Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The enclosed 8 pages of records were determined to be responsive to your subject and were previously processed and released pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Please see the selected paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

☑ In an effort to provide you with responsive records as expeditiously as possible, we are releasing documents from previous requests regarding your subject. We consider your request fulfilled. Since we relied on previous results, additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail to Initial Processing Operations Unit, 200 Constitution Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, or by fax to (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.

☐ Please be advised that additional records responsive to your subject exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you must advise us that you want the additional records processed. Please submit your response within thirty (30) days by mail to Initial Processing Operations Unit, 200 Constitution Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, or by fax to (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence. If we do not receive your decision within thirty (30) days of the date of this notification, your request will be closed.

☑ One or more of the enclosed records were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession.

If this release of the previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may file a FOIPA request with NARA at the following address:

National Archives and Records Administration
Special Access and FOIA
8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Reference file number 100-HQ-359927 in your correspondence.

☐ Records potentially responsive to your request were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and they were not previously processed pursuant to the FOIA. You may file a request with NARA using the address above.
One or more of the enclosed records were destroyed. Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1228; Title 44, United States Code, Section 3310 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1229.10.

Records potentially responsive to your request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) according to Title 44 United States Code Section 3301, Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Chapter 12 Sub-chapter B Part 1228, and 36 CFR 1229.10.

Documents or information referred to other Government agencies were not included in this release.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. “Part 1” of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. “Part 2” includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. “Part 3” includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under “Contact Us.” The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

Please be advised that if you are seeking a new search for records, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request based on material that you have already received, e.g., timeframe or locality. Additionally, be advised that “unusual circumstances” may apply. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B)(iii). These “unusual circumstances” will delay our ability to make a determination on your request within 20 days. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B). Additionally, the payment of pertinent fees may apply to your request. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(A)(viii). The application of “unusual circumstances” is not a determination of how the FBI will respond to your substantive request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP’s FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP’s website: https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.
You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Seidel
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)
As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

(i) 5 U.S.C. § 552(c). Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.

(ii) Intelligence Records. To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(ii)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

(i) Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists. The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual’s name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.

(ii) Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records. The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

(iii) Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals. The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

(i) Record Searches. The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. A standard search normally consists of a search for main files in the Central Records System (CRS), an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI and its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attache Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include references, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files. For additional information about our record searches, visit www.fbi.gov/services/information-management/foiapa/requesting-fbi-records.

(ii) FBI Records. Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.

(iii) Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets. The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks — often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

(iv) National Name Check Program (NNCP). The mission of NNCP is to analyze and report information in response to name check requests received from federal agencies, for the purpose of protecting the United States from foreign and domestic threats to national security. Please be advised that this is a service provided to other federal agencies. Private Citizens cannot request a name check.
EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

(b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;

(b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;

(b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or

(b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

(d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;

(j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;

(k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;

(k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;

(k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;

(k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.
This document is made available through the declassification efforts and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault

The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: http://www.theblackvault.com
Office Memorandum

TO: MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM: S. B. DONAHOE

DATE: September 26, 1958

SUBJECT: DONALD E. KEYHOE

MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Nationalities Intelligence)

Subject, Director of National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, by letter of 9/22/58 requested particulars of Bureau's participation concerning unidentified flying objects. The committee he heads is described on letterhead as "A privately supported fact finding civilian committee serving the public interests" and he lists several prominent individuals among "our Board members and Special Advisers." He is a retired Marine.

Keyhoe has been known to the Bureau since 1935 and was, and may still be, a free-lance writer. In 1948 he was described by Mr. Nichols as "a flamboyant writer and we have found from previous experience that much of his material is irresponsible." In 1951 the Director concurred with Mr. Nichols' statement that "We should not get involved with him:"

As an example of his writing, the January, 1941, issue of "Cosmopolitan" magazine carried an article written by Keyhoe and John J. Daly entitled "Hitler's Plan to Seize the United States Merchant Marine." This article indicated the Bureau had in its possession documents concerning such a plan by Hitler which indication was completely false.

The attached suggested letter to Keyhoe responds in a very general way to his questions, some of which are extremely pointed such as "Have FBI Agents told witnesses not to talk about UFO sightings?" and "Does the Bureau make character investigations of UFO witnesses in some cases?" The answers which have been furnished are designed to avoid the charge we have not answered questions yet they are broad in nature to avoid his apparent pointed inquiries. His request for an interview with a Bureau official concerning our policy concerning unidentified flying objects has been side-stepped since there appears to be no point in discussing this matter further with him. JANAP 146 is Defense document re reporting intelligence sightings.

ACTION:

That the attached suggested letter be forwarded to Keyhoe. In view of Air Force interest, copy of incoming with copy of our 62-103581 reply being sent Air Force separately.

Enclosure

ESS:jas (5)

53 OCT 9 1958
Major Donald E. Keyhoe, Director,
National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena
1536 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In response to your letter of September 22, 1958, the following requested information is furnished:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation does not investigate sightings of unidentified flying objects. When the details of such a sighting are reported to representatives of this Bureau, the information is forwarded to the Air Force.

Representatives of this Bureau do not issue instructions to individuals who have sighted unidentified flying objects that they should not talk about such sightings.

It is not a function of this Bureau to make character investigations of individuals who have witnessed unidentified flying objects.

This Bureau does not have information on unidentified flying objects which can be released. This does not imply that this Bureau has information concerning unidentified flying objects which cannot be released.

It is understood that JANAP 146 is a Department of Defense document and is not, as such, applicable to the operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Possible communication with extraterrestrial vehicles from another planet, should the unidentified...
Major Donald E. Keyhoe

flying objects prove to be extraterrestrial, is not a function of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This Bureau is, of course, interested in any aspect of any development which would affect the internal security of the United States.

Your letter of September 22, 1958, requested an interview with an official of this Bureau concerning the matter of unidentified flying objects and this Bureau's policy in connection therewith. Since this Bureau's policy in connection with unidentified flying objects has been fully set forth above, you may feel that the requested interview is not now necessary.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director
Dear Mr. Hoover:

Some time ago I wrote to you about the subject of unidentified flying objects. I congratulated you and the FBI for the exposure of the so-called "Venus swindle"; at that time I told you that this committee is making a serious, factual investigation of UFOs; we have a mass of verified evidence which disproves suggestions that these sightings are caused by mirages, hallucinations, etc.

The standing and serious aim of our committee may be judged by examining a list of our Board members and Special Advisers. Among them are such distinguished citizens as: Vice Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter, USN (Ret.), former director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Rear Admiral H. Knowles, USN (Ret.); Colonel Robert Emerson, USAF; Major Dewey Fournet, USAFR, formerly on the Air Force UFO project; Mr. J. B. Hartranft, president, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; and other citizens well known in the fields of education, religion, and science.

I am writing to ask what part, if any, the Federal Bureau of Investigation plays in the official investigation of UFOs. Some years ago, Air Force Intelligence officers once told me, FBI agents helped the Air Force interrogate witnesses on some occasions -- particularly when Air Force representatives were not immediately available. I understand that to a limited extent this has occurred in the last year or so. I have also been told that the FBI has a general directive to help the Air Force in its collection of any UFO information.

These of course would be normal functions of which anyone would approve. In this connection, however, we have received several reports which may or may not be correct. We have been told that on certain occasions FBI agents ordered, or warned, witnesses to UFO sightings not to discuss what they had seen, nor to reveal that they had been interviewed officially.
It is possible that the agents suggested or advised such action, rather than giving direct orders.

So far as I know there is no authority to command a private citizen to withhold such information and I am sure the FBI would not approve of such orders without legal authority.

Also, we realize that in some cases even a routine visit by an FBI agent could be misconstrued as carrying serious implications, even requiring silence.

We have been asked about this possibility several times, and I have been questioned once or twice during lectures. We should greatly appreciate having whatever information you can give us so that we may answer such questions, correctly.

Specifically we have been asked:

Does the FBI officially investigate UFO sightings in any way?

Have FBI agents told witnesses not to talk about UFO sightings?

Does the FBI make character investigations of UFO witnesses in some cases?

Does the FBI have any information on UFOs, which can be released?

Is the FBI bound by JANAP 146, as regards the release of UFO sighting reports coming into its possession?

Our Committee believes that censorship of UFO information is not warranted since the Defense Department has repeatedly declared there is no danger involved and no threat to national security. We believe, on the contrary, that the policy of secrecy could under certain circumstances lead to hysteria and possibly even panic. We should like to know whether, in the event that the UFOs prove to be extraterrestrial, the FBI has any assigned part in any official plan to prepare for possible communication with extraterrestrial vehicles from another planet.

Several of our Board members have suggested that interviews with Federal agencies involved in this question could be of mutual benefit. If possible, I should like to have an interview with an FBI official acquainted with the facts, and with the FBI policy which may be involved. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely yours,

DONALD E. KEYHOE, Major USMC (Ret.)
Director of NICAP

DEK:k
Date: October 2, 1958

To: Director of Special Investigations
The Inspector General
Department of the Air Force
Building Tempo E
4th and Adams Drive, S. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: DONALD E. KEYHOE
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Nationalities Intelligence)

For your information, there are enclosed two
Photostats of a letter dated September 22, 1958, ad-
dressed to this Bureau by the subject and two copies
of this Bureau's reply dated September 26, 1958.

Enclosures - 4

1 - WFO (Enclosure - copy of Bureau reply to Keyhoe
dated September 26, 1958)

NOTE:
Subject's letter made pointed inquiries relating to
Bureau's participation in investigations relating to unidentified
flying objects. Our reply was general in nature. Copies of
incoming and the reply being furnished to OSI since Air Force
coordinates matters relating to unidentified flying objects.
TO:  DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (62-0)
SUBJECT: NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Clerical employee WALTER F. MC CALL of the New Orleans Division advised that he is interested in aerial phenomena and wants to become a member of captioned organization. This organization is directed by Major DONALD E. KEYHOE, U. S. Marine Corps (Retired), and is headquartered at 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

MC CALL stated that, to his knowledge, the objectives of this organization, are to keep records of all sightings of unidentified flying objects and to make the information concerning them available to the public, as the organization feels that the U. S. Government is making an effort to suppress this type of information.

Indices of the New Orleans Division are negative concerning captioned organization. The files of this Office reflect that in early 1950 an article concerning a flying disc appeared in True Magazine, written by one DONALD KEHOE, who is possibly identical with Major KEYHOE.

The Bureau is requested to advise this Office of any information in its files concerning captioned organization and whether or not there would be any objection to a clerical employee of the Bureau becoming an active member of same.
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/18/63

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE (100-26460)(RUC)

SUBJECT: NATIONAL INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA (NICAP) MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING (NATIONALITIES INTELLIGENCE)

Re: Norfolk airtel to the Bureau, 3/29/63; Bureau letter to Norfolk, 4/8/63.

On April 9, 1963, no listing for the captioned organization was located in the current Seattle telephone and city directories, or in the 1962 Aero Space Yearbook maintained at the Seattle Public Library. However, the captioned organization is indexed in the indices of the Seattle Public Library.


KEYHOE is also the author of the following books:

"The Flying Saucers are Real"
"Flying with Lindbergh"
"M Day"
"Flying Saucers from Outer Space"

The latter book has Library of Congress Catalogue Card number 58-9588.