CENTER INVESTIGATORS QUARTERLY # 12 APRIL 1982

Research & Investigations

Center For UFO Studies
Dr. J. Allen Hynek
P.O. Box 1402
Evanston, Illinois 60204
(312) 491 - 6666

Associates Education & Business

Center For UFO Studies
John Timmerman
P.O. Box 1621
Lima, Ohio 45802
(419) 223 - 2531

Center Investigators Quarterly

Chris Centi
P.O. Box 142
Jamestown, New York 14701
(716) 664 - 7387

Centers Investigator Coordinator

Sherman Larsen
2926 Applegate Road
Glenview, IL 60025
(312) 724-4822

****

EDITORS COMMENT

We all know that a UFO investigator does not investigate the UFO itself. If this were the case an answer, to this baffling phenomenon, might have been found long ago. He/she investigates the eyewitness testimony of the witness(es). In some cases physical traces and other special events are investigated also.

Each investigator has their own method of doing things during an investigation. Some of these methods should be shared between each-other. This is why a newsletter of this nature exists. Through this newsletter we can have an exchange of ideas, procedures, methods, and techniques utilized in the field.

I encourage all investigators to submit material for possible inclusion in the CIQ. Be sure to read, in this issue, "GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING MATERIAL TO THE CIQ". As I stated in the CIQ # 11 this is your newsletter and you have something to say about what should be included. So feel free to write or call me anytime.

Chris Centi

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING MATERIAL TO THE CIQ

In the last CIQ I encouraged all investigators to send ideas and comments in the form of short articles for possible inclusion in the CIQ. The following is a set of guidelines for submitting ideas, suggestions, and articles.

1) Material for the CIQ must be in by the 15th (originally the 10th) of March, June, September, and December for the issues of January, April, July, and October.

2) If the material submitted to the CIQ is to be returned, a stamped self addressed envelope must be included with the material.

3) Any material submitted with profane language and/or isn't written for the benefit of fellow investigators will be rejected immediately.

4) Ideas and suggestions could be from one sentence to several. These will be printed with your name at the end of the idea or suggestion.

5) Short articles should range from one paragraph to four pages typed and double spaced. It should include a title. If it is warranted an article could be divided so it can be included in more than one issue of the CIQ. In some cases an article will be edited, but the meaning and intent of the article will not be changed. The authors name will appear right after the title of the article.

PAST CIQs

Past CIQs can be obtained simply by writing and requesting them from John Timmerman. Their is no charge and it would be well worth it to obtain these. If any particular issue is not available I would be willing to xerox issues from my personal files at no charge.

CUFOS HOTLINE NUMBER

CUFOS has for a number of years maintained a hotline 800 phone number which was distributed to nearly 10,000 law enforcement agencies throughout the country. However, the quality of reports being received from these sources no longer justifies continuing its operation. Therefore, the Board of Directors has ordered its discontinuation effective July 1, 1982. Other sources of sighting report information have been much more productive of better quality and more complete information. Please notify local agencies and facilities to call direct to the Evanston number (312) 491-6666 (prepaid, no collect calls).

VISIBILITY

Whether you are a new or more experienced investigator it is always important to be reminded of the importance of making yourself

visible in the locality of which you are an investigator. The more people that know you are available the better the chances are you will be notified in the event of a UFO sighting.

When publicizing your availability give your name, address, & phone number and the address & phone number of the Center. Include your background, qualifications, and intentions.

Ways of publicizing your availability include:

1) letters to law enforcement agencies (local, state, & sheriff).

2) letters to FAA facilities.

3) letters to nearby planetariums.

4) letters to professional observatories/astronomers.

5) letters to radio and television stations.

6) lectures for the public and civic & social organizations.

7) radio and television interviews.

8) newspaper articles.

9) public service anouncements on radio and television.

IDENTIFICATION

When a UFO investigation is about to take place always show your identification. Normally this is in the form of a card. This gives you a strong psychological advantage over people you will come in contact with. It shows that you take UFO research seriously and that you are more than just a "UFO Buff". You are really a professional in the field of UFO research. Furthermore it suggests to the witness(es) that you mean business and you are not there just to discuss wild ideas or rumors. Your identification can give you tremendous priveledges at times. Just handle it in a professional way and do not abuse it.

INTERVIEWING UFO WITNESSES

Basic points to remember for a proper investigation of a possible UFO sighting are as follows:

1) During the initial report of a sighting (usually occurs by phone) assure the witness that you are a legitimate investigator and researcher of the UFO phenomenon. The witness has a hard enough time dealing with the fact that they have observed such a strange event without having to worry whether you are sincere or not. To many times in the past, especially when the media has become involved, the witness ends up being harassed, ridiculed, and ques-

tioned by people who aren't so sincere.

2) If the sighting seems to lean toward needing a more in depth investigation (after the initial questioning and analysis) schedule a time that is convenient for both of you.

3) Wear proper clothing such as something casual, but not to sporty. If you are interviewing people in a rural area, wearing a three piece suit may make them feel uncomfortable. On the other hand wearing jeans to interview someone in the business sector isn't good either. Remember you want to look professional, be well received, and leave a good impression.

4) Arrive promptly.

5) Meeting new people can always be a little awkward especially in this type of situation. Relax, be yourself, be courteous, and attentive. Try to do the best job possible.

6) Show your identification and introduce yourself.

7) Explain what the procedure is during an investigation.

8) Ask the witness where they would feel comfortable during the interview.

9) If there is more than one witness interview them separately. This was mentioned in CIQ #11 on page 2 under WITNESS INTERVIEWS.

10) Have the witness tell you exactly what happened in his or her own words. A tape recorder is very useful at this point.

11) Jot down questions that may come to mind as you hear the testimony. These questions could be asked during the use of the general UFO form.

12) Be objective and do not lead the witness with suggestions or hints.

13) After the narration utilize a general UFO form (currently the MUFON UFO form is used) for general questions. During this part of the interview going to the actual sight of the observation is very beneficial.

14) When the general questions are completed questions should be asked about any special events that might have occurred during the sighting. The events include electromagnetic disturbances, animal reactions, physiological effects, psychological effects, physical traces, entity observations, photographic evidence and radar involvement. If any of these events occur special forms exist that are designed to extract information about these events. The forms can be obtained by writing to the Mutual UFO Network, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas 78155.

MINI PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION NEEDED

Apparent sincerity on the part of the witness does not always guarantee truth. Both the con man and certain types of psychotics can appear sincere. The questions normally used in investigations and the use of character references don't always give an accurate picture of the witness(es). What might be needed is a mini psychological test that investigators can utilize and evaluate easily. The questions should be structured, in such a way, so the witness does not suspect that it is a psychological test of some sort. The questions could be intermingled with questions already found on a general UFO form. They could also be coded for easy extraction from the general form and evaluation. Basically we need a tool to extract psychological information about the witness and the reasons for sighting a possible UFO whether it be normal or abnormal. With this information we could get assistance from a licensed Psychologist (CUFOS or MUFON consultant) if needed.

If anyone has any suggestions or uses something such as this please send any information to me. This general test possibly could be developed from the standardized tests that licensed psychologists use, but it shouldn't be so extensive. If this general test could be developed it could be a standard tool used in the field.

SAFETY TIPS

A first aid kit should be a part of every investigators equipment. You never know when an injury could occur in the field. It's better to be safe than sorry.

An important tip is not to wear cologne or perfume while out in the field. Insects are attracted to them and the results could be from just plain annoyance to insect bites.

If anyone is interested in sharing other safety tips please do so. We will publish them in the CIQ. It is very important that safety be on the mind of all investigators.

INVESTIGATORS CONFERENCE?

How many of you would be interested in a conference specifically for investigators? If there is sufficient interest something like this could be organized sometime in the future. Just fill out the questionaire, detach it, and mail it to me.

P.S. FROM CUFOS TREASURER TIMMERMAN

We are grateful to Chris Centi for his assistance in producing this new series of CIQs. It is our hope to continue them indefinitely. However, present financial conditions are not promising in the U.S. economy. If our rate of contribution income improves over the next three months, we will send our next issue to you promptly as was explained by Chris in this issue. Your assistance in recruiting new ASSOCIATES for CUFOS will help insure the continuation of the CIQ.

INVESTIGATORS CONFERENCE QUESTIONAIRE

1) Interested in a conference for investigators? Yes No

2) Time of year to have a conference?

Spring Summer Autumn Winter

3) Location of such a conference? Please list several options for each location listed below.

Western U.S. Central U.S. Eastern U.S.

4) What material should be covered?

____ General Investigations

____ Physical Trace Investigations

____ Use of Hypnotic Procedures

____ Investigative Techniques

____ Simulation of Investigations

____ Current Research in UFO Investigations

____ How to Approach the Witness(es)

____ Assessment of Eyewitness Testimony

____ IFO Evaluation

____ Handling Photographic Cases

____ Investigation of Possible Entity Cases

____ Other