I was privileged to work on was *UFOs: A New Look*. And NICAP's classification system for UFO sightings was another important project. I was fortunate to have played a role in all of these activities.

Hall: What would it take for us to finally figure out what it all means? Do you think that will happen some day?

Bloecher: I tend to believe, although I could be wrong, that the U.S. Government has collected reasonably unambiguous evidence over the past half century of the existence and reality of UFOs, whatever they may be, in our atmosphere and on our land. Until they finally come forward with the truth about what it is they have learned, I suspect that the knowledge of whatever is behind the UFO phenomenon will remain as puzzling and indecisive as it was forty years ago. It doesn't seem likely to me, in any case, that whatever is responsible for the appearance of this phenomenon is about to reveal its secrets to us any time soon -- at least not in my lifetime. □

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