SCANNING 10-14-56

THE SKIES

Moonwatch Test Alert Is Planned

By DR. ALLEN HYNEK

We interrupt our program of planetarium arcticles, uring that residents of Columbus and Franklin County vote themselves a planetarium on November 6, by voting "yes" on the Memorial Hall bond issue, to bring scanning the skies readers some late satellite news.

The announcement by Russia at the recent Barcelona IGY Conference that Russia would also launch an artificial satellite during the coming International Geophysical Year, has spurred America's own satellite efforts.

Furthermore, unofficial information received from Russian sources states that the Russian satellite will be of the same size as ours, (20 inches) but several times heavier. These same sources also state that the Russian satellite will have a polar orbit. That means, of course, that their satellite would go around the world over the poles (in one hour 43 minutes, according to Russian newspaper accounts), from Russia over the north pole and then in less than an hour over the south pole, and so on.

SO IT LOOKS as though we may have two satellites to watch for.

As far as schedules are concerned, the Russians have not announced a launching date, but it would be a feather in their scientific cap if they beat us to the skies. If we should be so unfortunate as to have the Russian team make the first celestial touchdown, it would still be necessary to observe the red satellite.

For this reason, and others, moonwatch teams are getting ready for their first nationwide satellite alert, in about a month now. There will be teams of amate

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mers scattered over the United States, participating in this first observing test.

A MOONWATCH team is made up entirely of volunteer observers who want to contribute to science by devoting a few evenings a month to spotting the satellites.

A moonwatch station consists of a group of observers, each with a small telescope, manning their respective observing posts along a north-south line.

In the middle of this line stands a vertical pole which has a cross-bar atop, also lined up north-south. Where the bar and pole cross, a small light is placed as a sighting aid.

Each station also has a short-wave radio for time

[redacted]

EACH OBSERVER, sitting down as comfortably as possible, looks down into his small telescope. He is really looking up at the sky, however, because directly in front of each telescope lens there is a 45 degree mirror which mirrors the pole and cross-bar, and the sky, into the telescope.

One man, for example, is assigned a certain section of the sky along the meridian to watch, and none other. He adjusts his telescope until the small light atop the pole is exactly in the center of his field of view. He then knows that he is "on location."

THE MOONWATCH test will go on during the late twilight hour of the test day. If any observer sees something, he will note the time that it crosses the middle of his field of view. Exact time will be known by radio, the T-cross also acting as a radio antenna.

What can the observers expect to see on test day? To make it worthwhile, airplanes will fly as simulated satellites over a few of the stations, but no observer will know in advance whether a "satellite" will fly over his station or not. If it does, this will be reported immediately to Cambridge, to test communications as well as observers.

If an observer reports a satellite when nothing is known to be there, then what?—A Russian satellite, or a natural satellite, or a "flying saucer" ? ? ? ?

HILLSDALE, MI

ARTICLE

'THERE'S LIFE ELSEWHERE,' SAYS EXPERT

HILLSDALE, Mich., March 23 (AP) — An expert charged with investigating unidentified flying objects (UFOs) says they "may be the result of a completely unknown phenomenon which we don't know about today, in the same way that 100 years ago we didn't know about nuclear energy."

The expert is Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern University's Department of Astronomy and the scientific consultant to the Air Force on UFOs.

Hynek also says he would apply the term unidentified flying object "to any reported visual sightings or radar return that cannot be explained by conventional means after a study by competent people."

He added, however, he never has seen a UFO and no photograph of one ever has been absolutely authenticated.

So far, he says, at least 95 per cent of reported UFO sightings turn out to be of readily identifiable flying objects such as airplanes, balloons, satellites and such.

Hynek's views came in a lecture, "Adventures in Ideas," last night at Hillsdale College where on the same day a year earlier more than a score of coeds and the county's civil defense director reported strange red and white lights flying about for some three hours.

Hunek said in an interview that until somebody can come up with a better one, he is sticking with his theory that Hillsdale's UFOs were radiant, floating pockets of swamp gas. Here or at, Dexter, Mich., where similar sightings were reported a year ago this month.

Hynek said he advanced swamp gas as a possibility, not as a finding.

He said many people "want to believe desperately we are not alone and are being visited from outside.

"Almost assuredly there is life elsewhere," Hynek said. "But the problem would be getting here." He said that light from some stars being photographed today started out when dinosaurs roamed the earth.

Hynek said it would take affidavits from two independent witnesses, a negative, the shutter speed and other characteristics of the camera to, in his view, authenticate a photograph of a UFO.

★UFO reports bring smiles and frowns

Continued from Page 1

tory Sky Atlas, nor in the 3,300 hours of the Harvard Meteor Project, nor in the 2,500 observing hours of the Smithsonian Visual Prairie Network.

Other scientific observers note, however, that there are only about 30 "great observatories" in the entire world. They say that although these telescopes can observe the stars and planets, these observatories rarely attempt to scan even a small fragment of the earth's atmosphere.

On the other hand, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., states that its lower-power tracking telescopes pick up hundreds of unidentified objects, most of which they "regrettably" simply have no time to check out.

Air Force defended

Prof. Donald H. Menzel, an eminent astronomer at Harvard who has written two books on the subject of UFOs, agrees 100 percent with the Air Force approach to the 1966 UFO cycle. He sees it as balanced and scientific.

Dr. Menzel has kept himself carefully away from any Defense Department connection, yet he is often referred to as one of the foremost authorities in UFOs.

Most of the unidentified objects, he asserts, are due to untrained observers who mistake the time, the locale, the distance, and the speed of objects. He says, "People are notoriously wrong."

He is especially interested in the mirages that often are described as UFOs. He has studied them and hopes the new scientific teams will give them special attention this year.

Doubts admitted

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a well-known astronomer at Northwestern University, is more open-minded. He has studied UFO reports for almost 20 years and says that "enough puzzling sightings have been reported by intelligent and often technically competent people to warrant closer attention."

Dr. Hynek says it is entirely conceivable that there may be unidentified aerial phenomena which have no connection with extraterrestrial visitation. He has set aside for further study some 20 well-reported UFO cases which have not been explained and is willing to give time to the scientific teams which Air Force Secretary Brown has approved.

For example, two Eastern Air Lines pilots with thousands of hours in the air, in 1948 reported what seemed to be a wingless aircraft, 100 feet long, cigar-shaped, and without any protruding surfaces. Others confirmed the report.

Capt. C. S. Chiles says, "What in the world is this? Whatever it was, it flashed down toward us and we veered to the left. It veered to its left and passed up about 700 feet to our right and a little above us. Then, as if the pilot had seen us and wanted to avoid us, it pulled up with a tremendous burst of flame from the rear and zoomed into the clouds, its prop wash or jet wash rocking our DC-3 aircraft."

Air Force files still carry this report as unexplained.

Team study proposed

Dr. Brown, knowing that Americans are often fascinated by UFOs, has decided to take one more step along the UFO path. His proposed scientific teams, suggested by a scientific advisory board, could include a psychologist, a physical scientist, and perhaps an astronomer or geophysicist familiar with atmospheric physics.

The university teams, spotted across the United States, would report to the Air Force Systems Command. Later their findings could be printed in full and be available on request to satisfy the curious citizen.

Findings by the academic teams will also be added to the Air Force Blue Book on UFOs, which any civilian can have for the asking. The book summarizes the whole UFO affair from the beginning and is up to date.

Curiosity about so-called "flying saucers" is still at a fairly high level. UFOs continue to be reported by all kinds of ordinary people, including housewives, civilian and military pilots, weather observers, and amateur astronomers.

People suddenly see something that seems to zip by, usually in a hazy or dark sky, and may make a sudden right angle turn, then disappear. Egg shapes hover. Strange lights twinkle on weird objects. A dome-shaped "thing," its ports intensely lighted, is seen for maybe 10 minutes, then rises and disappears. A pilot turns quickly to avoid a flash with a pale green tint.

Often easily explained

Such eerie phenomena are more often than not easily explained. They can involve searchlights, aircraft navigation and anti-collision beacons, jet-engine exhausts, condensation trails, astronomical bodies, and strange weather conditions.

Reflections, mirages, fireworks, flares, and at times an open-and-shut hoax may be behind a story.

Experts on the subject of UFOs, for ex-

ample, note some episodes which give a feeling for the problem.

When the YF-12 jet was still under Air Force wraps, it, of course, inhabited the skies on its test flights. Flying at about 70,000 feet and reaching beyond Mach 2.5 (2½ times the speed of sound) the YF-12 was sighted by commercial pilots and others.

These aviators just happened to look up and see it. Wondering what it was, they reported it and often used that magic term "unidentified object." Because the YF-12 was still classified, the Air Force had to shrug off the sighting.

Balloons troublesome

Another object which gives a lot of trouble is a weather balloon. Dozens of them are sent aloft. They drift toward 100,000 feet, often at night, and they are covered with running lights. Moving into a 100-mile-an-hour wind they have speed.

One Air Force officer asks, "Can't you imagine the mysterious impact that the balloons can make on the average citizen who sees only the lights, or only part of the balloon?"

After the latest puzzlement over UFOs in Michigan, providing a one-week sensation, Rep. Glenn F. Ford Jr., of that state, Minority Leader in the House, spoke of a full and open hearing on UFOs. Dr. Brown's scientific-team idea apparently has shunted it aside.

A flurry of strange lights reported by more than 20 coeds at Hillsdale, Mich., was typical of the reports. Dr. Brown speaks of marsh gases, pranks, planets, fireballs, and auroral streamers when talking of "the problem."

Recently, a "brilliant and shiny object" was followed by an automobile posse from Ohio into Pennsylvania and was clocked at 103 miles an hour. One chaser said it resembled "two table saucers put together." No air base radar screens along the route recorded any corresponding object.

Yet the Air Force realizes it has a public-relations problem. Such figures as Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe (USMC ret.) and others are organized as "ufologists," "saucerians," and "contact" groups. Some people insist they have "met" those famous little green men, but they never offer any evidence.

But what about the unidentified objects or phenomena? They remain.

AIR FORCE CONSULTANT

Astronomer Urges 'Quiet' Scientific Study of UFOs

CHICAGO (UPI) — The Air Force's chief consultant in unidentified flying object sightings, who ruled southern Michigan UFOs were nothing but marsh gases, has urged the government to begin an extensive but "quiet" scientific study of such sightings.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern University astronomer, said Monday he made the recommendation in House Armed Services Committee hearings in Washington last week.

"Any phenomenon that has been with us for such a long time — 20 years — deserves study," he said. "While there are many cases that don't need study, there are some that do." He said his files are full of UFO sightings that have not been explained.

Hynek, a government advisor of UFOs since 1948, said the mystery of "flying saucers" will never be solved without competent scientific investigation. Sociologists and psychologists should take part in the study, he recommended.

The study should be without fanfare or publicity so as not to alarm the population, he said.

Hynek said his views coincide with those of a group of consultants who have recommended that the government set aside $250,000 to begin the investigation. Scientists for the probe should be recruited, this group has recommended.

In testimony before the Senate committee last week, Hyken said he has set aside for further study about 20 "particularly well reported UFO cases, which, despite the character, technical competence and number of witnesses, I have not been able to explain." Ten of these are from scientists and professional people, he said.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1966

Section 1 - 3

U.S. Prober of Flying Saucers Keeps a Wide Open Mind and Door

Scientist Declines to Make Fun of Sightings

[Continued from first page]

strange images or objects or whatever they are—5 or 6 per cent of the total — have not been identified.

It does not follow, of course, that an object that cannot be identified is an extra-terrestrial visitor. Neither does it follow that all UFOs are natural effects of some kind if most of them are. Such is the vanity or the ignorance of some debunkers that anything which is incomprehensible to their own minds is considered inconceivable. But human conceptions are limited by terrestrial knowledge and experience, and in the great universe the world is infinitesimally small. "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy," says Shakespeare's Hamlet.

A Bad Declaration

In 1957, only a few weeks before the Russians put Sputnik I in orbit, the astronomer royal of Great Britain, Dr. Richard van der Riet Woolley, solemnly assured his countrymen: "Space travel is utter bilge."

Dr. Condon recalled that such pioneers of astronomy as Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, and their followers were denounced as lunatics or heretics and persecuted by scientists and theologians who regarded the earth as the center of the universe. Today, he explained, a similar unscientific attitude manifests itself in ridicule of those who take the UFOs seriously.

"It's all right to laugh for relaxation about this or anything else, but this is a subject for serious consideration and investigation," Dr. Condon said. "One of the complicating factors is that this subject has been talked about in scornful, ridiculous terms so much that a great many people who have seen these things have been reluctant to report them. Some people say, 'I'm not going to get mixed up in this thing; they'd just put me down as a kook.'

Politician Thinks Twice

"An important candidate in the present election campaign told me just last night that he's seen something like this a few weeks ago and didn't report it and his wife said, 'Don't report it until after the election'."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Dr. Condon's investigators will accept reports in confidence from UFO witnesses who do not want to be identified.

Many scientists do take UFO problems seriously. In a foreword to a new book on the UFO enigma by Jacques and Janine Vallee, titled "Challenge to Science" [Henry Regnery Co., Chicago], Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern university's astronomy department and consultant to the air force on UFOs, advocates a scientific inquiry because of "the continued and growing mass of unexplained UFO reports." Dr. Hynek says that "growing ranks of puzzled scientists" privately indicate a serious interest in the problem but publicly choose to remain unidentified because they are unwilling to expose themselves to raillery and banter."

Scientists Are Twitted

Dr. Condon said he was amazed to learn that scientists at the University of Michigan did not drive out to take a look at the strange and exciting manifestations near Ann Arbor last March, presumably because they were afraid of being ridiculed. He said he twitted some of these scientists, asking whether they had never been curious enough to chase fire engines.

Dr. Hynek investigated the Michigan sightings for the air force and concluded that they were caused by "the glowing swamp gases released by unseasonably warm weather."

An editorial in the Boulder Daily Camera, commenting on the scientific investigation, was headed: "They'll clear the air of 'Swamp Gas'." In fairness to Dr. Hynek, however, it should be noted that his swamp gas theory was limited to the Michigan sightings and was not meant to be a blanket explanation of UFO sightings. Some critics have rejected his explanation of the Michigan sightings.

Offers to Help

Dr. Condon suggested that many scientists have paid no attention to the UFO problem because they felt that it did not concern them or because they were too busy on other work to look into it. "On the other hand," he said, "just in the few days since this announcement was made I've had offers of help from all kinds of people of real standing, so that the public reception of the project is very, very good. I was rather surprised at the quickness of the favorable response."

He expects to obtain the cooperation of scientists in the nation's leading universities, among which he is widely acquainted. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and of many other respected societies, former president of the American Physical society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and former director of the National Bureau of Standards.

Long an Educator

In World War II he worked on microwave radar research and the atomic bomb project. He has been a consultant to private industrial firms as well as government agencies.

He took his Ph. D. degree at the University of California [Berkeley] and before joining the University of Colorado faculty in 1963 he had taught at Columbia, Princeton, Michigan, Minnesota, Stanford, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Washington university [St. Louis].

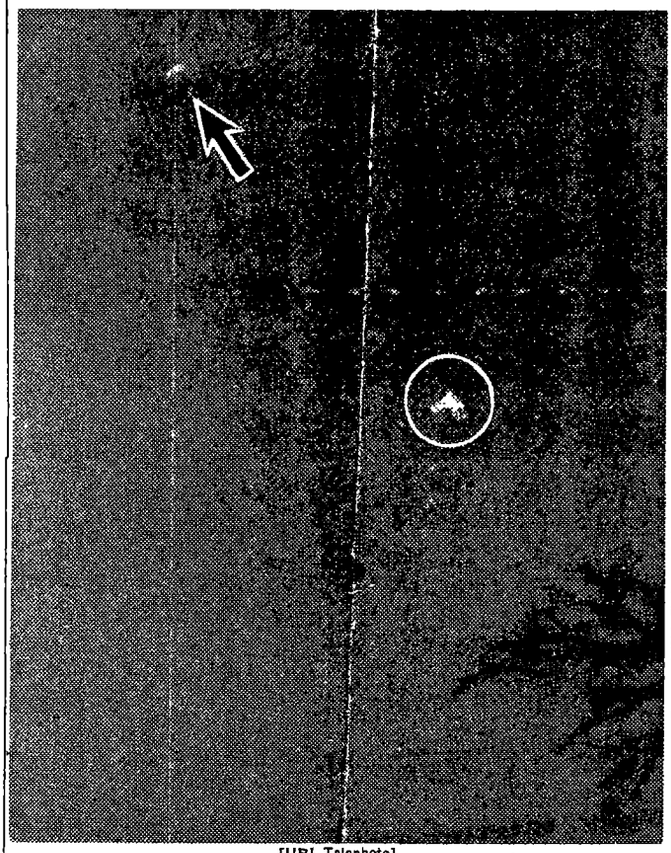
Dr. Condon was reminded that some skeptics say the UFO phenomenon is not susceptible to scientific inquiry. According to their argument, objects that cannot be identified as natural effects of some kind cannot be identified at all. To be certain whether such objects are spacecraft from other planets the scientists would have to get a closer look at them than their elusive crews would permit.

"It is very difficult but I think it is better to try to apply scientific methods of inquiry than not to try," Dr. Condon said. "Do these people think we shouldn't do anything or have they got a better method?"

Some Reports Vague

To a question about the criteria that would be used for identification of the mysterious objects, he replied:

"Well, let me see; I don't know. It would depend on what the report was like. Some of



[UPI Telephoto]

Strange lights and objects were reported seen by newsmen, police officers, and many citizens near Royal Oak, Mich., last March. One object (circled) was captured on film by a Royal Oak photographer. Another object was streaking across the sky above the first. Arrow at left points to a star.

these reports are sort of vague, about moving spots of light in the sky that move very rapidly and irregularly. I don't know what one would do about that. Then they range all the way up to highly specific reports where people claim that things of this well-known saucer shape have actually landed and some kind of living beings have gotten out of them and back in again and have gone away, and that they have witnessed it."

In some cases, he added, it has been reported that grass on landing sites was pressed down or scorched and that strange odors have been left by the UFOs. It appears, he said, that some of these reports have been made by intelligent and technically competent observers.

"The interesting thing," he remarked, "is that sometimes the reports come in from several different observers, people who did not know each other and were in different cars, so that so far as one can tell they were independent reports. It was not just a case of several people in the same car deciding to have some fun."

Dr. Condon was asked whether he is convinced that some UFOs cannot be identified as natural phenomena.

"Well, no, I'm not sure," he said. "All I know is that there are many that have not been so identified. The object of the study is to find out whether one can identify them. Roughly speaking, since 1947, when the air force began paying attention to this, there have been something over 10,000 — 10,000 to 11,000 — sightings, and they say they can identify with

ural phenomena some 95 per cent of them. Now, that sounds like a lot and it is, but it's at least 500 or 600 that aren't identified. And the air force critics don't agree that all the 95 per cent have been properly identified.

"If you took away those that the critics want to take away there would be more than 500 or 600 that have not been identified. So there's a sizeable number, and that's just in this country. Reports very similar to those we have in this country are being made in various European and Latin American countries, and one of the first things we want to do is to get in touch with scientific people in those countries."

Theory on Source

If any of the UFOs are intelligently-controled spacecraft from other planets they probably come from Mars or Venus, in our own solar system. Dr. Condon explained that the nearest stars with planets that conceivably might sustain life outside the solar system are about four light years away. Traveling at the speed of light [186,000 miles a second] it would take four years to reach the earth and four to get back.

Modern theoretical physics is founded on the idea that the speed of light is the highest possible velocity, and this has been verified experimentally with high energy particle accelerators.

Climate a Factor

"Even if life exists on planets outside of our solar system the distances are so enormous that it would be extraordinarily difficult for me to conceive of any way that those beings could come here," Dr. Condon said.

In the solar system, he noted, Venus and Mars are not only the planets nearest to earth but are the only ones "where you have any reasonable hope of there being a climate that resembles ours enough so that life that resembles ours could exist there. Mercury is so close to the sun that it would be too hot and Jupiter is so far away that it would be much too cold."

It is possible, Dr. Condon said, that life has evolved in forms different from ours as a result of different climatic conditions on other planets. Life that has "the same kind of biochemistry that we have, founded on carbon and protein compounds, would call for climatic conditions pretty much like we have." On the other hand, if living beings of an extraordinarily different type have evolved on other planets, "it's hard to see how they would be so adaptable that they could come to the earth and be here."

Dr. Condon was asked about charges that the air force has carried out only superficial investigations of UFO reports and has issued many announcements that have confused the public on this problem. Some critics have accused the Central Intelligence Agency of dictating the air force's information policy.

Prof Made Study

"All I know about that is that back in the early 1950s a panel headed by Prof. H. P. Robertson of Cal Tech, who died about five years ago, made a study at the request of the CIA," Dr. Condon said. "They classified it. It's been released in what people call a sanitized version, with certain portions deleted.

"I haven't seen it but people I tend to trust tell me that in fact nothing was held back that would bear on the question of reality of things from outer space. Dr. Robertson, who was a friend of mine, was very outspoken and caustic in his remarks about personalities. I've been told that it was thought advisable to delete things like that having no bearing on the real question. Whether there are other CIA things or not I just don't know."

Dr. Condon said the air force, as he understood it, felt that none of the reports that came to their attention indicated any threat to national security and that the air force, therefore, had no responsibility to pursue its investigations. "I don't question that," he said. "They might have been criticized the other way if they had spent our money on things that did not concern them."

Small Air Force Staff

The air force has a small activity called Project Blue Book which studies UFO reports. The permanent staff consists of one officer, a sergeant, and a secretary with an office at Wright-Patterson air force base, Ohio, which receives reports from on the spot air force

investigators. As Dr. Condon said, these investigations are made by some air force officer with nothing else to do and no special competence and are about on the level "of an ordinary police investigation of an accident report or an insurance company's investigation of an accident. You interview the people who made the report, fill out a questionnaire, and send it in."

Occasionally the air force's scientific consultants are called in for special inquiries. Under a recent directive of the air force chief of staff, Project Blue Book's activities are being expanded. The air force, responding to public pressure, also initiated the inquiry now being undertaken by Dr. Condon's group. The university of Colorado has a 15-month contract with the government, which may have to be renewed before the inquiry is finished.

Dr. Condon emphasized that his investigators will have access to, but will not be limited to the air force records and will be free to pursue their inquiries anywhere within the limits of a $300,000 appropriation. They will be free to issue reports, without censorship, at any time.

The national center for atmospheric research is located here and that was one reason for the choice of the University of Colorado for the UFO investigation. It has just moved into a new $5,000,000 laboratory overlooking Boulder.

UFO's Merit Scientific Study

Twenty years after the first public furor over UFO's (called "flying saucers" then) reports of UFO's continue to accumulate. The Air Force has now decided to give increased scientific attention to the UFO phenomenon. Thus I feel under some obligation to report to my scientific colleagues, who could not be expected to keep up with so seemingly bizarre a field, the gist of my experience in "monitoring the noise level" over the years in my capacity as scientific consultant to the Air Force. In doing so, I feel somewhat like a traveler to exotic lands and faraway places, who discharges his obligation to those who stayed at home by telling them of the strange ways of the natives.

During my long period of association with the reports of strange things in the sky, I expected that each lull in the receipt of reports signaled the end of the episode, only to see the activity renew; in just the past two years it has risen to a new high. Despite the fact that the great majority of reports resulted from misidentifications of otherwise familiar things, my own concern and sense of personal responsibility have increased and caused me to urge the initiation of a meaningful scientific investigation of the residue of puzzling UFO cases by physical and social scientists. I have guardedly raised this suggestion in the literature (*1*) and at various official hearings, but with little success. UFO was a term that called forth buffoonery and caustic banter; this was both a cause and an effect of the lack of scientific attention. I speak here only of the puzzling reports; there is little point to concern ourselves with reports that can be easily traced to balloons, satellites, and meteors. Neither is there any point to take account of vague oral or written reports which contain few information bits. We need only be concerned with "hard data," defined here as reports, made by several responsible witnesses, of sightings which lasted a reasonable length of time and which were reported in a coherent manner.

I have strongly urged the Air Force to ask physical and social scientists of stature to make a respectable, scholarly study of the UFO phenomenon. Now that the first firm steps have been taken toward such a study, I can set forth something of what I have learned, particularly as it relates to frequently made misstatements about UFO's. Some of these statements which lead to misconceptions are:

1) *Only UFO "buffs" report UFO's.* The exact opposite is much nearer the truth. Only a negligible handful of reports submitted to the Air Force are from the "true believers," the same who attend UFO conventions and who are members of "gee-whiz" groups. It has been my experience that quite generally the truly puzzling reports come from people who have not given much or any thought to UFO's.

2) *UFO's are reported by unreliable, unstable, and uneducated people.* This is, of course, true. But UFO's are reported in even greater numbers by reliable, stable, and educated people. The most articulate reports come from obviously intelligent observers; dullards rarely overcome their inherent inertia toward making written reports.

3) *UFO's are never reported by scientifically trained people.* This is unequivocally false. Some of the very best, most coherent reports have come from scientifically trained people. It is true that scientists are reluctant to make a public report. They also usually request anonymity which is always granted.

4) *UFO's are never seen at close range and are always reported vaguely.* When we speak of the body of puzzling reports, we exclude all those which fit the above description. I have in my files several hundred reports which are fine brain teasers and could easily be made the subject of profitable discussion among physical and social scientists alike.

5) *The Air Force has no evidence that UFO's are extra-terrestrial or represent advanced technology of any kind.* This is a true statement but is widely interpreted to mean that there is evidence against the two hypotheses. As long as there are "unidentifieds," the question must obviously remain open. If we knew what they were, they would no longer be UFO's—they would be IFO's, Identified Flying Objects! If you know the answer beforehand, it isn't research. No truly scientific investigation of the UFO phenomenon has ever been undertaken. Are we making the same mistake the French Academy of Sciences made when they dismissed stories of "stones that fell from the sky"? Finally, however, meteorites were made respectable in the eyes of science.

6) *UFO reports are generated by publicity.* One cannot deny that there is a positive feedback, a stimulated emission of reports, when sightings are widely publicized, but it is unwarranted to assert that this is the sole cause of high incidence of UFO reports.

21 OCTOBER 1966

SCIENCE

7) *UFO's have never been sighted on radar or photographed by meteor or satellite tracking cameras.* This statement is not equivalent to saying that radar, meteor cameras, and satellite tracking stations have not picked up "oddities" on their scopes or films that have remained unidentified. It has been lightly assumed that although unidentified, the oddities were not unidentifiable as conventional objects.

For these reasons I cannot dismiss the UFO phenomenon with a shrug. The "hard data" cases contain frequent allusions to recurrent kinematic, geometric, and luminescent characteristics. I have begun to feel that there is a tendency in 20th-century science to forget that there will be a 21st-century science, and indeed, a 30th-century science, from which vantage points our knowledge of the universe may appear quite different. We suffer, perhaps, from temporal provincialism, a form of arrogance that has always irritated posterity.

J. ALLEN HYNEK
Dearborn Observatory, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60201

Reference

1. *J. Opt. Soc. Amer.* **43**, 311 (1953).

Says UFOs Can't Be Shrugged Off

11-1-66

By CONNIE REED
Gazette Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Northwestern University astrophysicist and Air Force consultant who investigated Michigan "flying saucer" reports earlier this year, says such reports can no longer be dismissed "with a shrug."

The rash of "unidentified flying object" reports in the last two years, Dr. Hynek suggests, is a direct result of more and more sightings by people who are "reliable, stable and educated." He says there have been at least 500 unexplained sightings.

Sightings in Michigan this year, and Dr. Hynek's on-the-spot investigation of the reports, led Rep. Gerald Ford, R-Grand Rapids, and other Michigan congressmen to seek a congressional investigation.

Although this did not occur, the Air Force did authorize a study of the reports by a panel of scientific experts. This study, in turn, resulted in Air Force authorization for the University of Colorado to carry on a continuing investigation.

In a science magazine article, Dr. Hynek notes that early UFO reports came from people who mistook other planets and satellites for mysterious celestial objects. But more recently, he said, "some of the very best reports have come from scientifically trained people," and cannot be dismissed.

Almost all the reports which Dr. Hynek labels "reliable" report the same characteristics, he said — "an oval or cigar-shaped object that hovers or wobbles, then zooms upward at a great rate of speed."

He also said that "every reliable report has said the objects emitted a neon-like glow so bright that it hurts the eyes."

Flying Saucers--
Michigan Sightings

by Jeff Provus

Photos taken by the Jaroslaw Brothers on Jan. 9 near their home on Lake St. Clair in Michigan. (W.W.P.)

FROM S.J LARSEN FILES 3/8/67

In March of 1966, a rash of "swamp gas" found its way into Michigan. Nearly 100 people reported seeing red, yellow, and green lights glowing over swampy areas. This occurred on two separate nights at spots some 63 miles apart.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, and consultant for the United States Air Force on the subject of U.F O.s since 1948, went to the Michigan area to investigate the reported sightings.

After being in Michigan for only a short time, Dr. Hynek received word from the Air Force that a press conference would be held, and that he was to issue a statement giving an explanation of the sightings. Unfortunately, Dr. Hynek, at that time, had no idea as to the cause of the mysterious lights.

He then remembered a phone call from a botanist at the University of Michigan who said a "possible" explanation might be "swamp gas," "Swamp gas" (often called "jack-o'-lantern", "fox-fire", or "will-o'-the-wisp") is caused by decaying vegetation and has been known to ignite spontaneously and to cast a flickering light.

During the press conference of pandemonium, Dr. Hynek offered this to reporters as a "possible" explanation for the myriads of sightings.

However, some reporters misconstrued this explanation. They streamed for telephones notifying their respective newspapers that "swamp gas" was, indeed, the cause of the lights here, and that it may be an answer for "flying saucer" riddles elsewhere.

Dr. Hynek, wisely, got the hell out of town as quickly and quietly as possible.

Sadly, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, has been tremendously ridiculed for his "swamp gas" statement last March. He has lost face among some ufologists (devoted followers of U.F.O.s) as being a debunker of U.F.O. reports. However, such is not the case! He was simply pressed for an immediate answer and grabbed for a semi-logical explanation. "Swamp gas" was the result.

After the Michigan sightings last March, Dr. Hynek told reporters that "when good solid citizens report something puzzling, I believe we have an obligation to do as good a job as we can. I regard our 'Unidentifieds' as a sort of blot on the escutcheon. Somehow we scientists should be able to come up with answers for these things."

Surprisingly, Dr. Hynek uttered a very honest disclaimer to the entire Michigan "swamp gas" incident when he said: "Scientists in the year 2066 may think us very naive in our denials."

MICHIGAN–January 1967

"The analysis so far does not show any indication of an obvious hoax." This is a statement that Dr. J. Allen Hynek made concerning the pictures in this article. These photographs were taken by Dan Jaroslaw, 17, and his brother Grant, 15.

They claimed that the pictures were taken about 2:30 p.m. on January 9, with a Polaroid camera, behind their home at Lake St Clair. Lake St. Clair is one mile from Selfridge Air Force Base The Air Force says they know nothing of the sighting, although a helicopter was in the area at the time.

"It was about a quarter mile off shore, over the ice, but near open water," Dan Jaroslaw claimed.

Grant said the U.F.O. "didn't make any noise." He also said it was faster than an airplane and approximately the size of a helicopter.

Dr. Hynek discussed the U.F.O. and the photographs.

"To the best of my recollection even the 'antenna' shown on the back has been previously reported, as has the tail structure."

"The striking thing to me is the similarity these pictures have to other photos I have seen and also to verbal descriptions I've taken from reliable people."

One thing puzzles this reporter. The brothers took four pictures of the U.F.O., and a fifth of a Coast Guard helicopter. However, only three photos of the "flying object" were received by Northwestern for examination. WHY? Why only three? What happened to the fourth? Who has it? Why is it being suppressed?

When the Jaroslaw brothers showed their pictures to Major Raymond Nyls, operations officer at Selfridge, he said the photos looked "pretty interesting and authentic."

Why do they look so authentic? Simply because they are! These pictures are two of the most amazing photos ever taken of an unidentified flying object. There is almost no denying the fact that these are 101% real photographs of a real object! These incredible photos have been carefully and completely analyzed. U.F.O.s do exist, Air Force, what do we plan on doing about them? Someone better wake up and smell the coffee, before this gets out of hand.

HYNEK, DR. J. ALLEN

UFO Investigation Called Mysterious

The investigation of unidentified flying objects (UFO) is the greatest mystery of our age — perhaps the greatest mystery of our time, said J. Allen Hynek in an address Thursday night.

Mr. Hynek said he became involved in the business of UFO's in 1947. At that time, he said, he felt confident that the phenomena would be explained by 1951.

THIS HAS not been the case, said Mr. Hynek, and UFO's are more puzzling than ever.

"I still don't know what UFO's are. I would very much like to know what lies at the bottom of this mystery," said Mr. Hynek.

Scientists originally felt, said the professor from Northwestern University, that all UFO's were potential identified flying objects (IFO) if only they were given serious attention. This led to a scientific apathy and many significant reports of the 1950's were disregarded.

"If the striking reports of earlier years would have been studied," said Mr. Hynek, "we would probably know more about UFO's than we do today."

Mr. Hynek said he wished to remove the question mark in the title of his address "UFO — A Scientific Problem?" because the study of UFO's has definitely become a scientifie problem.

"The existence of Dr. Condon's committee is helping to remove the question mark," said Mr. Hynek.

MR. HYNEK proposed a grading system to judge reports of UFO's. First, a report would be graded by scientists to determine the degree of strangeness of the phenomena. Then, sociologists and psychologists would study the person making the report as a separate entity. In this way, said Mr. Hynek, we have a test for unexplainable phenomena and for credibility.

"Most important," said Mr. Hynek, "we must go out and get authentic photographs o UFO's."

He proposed a surveillance o "hot" UFO areas where sight ings are more common and th equipping of police cars wit cameras.

Mr. Hynek also called for th creation of an internationa clearing house to study and cat alogue UFO reports.

"The human race now has th facilities to fully examine th existence of UFO's and I now rejoice in the creation of Dr Condon's committee."

COLORADO DAILY
APRIL 28, 1967

EVANSTON REVIEW 11/25/91
FROM J. LARSEN FILES

Scientist seeks UFO study aid

A call for funds for a thorough study of Unidentified Flying Objects was made by J. Allen Hynek recently before a capacity crowd in the Evanston Knights of Columbus meeting hall.

Hynek, an eminent scientist and astronomer at Northwestern University,

J. Allen Hynek

spent 20 years as a scientific consultant for the U. S. Air Force, frequently debunking flying saucer stories.

He said he has come to believe some of the reports "because some people lie some of the time, some people lie all the time, but you simply cannot call all of the people liars all of the time."

Hynek has investigated hundreds of reports of sightings of "flying saucers" and has studied thousands of others sent him from throughout the world.

His book, "The UFO Experience," will be published soon.

March 8, 1973

Hynek—Not all UFOs are hoaxes

By AL SACHAROV

If you have ever seen strange lights or objects in the sky that couldn't be explained, you are not alone.

Northwestern astronomy professor J. Allen Hynek has documented hundreds of UFO phenomena that are as he says, "incredible stories told by credible people."

Hynek has been studying UFOs since 1948, and has written a book (The UFO Experience: a Contemporary Inquiry) in which he seeks to establish that not all UFOs are hoaxes and "crackpot stories."

"I FEEL LIKE a traveler returned from a long journey through unexplored exotic lands who must write about his travels," he wrote.

In an interview, Hynek says he is not ready to definitely assert that UFOs come from outer space, but concedes that such an explanation was a "real possibility."

"Much more research is needed in the area, and that is where the problem lies," he says. "The field is so muddied by crackpots that no serious scientist pays much attention to it."

THE LAST OFFICIAL study of UFOs was the Condon Report in 1968, which was commissioned by the Air Force. The report concluded there was no further use in studying the subject of UFOs.

Hynek is highly critical of the Condon study, and says it failed to adequately explain morethan one-fourth of the cases it examined.

"Although it was a whitewash, the public and newspapers swallowed it full blast, and there have been no organized studies since then," he says.

He claims the Air Force is ignoring the study of UFOs as a matter of convenience.

"THEY DON'T WANT to get involved with something they don't understand. Their official policy is that a pilot sighting any strange object is forbidden to talk about it to civilians unless it is explained," he says..

Although the official policy is that sightings do not exist, reports of them still filter into Hynek's office at the rate of three to four a week.

"Most people are reluctant to report UFOs since they feel they will be ridiculed. When they do report sightings, it is because their curiosity gets the better of them," the professor says.

BUT HYNEK SAYS he rarely receives a crank report, and that most of them were from solid, reliable citizens.

"A critic who denies all UFO reports is calling a lot of good people liars," he says.

In his book, he documented cases in which witnesses described cars being stopped and lights and radios burning out because of UFO phenomena.

"THE BEST KIND of reports are those in which the UFO interacts with the environment. I am rather skeptical of reports from people who notice a strange object while looking out their window late at night," he says.

Because there are sightings that can't be explained by present technology, Hynek says the study of UFOs should continue until answers are found.

"More trained people are needed for research, along with increased funding and a center where sightings could be collected and analyzed," he says. "We would be forgetting our duty as scientists if we simply ignored the existence of UFOs."

Candidates to speak to Democratic Club

Candidates for mayor, city clerk and township supervisor will speak at a public meeting of the Evanston Democratic Club scheduled for 7:45 p.m. Wednesday in the Evanston Community Center, 828 Davis St. The club will consider endorsing in those races.

HYNEK, DR. J. ALLEN

NICAP

MA. SRNL- 7-10-72

Flying Saucers Still Around, Expert Says

Los Angeles, Calif. –UPI– Just because flying saucer sightings seem to have gone out of style with spike heels and the Nehru jacket doesn't mean the saucers still aren't up there, according to an authority on unidentified flying objects.

J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University, who served as scientific consultant to the Air Force investigation into UFO sightings, told newsmen that more and more scientists are beginning to believe there is something to flying saucer sightings.

Hynek said he receives 500 to 700 letters a year from persons who claim to have seen flying saucers. He said he believes in the authenticity of as many as 60 sightings, ranging from strange lights in the sky to physical contact with mysterious craft.

YNEK, DR. J. ALLEN

New Scientist, London
- 2 NOV 1972
ENGLAND

UFO defender drops in

J. Allen Hynek, the American astronomer who has espoused the UFO cause, was in London last week for the publication of his book The UFO Experience (see Review, 26 October, p 230). In his book Hynek severely criticises the report called The Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects produced by a committee chaired by Dr Edward U. Condon. The committee studies material from US Air Force Project Blue Book files.

Hynek calls the Condon report "unscientific" and charges that it was designed not to investigate but to discredit UFOs. In his own book, Professor Hynek concludes that UFOs exist and present a problem to science—virtually the opposite conclusion to that reached by the Condon committee.

"Hynek's book is his version of what the Condon report should have been," says astronomer Bruce Murray in a review in Science. Murray, normally one of the most outspoken and hard-hitting of astronomers, adds: "Hynek's defence of UFOs as a valid, if speculative, scientific topic is more credible than Condon's attempt to mock them out of existence."

These criticisms have stung Condon into a scathing reply for the first time. In a letter dated 2 September and addressed to the editor of Science, Condon begins: "Misrepresentations contained in the new book by J. Allen Hynek, and in the review of it by Bruce Murray, in criticism of the study of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) conducted at the University of Colorado, may mislead some people."

Hynek

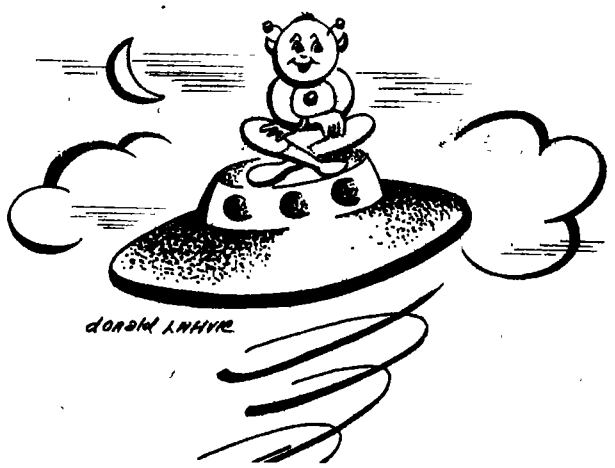
Condon claims that his study was not intended to close the door on further UFO studies, and he quotes a passage from his report's summary which suggests that anyone with new ideas for attacking the UFO problem should be supported.

In his book, Hynek condemned this "insincere statement" in Condon's summary as "throwing a scrap of political meat to the critic dogs". But in his letter, Condon says this is bitterness because two UFO proposals of Hynek's have been refused funds.

Condon says that it is "false" to pretend that he is trying to keep others from pursuing studies of UFOs. Yet he concludes: "If asked, I will caution against such studies as being a waste of time and money, unless the proposal contains meritorious new ideas going beyond what has so far passed for UFO study".

The Condon letter has not so far appeared in Science, but Hynek thinks that Condon should be allowed his say —because, as he adds with a chuckle: "I would then reply that, while I cannot agree with Dr Condon, I must be grateful to him for helping to reopen the issue".

The UFO's: imagination or reality?



By JUDY TOPINKA

The couple swore that the object hovered above the road with glowing lights that went on and off.

The car motor went dead, the lights went out. They watched transfixed for about four minutes before the object took off with the hum of a mechanical device. They reported the "sighting."

Their report, like some 350,000 other cases of unidentified flying objects (UFO's) wound up in the hands of Dr. J. Alan Hynek, Northwestern University astronomer who for 20 years has been trying to explain the phenomena.

DR. HYNEK, who figures that about 5,000 of these alleged sightings are hard-core and worth checking out, was in Cicero recently to plan for a speaking engagement in the area this spring benefitting a Czech youth who is hoped will come to the U.S. for more education.

The astronomer, of Czech ancestry and born and reared on Chicago's south side, will discuss his experience working on the Air Force's Project Blue Book and his findings on flying saucers and other aerial phenomena. He will refer to his newly published book "The UFO Experience" which recounts his years of looking up at the heavens.

Hynek has been considered an authority on the subject for almost two decades – in fact, he has even been referred to as "The Pope of UFO's." However, in 1969 his suggested explanation of some nocturnal lights at the University of Michigan as marsh gas found him caricatured across the country as some kind of a saucer nut.

"All I said at the time was that marsh gas was a possibility, but the reporters picked up the phrase and from that time on, everything unexplainable became marsh gas. I have a whole scrapbook filled with cartoons of me with a marsh gas caption," he laughingly recounted.

DR. HYNEK began his investigation of UFO reports as a sceptic, disputing the existence of flying saucers. However, he says when the Air Force asked him in 1948 to weed out the load recorded sightings, he soon developed different ideas on the subject.

"Thirty per cent of the cases I could get rid of easily, and with a little more research, I could account for another 50 per cent as aircraft, balloons, mirages, photographic devices or maybe flocks of birds. However, there was and still is that 20 per cent for which I have I have no suitable explanation," he says.

He notes that "Considering the backgrounds of the vast number of persons recording sightings—professional people, air traffic controllers, pilots—I cannot in good conscience call them all liars."

He says that a UFO to be a UFO must be something remaining unexplained after extensive study by competent people.

"HOWEVER, this subject has gotten so mixed up with fanatics, kooks and those dissatisfied with old-time religion that serious scientists have been reluctant to get involved in the study," he said.

There are six kinds of aerial phenomena, the professor says, three distant and three close encounters. The distant form are represented by nocturnal lights which cavort in the sky; daylight disks which are oval or cigar-shaped and seen in the day, and radar visual cases.

The close encounters occur when whatever is allegedly seen comes within 500 feet of the witness. Such encounters, he says can involve those with no interaction between the object and the witness. Then, there are those involving interaction.

The astronomer says that there are 500 or so cases which show evidence such as burns left behind on the ground, disturbed animals, cars stopped and broken branches.

THERE ARE hundreds of cases, he says, where people have reported UFO's hovering near them for two to three minutes and then darting away. The third form of close encounter is the kind most people like to hear about—"the little people."

Dr. Hynek says that more than 800 cases have been cataloged of persons claiming to have seen little people

(Continued on page 3)

Dr. J. Alan Hynek (center) U.F.O. expert, in discussion with Emanuel Semerad (left), president of the Bohemian Engineers Association, and Dr. Jan Micka, 2408 Oak Park ave., of the Council of Higher Education.

(LIFE photo by Judy Topinka)

UFO Authority Hynek Plans Study Center

By ROBERT B. KLINN
AND DAVID BRANCH

EVANSTON, Ill. — Dr. J. Allen Hynek, internationally renowned astronomer and acknowledged No. 1 world authority on unidentified flying objects, is attempting to establish a central scientific organization for the study of UFOs and related phenomena. It would be, most probably, meant to be centered here at Northwestern University.

The Continuing UFO

A week ago Tuesday night, Dr. Hynek told us of his proposed plans for the center at a conference held at the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center (LARC) at Evanston. Architecturally, LARC appears as a unique, imposing, double-domed shaped structure at the shore of Lake Michigan on the Northwestern University campus.

Besides heading up LARC, Hynek is chairman of Northwestern University's astronomy department and director of the university's Dearborn Observatory. For 22 years he was chief scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book.

It was late evening when Hynek led us up to the top of LARC to the 40-inch telescope. The dome was opened part way, revealing a portion of the sky. At Hynek's suggestion we pressed a switch, and the huge looming telescope moved into position through the slit in the dome and toward the night stars. Under the cold but inspiring atmosphere we discussed the problem.

"There is no central place to report unidentified flying objects," said Dr. Hynek. "Data of potential and real scientific value is being lost."

And then he describes his proposed central scientific organization for the study of UFOs and related phenomena.

John Northrop, founder of Northrop Aircraft Co., at a recent talk at California Institute of Technology (reported extensively in this column earlier) had urged establishment of a project to study UFO motive power. At that talk, Northrop had much praise for Dr. Hynek's work. Northrop's support of Hynek's proposed research center could make Hynek's plan a reality.

Hynek told us of a man with whom he is in touch who, in late 1950 or early 1951, was an air traffic control operator at Nellis Air Force Base at Las Vegas, Nev. It was within the time period of the atmospheric A-bomb tests at Frenchman's Flat.

First, Hynek's source and other air traffic control operators in the Nellis AFB tower were notified by the Salt Lake City tower to watch for an unidentified flying object headed for Las Vegas. Then they were notified by Nellis AFB operations to be on the lookout. People were coming out of the Las Vegas hotels and casinos, gaping at a UFO in the sky.

Then the control tower operator (now a Chicago policeman) and others in the Nellis tower saw it — a typical disk in the sky. It made several circuits of the Nellis AFB field, and in one circuit made smaller circular movements. Then it hovered at 1,000 feet.

The sky became dark, and the Nellis AFB strike team sent to chase the UFO found nothing. Later, the Air Force sent special investigators to Nellis AFB and hushed up the whole story, according to the air traffic control operator. Hynek, as chief scientific consultant to Project Blue Book, had access to Blue Book's files, and he told us he ran across a report on a Nellis AFB case at about that time, but that the case was later mysteriously removed from the files and that there is now no mention of the case at Nellis.

Dr. Hynek will be in Los Angeles and San Diego on May 19 and 20, speaking for the Northwestern University Alumni Association.

(Copyright 1973 by Robert B. Klinn and David Branch)

THE REGISTER
SANTA ANA, CALIF.
MARCH 21, 1973

Northwestern Alumni hear UFO's discussed

One of the nation's foremost astronomers and authorities on unidentified flying objects (UFOs) will shed light on that perplexing phenomenon at the spring luncheon of the Northwestern Alumni Club of Greater San Diego. The luncheon will be held Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in the Mission Room of the Bahia Hotel, 998 W. Mission Bay Drive.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Northwestern University Department of Astronomy, is the author of the 1972 best seller "The UFO Experience" in which he challenges those who have buried the case against UFOs.

Although UFOs "officially" do not exist, reports of sightings continue to be made. The scientific world, through the publication of the Condon Report, and the U.S. government, through the closing of the Project Blue Book files, have officially put an end to speculation about UFOs. "The UFO Experience" reopens the case for UFOs. To Prof. Hynek, the evidence of the existence of UFOs is irrefutable.

"I cannot presume to describe..., what UFOs are because I don't know: but I can establish beyond reasonable doubt that they are not all misperceptions or hoaxes," he says in the preface to his book.

Dr. Hynek's statement is backed by much experience in the field. He served as a UFO consultant to the U.S. Air Force for 20 years, specifically as the astronomical consultant to Project Blue Book, the final "official" arbiters on all UFO reports. Prof. Hynek also served as associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., as well as heading its NASA-sponsored satellite tracking program.

Since Dr. Hynek became chairman of Northwestern's Department of Astronomy in 1960, it has undergone many changes: undergraduate course offerings have increased from one to more than a dozen popular classes; a vigorous Ph.D. program has been instituted; a new observatory — the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center — was constructed in 1966, and Northwestern astronomers have participated in aspects of space projects such as Gemini, Apollo and Skylab. In effect, Northwestern has become a pioneer in both ground and space-based astronomy, thanks to the leadership of Dr. Hynek.

In addition to his investigation of the UFO phenomenon, Prof. Hynek continues to do research in stellar spectroscopy; image conversion methods in astronomy; the search for supernovae, and the lunar telescope program.

The Northwestern Alumni Club of Greater San Diego covers San Diego and Imperial counties. Prof. Robert Smith, Jr., is the president of the local organization.

Pacific Beach, Calif.
Sentinel
May 16, 1973

San Diego, Calif.
Union
May 21, 1973

2165

450 Report UFO Sightings During 1972

2019

Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), which created a stir in the United States 20 years ago, had a banner year in 1972, a Northwestern University astronomer said yesterday.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern's astronomy department and author of "The UFO Experience," said he had about 450 reports last year.

Hynek was in San Diego addressing the Northwestern Alumni Club during a luncheon at the Bahia Hotel.

RESPONSIBLE WITNESSES

A UFO consultant to the Air Force for 20 years, Hynek said reports of UFOs have come from responsible individuals such as astronauts, traffic controllers and pilots, not just from the "crackpots and dingalings."

He was consultant to the Air Force's Project Blue Book, the final and official arbiter on all UFO reports.

The UFO phenomena he considers valid enough to investigate are "incredible tales told by credible persons." He said the word "credible" is important because "anyone can tell a cockeyed story."

At first, he said, he thought the tales about UFOs were "like the hulahoop craze," but unlike the hulahoop, reports of UFOs have "persisted not only in the United States but all over the world."

100 COUNTRIES SIGHT

Hynek, who proposed that Northwestern set up a center for the study of UFOs, said there have been sightings in more than 100 countries.

Sightings usually come in waves. France had a series in 1954, Argentina in 1953, and the United States in 1952, 1957, 1966 and 1967.

A sighting qualifies as a UFO

(Continued on B-4, Col. 1)

450 Report UFO Sightings In 1972, Astronomer Reports

2019

(Continued)

only when no other explanation can be found for it, he said.

"Before I even think of studying a UFO, it has to be unexplained even though it has been studied by a competent person," Hynek said.

About 80 per cent of the cases are not considered valid. "A UFO is a report that stumps the experts," he said.

Cases are not studied unless they are observed by more than one person. Hynek said he also evaluates the credibility of the person making the report and the strangeness of the experience.

He said those who report UFOs are first of all frightened, then chagrined and then disappointed. They are chagrined because the common reaction is "what have you been drinking," Hynek said.

Hynek said those who sight UFOs usually say to him "I never saw anything like this before in my life." And "If I see something like this again, I will not say anything about it."

UFOs are phenomena that defy explanation. It would be like a 747 jet aircraft flying over the driver of a covered wagon 100 years ago, Hynek said. "Somebody knows more than he does. That's the fix we're in here."

Hynek said it could be possible that man at present does not even have the vocabulary to express what is happening when he sees a UFO.

The simple explanation is that UFOs are visitors from outer space, although Hynek said he doubts that theory. He said there have been too many sightings for this to be true. He also questioned the theory because there have been no attempts at communication and no sonic booms, he said. "Why come from a distant solar system to frighten people."

"How do we know there aren't other dimensions, other spheres of existence," he said.

"When the long awaited solution to the problem comes, it will not just be one step in the march of science. It will be a quantum jump. It would be like if someone talked to Plato about television."

Hynek said a prototype word model has been developed from characteristics common to most sightings. Examples he read told of bright lights and a humming sound. If the persons who sighted the UFOs were in automobiles, the engines lost power, he said.

Hynek criticized press treatment of UFOs.

"The press frequently plays up the hoaxes," he said. "The really interesting ones, they don't bother to deal with."

Hynek said reports of sightings will be found usually in small town newspapers, not in city newspapers. A report of a UFO in Minnesota that was reported by astronaut Donald K. Slayton in the 1950's was ignored by the press because the newspaper science writer did not believe in them, he said.

He studies U.F.O. reports

"How did a respectable, card-carrying scientist become involved with unidentified flying objects? Precisely because I was a scientist. The United States Air Force wanted an astronomer to undertake the study, and I was the one handiest to the base they were working from."

The rhetorical question and answer came from Dr J. Allen Hynek, author of "The UFO Experience," who flew into and out of Christchurch yesterday afternoon, by entirely conventional means.

Dr Hynek is a respectable enough scientist by any standards. Director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Centre at Northwestern University and chairman of the university's Astronomy Department, he is a former associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Harvard and established the United States programme for the optical tracking of satellites.

During World War II, as a civilian scientist at the Applied Physics Laboratory of John Hopkins University, Dr Hynek helped to develop the radio proximity fuse. But since then his research has been concentrated on two fields: astronomical objects, and unidentified objects reported in the atmosphere.

For 20 years, from the time the United States Air Force began the study of U.F.O.s until it stopped in 1969, Dr Hynek was the Air Force's chief consultant on the subject.

The interview with Dr Hynek yesterday began with a whimper rather than a bang.

He put another of his rhetorical questions: "Did he believe in U.F.O.s?" He did not have to say that he did, he replied. The reports existed, some of them from witnesses whose word would be accepted in a court of law on any other subject, and his work had been the study of these reports.

Dr Hynek said he had no theories about the nature of the U.F.O.s. There were many phenomena in science for which there was no explanation.

Theories about U.F.O.s, he said, came from cranks and crackpots who used the reports for their own peculiar psychological needs, who wanted so much to believe we had little white brothers out there waiting to help us. Changing his metaphor slightly, Dr Hynek dismissed the fringe element as sufferers from the little green men syndrome.

Returning to the reports, he said that when he began investigating them he thought they were peculiarly American, a post-war symptom of insecurity that would eventually disappear.

"But it wasn't peculiarly American, and it didn't disappear."

be sited, and what agency would operate it.

Dr Hynek helpfully proffered the thought that when an explanation for the U.F.O.s was eventually found, it would probably not be just the next step in the march of science, but a gigantic quantum jump to something bizarre and unimaginable.

Reluctantly, he conceded there was also the possibility of the simplistic explanation, that the flying objects were indeed flying objects from outer space.

"But if they are making these huge journeys, why do they do so little while they are here?" he asked.

There were too many reliable reports, he said. It would be like having a thousand Apollo launchings a month, for this was the order of effort that would be needed to bring visitors from the nearest star. It would require an advance in space technology ahead of anything at present imagined by scientists.

"A gigantic quantum jump?" asked a reporter.

One of the first things t impress him, said Dr Hynek was that so often a U.F.O report was an incredibl story told by an entirel credible person.

Another was that th spectrum of reports wa quite narrow. "We don't ge reports of unidentified sai ing objects. Why isn't the a whole gamut of unident fied objects?"

The fact that the report fitted a pattern was wha made them so interesting, h said — and so frustrating.

Dr Hynek said the A Force had investigated th reports in the first place. case the U.F.O.s posed security threat. "When seemed clear they weren't at least yet — bent on inva sion, the Air Force lost inte est in them."

Still firmly maintainin that he had no theories, h said there were several po sible explanations. One wa that the U.F.O.s might b brief manifestations of othe planes of existence, of an other, interlocking universe

Another was that the might not be solid objects bu images, which would at lea solve the problem of how the managed to make right-ang turns at high speed. It di ect account for the physic evidence left behind by lan ngs, but a possible solutio was that the images might b hree-dimensional.

At this point there was brief silence while the r orters tried to imagine wh kind of projector would b eeded to produce the mages, and where it wou

The Press NEW ZEALAND Christchurch, Canterbury Province, New Zealand Sept. 12, 1973

COLUMBUS (OH) DISPATCH ARTICLE Oct 16, 1973

COLUMBUS DISPATCH
TUES 10/16/73

Hynek asks U.S. unit to study UFOs

EVANSTON, Ill. (UPI) — Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern University's astronomy department, called Tuesday for establishment of a Government agency to study unidentified flying objects.

"The sightings of UFOs has been going on a long time," Hynek said. "And it is time that we study these sightings scientifically."

Hynek, who interviewed two Pascagoula, Miss., men who reported being placed aboard a blue-fish-shaped craft by three weird creatures, believes the sightings are more than fantasy.

"Where they are coming from and why they were here is a matter of conjecture," he said. "But the fact that they were here on this planet is beyond a reasonable doubt."

Hynek asked that information on sightings be forwarded to him in care of the astronomy department Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and that it include the date, time and place of the sighting and a description.

Prof. Hynek aims at rumors

UFO expert urges data bank

J. ALLEN HYNEK, the former consultant to the Air Force on the study of unidentified flying objects, has suggested that an institute be set up to process UFO information in a scientific manner.

Dr. Hynek chairman of the Astronomy Department at Northwestern University said yesterday that until such an agency is set up. "A number of my colleagues from this and other countries have agreed to act as a center for UFO data."

Last week-end Hynek visited Mississippi, where he interviewed two fishermen who claimed they were taken aboard an oblong craft by three robot-like creatures.

"I WOULDN'T EVEN attempt an explanation at this time" Hynek said. "These men had a very real experience. There is absolutely no indication that they were perpetrating a hoax, or that a hoax was being perpetrated on them."

In the last three days reports of UFO sightings have come from Indiana, Ohio, and southern Illinois.

Hynek, who directs Northwestern's Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center says his proposed institute could serve as a clearing house for information on UFO sightings.

"IT IS TIME we studied these things scientifically," Hynek said in a statement.

He asked that any information on sightings be mailed to him at the Astronomy Department Northwestern University. Information should include the date, time, and place of the sighting and a description.

Hynek was a consultant to the Air Force on its' UFO research project called Project Blue Book. The project was shut down in 1969. He also has written a book on UFOs entitled "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry."

Hynek said widespread publicity given sightings usually bring many more.

"PEOPLE LOOK up into the sky for the first time and see a bright planet and think its a UFO" he said. "There may be an outbreak of reports, but how do we know that they are not true?

"My interest is with close-encounter cases—just not lights in the sky. If these lights are racing around and are close at hand then I'm interested."

TUSCALOOSA, (AL) NEWS ARTICLE Oct 17, 1973

Scientist Well Known

UFO Conclusion A Shocker

By ED BROWN
Special To Tuscaloosa News

UFO buffs know that the name of J. Allen Hynek has added considerable respectability to a phenomenon that has been relegated for the most part to the supernatural or at best to the pseudo-scientific principally because it does not fit into the realm of known scientific fact.

Dr. Hynek is the director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center at Northwestern University and chairman of Northwestern's astronomy department.

He has served as associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., and has headed the NASA-sponsored satellite tracking program.

Ed Brown is associate director for the Office of Informational Services at the University of Alabama.

His appearance in Pascagoula, Miss., last weekend within hours of the purported kidnaping of two males from a fishing wharf by UFO humanoids was to be expected. However, his affirmation of the incident as extra-terrestrial must have been a shocker to many.

His book, published last year and entitled "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry" (Henry Regnery Co., Chicago), gave what he considered hard-core evidence for the plausibility of UFOs. A former member of the Condon Committee, Hynek has expressed publicly his disappointment and really disdain for the way that government-funded committee working out of the University of Colorado conducted its investigation.

He complained that fewer than 100 cases were considered by the Condon Committee, that often any followup was lacking, that the sample was scarcely selected at random and that the investigation was not marked by openness. Viewing it from the inside, he termed it a "whitewash."

In his book, Hynek maintains that a residue of reports remains from the Condon material after the questionable, obviously mistaken and totally erroneous reports have been culled.

His thesis is that over the years this residue, that adds up to a significant number occurring in all parts of the world, needs explanation by orthodox scientists.

His book proposes a means whereby a process of scientific verification can be established.

Chapter 10 of his book deals with "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" or, simply stated, the appearance of humanoids on or about a UFO. In this category there is little data at all.

He closes a lengthy chapter that includes the Exill material and reviews the Betty and Barney Hill book "The Interrupted Journey" as follows:

"Circumstances dictated that in my work over the past 20 years I did not come into direct contact with many cases in this category. For that reason I prefer in my own thinking to rest the UFO problem on the prototypes of the first five categories of UFOs: Nocturnal Lights, Daylight Discs, Radar Visual and Close Encounters of the First and Second Kinds.

". . . Therefore I must leave it to the reader's own judgment what weight to assign to Close Encounters of the Third Kind in assessing the whole problem, always remembering that it may yet be discovered that the humanoid cases are the key to the whole problem."

HYNEK, DR. J. ALLEN
NICAP

Progress-Bulletin--Pomona, Calif. October 15, 1973

Circle of lights thrown up as a lure to UFOs

NE 10-30-73

By United Press International

A gigantic light show is beaming into space from the Texas Hill Country to attract some of the UFOs reported from coast to coast the last couple of weeks.

A psychiatrist calls the sightings flights of fantasy; but some people are not so sure.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern University's astronomy department, said Wednesday a government agency should be set up to investigate UFO reports that "could set the stage for a panic situation" if they continue to multiply.

"At least somebody should keep track of what is going on —make a record of the reports and plot them on a map," Hynek said. "I wouldn't mind being sort of a Ralph Nader for UFOs for a while."

He said the National Aeronautics and Space Administration might investigate the UFO reports "if they had a directive from Congress to undertake it."

But the Association for the Understanding of Man isn't waiting for a directive from anyone.

The group set up a circle of 92 bright lights in the Hill Country to lure flying objects.

"We found after some research in this area that UFOs are attracted to unusual light patterns and unusual activities on the ground," said Dwight Pryor, president of the nonprofit group chartered in Austin. "We hope to attract some UFOs for flybys or perhaps capture some on film.

"These things sometimes run in cycles, what is known in UFO circles as flaps," he said. "There does seem to be very good evidence that an authentic flap is in progress at this time."

Dr. John L. Hall, a Dallas psychiatrist, said there are several answers to the UFO reports from at least half of the 50 states.

"First, some people are crazy," he said. "Second, some people have been known to lie. Third, they could be victims of genuine misperceptions of physical phenomena—like a mirage on the desert.

"And, fourth, you can't rule out the fact there may actually be terrestial things that are a part of the unknowability of the universe, things outside our technical knowledge and which we can't possibly know."

In Texarkana, Tex., the police said two Hooks, Tex., women Wednesday night reported seeing an airborne object with red and white flashing lights and the letters "UFO" painted on one side. The police dispatcher said there were also reports of sightings from DeKalb and Atlanta, Tex., Foulk, Ark., and other small communities.

A search was made but nothing was found.

The dispatcher also said a man called, whispered, "I am a robot," and then hung up.

UPI Telephoto

A Columbus Evening Dispatch photographer took these pictures over the Ohio city after 150 calls reporting UFOs were received.

We need a UFO Central, says Northwestern prof

By Robert Enstad

DR. J. ALLEN Hynek, a Northwestern University professor who knows a lot about unidentified flying objects, fears the current rash of UFO reports could lead to another "Orson Welles panic."

This panic will occur, he said, because people who believe they have seen UFOs can find no one to listen seriously to their stories.

People are supposed to call the local police when they see such things, but Dr. Hynek said, "The police will tell you to go to the county police, and it becomes a grand buck passing game."

BY LAW, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is supposed to explore reports of flying saucers.

"But they have never looked at the UFO problem because they think it is all silliness," said Dr. Hynek, chairman of N. U.'s Department of Astronomy and a leading authority on UFOs.

Last week, as Gov. John Gilligan of Ohio and numerous other persons reported seeing UFOs, Dr. Hynek decided these people need someone to talk to about their sightings.

HE PROPOSED establishing a sort of UFO Central and said he would be willing to head such a clearinghouse at Northwestern. Under his proposal, persons could report their UFO stories to UFO Central, which would conduct a scientific investigation to determine the stories' authenticity.

In an interview, Dr. Hynek spoke of how actor Orson Welles caused panic in 1938 with his radio program about an invasion of New Jersey by monsters from Mars.

"All we need is a report of visitors from outer space and we have an Orson Welles situation on our hands," said Dr. Hynek, who a week ago interviewed two Mississippi men who said they were taken aboard a UFO by three funny-looking creatures. After interviewing the men, Dr. Hynek said they "undoubtedly had a very real and very frightening experience, and they should not be ridiculed."

"MOTHERS ARE becoming frightened," he said. "A mother called me up the other day and said she had a son who had a terrible experience the night before. That isn't healthy."

"A temporary clearinghouse would help allay fears because now there is no place to turn for reliable information."

Dr. Hynek, who has been a consultant to the Air Force on UFOs for 20 years and author of "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry," neither believes nor disbelieves in flying saucers. But he believes there are enough unexplained questions about UFOs that they should not be ridiculed. Instead, he wants serious scientific study of the reports.

"Is this all psychological?" he asks. "Why should these reports exist in the first place?"

AT THE same time, he points out, it is difficult to believe creatures would come all the way to Earth from other planets to do such silly things as flash lights at motorists.

Dr. Hynek said some gov-

Chicago Tribune Oct 21, 1973

Dr. J. Allen Hynek in the Linhiemer Observatory on Northwestern's campus . . . seeking to avoid panic thru a central UFO analyses center.

ernment agency normally would be willing to underwrite such a scientific inquiry, since there always seems to be an agency with money to study just about everything else. However, no government agency is willing to study flying saucers, he said.

It's the same with college professors and scientists, he said.

"A lot of young professors want to avoid this sort of thing, this looking into things of questionable authenticity," he said. "They are afraid they would be ridiculed and that it would cost them promotions.

"I DON'T HAVE to worry about such things. I have tenure and don't have too much longer to go."

Dr. Hynek said since he can't get government funding for a scientific inquiry of the UFO reports, he is appealing for private funding. He estimates it will take at least $10,000 to get his UFO clearinghouse started.

"Right now everyone is calling me, and I am getting reports from all over the country," he said.

He said the clearinghouse would be able to weed out the hoaxes and insignificant UFO reports before they get wide attention and possibly cause panic.

SOUTHWEST TIMES RECORD, Ft. Smith, ARK. - 10/19/73

Most UFO Reports Have 'Solid' Basis

By BRIAN SULLIVAN
AP Science Writer

Swamp gas and the changing seasons, ball lightning and bright stars may all contribute to the cycles of UFO sightings.

For more than 20 years, the Air Force investigated unidentified flying objects, finally concluding in December 1969 that its project Blue Book was no longer justified either for security or science.

But closing the book obviously had little, if any, effect on the UFOs. Sightings continued, as they have in recent days.

The modern flying saucer era in the United States began in 1947 when a businessman-pilot reported seeing nine strange moving objects over Mt Rainier. A decade later there were a host of reports from Texas, New Mexico and Southern California. In 1965, there were worldwide sightings. In the Antarctic, a sighting coincided with disruption of electromagnetic equipment.

The Blue Book ascribed the bulk of sightings to aircraft, weather, sounding balloons, satellites, meteors, bright stars and planets, missiles, searchlights, clouds; birds, reflections, temperature inversions, mirages, electric wires sparking and swamp gas, and others added ball lightning and plasmas of ionized air.

"Sightings vary according to weather and how much publicity any sightings receive nationally," one expert said. "If publicity continues for several days, sighting reports go up throughout the country as well as in the original locality. Sightings pick up in the spring and fall when meteorological changes are more common."

But for all this, some sightings remain unexplained. In the latest rash of sightings, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Northwestern University astronomer, says all the cases should be thoroughly investigated by a special official agency.

The case of the two Mississippi men who reported meeting strange creatures in a craft hovering over the water a week ago last Thursday, Dr. Hynek says, supports the view "that a phenomenon exists which is as yet unexplained."

HYNEK, Dr. J. ALLEN

NICAP

The Higher You Go— More UFOs

Oct 26, 1967

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — American astronauts as well as at least one Russian cosmonaut have reported spotting unidentified flying objects (UFO) during their orbiting of the Earth, according to an Air Force consultant on UFOs.

During a recent visit here, astronomer J. Allen Hynek, director of Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory, said he believes there is a strong possibility there are other inhabitable planets in the universe.

The recent fly-by of the United States' Mariner IV spacecraft, and [illegible] Russian space vehicle on the surface of Venus have indicated that life as we know it could not exist on that planet.

However, to rule out the possibility of life on other planets "is like somebody saying that only his cat can have kittens. No other cat in the whole world can have kittens, only his cat. That would be a rather self-centered and provincial viewpoint," Hynek said.

The Air Force consultant disagrees with a recent article in Science Magazine by William Markowitz, professor of physics at Marquette University, Milwaukee, which claims that UFOs can't be under extraterrestrial control if the laws of physics are valid.

Hynek says, "suppose a hundred years ago somebody had come in with a little black box and someone spoke into one end of it and it came out booming at the other. All the physicists would have said, 'this is impossible because we all know the laws of conservation of energy. You can't get something for nothing.'

"And Markowitz would have written a [illegible] saying that radio amplifiers are impossible because they violate the laws of conservation of energy. But we have amplifiers," the astronomer said.

He went on to explain that, "now the UFOs seem to violate our present knowledge of physics. This is why I say that we're still in a very elementary stage. What I'm really saying is until we have really authenticated photographs, what's the point of talking about theories?"

Hynek said there is considerable agreement among those claiming to have seen flying saucers over the shape of the objects, but he explains that it is a preconditioned reaction.

"If you went around to all the school kids in the country and asked them to draw independently a picture of a flying saucer, you know what you'd get," Hynek said.

Oct

Dr. Allen Hynek

Ariz. Republic
12/5/73

Saucer tales worth study, expert says

By CONNIE KOENENN

Astronomer Dr. Allen Hynek often is asked if he "believes" in Unidentified Flying Objects and it's a question he doesn't care for.

"The word 'belief' has theological implications," he said Tuesday night, a few minutes before he addressed a Phoenix audience at the Towne-House. "As a scientist, I would say I have more evidence for hypothesis B than for hypothesis A."

As a scientist, and a respected one, Dr. Hynek has helped bring UFO phenomenon out of its former territory of "kook reports" into serious study.

"We don't study UFOs," he emphasized. "We study UFO reports."

He sees a mounting body of evidence that such reports are worth investigation, citing a Gallup poll taken last week in which 15 million persons said they'd seen UFOs.

"This is a number to be reckoned with," he told an audience of about 500. Many of these sightings, he continued, perhaps four out of five, are "honest mistakes."

With the remainder, said Hynek, who directs the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center at Chicago's Northwestern University, "I plot the incredibility of the report against the credibility of the witness."

He entered the field back in 1948 as a skeplic, he said. He was teaching at Ohio State University when the Air Force, which was investigating UFO reports, asked him to serve as a consultant, weeding out reports of strange things seen in the skies.

As he interviewed hundreds of persons over the years, including air traffic controllers engineers, teachers and assorted solid citizens, he said, the question grew: "How long can I continue to call all thse people liars?"

He believes in data and his data has established patterns, he told Tuesday night's audience, elaborating on UFO descriptions which show up over and over again.

Nocturnal lights are reported most frequently, he said, followed by daytime discs of "saucers" and radar visuals, confirmed on radar screens.

"They do form a general pattern," he said. "If you just called it 'imagination,' you'd have all sorts of stories, but we don't get all sorts of stories."

Even reports of "humanoids" are consistent, he said, describing creatures about 4 feet tall, "resumbling robots or brownies."

Hynek, who said he has "seen things in the distance, but never experienced a close (UFO) encounter," thinks the phenomenon has passed well beyond the fad category, and is being taken seriously by many scientists as well as the media.

Valuable technical spin-offs could be gleaned, he said, from the seeming ability of the UFOs to take off at great speed, defy gravity by hovering just above the ground and make remarkable right-angle maneuvers: "If we knew how that happened, just think how we could solve the energy crisis."

Hynek, whose lecture was sponsored by the Phoenix Ground Watch Society, has long proposed an institute to study UFO reports on a continuing basis. Now he has "taken the bull by the horns" and established the Center for UFO Studies in Chicago, he said.

Few persons now scoff at UFO expert Hynek

EVANSTON, Ill. (UPI) – People don't scoff at Dr. J. Allen Hynek as much as they used to when he talks about the UFO phenomenon – too many have seen Unidentified Flying Objects themselves.

Hynek, the head of Northwestern University's astronomy department, is considered by many the foremost expert on UFOs. He has tracked UFO reports for more than 20 years, from the swamps near Dexter, Mich., to Samoa in the Pacific Ocean.

"There are some very grave popular misconceptions about UFOs," Hynek said. "One is, of course, that reports come only from ding-a-lings and crackpots, which is most decidedly untrue. They have come from the governor of Ohio, the associate director of MIT's instrumentation lab, air traffic controllers, pilots and police."

He said, "There is no doubt that four-fifths of the reports of UFOs are misperceptions of common things," but the other fifth is intriguing, since the reports do not seem explainable "after close technical scrutiny."

Less derisive now

He said people in general are less derisive about UFOs than they were eight years ago when a large wave of sightings was reported.

"I wouldn't have dared to mention UFO in any of the astronomical meetings I went to then, but recently at one, three astronomers came up to me separately to ask me about UFOs. You can actually mention UFO now and you'll get less giggles. A Gallup Poll said recently that 15 million Americans say they have seen UFOs. In 1966 the Gallup Poll said only about five million had," Hynek said.

The latest flood of reports came from across the nation last fall. He said there are normally "only a handful" of reports during a month, but during that three-month period, about 800 sightings were reported, of which 25 per cent were "good" sightings. Most of them ran in a band from the southeastern section of the United States northwest, with a fork going up into Ohio and Michigan.

"You get a handful of genuinely puzzling reports. If they don't hit the press, it's all right. If they do, as in this case during the fall, then you get a great excitement and people say 'Let's go and see a UFO' and then any damn thing becomes one.

Some stupid calls

"You get so damn sick and disgusted with the stupid calls and that kind of tripe that I would be willing to forget this whole thing, but I am unable to forget the genuine ones that started this whole thing."

Hynek has started the Center for UFO Studies to handle reports from around the nation. In the past week, he has sent out 4,000 letters to law enforcement agencies around the country, giving them a private "hotline" number to the center and instructions for handling UFO reports from citizens.

While the center is a voluntary operation at present, Hynek said he hopes it eventually will have enough investigators out on every valid report.

"I don't have a theory about what UFOs are. I don't necessarily believe that we are being visited. But if I am a crackpot, then I'm finding that I am in good company."

THE ANNISTON STAR
JAN 13, 1974

FOR DR. ALLEN HYNEK,
astronomer at Northwestern University
When you were in charge of the Air Force's UFO inquiry, you rejected the existence of UFO's. Now you verify the experience of two men in Mississippi who say three creatures spirited them aboard a flying saucer. What gives?—Jan L. Ruehling, Biloxi, Miss.

● I did examine these men under hypnosis, and have stated their experience was very real. I have *not* changed my mind about space visitors. But I *have* changed my mind about UFO's being simple misperceptions of common things. I am now quite convinced that we do have a very real and as yet unexplained phenomenon going on. I believe people who report UFO's are sincere, and I, for one, cannot explain many of the things they describe. We must, however, remember that the "U" in UFO simply means "unidentified"—not necessarily visitors from outer space.

UFO's: improbable tales or visitors from the stars?

By LINDA PICONE
Staff Writer

J. Allen Hynek is a scientist, a hard-nosed, critical, doubting individual.

When the Air Force asked him to look into UFO's (unidentified flying objects) he smiled a little and agreed. He knew UFO's were nonsense, stories told by drunks and crazy people and liars.

So he looked into UFO's. And he looked. And he looked some mre.

The time came when Hynek said to himself, "How long can I go on calling these good people liars or crazy?"

Given a choice between branding hundreds of thousands of people liars and admitting the existence of UFO's, Hynek took the position that there are flying "things" that just can't be explained.

They could be spirits or visitors from another plant or "a new domain of nature that we haven't explored yet."

From a UFO debunker Hynek became an advocate, not of UFO's exactly but of the study of UFO's. He has traveled from one end of the country to the other and has been a guest on the Johnny Carson and Irv Kupcinet talk shows, winning him a wide audience.

Wednesday he came to the College of Lake County and awed students with the incredible possibilities.

Hynek, chairman of the Northwestern University department of astronomy, has attacked the study of UFO's like any good scientist. He has "interrogated hundreds of people" about their UFO experiences and he has attempted to look for similarities in these incidents.

He found there were amazing similarities in the descriptions of UFO's. They tended to be the same shapes, like a pie or a cigar, and they often showed up in the same kind of sparsely populated areas.

Not only were UFO stories the same across the United States, they were the same in 100 different countries.

"If it's all imagination," said Hynek, "then it's pretty poor imagination because we keep getting the same kind of things."

In his book, "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry," Hynek divides the different reports about UFO's into six broad categories:

—Close encounters of the first kind. These are the reports where people see something within about 500 yards but nothing else happens.

—Close encounters of the second kind. Again within 500 yards, the UFO has some effect on the ground, a car's operation or the like.

—Close encounters of the third kind. This is the spooky kind, where "creatures" are involved.

—Radar cases. The UFO is found on radar.

—Nocturnal lights. Strange lights that can't be explained which appear at night.

—Daylight discs. Disc, oval or sometimes cigar shapes which appear in the sky and can't be explained.

Cataloguing the UFO's is nice and scientific, but it takes some of the excitement out. Hynek gave his College of Lake County audience plenty of excitement, however, with stories of four UFO sightings "which I simply can't explain myself."

In December a New Hampshire farm family which Hynek calls "really first class" saw a light coming under their bedroom door. The husband went out to investigate and found that the light came from outside. With his fierce watch dog he went out to look.

Waukegan News-Sun
Jan 25, 1974

Somebody Out There?

Once outside he saw the light coming from two creatures who were picking up rocks and putting them in a bag ("Now where have we heard that before?"). The dog ran at the creatures, stopped short and then came back whimpering.

The Mississippi case which made national headlines is a favorite of Hynek's. He went to investigate the sighting within 24 hours of the time it occurred.

Two fishermen, an older man, Charlie Hickson, and a young friend who was living at his house, saw a blue light which approached the dock where they sat. The light hovered above the ground, then two creatures came down from the craft and "floated" Hickson up to it, where he received what was seemingly a medical examination. Hickson's companion fainted at the sight.

"I definitely believe Charlie Hickson is telling the truth," said Hynek. He insisted on the lie detector tests which Hickson took and which showed he wasn't lying.

After an appearance on a television show, Hynek also took Hickson to a party where he got quite drunk. "Even when Charlie was completely potted he held to his story," said Hynek.

In Kansas, not too long ago, a young man tending sheep saw a craft which hovered over

(continued on page 2B

Astronomer J. Allen Hynek — News-Sun Photo

UFO's: improbable tales or visitors from the stars?

(continued from page 1B)

the ground and then left. Where it had hovered it left a glowing ring of earth.

This glowing earth will not, to this day, accept water and the elements it contains are different than those in the normal earth right next to it. Hynek has a piece of the earth on his desk.

A man and his daughter in Columbia, Missouri saw a UFO last June. The 16-year-old girl woke in the middle of the night and asw a bright light in the back yard. She wakened her father who, with his two hunting dogs, went outside to investigate.

He saw a blue glow surrounded by an orange glow with what looked like shiny metal in the very center. When the light came closer to the house it passed between two trees which whipped back and forth as though in the middle of a storm.

Hynek said the weather records of the night show it was clear and still yet a huge branch was broken off one of the two trees and every leaf on the tree was curled and shriveled.

Hynek has over 1,000 reports like those he cited and he thinks they are only a small sampling. "Most of these don't get into the press," he said. "If you saw something like this, would you dare tell anyone about it?"

There is no explanation for UFO's and Hynek won't guess at one. He will, however, impress upon his audience the amazing possibilities that they are visitors from other planets.

"Its' cosmically provincial for us to say — to even think — that we are the only ones," he said. "It's rather interesting to contemplate how many talks like this are going on elsewhere in the galaxy."

Some stars have planets "as naturally as oaks have acorns," Hynek said, and even if only one star in 10 has planets and one planet in 10 has life and one in 10 of those has intelligent life, "that still leaves a million planets with intelligent life."

Hynek has left the Air Force and is now involved with the Center for UFO Studies — which, he reminded his audience, is eligible for tax deductible contributions.

He studies UFO's, he said, because when the world finds out what they are it will take "one hell of a quantum jump" scientifically.

20% OF SIGHTINGS UNEXPLAINED

Latest UFO reports reduce scoffing

EVANSTON, Ill. (UPI)—People don't scoff at J. Allen Hynek as much as they used to when he talks about the unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomenon—too many have seen UFOs themselves.

Hynek, who heads Northwestern University's astronomy department, is considered by many the foremost expert on UFOs. He has tracked UFO reports for more than 20 years, from the swamps near Dexter, Mich., to Samoa in the Pacific Ocean.

"There are some very grave popular misconceptions about UFOs," Hynek said. "One is, of course, that reports come only from crackpots, which is most decidedly untrue. They have come from the governor of Ohio, the associate director of MIT's instrumentation lab, air traffic controllers, pilots and police."

He said, "There is no doubt that four-fifths of the reports of UFOs are misconceptions of common things," but the other fifth is intriguing, because the reports do not seem explainable "after close technical scrutiny."

He said people in general are less derisive about UFOs than they were eight years ago when a large wave of sightings was reported.

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While the center is a voluntary operation at present, Hynek said he hopes it eventually will have enough funding to send investigators out on every valid report.

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Jan. 23, 1974
Minneapolis, Minn.
Star
Dr: Mark Hall

Jan. 26, 1971
Reno, Nevada
Nevada State Journal

Reno Police Duck UFO Investigation

The Reno Police Department is reluctant to investigate unidentified flying objects (UFOs), Chief James Parker said Friday.

He responded to a letter from Dr. J. Allen Hynek, urging police departments to take over investigations of UFOs and to relay urgent sightings to a national headquarters via a hot line.

"I haven't seen the letter and I don't want to see it," Parker said.

Hynek, chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University and head of the Center for UFO studies in Evanston, Ill., wrote that help is needed to feed information on UFO sightings into a computer for analysis.

He suggested police could do this.

He talked of a UFO Central Hotline, which would be used only in urgent cases, and qualified investigators to assist police when necessary.

Hynek said urgent sightings are when UFOs are within 1,000 feet of persons or disturb people or animals or damage plants or trees or interfer with automobiles or radio or television sets.

A recent Gallup poll indicated 15 million persons believed they had seen UFOs. This is a growing social phenomenon, Hynek said.

NEWS-SUN ARTICLE JAN. 26, 1974

They used to scoff but now they believe

By DAVID FIELDS

EVANSTON, Ill. (UPI) — People don't scoff at Dr. J. Allen Hynek as much as they used to when he talks about the UFO phenomenon — too many have seen unidentified flying objects themselves.

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He said, "There is no doubt that four-fifths of the reports of UFOs are misperceptions of common things," but the other fifth is intriguing, since the reports do not seem explainable "after close technical scrutiny."

He said people in general are less derisive about UFOs than they were eight years ago when a large wave of sightings was reported.

"I wouldn't have dared to mention UFO in any of the astronomical meetings I went to then, but recently at one, three astronomers came up to me separately to ask me about UFOs. You can actually mention UFO now and you'll get less giggles. A Gallup poll said recently that 15 million Americans say they have seen UFOs. In 1966, the Gallup poll said only about five million had," Hynek said

The latest flood of reports came from across the nation last fall. He said there are normally "only a handful" of reports during a month, but during that three month period, about 800 sightings were reported, of which 25 per cent were "good" sightings. Most of them ran in a band from the southeastern section of the United States northwest, with a fork going up into Ohio and Michigan.

"You get a handful of genuinely puzzling reports. If they don't hit the press, it's all right. If they do, as in this case during the fall, then you get a great excitement and people say 'let's go and see a UFO' and then any damn thing becomes one.

"You get so damn sick and disgusted with the stupid calls and that kind of tripe that I would be willing to forget this whole thing, but I am unable to forget the genuine ones that started this whole thing."

Hynek has started a Center for UFO Studies to handle reports from around the nation. In the past week, he has sent out 4,000 letters to law enforcement agencies around the country, giving them a private "hotline" number to the center and instructions for handling UFO reports from citizens.

While the center is a voluntary operation at present, Hynek said he hopes it eventually will have enough funding to send investigators out on every valid report.

"I don't have a theory about what UFOs are. I don't necessarily believe that we are being visited. But if I am a crackpot, then I'm finding that I am in good company."

Top UFOlogist Hynek Expresses Interest In 'Credible' Creature Cases

2-13-74

Santa Ana Cr. Skylook
The REGISTER Wednesday, February 13, 1974

By ROBERT B. KLINN
and DAVID BRANCH

PALO ALTO—Friday, we had the privilege of meeting with Dr. J. Allen Hynek at Stanford University, where he spoke before an enthusiastic audience of approximately 300 science students and faculty members. His talk revealed his own interest in certain "credible" UFO reports involving close encounters with creatures.

Hynek now has an impressive string of titles: chairman of the Northwestern University Astronomy Department, head of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center, director of Dearborn Observatory, former chief scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book, author of The UFO Experience (Regnery), and director of the Center for UFO Studies. During his work with the Air Force, he interrogated many hundreds of people and read many thousands of reports.

"Actually, in many respects I wish I didn't have to talk about cases in which creatures are reported," Hynek explained to his audience. "But they do exist. The reports exist."

But even after a quarter of a century of personal research, he has no answers—only a problem, Hynek admitted. "As I tell my students at Northwestern, if you know the answer in advance, it ain't research.

"It was General Sanford years ago who gave one of the best definitions of UFO," recalled Hynek—"It's an incredible tale told by c r e d i b l e persons.'"

But some may argue, Hynek told the Stanford group, the creatures that have been reported don't LOOK intelligent. We may very well ask, he said, "How do we look to them?"

"I'll start with a shocker because it represents a close encounter," said Hynek. The audience was attentive. "And this one occurred just about two months ago in New Hampshire. This man and his wife had just gone to bed when the man saw a light coming under the door. He got up, turned the light off in the living room, and found that the living room was dark and the light was coming from outside.

"He had a dog which was rather vicious. In fact, when our investigator went there, the dog wouldn't let him through until he was called off. The man went to the door, opened it, and found that the illumination was coming in from outside in the region of these two creatures. (A slide projected onto the auditorium screen depicted a line drawing of two humanoids.)

"The dog rushed out, got halfway to the creatures, stopped short—his hair bristled, stood up on end—and came cringing back to the house.

"And what do you suppose these creatures were doing? They were picking up rocks and putting them into a bag. The case had only two witnesses. It never hit the papers, and the people simply didn't want their names used at all.

"Another case. This man is a staff member of the University of Missouri, at Columbia, Missouri. He is caretaker of the animals for the biology department. He, his wife, his 16-year-old daughter, and a two-year-old baby live in a trailer house on the outskirts of town. And I visited there—I always try to investigate cases I talk about. The wife is a nurse and she was on night duty.

"T h e 16-year-old daughter generally gets up about one o'clock in the morning and goes to the refrigerator to get milk for the baby. This evening she went to the refrigerator as usual, glanced out the window, and saw a bright light. The light had what might be an aluminum craft in the center, they thought, but the light was so bright—and this was typical—it made the details of the craft, if there was a craft, pretty indistinguishable.

"It had a blue haze, and blue and orange lights, and a large area of general illumination around it. The whole thing subtended at least at an angle of 25 degrees. I went there and made all the measurements.

immediately locked the door, and loaded two rifles. He had two hunting dogs who high-tailed it under the trailer house and stayed there for 35 minutes—not a sound out of them.

"The interesting and the incredible part of this sory was—and this has been observed by the father, by the little baby which had been awakened by them, and by the daughter—when this light got to the fence line (the fence was just 25 feet from the witnesses), the trees closest to the light began to vibrate violently as though they were in a storm, and there was a loud crack—almost like a thunder crack. By the way, it was a clear night—no storm—stars were out—and the weather bureau told us the wind velocity was five miles per hour.

"And when the police stopped there a few hours later and went out to examine it, they discovered that a fairly decent-sized branch about 17 feet above the ground had nearly been torn—ripped off. And I was there just a few days later and verified that this was a pretty fresh tear.

"But of course you can always say they were lying, that they just made this all up. Well, I felt this was probably the explanation in many cases in the past. But I finally got to the point where I said I just can no longer keep on calling all these people either liars or crazy."

Prior to the Stanford University lecture, Hynek told us that the board of trustees at Northwestern University had recently rejected his application to allow his Center for UFO Studies to become an official part of the university. Someone on the board did not want to "ruin the good name" of Northwestern University, he said.

ELGIN, IL "COURIER NEWS" ARTICLE FEB 14, 1974

Elgin, Illinois - Courier News - Feb. 14, 1974 Cr: John Mullet

Astronomer pursues UFOs

By JAMES KUTINA

If J. Allen Hynek were to choose a legacy it would probably be that Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) would no longer be a "dirty term" or unexplained.

Hynek, head of the astronomy department at Northwestern University, Evanston, said he knew he was going to be an astronomer since he was 7 years old, but he never thought he would become involved in the UFO phenomenon to the point that he is considered the top authority in the field.

Even in his lectures on astronomy, it is easy to detect the underlying concern he has for telling the UFO story.

To the question of whether other life forms and UFOs exist, Hynek explained to students at an Elgin Community College workshop Wednesday, "with the vastness of the universe and the billions of stars like our sun, it is nonsense to think that we are unique and that our sun would be the only one with planets."

'It's the reports by the crackpots that cut into the credibility of the valid sightings," he explained.

Hynek first became involved with UFOs in 1948 when approached by the Air Force.

"They needed an astronomer and I happened to be handy," he explained.

"I thought it was just a fad," said Hynek, "but they persisted and are still being reported."

He explained that the UFO phenomenon is mind bending in the fact that reports of such things even exist.

"Why do we have reports of things looking like saucers?" quizzed Hynek.

Leaning back in a chair, he exclaimed, "Frankly, I am at the point where I don't know if I give a damn, but I would like an answer before I die."

Even as a child, Hynek had the inclination to quiz the meaning of space. He said he first became involved in Astronomy at 7, when he came down with scarlet fever.

"In those days you were quarantined" he said adding, "my mother, who was a teacher, had to stay with me during the sickness."

He explained how his mother went through several books with him and finally came to an astronomy book. From that point he said he knew astronomy would be his life's work.

"When I was eight or nine I got a $35 Sears and Roebuck telescope," he said, adding, "of course it would cost more than $100 today."

Even going into a limited field like astronomy, Hynek said he really never worried about getting a job.

When asked what he would like to be if not an astronomer, Hynek said it would be something dealing with people.

"I like the loneliness of observing through a telescope, but I was always one to feel that knowledge should be given out," he explained.

Recalling two men in Mississippi who recently claimed to have been abducted by aliens, Hynek said it was a real experience to them.

"I talked to them. They were checked. Whether it was a spiritual experience I don't know, but those two men had no reason to make a false report," said Hynek.

For his closing years, he said he hopes to devote full time to his Center for UFO Studies headquartered in Northfield.

He explained that the center is really scattered all over the country and draws on various scientists. He has even set up a special "hotline" for law enforcement agencies to call in unexplained sightings.

According to Hynek, the purposes of the center are: to provide a place to get accurate information on UFOs, to provide a place to report UFOs without being ridiculed and to provide a forum to study the subject.

Although the center relies on contributions, Hynek said he hopes to establish some sort of foundation eventually.

Until he retires Hynek plans to keep on lecturing and chasing the elusive UFOs.

With his perspective on time and space he will probably never become frustrated, because he says Earth's only a speck in the overall cosmological scheme.

As for time, he explains that the light we see from some stars left those stars when dinosaurs walked the Earth.

Although he would like to claim that his group is the only one studying UFOs, Hynek maintains that although the U.S. government has publicly abandoned studying UFOs, it is still doing it privately, adding another question to the long list about what's really out in space.

DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK

THE UFO EXPERIENCE, A SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY — Dr. J. Allen Hynek, scientific consultant to the U. S. Air Force on the subject of UFOs for 20 years, gestured dramatically last Monday evening before a near-capacity audience at Flint Center, DeAnza College, as he spoke about his investigation of more than 300 reports of "close encounters." Sponsored by the National Management Association, Lockheed Bay Area Chapter, Dr. Hynek was the third lecturer to be presented to the community by the group. To the left, Saratoga resident Kenneth Cannestra, director of the Science and Quality of Life Series and Lockheed engineer, listened intently to the speaker.

Talk on UFO's

Is somebody out there?

Los Gatos, Calif.
Times Observer
Feb. 21, 1974

By PAT RODGER

"Is there somebody out there?"

Addressing this question to outer space, Dr. J. Allen Hynek plunged a near - capacity audience at Flint Center, De Anza College, Monday evening into an hour and a half, provocative, rapid - fire examination of the UFO experience.

Sponsored by the National Management Association, Lockheed Bay Chapter, Dr. Hynek was the third scientist to speak in the series, "Science and the Quality of Life."

Dr. Hynek, a scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force on the subject of UFOs for 20 years, was throughout its existence the official astronomical consultant to Project Blue Book. Final official arbiter on all UFO reports, the distinguished scientist also served as associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., as well as heading its NASA - sponsored satellite tracking program.

Currently Dr. Hynek is director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center at Northwestern's Astronomy Department and also of the newly - created Center for UFO Studies located in Evanston, Illinois.

"Whenever the highly controversial subject of UFOs comes up, I find that people become very emotionally charged. Tempers fly, and lips curl.

"In my association with UFO phenomena I have been somewhat like the proverbial 'innocent bystander' who got shot. Actually I have encountered everything from utter scepticism and scorn to deep respect.

"Today there is a ground - swell of interest. In fact, more people believe in UFOs than in the President!"

UFO EXPERIENCE

Stating that the UFO thesis has not been disproved, Dr. Hynek threw out many questions to his enthusiastic audience. A show of hands revealed that approximately one - third had actually had what is termed the UFO experience. Either they or friends had sighted a UFO.

Commenting upon the credibility of the hundreds of people that he has interviewed during the years, Dr. Hynek disclosed, "I found the accounts absolutely fascinating. The individuals I listened to were very sincere, highly creditable. I asked these persons why they were telling me, and each stated that it had been a very real experience.

"Yes, I have heard unbelievable tales related by the most reputable of people, individuals whose testimony would be completely acceptable and admissable in a court of law under other circumstances."

COMMENTS

Speaking of what he terms close encounters by scientists and others, Dr. Hynek cited a number of their comments:

"The UFO will be etched in my memory for all time."

"I've never seen anything in the sky quite like it."

"It was a unique and never - to - be forgotten experience."

"What I am trying to say is that I didn't employ trick photography because I don't know how to do it."

"Although I am only a child, please believe me."

That the UFO experience is global, not singular to the United States, Dr. Hynek stressed. "What is significant is that the reports tend to corroborate the facts. The patterns of the sightings are similar all over the world.

EVIDENCE

In his book, "The UFO Experience, A Scientific Inquiry," Dr. Hynek quotes Sherlock Holmes, "It is a capital mistake to theorize before you have evidence. It biases the judgment."

However, Dr. Hynek is quick to state that Holmes surely exaggerated, for "one never has all the evidence."

"After more than 20 years' association with the problem, I still have few answers and no viable hypotheses. And I have no desire to act the prophet. Yet, our society has seen dramatic progress. Just think of the days of the covered wagon, and now man has lived in an orbiting space lab for 85 days.

"One of the most exasperating and even repugnant features of the subject of UFOs is its apparent irrationality. Do you realize that not one of the 50 most famous astronomers predicted the space age 50 years ago?

"Even Ben Franklin, when he was asked why the sun shone, could not envision the sun as a nuclear reactor; so let's suppose that there are domains of nature of which we are unaware just as Franklin was unaware so many years ago."

DIGNIFIED STUDY

As to his present involvement with the Center for UFO Studies, Dr. Hynek cited the need for dignified study.

"At the center we receive on the average of two reports of sightings per night, and immediately we notify investigators in the area of the sightings. We also have the great cooperation of the Mutual UFO Network, and we computerize and analyze the data plus lab - test the samples.

"By the way, we maintain a toll - free 800 telephone number for data - gathering for the use of scientists, pilots, air traffic controllers, radar operators, etc.

"When the long awaited solution to the UFO problem comes, I believe that it will prove to be not merely the next step in the march of science but a mighty and totally unexpected quantum jump."

With a wave to his literally spell - bound audience, Dr. Hynek concluded his remarks by questioning, "Who knows how many others may be giving a talk just like this one in outer space?"

Dear Sir:
Thought this might interest you. We want you to know that we believe in what you're trying to prove - and find it difficult to believe that so many intelligent people are such skeptics and non-believers. Good Luck - and we are interested in your research.

Sincerely.....Linda & Fred Brown
2501 Ridgewood Road NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Lefko + Hart
4/3/74

CAUGHT BETWEEN DOUBTERS AND 'KOOKS'

Astronomer-Prof to Launch Exhaustive Probe of UFOs

By FRANCIS WARD

CHICAGO (LAT)—Despite persistent scientific debunking, a Gallup Poll taken soon after a rash of reported sightings last year revealed that 51 per cent of all Americans believe unidentified flying objects are real, not imaginary, and 11 per cent say they've seen one or more.

Armed with this tenacious interest and belief in UFOs, Prof. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern University's astronomy department, has decided to challenge his skeptical colleagues with what he terms an unmatched scientific effort to determine what it is that people keep seeing that science can't explain.

Hynek, 63, a small, rather modest man who wears horn-rimmed glasses, a trim Van Dyke beard and talks barely above a whisper, doesn't look like a fighter. But he has taken on the task of defeating two persuasive, entrenched opponents—an imposing number of unbelieving scientists (many of them fellow astronomers) and a sprawling collection of "kooks, nuts, ding-a-lings and cultists" who, he says, have spread so much misinformation and nonsense about UFOs that serious scientists don't—or won't—touch the subject.

Last fall, there was a nationwide wave of UFO reports. There have been other such "flaps" (periods when a large number of UFO reports come in) since 1947 when a private pilot in Idaho claimed he spotted a culster of "flying saucers' 'near Mt. Rainer, Wash. That alleged sighting gave rise to the persistently held theory that UFOs are vehicles carrying visitors from outer space—and also helped spur a tremendously profitable science fiction industry.

After every "flap," however, most scientists and the Air Force debunk the visitors-from-space theory with arguments that UFOs are nothing more than natural phenomena or manmade objects—meteorites, cloud formations, airplane lights, weather balloons, the work of pranksters . . . or simple misperceptions."

Hynek says he is not out to prove any of the existing theories about UFOs, which sort of puts him in the middle between debunking scientists and faddists.

At least 80 per cent of all sightings, Hynek said in an interview, are explainable. Some others probably could be (or could have been) explained if enough data had been gathered on them by competent technical people.

But other sightings (Hynek won't say how many or estimate a percentage) simply cannot be explained by astronomers, meteorologists, police, the Air Force, physicists or behaviorial scientists, he said. And he wants to "scientifically" find out what these objects are and what causes them.

"There are repeated reports from all over the world from reliable witnesses of what we call UFOs," he said, "strange lights or craft in the sky, near or on the ground, which don't represent any known physical or psychological phenomena. There are enough of these sightings which stump the experts which warrant serious scientific study."

Hynek said his chief weapon to bring "scientific respectability to the search for truth about UFOs" will be the Center for UFO Studies, which he hopes to launch soon with a permanent location, full-time staff and funding.

The center already is unofficially at work with Hynek as director, gathering data from sources around the country on UFOs and assigning tasks to various volunteers who, Hynek claims, range from respected scientists to engineers, pilots, law enforcement officials and laymen who agree with him.

The center hopes to work primarily on gathering, compiling and analyzing data, and doing relevant research into UFOs to either explain their existence ("to take the U out of UFO," Hynek said) or to be able to say with scientific accuracy "that we have a certain domain of nature that is unexplored —phenomena at the moment beyond our present science."

(Hynek invited interested parties to send inquiries to P. O. Box 11, Northfield, Ill. 60093.)

MILW JRNL 5-31-74

Astronomer Wants to Identify Objects

By Harry S. Pease
of The Journal Staff

A respected astronomer who founded a Center for UFO studies last fall came to Milwaukee Friday for radio and television explanations of his reasons for venturing where many professionals do not deign to tread.

J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Northwestern University astronomy department at Evanston, Ill., and a participant in Air Force studies of unidentified flying objects and satellite tracking for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, appeared live on radio. His TV program, one in Channel 4's "The Making of..." series, was to be taped for broadcast June 16.

"I got mad," Hynek said in an interview. "I said, 'There's nobody minding the store.' The Air Force has stopped its study. There is no reporting center anywhere."

He recruited a few other reputable scientists — physicists, psychologists, psychiatrists and astronomers for the most part — from American universities and also got scientists in England, France and Australia to co-operate.

"We're kind of keeping the names quiet. The subject is still not very respectable," he said.

So far, the center consists of a secretary, a toll free telephone line that is manned 24 hours a day and whose number has been given to law enforcement officials in all towns with populations greater than 5,000, and a Post Office box — No. 11 — in Northfield, Ill. (Zip 60093.)

"We have received a small research grant and about $7,000 in tax free contributions," Hynek said. "That isn't enough to do much."

He is tough about his investigations. "Four out of five reports are rubbish," he said.

"We don't bother with any reports from lone observers, or lights in the night sky.

"But there are reports from airline pilots, air traffic controllers at airports, schoolteachers and other sophisticated, educated people," he said. "I had to face the fact that you can't call all the people liars."

He is most interested in close encounters that produce some result — an automobile engine stopped, a mark left on the ground, a tree limb broken or something like that.

One report he has under close study involves the firing last August of a Minuteman missile. The intercontinental rocket was launched from Vandenburg Air Force Base on the California coast and tracked by sensitive radars on Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific.

While the warhead was diving from 400,000 to 30,000 foot altitude at enormous speed the radars tracked something that caught up to it, circled it and pulled ahead, Hynek said. Their traces were recorded on magnetic tape and can be analyzed in detail.

J. Allen Hynek

"A UFO phenomenon exists," Hynek said. "We don't know whether it belongs to the astronomers and physicists or the psychologists and psychiatrists. It could be signaling us that there is another domain of nature we know nothing about, like nuclear engineering a century ago.

"Maybe we are not in a position to explain it any more than Ben Franklin could have told why the sun shines."

"The thing that's so difficult in talking about it is that people want answers. If you know the answers in advance, what you're doing isn't research," he said.

His book on the subject, "The UFO Experience," is on the paperback racks.

The Indianapolis Indiana NEWS July 10, 1974 Page 51

'Black Holes' Allow UFOs To Enter Our Dimension?

CR: Lou Farish

THE UNEXPLAINED

By ALLEN SPRAGGETT
Toronto Sun Syndicate

So you thought UFOs were things seen only by drunks or people who need new glasses?

Wrong. So far wrong, in fact, that scientists have opened a center for UFO studies to tackle what they consider to be one of the deepest and most important mysteries facing science.

"The time is definitely past when anybody could say UFOs are all nonsense," declared the center's director — Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University, and former UFO consultant to the U.S. Air Force.

In an interview, Dr. Hynek said an "invisible college" of scientists from universities such as Stanford, Chicago, Johns Hopkins, Colorado and UCLA, representing a range of disciplines — astronomy, physics, engineering, biology, medicine, statistics and sociology — are associated with the UFO center.

And exactly what is it they are studying? What is a UFO?

That, said Dr. Hynek, is the mystery.

"We don't know what the UFO phenomenon represents," he admitted, "but we know it's real."

How about spaceships from another planet?

"Personally," said Dr. Hynek, "the more I study the evidence the further away I get from any idea of nuts-and-bolts hardware from outer space. The UFOs are just too puzzling, too bizarre for that theory."

What are they, then? Or what could they be?

"Publicly, I'm only prepared to go this far," said Dr. Hynek. "The evidence shows there is some form of intelligence behind the UFO phenomenon. The activities of UFOs are not random. But beyond that . . ."

He shrugged.

Off the record, some scientific UFO students are prepared to speculate UFOs may be intrusions from a parallel universe — another world or dimension, occupying the same space as the one we live in and yet not interacting with our world because of differences in the structure of its matter.

How would such trans-dimensional visitors get from there to here?

Possibly through the mysterious "black Holes" in space which, according to some scientific UFO students, actually may be openings or corridors into another dimension.

All such speculation is, of course, just that — speculation. But the Center for UFO studies is solid fact.

Dr. Hynek said the center has five main purposes: To serve as a clearing house where persons can report UFO experiences without fear of ridicule or unwanted publicity, and with the knowledge their reports will receive serious attention; to mount an all-out scientific assault on UFOs; to provide bulletins and technical UFO data to universities, scientific organizations and the public; to help coordinate a worldwide UFO study, and to synthesize the insights of various scientific disciplines.

The center for UFO studies has a mailing address — P.O. Box 11, Northfield, Ill. 60093. It also operates a toll-free hotline (the number available only to police departments, planetariums and similar agencies) to receive UFO reports.

In one week, March 23-30, 1974, the center received UFO reports from 22 police departments from such places as Valparasio, Ind.; Berywn, Pa.; Wayland, Mass.; Bangor, Maryland; Portsmouth, N.H.; Blue Jacket, Okla.; Alhambra, Calif. and Los Angeles.

The reports include cases in which UFOs were sighted at tree-top level, in which they landed and left behind a "burned ring" 40 feet in diameter, in which they buzzed police cruisers, temporarily stalling the motor, and in which they approached military and commercial aircraft on a collision course, veering away at the last possible moment.

"The UFO mystery," says Dr. Hynek, "is the greatest challenge science has today."

CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES
2623 RIDGE AVE. – EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

THE WASHINGTON POST *Sunday, Feb. 16, 1975*

FBI Alerts Police: Call Flying Objects Hotline

By Paul W. Valentine
Washington Post Staff Writer

Unidentified flying objects—UFOs—gained official esteem this week with publication in the staid FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin of an article instructing police across the nation on how to report sightings to a confidential "UFO Central Hotline" in Illinois.

Several thousand police and sheriff's departments have been given the secret toll-free telephone number in Northfield, Ill., according to the article, to relay citizen reports of phenomena ranging from "nocturnal lights" and "daylight disks" to aerial ships containing "robot-like creatures . . . humanoids (and) 'ufonauts.' "

The information is received by the Center for UFO Studies in Northfield, headed by noted astronomer J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University in nearby Evanston.

The center tabulates all incoming reports and assigns investigators to assess them and interview witnesses.

In the bulletin article, Hynek writes that 51 per cent of Americans surveyed by a 1973 Gallup Poll believe that UFOs are "real" and that 15 million Americans have actually seen UFO's, according to that poll.

"Whatever UFOs eventually prove to be—visitors from outer space or what have you—15 million people is a number to be reckoned with, and the police are the first in line to have to do the reckoning, Hynek writes.

The article, published in the February issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, which has a circulation of 80,000, gives detailed instructions on how police can reach the UFO center which is open 24 hours a day all year.

Operators at the center record the names of police and witnesses involved in a sighting plus indications of how many objects were seen, how long, how close and whether there were any physical effects on animals, plants, cars, telephones, radios or television sets.

If a UFO "landing" is reported, Hynek says, the report is considered urgent, and eyewitnesses are interviewed immediately by phone from the Northfield center "to get the record straight early in the game."

For more routine sightings, volunteer investigators living in the area are notified by mail or phone for follow-up inquiries.

Asked if publication of Hynek's article in the FBI magazine enhances the seriousness and respectability of the UFO phenomena, a UFO center spokeswoman said in a telephone interview yesterday:

"I would certainly say so, and what's more, we have the cooperation of more than 5,000 law enforcement agencies" which have access to the confidential hotline phone number.

The magazine, which customarily publishes articles dealing directly with law enforcement issues such as fingerprint identification, firearms training and police department management techniques, has recently broadened its subject matter to include "other aspects of the criminal justice system," FBI spokesman Tom Call says.

"The matter of UFOs has generally been the subject of ridicule," Hynek acknowledges in the article. "For years, we have laughed at UFOs and the people who report them."

"But now after a quarter century of poking fun, of laughing it off . . . the scientific world is slowly awakening to the fact that something real is going on," he says.

The UFO center, established in late 1973, received 443 hotline reports in 1974, according to the center spokeswoman. A preliminary assessment shows that 71 per cent were classified as "nocturnal lights," 8 per cent as "daylight disks," 17 per cent as "close encounters" (observed within 500 feet) and 4 per cent indeterminable, she said.

While the reports have not been fully evaluated, she said, past experience shows that about 80 per cent of reported sightings have a natural explanation while the rest remain unidentified, most often for lack of specific information.

Only one UFO sighting was reported in the Washington area during the year —a group of three objects seen in the sky for several minutes at dusk Oct. 17, according to Don Berliner Washington aviation writer and investigator assigned by the UFO center to examine the matter. He said he has been unable to reach the eyewitness reporting the objects.

Hynek says the UFO center in Illinois was created in part to provide a single nationwide data gathering facility since the U.S. Air Force phased out its UFO-watching program, called Project Blue Book, in 1969. The UFO phenomenon is serious business, Hynek says, and should not be blamed on crackpots or "overstimulated imaginations."

Indeed, he adds, reported sightings themselves "argue strongly against this. For the reports do not range over a wide spectrum. There are virtually no reports of unidentified sailing objects or of UFOs with wings or wheels, and there are no reports of flying pink elephants (FPEs) or of the Empire State Building being seen upside down in Pittsburgh."

Editorial
Communications, Inc.
655 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10022
212 GA 1-0967

Roland Gammon

For afternoon release, August 6, 1975

SCIENCE-ORIENTED UFO STUDY CENTER OPENS WITH NATIONAL POLICE COOPERATION

New York, August 6... America's first scientifically-based Center for UFO Studies has been established in Evanston, Illinois, with the active cooperation of thousands of municipal police departments, it was announced here today by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the Center. Official use of a toll-free telephone switchboard, which is manned around the clock seven days a week, enables police for the first time to phone in UFO reports from all parts of the country, Dr. Hynek said.

Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University and a recognized authority on the "flying saucer" phenomenon, Dr. Hynek set up the Center in cooperation with scientists from a dozen U.S. universities after a wave of UFO sightings last year. The purposes of the new Center are to provide a clearing house where law enforcement officers and other professionals can report UFO events and to pursue vigorous scientific study of the entire UFO mystery. Currently, police reports on the UFO hot line are averaging two or three a day, and important cases are followed up by a Center investigator.

"The UFO Study Center came into existence," Dr. Hynek said today, "because a growing number of qualified scientists, engineers and other professionals have long believed the UFO phenomenon to be worthy of investigation and decided that positive action should be taken to end

a quarter-century of misunderstanding and misrepresentation. More than 15 million Americans believe that they have sighted UFO phenomena and these essentially similar reports persist year after year. With the cooperation of the police, the FBI and the Civil Defense Agency, the Center now provides the organization and the personnel to study the problem."

Dr. Hynek, author of the best-selling The UFO Experience, served as astronomical consultant to the U.S. Air Force "Project Bluebook," set up to evaluate the repeated outbreak of saucer sightings reported across the country. Over the years, as Hynek focused on the 25 percent of the UFO reports unexplained within orthodox perameters, he began to believe "there is something most unusual going on." Together, with other serious scientists in what he calls the "invisible college," his work has influenced a measurable shift both in public and professional attitudes toward UFO's. One eloquent example of this change were the two-hour-long television documentaries, "UFO's, Past Present and Future," which has been shown in major cities and "UFO's, Do You Believe?" presented over the NBC Network last winter with commentary by Dr. Hynek.

Scientists coast-to-coast, working with the UFO Study Center in Evanston and its Chicago computer bank which has stored 70,000 cases, are now preparing an official report on the 1973 UFO wave which numbered 1,500 sightings. Hynek himself is impressed by the fact that "There are no new models. Around the globe the nature of the phenomenon is one thing that has not changed. The typical UFO report today is essentially the same as it was 10 years ago." Yet he carefully points out that he does not support the idea that UFO's are nuts-and-bolts spacecraft from other worlds: "There are too many things against it. It seems ridiculous that

any intelligence would come from great distances to do reportedly stupid things like stopping cars and frightening people. And there are far, far too many reports."

In addition to Dr. Hynek, other scientists and scholars associated with the Center are Dr. Paul Davies, chief cosmologist, University of London; Dr. David Finklestein, theoretical physicist, Yeshiva University, N.Y.; Dr. Claude Poker, director, rocket division, French National Center for Space Studies; Dr. Douglas Price-Williams, anthropologist, University of California at Los Angeles; Fred Beckman, chief scientist, Argone Cancer Laboratory, Chicago and Dr. David Saunders, Industrial Relations, University of Chicago. Other technical experts at government research laboratories in Oak Ridge, Los Alamos and Boston also are giving professional aid to the Center.

According to Hynek, the Center's principal objectives are as follows:

I) The operation of UFO CENTRAL, or clearing house, to which persons can report UFO experiences without fear of ridicule or unwanted publicity, and with the knowledge that their reports will be given serious attention.

II) To pursue a vigorous study of received reports and analysis of the entire phenomenon, calling upon the talents of the Center's Scientific Board, whose members are established scientists in their own fields with a working interest in the UFO problem, and employing existing facilities (computers, physical and biological laboratories, etc.) at universities and in industry wherever possible. Effort is directed particularly toward the solution of specific "physical evidence" problems arising from reported UFO sightings. A large number of cases in which there has been interaction with the environment presents a scientific toehold which is not available in the cases where no physical evidence is left

for study.

III) To provide news bulletins and summaries of operational and technical reports and to be a source of reliable information about the phenomenon to schools, universities, scientific organizations and the general public. The Center also offers lists of books and documents as well as qualified lecturers from the scientific community, industry and governments.

IV) To assist and help guide correlative studies conducted in this and other countries through international symposia and conferences.

"The unexplained content of many UFO reports from all parts of the world," Dr. Hynek says, "defines a persistent problem and presents a significant mystery. Any phenomenon which has been reported by so many credible witnesses and engaged the attention of so many thoughtful people for so many years is surely a subject worthy of scientific study. Today we are setting down the things that any new hypothesis will have to explain. I know this -- when the solution does come, it's going to be one hell of a quantum jump."

The UFO Study Center is a non-profit, non-government organization and its principal support derives from tax-deductible donations from the public.

A UFO Man Whose Head Isn't in the Clouds

Dr. J. Allen Hynek believes UFOs really do exist.

But whether they're "nuts and bolts spacecraft" from Mars or some unexplained natural phenomena of the earth, he doesn't yet know.

"We don't know what they are," said Hynek at a press conference at the Biltmore yesterday to publicize his UFO Study Center in Evanston, Ill. "We're seeking answers rather than giving them."

As for eyewitness accounts of interstellar visitors, Hynek said the sketches he's seen "look more like my cousin from Peoria."

Such a stance puts Hynek, a noted astronomer, somewhere between the flying saucer true believers and a scientific community that has come to regard UFOs as optical illusions, weather balloons, man-made satellites or just plain hoaxes.

Even the Air Force, which used to keep tabs on UFO sightings, gave up the endeavor and now refers such reports to local police, said Hynek. He was a consultant to the Air Force on such phenomena when the military branch had more interest in the matter.

The new UFO Study Center is the product of repeated urging by Hynek, 64, for an objective investigation of sightings that have kept up unabated since 1947.

A score of scientists from various fields -- including psychology -- computerize and correlate reports from all over the country. The reports are relayed by thousands of police departments through the center's secret toll-free "UFO Hotline" open 24 hours a day all year long.

The staff members call themselves the "invisible college." Most of the scientists, especially affiliated researchers working on government projects, prefer anonymity to the ridicule of their colleagues toward a "seemingly crackpot idea."

Hynek was reluctant to discuss the center's finances. He considers the $15,000 budget small, and a good part of it comes from his own lecture tours. He relies on the interest and volunteer effort of the group and the hundreds of on-the-spot investigators in other states. The center's bulletin has an estimated circulation of 1200.

About 80 per cent of the raw reports that come in are clearly "identifiable" flying objects. It is the small core of sightings by responsible witnesses that fascinates Hynek.

"We're not talking about birds, balloons and aircraft," Hynek said.

He criticized a recent book review by Arthur C Clarke, the author of "2001: A Space Odyssey," which stressed the "combination of unusual circumstances, inaccurate information and heightened emotional states" which can "completely delude" otherwise intelligent and level-headed observers.

Occasionally, though, a UFO leaves traces where it has "landed"—a "calling card," as Hynek put it.

For example, a Saskatchewan farmer was astonished to see four spinning metallic discs in his field during harvest-time last year. He stood 15 feet away, and saw them rise noiselessly, go into a straight-line formation and shoot off.

The farmer's story was backed up when the Royal Canadian Mounted Police took color photos of four mysterious 11-foot rings of grass matted down in the clockwise direction of the objects' spin

A Canadian scientist, said Hynek, dismissed the evidence as "fungus rings" without even looking at the photos.

"It's much easier to laugh than think," Hynek said, with just a faint trace of irritation.

Hynek has fought for recognition of his work He was pleased that FBI had boosted the center's hotline with a recent article in its Law Enforcement Bulletin which instructs police on how to file confidential reports of sightings.

Jack Mabley

UFO study gets respect

DURING THE spectacularly clear weather of the last two weeks, dozens of early risers have looked to the eastern sky just before sunrise, seen a brilliant light, and called police to report an unidentified flying object.

This particular flying object is identifiable, though. It is the planet Venus. Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University, the authority on UFO's, says: "During both world wars each side used many rounds of ammunition firing at Venus. They thought it was an enemy spy device."

Tens of thousands of UFO sightings—probably a third of them—have been from people seeing meteors, stars, and bright planets. Another third of the original reports may be explained as birds, balloons, and aircraft.

ONE IN FIVE sightings, however, remains unexplained. These are the UFO's.

Twenty-seven years ago Dr. Hynek was asked by the Air Force to evaluate UFO sightings because he was a renowned astronomer at Ohio State University.

Instead of debunking the sightings, as the Air Force expected, Dr. Hynek found phenomena that could not be explained. His scientific curiosity kept him pushing for the answers. He still doesn't have them. The ratio of 80 per cent identifiable to 20 per cent unidentifiable has persisted.

THIS COLUMN is an old fashioned news report. We attended a public lecture by Dr. Hynek for an updating on this fascinating subject.

"Let's talk about credibility of witnesses," Dr. Hynek told his B'nai B'rith audience in the Sheraton Chicago hotel. "One misconception is that people who make UFO reports are all kooks and ding-a-lings. That simply isn't the case. It's rather difficult to call the associate director of M.I.T.'s instrumentation laboratory a ding-a-ling."

Five hundred reports have come from

Continued from page one

policemen.

When Dr. Hynek interviews witnesses, he asks them to describe the object in terms of a familiar household object. "One nurse in central Wisconsin thought a while, and said: 'Well, you know these saucers kids ride down the hill on? Put two of those together, with a separator—that's as close as I can describe it.'

"A GUY IN Massachusetts said what he'd put in the sky is a silvery hamburger sandwich with the meat sticking out of the edges."

Dr. Hynek asked for a show of hands from people who had seen a UFO or had a close relative or friend who had seen one. Fourteen hands went up. He asked how many had reported the sighting. No hands were raised.

He thinks there are a dozen unreported sightings for every one reported.

NOW THE payoff question: What's going on up there?

"Several theories are running neck and neck," said Dr. Hynek. "The off-the-shelf, obvious theory is that these are visitors from outer space.

"There are grave objections to this. Any astronomer knows what huge distances there are. It does seem strange you'd have that many reports each year. I'd be much happier with one report every 100 years instead of hundreds of reports each yer."

HE CITED THE billions of stars in our galaxie, which is one of billions of galaxies. There may be 10 million civilizations in space more advanced than ours in our galaxie alone.

It would be just as ludicrous to say only our star, the sun, can have planets as it would be to say only the oak tree in our yard could have acorns.

"We may be much too provincial in our thinking about UFO's," Dr. Hynek said. "We've gone from covered wagons to a man on the moon in a little over a century. Maybe somebody out there just sits and thinks hard to transport themselves.

"A popular theory is that UFO's are in another dimension, in a parallel universe that interlocks with ours, and are occasionally visible. That isn't so strange. Suppose we had an Australian aborigine here and we tried to tell him there are television pictures traveling thru the room.

"WE HAVE TO face the possibility that we can't get the answer yet. But just because we don't have the answer doesn't mean we shouldn't study it."

The study attracts kooks, and kooks repel foundations and other sources of research money. It is a tribute to Dr. Hynek that he has survived in a trying field. "Now when I go to astronomical meetings, some astronomers ask, 'How are things going at the UFO Center?' And they say it without a sneer. Ten years ago I wouldn't have dared mention it," Dr. Hynek said.

Chicago, Illinois (Tribune)
Oct. 13, 1975
Cr. Ron Dobbins

MLW. SENT 1-16-76

Expert Defends UFO Sightings

By DOROTHY KINCAID

REPORTS OF unidentified flying objects (UFOs) are like earthquakes — they no longer have to be proved to anybody who is acquainted with the data.

This is the opinion of J. Allen Hynek, professor of astronomy and director of the Center for UFO Study at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. Hynek spoke on the subject Thursday evening at a men's night program at the Elm Grove Woman's Club.

There is no denying the reports exist, Hynek said in a telephone interview. The computerized data bank at the University of Chicago contains 80,000 entries. People all over the world have been seeing the same kinds of things for years, and reports have burgeoned since the end of World War II.

"All through history, people have been seeing strange things in the sky," he added.

It used to be thought that the reports came from "crackpots and ding-a-lings," Hynek said, but now he considers them "incredible tales told by credible persons."

"THESE ARE people whose testimony would be accepted in a court of law," he said. "Do you call them liars?"

Believing the reports doesn't mean knowing what UFOs are, he went on. They fall into categories — nocturnal lights, daylight discs, radar cases. The discs are seemingly material craft that can be picked up on radar, they seem to defy gravity, they can leave physical marks such as impressions in the earth and broken branches. They can stop cars. They can take off at enormous speeds.

Hynek would admit to no pet theory. The simplest explanation may be the true one, that these are visitors from outer space. But he would be happier if there had been one sighting every 100 years. This way, he said, "it's like a dozen Apollo missions every afternoon."

He mentioned other theories. The UFOs may be a manifestation of "an interlocking universe" — another dimension. They may be "material projections from a civilization on another planet that is far more advanced than ours.

"THE UFO PHENOMENON signals a domain of nature as unknown to us today as nuclear energy would have been to Galileo," he said.

Wisconsin has had its share of reports, the expert said. In fact there have been so many reports from northern Wisconsin farmers who have seen orange globes of light wandering across their fields, that these sightings no longer seem remarkable.

On a recent trip to Brazil he discovered the same kinds of orange lights have been seen there.

"Oh yes," the Brazilians told him, "those are the lady in gold."

He mentioned it as an example of how every country, every culture, explains UFOs in the light of its own experience or mythology. The wheel of fire reported by Ezekiel would naturally have been given religious significance in Old Testament days, he said, and added:

"THAT WAS A darn good UFO report."

Has Hynek ever seen a UFO himself?

Not close, he said, but he once saw — at a distance, from a plane — what he thought must be a new type of aircraft. He took a picture of it. But in the five years since, he has never found anybody who could identify the object.

Might it have been a secret test model?

"Secret devices are not tested over 100 different countries," he replied. Also, these reports have been rife since the mid-40s, and technology was not that advanced then.

Mention of "the Russians" made him laugh: "I don't think they're that smart."

Hynek, whose credentials are as soundly scientific as one would wish, was not born a believer. He thought the first flying saucer reports were a fad, like most thinking people. At best, a case of postwar nerves.

For more than 20 years he served as astronomical consultant for the US Air Force in its Projects Sign and Blue Book, which processed and studied UFO sightings reported to Air Force bases.

He thinks the Air Force did a very poor job in analyzing the reports because "the Pentagon was committed to the idea that it all had to be nonsense. I was there, a part of it to begin with, I'm sorry to say."

Hynek doesn't incline to the theory that the government knows more than it is saying. "The government doesn't know the answer either," he said. "It is just becoming aware that something is going on."

THE AIR FORCE Blue Book files, formerly classified, are to be released in a few months on microfilm, he said.

The Center for UFO Studies, which Hynek heads, has three main objectives. One is to apply sound scientific methods to UFO studies. One is to furnish a place where people can report such experiences without fear of ridicule. And the third is to dispense reliable, authoritative information.

The center would like to mount an educational campaign if and when it has the funds, he said.

He invites reports or inquiries addressed to: Center for UFO Study, P.O. Box 11, Northfield, Ill. 60093.

Hynek is the author of "The UFO Experience, a Scientific Inquiry" and co-author of "The Edge of Reality, A Progress Report on Unidentified Flying Objects." The latter is about to be published in paperback by Henry Regnery Co.

With all the evidence on record, why do some people refuse to believe?

"It could be an insecurity," Hynek said, "fear of the unknown. It's like a bad dream, and they'd rather wake up and not have it. This engenders an uncomfortable feeling in many people."

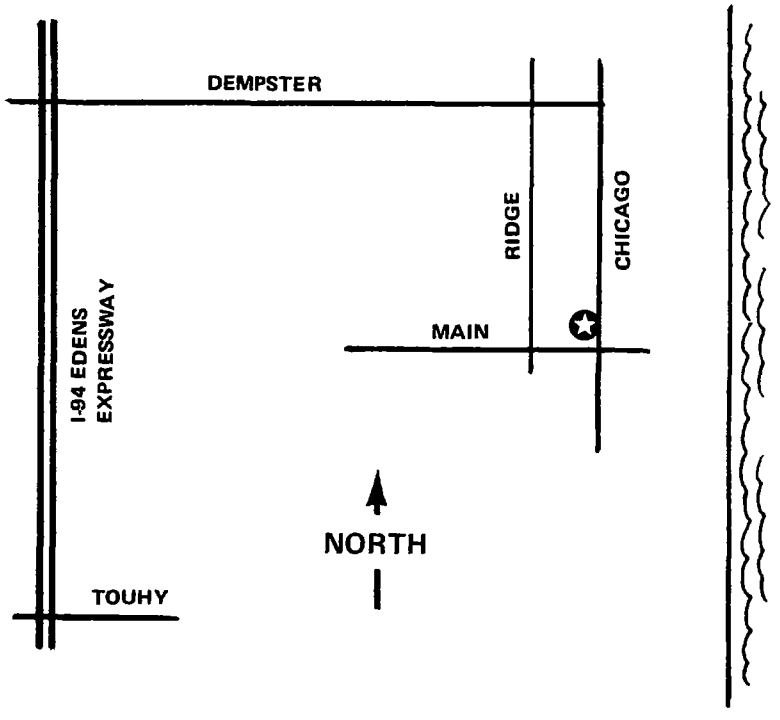
Also, he said, "It's easier to laugh than to think."

ANNOUNCING !

The Center for UFO Studies cordially invites you to attend an Open House, to celebrate the opening of our new offices, on Saturday, March 6, 1976, at 2:00 PM. As a special friend of the Center, we look forward to you and your guests attending.

I-94 (Edens Expressway) to Dempster Street exit, East, on Dempster to Chicago Avenue, South on Chicago Avenue, three Blocks)

924 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois



HYNEK, J. ALLEN

DATA PILING UP

The Old UFO Story Not Old to Expert

By CHARLES SEABROOK

Dr. J. Allan Hynek, one of the world's leading researchers on UFOs, says data continue to pile up on unidentified flying objects, leading him to believe more than ever that the mysterious objects really exist.

However, he says, there is no evidence to date that UFOs are spacecraft piloted by alien beings. "UFOs may have no connection with extraterrestial life (life beyond earth) whatsoever," he said Thursday.

Hynek was in Atlanta to speak at the Thomas A. Edison Foundation's 27th Science Institute for science teachers. The meeting will continue through Friday at Georgia Tech.

"When persons think of UFOs, they automatically relate them to extraterrestial life," said Hynek, who is a professor at Northwestern University and director of the Center for UFO studies in Evanston, Ill. "This is incorrect thinking.

"Undoubtedly UFOs are a new phenomenon unknown to science," he said. "We are facing a phenomenon which is a new empirical observation. Remember, nuclear energy was discovered only relatively recently."

Hynek suggested to the science teachers that if the mystery of UFOs is ever solved, "it will cause changes in our scientific thinking.

"I constantly have people come up to me and ask just what are UFOs," he said. "If we knew what they were, they would not be 'unidentified.'"

That's why scientific research is needed to solve the mystery, he contended.

Hynek, who researched UFO reports for the U.S. Air Force for several years, says some 20 per cent of such reports cannot be explained by astronomical or man-made occurrences. "The Air Force says only about 3 per cent of the reportings can't be explained, but the Air Force has a different way of interpreting statistics," he said.

If UFOs are not related to extraterrestial life, then just what are the objects that people report seeing zig-zagging all over the sky?

"I don't know," says Hynek. But speaking strictly from speculation, Hynek says UFOs could be the result of an atomic phenomenon.

"We know that electrons circle the nucleus of an atom. In many kinds of atoms, the outer electrons are far away from the nucleus. The space between the electrons and nucleus is mostly empty," Hynek explained.

If there was something in the empty space, it could cause atoms to behave far differently from the way they are now observed to act. Hynek, emphasizing he is only speculating, said these kinds of puzzling concepts could be involved in UFO activity.

However, Hynek does not rule out the possibility that UFOs could be associated with extraterrestial life. "It is only one part of entire UFO concept," he said.

Hynek says reliable reports of persons all over the world being kidnaped by visitors from outer space are surfacing more and more.

Recently, he said, seven field workers in Arizona were returning from work in a pick-up truck when they saw a huge, saucer-like craft near the road. One of the workers ran under the craft, and a blue light from the object knocked him unconcious. His companions scattered.

When they returned later, both the spacecraft and their fellow worker had disappeared, they reported. For four days the person was missing; the local authorities began to suspect foul play and ran lie detector tests on the six workers who had witnessed the occurrence, said Hynek.

"They passed their lie detector tests," he said, and on the fifth day their companion was found alive and well —and very clean — in a telephone booth miles away from the point where he was kidnaped.

The victim told the authorities that he had been captured by the alien visitors, and he also passed a lie detector test.

"Stories similar to this are being repeated around the world," said Hynek. "There's got to be something to them."

Contrary to popular opinion, UFOs are spotted more often by professionally competent persons than by others. "Police make a lot of the sightings because most of them occur late at night and early in the morning when police are the only ones about," said Hynek.

Also, he said, UFO landings are reported more in isolated areas than in highly urbanized regions, and UFO sightings are often made by two or more persons at the same time.

"I've been asked why UFOs don't land on the White House lawn or during half-time at the Rose Bowl game," Hynek reported. "We don't know why."

Hynek says most persons are still reluctant to report UFO sightings because of fear of ridicule from their peers. "It's hard to convince the public that UFOs are a research problem, and not something to be scoffed at," he said.

That's why Hynek has set up a toll-free hot line to the UFO research center to take calls of UFO sightings.

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APR-30-76

CHCO, IL "DAILY NEWS ARTICLE JUNE 26, 1976

29 years after first UFO

Q. & A. with Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Daily News
Chicago, Ill.
June 26, 1976

By Michelle Stevens

The first "official" sighting of a UFO (unidentified flying object) was 29 years ago this week — June 24, 1947 — when an Air Force pilot spotted nine disk-shaped objects over the Mt. Rainier in Washington. A year later, the Air Force began its famous Project Blue Book, a classified study of UFO phenomena.

Since then, thousands of sane, serious observers all over the world have reported seeing "flying saucers," but none has been studied closely.

One man has spent his career studying the reports — as an astronomy professor at Northwestern University and as scientific consultant to the Air Force from 1948 to 1968.

He is J. Allen Hynek, 66, a spectacled, gray-haired man. He set up the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston a year ago as a clearinghouse for reports of UFO sightings.

Interviewed in his cramped office on the second floor at 924 Chicago, Evanston, Hynek was quick to dispel any rumors that the subject has become blase.

Q. What's the current status of your UFO study?

We still don't have any proof that they are vehicles from another planet. There's been so much baloney going around in the last quarter of a century about UFOs that it's easy to see why people haven't taken it seriously.

There are at least 700 cases in there of UFOs that couldn't be explained.

Some of them are very, very interesting. Those are the ones I'm going to concentrate on.

Q. Why hasn't anyone solved the mystery yet?

Probably because we haven't had a proper, scientific and statistical investigation. The government's investigation was not scientific.

Q. Could these be vehicles from another solar system?

Not likely. It's just too far a distance to travel. Assume the distance from the Earth to the sun is one inch. On that scale, the distance to the moon is 1/400th of an inch. But on that same scale, the very nearest star is more than four miles away.

We couldn't possibly do it with our technology. Of course, there might be a more technologically advanced civilization out there. Maybe they could travel here, but it probably wouldn't be in anything like a flying saucer.

Q. How would you explain these unexplainable visions?

We just don't have enough information to answer that. Whether they are from outer space, or something even more bizarre than that, like visitors from a parallel reality, I just don't know.

But the reports continue to come in from all over the world. And these are not crackpots; they're from police, professionals and astronomers, too. The descriptions have been basically the same from the very beginning, whether the person seeing it was in Japan or Brazil or America.

So there has to be something there. We just haven't found out what it is yet.

Q. The Air Force stopped investigating these reports in 1968. Why?

Mainly, they were tired of it. They weren't getting any place in their investigations, and they were basically trying to say there was nothing to the reports. Most of them were classified as natural phenomenon seen under unnatural conditions. Those that could not be explained were classified "unidentified" and ignored.

Q. What's happened to those files? Why haven't they been made public?

Funny you should ask. It just so happens that the Air Force is going to release its entire file to the National Archives in Washington at the end of the month. They're going to tell all, so to speak. They've asked me to edit this material and summarize it.

There are about 140,000 pages of top-secret and restricted material—the official investigation of UFO sightings from 1952 to 1969.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek: *"We still don't have any proof"*

The Dallas Morning News

Sunday, February 27, 1977 ★★★★ F 27 A

Expert feels scientists take UFOs seriously

By DOUG DOMEIER

The subject of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), victimized by "a tremendous amount of ridicule," is finally drawing serious scientific attention, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies, said here friday.

Hynek, Of Evanston, Ill., who is also a professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, said a California university will soon release results of a survey of 2,611 members of a major astronomical society.

A high number of members, 1,356, responded and 53 per cent said UFOs are worthy of scientific attention, Hynek said.

"That's a breakthrough," he said.

"I can't think of a single subject in the last 25 years where there's been so much newsprint, heated arguments, frayed tempers, after-dinner conversation and talk-show appearances as UFOs" Hynek said. "And yet so little has been spent to do anything about it."

Speaking to the Northwestern University Alumni Club of Dallas, Hynek said the UFO center receives about 1,000 reports from around the world a month. Ninety per cent are IFOs, or Identifiable Flying Objects, he said.

But UFOs are real in the sense (reports) can't all be ascribed to what fools the eye," he said.

Genuine UFO reports often involve brightly-lighted crafts that frequently stop the engines and lights of automobiles, Hynek said. Objects often hover noiselessly or with a whinning noise above Earth, then take off extremely rapidly, he said. Some reports claim beings or humanoids have been sighted."

Most witnesses are ages 21 to 59 years and are not "crackpots," Hynek said.

Reports often come in waves, the last being in 1973, he said.

Hynek, who has investigated UFOs since 1948, said that if UFOs are from outer space, then the "nitty-gritty" situation that must be faced is how such craft could travel the enormous distances between stars. The nearest star to earth is 4.5 light years away.

"There are stars millions of years older than the sun, and possibly civilizations millions of years older than our own," he said. These civilizations may have discovered technology we know nothing about, he said.

But Hynek said the more he works with "the UFO phenomenon," the more he feels it may represent contact with "another reality" besides the accepted "nuts-and bolts reality."

He pointed out that spiritual "realities" have often been recorded which also are at odds with "nuts-and-bolts reality."

In one of many cases, Hynek said a farmer was on a tractor in his field in Saskatchewan, Canada, when he saw four circular objects moving rapidly in a clockwise direction about 15 to 20 feet away. They hovered, then went straight up into the clouds, he said. Pictures show the grass beneath where they were spotted was matted down in a clockwise direction, he said.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ARTICLE JUNE 30, 1977

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, Thursday, June 30, 1977

Astronomer's search for the elusive UFOs

By John D. Moorhead
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Chicago

Comedians make jokes about them. There are wild tales of encounters with bulb-headed saucer creatures.

Yet respectable people all over the world continue to see things in the sky they cannot explain.

The persistence and global spread of these reports has moved astronomer J. Allen Hynek from skepticism to the view that unidentified flying objects (UFOs) should be given serious study.

Dr. Hynek was in Chicago June 25 attending the first International UFO Congress – a meeting of about 1,000 people interested in the scientific study of UFOs, dubbed "ufology."

The meeting is another sign that, along with the sensational claims of visits from outer space, a disciplined inquiry into the reports is growing.

"The UFO phenomenon has just refused to dry up and blow away," says Dr. Hynek, one of the leaders in the movement to bring discussion of UFOs down to earth.

For almost 30 years he has been analyzing sighting reports, first for the United States Air Force and later as head of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Illinois. Along with being one of the world's foremost experts on UFOs, he is a professor of astronomy at Northwestern University.

Dr. Hynek's achievements include organization of the far-flung Operation Moonwatch, groups of volunteers recruited in 1957 to track the satellites of the budding U.S. space program.

The Soviet launching of Sputnik 1 caught U.S. observers by surprise; but within hours the Moonwatch teams were able to provide sufficient information to accurately track Sputnik's course.

Dr. Hynek is respected for his open-mindedness toward the UFO phenomenon and has done much to reduce extreme speculation and polarized thinking about the subject.

"I started out [in 1948] a complete skeptic, putting it down to postwar nerves or a fad," Dr. Hynek recalls. "It has been a long and slow change to my feeling that there is a real phenomenon here. But I am a slow proceeder. I stop there. I cannot propound any one theory on what the phenomenon is."

Dr. Hynek notes a recent poll of members of the American Astronomical Society by Stanford University researcher Peter Sturrock. Of those astronomers who responded, 53 percent felt UFOs were worthy of scientific study.

Dr. Hynek publishes the International UFO Reporter, a monthly review (circulation 2,200) analyzing sightings and other developments. He hopes it will help counteract some of the false hoopla about "flying saucers," a label he feels has invited ridicule.

"UFOs are associated in the public mind with hardware from outer space," Dr. Hynek says. "They may be; they may not be. One has to have facts before one has hypotheses."

His Center for UFO Studies maintains a "hot line" which police departments across the U.S. (but not the general public) can use to report UFO sightings. Investigator Allan Hendry checks with airport personnel, meteorologists, and anyone else who might have a logical explanation for the two to four sighting reports that come in daily.

A Gallup poll has found that about 15 million Americans have seen a UFO. About 90 percent of the sightings eventually can be explained. That leaves about 150,000 mysteries.

Not everyone who publishes information about UFOs painstakingly checks each report, Dr. Hynek says. "The 'gee-whiz' groups want everything to be a UFO. Of course, there are also people who think every sighting is an 'IFO' (identified flying object). I used to think so, too."

Newsweek, November 21, 1977

The Galileo of UFOlogy

If there's a powerful sense of scientific know-how about "Close Encounters," the man most responsible is J. Allen Hynek, its technical consultant. As founder-director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., the 67-year-old astronomer is probably the world's ranking expert on the science—or art—of UFOlogy. His advice to the movie-makers was to base incidents on actual UFO reports. "The difference between '2001,' 'Star Wars' and 'Close Encounters'," he says, "is that people coming out from the first two wouldn't say, 'This could happen to me,' but people coming home from 'Close Encounters' could."

Today, there are as many UFO spotters as ever. "When I lecture around the country, I frequently ask how many in the audience think they have had a UFO experience," says Hynek. "Ten to twenty per cent raise their hands. But when I ask how many reported it, I get very few hands. I hope the movie will reduce the threat of ridicule—that it will make people feel it's safe to report a UFO."

Hynek, a onetime UFO consultant to the Air Force, finally stopped dismissing UFO reports a decade ago because there were just too many of them from responsible citizens and too many similarities in reports from all over the world. For example, he says, reported sightings often occur near power lines, near small bodies of water and near schoolhouses and military installations. (The high incidence of military sightings, he says, may be partially explained by the fact that they occur in places guarded around the clock by people who are trained to observe.) Still, Hynek admits that the vast majority of the several sightings reported every day to his center are readily explainable—as planets, weather balloons, rocket launchings and the like.

Jeff Lowenthal—Newsweek

Hynek with map of sightings, and a sampling of UFO photos

The Evanston center is not alone in investigating UFO's. In response to a White House request, NASA is setting up a committee to study reports of sightings during the past decade. The French Government already has a similar organization (whose director, coincidentally, bears a distinct resemblance to François Truffaut, who plays the expert in the movie). Privately financed teams are going after UFO's even more aggressively. In Phoenix, Ariz., William Spaulding of Ground Saucer Watch is using computers to analyze photographs of alleged UFO's. In Austin, Texas, Ray Stanford of Project Starlight International has devised a computerized tracking system to monitor any UFO's that might appear in the neighborhood. One refinement: a laser system to communicate with aliens in a UFO in case they knock out conventional radio equipment.

Visible Symbol: Such enterprises—as well as the stories of "contactees" who claim to be front people for extraterrestrials on earth—bring scorn on UFOlogy from established scientists. But Hynek is undismayed. "It's no longer possible to sweep away the whole subject," he says. "It reminds me of the days of Galileo, when he was trying to get people to look at sunspots. They would say that the sun is the visible symbol of God; God is perfect; therefore the sun is perfect; therefore spots can't exist; therefore there's no point in looking." Hynek also takes comfort from a poll conducted last year by Stanford University physicist Peter Sturrock of the American Astronomical Society membership. Fifty-three per cent of those responding agreed that UFO's deserved scientific study.

What does Hynek himself believe UFO's might really be? "We have the questions, not the answers," he says. But he emphasizes that speculation should not be limited to flying saucers: UFO's, he says, may be psychic phenomena and the "aliens" may not come from outer space but from a "parallel reality." "That really intrigues me," says Hynek, "but I've no evidence. As they say on 'Dragnet,' all we want are the facts, ma'am. I will speculate that a very advanced civilization might know something about the connection between mind and matter that we don't. But I don't give theories because I don't know *what* to believe."

—PETER GWYNNE with KATRINE AMES

THE ST PAULS (MN) DISPATCH

ARTICLES

NOV. 25, 1977

'Absolutely, we are not alone'

The Dispatch

11 Fri., Nov 25, 1977

Bob Greene

Suddenly Americans — respected, sober, educated Americans — are talking about unidentified flying objects and creatures from other planets in the most serious of terms.

The upcoming motion picture "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," which deals with UFOs and alien creatures, is receiving unprecedented prerelease publicity. That theory — the theory of "close encounters" — is not something invented by the moviemakers.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek — founder-director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., formerly UFO consultant to the Air Force, and considered the world's leading expert on UFOs — originally conceived the theory as part of his scientific research. Dr. Hynek served as technical consultant for the movie, and in an interview he explained the title and the thinking behind it.

"FIFTEEN MILLION Americans say they have seen UFOs," Dr. Hynek said. "Those aren't my figures. Those figures come from the Gallup Poll. Now a great many of those people are bound to be mistaken — but the fact is, 15 million people believe that they have seen UFOs.

"Here is my breakdown of 'close encounters.' A close encounter of the first kind is a sighting of a UFO from a few hundred feet, where the UFO is observed but nothing actually happens. A close encounter of the second kind — which is the most common encounter reported — is when the UFO is seen, and physical traces of the UFO are also left behind. Here we're talking about holes in the ground, broken tree branches, people who have been burned, people who have suffered temporary paralysis.

"AND THEN WE COME to the close encounter of the third kind. A close encounter of the third kind is when creatures are actually seen face-to-face. Contact is made."

The advertisements for the movie say, "We are not alone." Dr. Hynek agrees.

"Absolutely, we are not alone," he said. "The chances of life elsewhere in the universe are enormous."

He said that a computer data bank at the Center for UFO Studies contains 60,000 entries for UFO sightings. Of these sightings, approximately 1,000 are close encounters of the third kind.

"BUT IT IS VERY interesting," Dr. Hynek said. "These close encounters of the third kind have been reported from all over the world. And yet more than 50 percent of the people who report that they have seen creatures report seeing the same type of creature.

"Basically, the creatures are reported as looking like overgrown goblins. They have large heads and spindly bodies. Over and over again, this is the kind of creature we are told about."

Dr. Hynek said that reports of UFO sightings "tend to come in waves," and that the Center for UFO Studies usually receives about three UFO reports a day from different parts of the country. He is convinced that, once "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" is released, the number of reported sightings will pick up enormously.

"MOST OF THEM will be false reports," Dr. Hynek said. "We realize this. But one beneficial effect the movie may have is to convince people who have seen UFOs in the past — people who have been afraid or embarrassed to talk about it — to come forward and tell us what they have experienced.

"There are dozens of sightings for every one that is reported to us. What we are most interested in is not the rash of nonsensical reports that are bound to come after the movie is out, from people who start looking up in the sky for the first time. What we are most interested in is the people who, because of fear of ridicule, have seen things in years past and kept quiet about it. There is a huge reservoir of unreported information out there.

"The people who come to talk to us at the Center for UFO Studies are tremendously frustrated. They're reluctant. They think that we'll think they're crazy. It takes a little time to develop their confidence. I tell them that this is not new to me. I assure them that I recognize their status in their community, that they have good jobs, that they are well respected, that they wouldn't be telling me these things if they didn't believe them.

"SO MANY PEOPLE go to great lengths to point out to me that they had not been drinking at the time of the sighting. They have been afraid to talk. And they become quite happy when they find that they are able to talk to someone who is sympathetic to them."

Dr.Hynek said he anticipates a need for volunteer workers at the Center for UFO Studies.

"We're not going to be able to handle all of the inquiries we receive after the movie comes out — not with our present staff. We're going to need people to help us take names and depositions. From a scientific standpoint, science depends on getting data. And we are interested in collecting this data."

DR. HYNEK SAID he feels a kind of vindication, after all these years of research, to find that people are finally taking the idea of UFOs and alien creatures seriously.

"There may be civilizations out there very much more advanced than ours," he said. "Heaven knows what they know that we don't. Undoubtedly, out in another solar system, there are creatures right now discussing whether there is life on Earth."

WAUKESHA, WIS.
FREEMAN
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JAN 13 1978

Hynek started out as UFO-debunker; no more

By Jon Hahn
CDN News Service

CHICAGO — Until Copernicus came along, we thought the sun, moon and stars revolved around the Earth. Most of us still sort of think that way.

When I was a child, I had no trouble accommodating Flash Gordon and Emperor Ming as a fact of life.

After all, they and the Rock People were there, every Saturday morning, on the silver screen in the YMCA gymnasium.

When people started talking about UFOs, we were a receptive generation. Flash and Dr. Zarkov had been flying their rockets — which looked like the new Kenmore vacuum cleaners — for years already.

Project Blue Book — the government's attempt to "study" unidentified flying objects — seemed to many of us another belated government attempt to put a handle on something that already was.

Now, J. Allen Hynek (a former Blue Book staff scientist) has set up shop in the Center for UFO Studies, in suburban Evanston. In his book, "The Hynek UFO Report (Dell Publishing, 1977, $1.95 paperback), Hynek notes:

"I had started out as an outright 'debunker,' taking great joy in cracking what seemed at first to be puzzling cases ... My transformation was gradual, but by the late '60s, it was complete.

"Today I would not spend one further moment on the subject of UFOs if I didn't seriously feel that the UFO phenomenon is real, and that efforts to investigate and understand it, and eventually to solve it, could have a profound effect — perhaps even be the springboard to a revolution in mankind's outlook on the universe."

Now that President Carter has come out and admitted that he has lusted his heart after other women, and that he has seen a UFO, I can make my own open admission ... on both counts.

Lust and UFOs hit me at the same time: summer camp, 1953, near Lakewood, Wis. The identifiable object of my lust was a blond of heroic proportions, Sue by name, who worked in the camp kitchen.

What I still believe was a real UFO appeared to me — actually, above me — while I shoveled gravel at the camp gravel pit.

I don't think it had anything to do with Sue. As it happened, she would have nothing to do with me.

My "own" alleged UFO didn't look like the new Kenmore; it was more like your regular ol' flying saucer ... sort of elongated, metallic greenish in color. I had been abandoned by coworkers at the gravel pit, left alone to shovel sand and gravel onto the flatbed of an old cut-down International bus.

About midafternoon, while taking a break in the shade, I became "aware" of a "presence." I glanced around, suspecting a coworker finally had returned with a cool quart of A&W root beer. No one. But something above caught my eye.

For what seemed minutes — and probably only was seconds long — I watched this oblong saucer hover out there.

I told only one person, a counselor at this "Christian Boys Camp." He suggested that I might have had a "vision." I never brought it up again.

Like the world that at first rejected Copernicus' theory, I was really more concerned about Sue, the girl in the kitchen, and how to resolve my passion for her with my good Christian upbringing.

Since then, I have read and heard the alleged documentations of UFO sightings, the debunkings, writing-off UFO sightings as anything from swamp gas to outright photographic fakery.

I believe in UFOs, even though I've never seen another. I haven't seen Sue again, either.

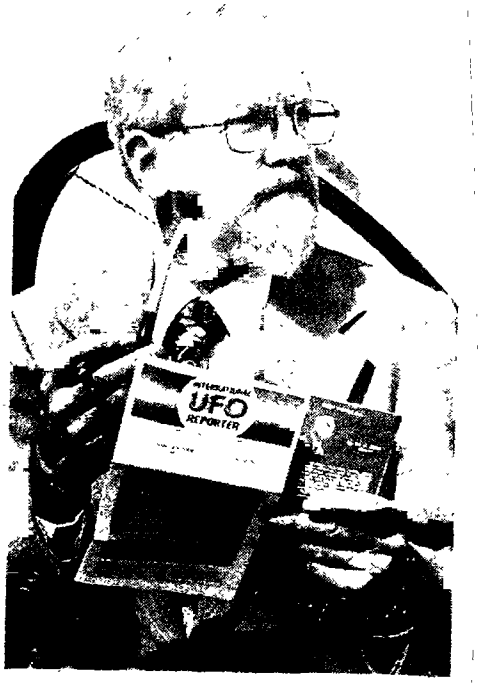
books

Hynek, From Debunker to Believer

by Joe Hughes

Dr. J. Allen Hynek is considered by many to be one of the world's foremost authorities on the subject of UFOs. He is the founder-director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston and teaches astronomy at Northwestern University.

Recently **Technology News** *interviewed Dr. Hynek on the subject of UFOs. Discussing a subject that has intrigued both the scientist and the public, Hynek responds:*



Technology News: To what do you attribute the recent increase in public interest in UFOs?

Hynek: One thing is the motion picture "Close Encounters of the Third Kind". The second reason is the continued full reports on the phenomenon of UFOs. It hasn't gone away as many people said it would; it keeps recurring with a fantastic persistence. And then, I think a third reason, perhaps, is that the people are becoming more aware that the universe around us exists.

In the days when we were fighting the frontier and so forth, nobody bothered to even look up at the stars. But now, astronomers, of course, have found out that the likelihood of life is very great elsewhere. People are conscious that the earth is just a tiny speck in the universe. And there is a sort of a feeling that maybe we are not alone. That doesn't mean that that's what UFOs are. In the popular mind, the two are become very closely connected, and the movie, of course, has tended to emphasize that in no uncertain terms.

TN: How common are UFO experiences?

H: Far more common that the public knows about. That is, for instance, in 1973, the newspapers had done a great deal on the case of two Mississippi fishermen that reportedly were abducted and saw these figures. The public knew nothing of the 65 or 70 other cases that occurred during a few weeks of that period or that time; it never hit the media. The Center for UFO Studies has now, in its computers, some 60,000 individual reports. Now that is not to say that those reports are all bona fide UFOs; undoubtedly they are not, but they include things that have been reported. Many of these are mistakes and misidentifications; some are not.

TN: Roughly what percentage of the reports can be attributed to natural causes or can be identified?

H: I would say about 90 percent. And I think this is a tremendous commentary on the lack of education on the part of the public of what things can be seen in the sky.

TN: What criteria do you use in determining the validity of a UFO report?

H: Well, you have to really come right down to the people who said it, because the people are our instruments. We don't have any instruments like we have in astronomy. So the people are the instruments, and no report is any better than the reliability of the person making the report.

TN: Surveys recently have shown that most people at least consider the possibility of UFOs having something to them, but they are still skeptical of people

who report a UFO. Why is there such a disparity?

H: I guess it generates a certain uncomfortableness when you think about those things and they would like to disagree with it. But again, one has to talk about what kinds of people report. If they were all mentally deficient or all the UFO reports came from just the "man on the street" (I don't mean the man on the street is mentally deficient), then I think we would say we could ignore. But we do get reports from very responsible people and sometimes highly detailed.

TN: Have you personally ever had a UFO experience?

H: Unfortunately, or maybe fortunately, I've never had a close encounter.

TN: How did you become involved with UFO research?

H: Well, I was asked to, by the Air Force, many years ago in 1948. I happened to be the handiest astronomer to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, since I was teaching at Ohio State University at the time and it turned out that I became the assigned consultant to the Air Force, also.

TN: At that time, your function was essentially to prove that UFOs didn't exist. How did you get involved in saying they do exist?

H: Well, by the question you asked here, what do you mean by 'they'? I'll go only so far as to say that the UFO phenomenon exists. I would say that all the reports cannot be dismissed summarily as nonsense. But when I state 'they' exist, that does not mean that I necessarily believe that they are visitors from outer space. They may be visitors.

TN: Do you feel the evidence is convincing?

H: I would say, in my opinion, the evidence is very convincing that a phenomenon exists. Otherwise, I would have remained a debunker.

TN: Why is there such a reluctance in the scientific community to really begin a study of the UFO phenomenon?

H: Well, because it doesn't fit in the present side of the picture. This has been the story of all scientific revolutions in the history of science. You always try to fit something into the existing scientific belief system. And when finally that belief system fails, then you have to yield. That gives birth to things like quantum mechanics and relativity and the old system doesn't work anymore. And I think that the UFO phenomenon may signal a coming change in scientific theory.

TN: Is the scientific communtiy changing in its attitude towards the UFO phenomenon?

H: I say very definitely. As a good example of this is the so-called Sturrock report. Professor Sturrock, at Stanford, is a physicist who queried the American Astronomical Society, a very conservative body of people, and among the questions he asked was "Do you feel the UFO phenomenon is worthy of scientific investigation?" And the majority of those that responded said yes.

TN: What are some of the major theories being proposed to explain the UFO phenomenon?

H: I guess there are three major theories. One is that it's all nonsense. The second is that they're visitors from outer space, that their nuts-and-bolts hardware's actual physical craft. Third, that it is some interface with another dimension. And I suppose you can go on to others that are even more fanciful.

TN: You mentioned in your book "The UFO Experience" a 'parallel existance' theory. Would you explain what you mean by that?

H: I guess the best analogy would be if you had an island where people had been born congenitally blind for generations. And then, you try to explain a red sunset to them. They would have no conception whatsoever of what a red sunset was, and yet, it would be real to you. And so, in a sense, it would be a "parallel"; you could talk to them about it, but they would not understand it. That would be an example of a parallel reality.

continued on next page

TN: In light of past performances, particularly "Project Blue Book" and the "Condon Report", would you favor another government study?

H: No, unless it were completely without strings. The Condon Report, and the Condon committee, I have good reason to believe, was biased from the start. I think that actually the investigation now should be handled by the private sector. Possibly funded by the government, but without strings.

TN: You have criticized past government studies. For what basic reasons?

H: They were sloppy; they were not scientific.

TN: In what ways?

H: They were biased, and the Condon Report — I'm not the only one, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics has severely criticized the Condon Report, for example — which was the only major, supposedly scientific, investigation. See, the Air Force thing [Project Blue Book] was much more of a defense type of thing. And the AIAA cut down the summaries of the committee, as exemplified or as written down by Dr. Condon, and in their own words said "the time does not reflect the reports". And I think maybe Arthur C. Clarke has summarized it best of all when he called the Condon Report a "various shambles".

TN: What is the function of the UFO Center in Evanston?

H: It has two functions. One is research, but that is badly hampered by a lack of staff and funds. Its other function is education. To that extent, we cooperate in the publication of a monthly newsletter called the **International UFO Reporter**, which, each month, surveys the current UFO sightings and investigations.

TN: How do you feel the journalistic world has covered the UFO phenomenon?

H: Poorly. They do very little investigative reporting. They seem to latch onto sensational cases or hoaxes. They seem to be greatly delighted when they find some college student who sent up a hot air balloon and then they say "See, we told you all along this is a lot of nonsense." But I think that the press should seek guidance of people who know something about the field, and we could certainly help them in their investigation, if they wanted to do it seriously.

TN: What impact does a film like "Close Encounters" have on the general public's attitudes towards UFOs?

H: One that it is having is that it has created a tremendous amount of interest, and I think a rather uncritical interest, in it. That is, a tendency to go whole-hog and say "Well, now the picture proved that we're having visitors from outer space." But it is doing another thing which I think is much more legitimate. It is making it relatively safe to talk about UFOs, socially acceptable to talk about UFOs, and whereas people have often felt very squeamish about reporting the thing, now they feel safer and they say "A number of years ago, this or that happened to me", whereas they never have thought of it before.

TN: What was your role as a consultant to "Close Encounters"?

H: I worked mostly with the original script and advised on trueness to life, you might say, of things; not cases, because those were very highly dramatized, but of things like the radio astronomy section and the Air Force and airport sequences, and things like that.

TN: Is there a lesson that can be learned from the UFO phenomenon as it stands today?

H: I think it is the lesson of, you might call it, "temporal provincialism", which simply means to me that we should not feel so cocksure that we know everything. We should make some allowance for things not yet known, and by all means keep an open mind.

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1975

A UFO Man Whose Head Isn't in the Clouds

Dr. J. Allen Hynek believes FOs really do exist.

But whether they're "nuts nd bolts spacecraft" from ars or some unexplained tural phenomena of the rth, he doesn't yet know.

"We don't know what they e," said Hynek at a press nference at the Biltmore sterday to publicize his FO Study Center in Evanston, Ill. "We're seeking swers rather than giving em."

As for eyewitness accounts interstellar visitors, Hynek in the sketches he's seen ook more like my cousin m Peoria."

Such a stance puts Hynek, noted astronomer, somewhere between the flying ucer true believers and a ntific community that has come to regard UFOs as optical illusions, weather balloons, man-made satellites or just plain hoaxes.

Even the Air Force, which used to keep tabs on UFO sightings, gave up the endeavor and now refers such reports to local police, said Hynek. He was a consultant to the Air Force on such phenomena when the military branch had more interest in the matter.

The new UFO Study Center is the product of repeated urging by Hynek, 64, for an objective. investigation of sightings that have kept up unabated since 1947.

A score of scientists from various fields -- including psychology -- computerize and correlate reports from all over the country. The reports are relayed by thousands of police departments through the center's secret toll-free "UFO Hotline" open 24 hours a day all year long.

The staff members call themselves the "invisible college." Most of the scientists, especially affiliated researchers working on government projects, prefer anonymity to the ridicule of their colleagues toward a "seemingly crackpot idea."

Hynek was reluctant to discuss the center's finances. He considers the $15,000 budget small, and a good part of it comes from his own lecture tours. He relies on the interest and volunteer effort of the group and the hundreds of on-the-spot investigators in other states. The center's bulletin has an estimated circulation of 1200.

About 80 per cent of the raw reports that come in are clearly "identifiable" flying objects. It is the small core of sightings by responsible witnesses that fascinates Hynek.

"We're not talking about birds, balloons and aircraft," Hynek said.

He criticized a recent book review by Arthur C. Clarke, the author of "2001: A Space Odyssey," which stressed the "combination of unusual circumstances, inaccurate information and heightened emotional states" which can "completely delude" otherwise intelligent and level-headed observers.

Occasionally, though, a UFO leaves traces where it has "landed"—a "calling card," as Hynek put it.

For example, a Saskatchewan farmer was astonished to see four spinning metallic discs in his field during harvest-time last year. He stood 15 feet away, and saw them rise noiselessly, go into a straight-line formation and shoot off.

The farmer's story was backed up when the Royal Canadian Mounted Police took color photos of four mysterious 11-foot rings of grass matted down in the clockwise direction of the objects' spin.

A Canadian scientist, said Hynek, dismissed the evidence as "fungus rings" without even looking at the photos.

"It's much easier to laugh than think," Hynek said. with just a faint trace of irritation.

Hynek has fought for recognition of his work. He was pleased that FBI had boosted the center's hotline with a recent article in its Law Enforcement Bulletin which instructs police on how to file confidential reports of sightings.

SUBURBAN LIFE GRAPHIC ARTICLE FEB. 3, 1980

UFO answers sought

By JANET SVITAK

It's a bird, it's a plane or maybe it's the Goodyear "blimp." Well, if it's none of these things, then chances are it's an unidentified flying object.

Although 80 to 90 percent of calls by persons who claim they have seen a spaceship are actually about such things as birds, planes and blimps, the remaining 10 percent of unaccountable sightings are the meat and potatoes of some astronomers.

J. Allen Hynek

"Something is going on out there," said J. Allen Hynek, professor emeritus of astronomy at Northwestern University and director of the Center for UFO studies, a non-profit organization in Evanston.

"These things are really happening. We can't dismiss the photographs and common characteristics," Hynek told a private gathering recently.

Thinking back over his experiences at the UFO center, Hynek said there are three characteristics that can't be denied about UFO's.

"UFO reports exist and they persist," Hynek explained. "They are global as reports are received from around the world. And the reports come from highly creditable witnesses, not just a bunch of nuts."

"Kooks and crackpots . . . we certainly have them. There are people who are discouraged with the problems of the world and want to believe in something so badly," Hynek said. "So they look to the skies for help, they turn to the scientific. Maybe they think little white people will come down and solve the problems of pollution and inflation."

Sheer nonsense

Hynek admits that at one time he too thought the idea of flying saucers was "sheer nonsense." But after studying reports he became convinced that many UFO experiences were real and it was then that he joined the "legion of the bewildered."

"The UFO phenomenon is painting the way to a coming revolution in our thinking," Hynek said. "UFO used to be a dirty word. You'd get your mouth washed out with soap if you talked about it. Now it's easier to discuss."

Hynek said there is a wide spectrum of opinion and that the persons who "accept anything" are as dangerous as the total believers. But a more encompassing feeling, Hynek said, is that "we couldn't take it."

"The idea of a superior civilization about to take over is frightening to some," he added.

Hynek was not able to bluntly state his personal beliefs because, "Rumors grow like mushrooms. Stating my beliefs would be like walking through a cow pasture. It's so easy to get in trouble."

Yet Hynek persuades others who think they have seen a UFO to report it, saying that for every one case that is called in, 10 or 12 are not.

"People don't want others to think they are crazy," he said, "yet in a usual audience, at least 20 people have had some type of UFO experience."

"I would like to reach out to the people who are afraid," Hynek explained. "I want them to know they can report what they've seen with dignity."

He suggests that "those who see a UFO try to get as many other witnesses as possible and take a photograph while noting its appearance, motion, time and duration of the sighting. Then call the center at 491-6666 or a local police station.

'Silvery' hamburgers

Daytime discs and nocturnal lights, both of which Hynek claims to have seen, are two of the three types of sightings known.

Nocturnal lights are described as being engulfing bright lights seen mostly at night. Daylight discs are the "typical garden variety of flying saucers" sometimes described as a silvery hamburger with the meat sticking out the edges. They are know to hover on the ground and then take off with amazing speed. Radar-Visuals are the blips and blurps on radar screens.

And then there are close encounters, of three kinds, a system developed by Hynek which later gave name to the film for which Hynek was the technical advisor.

An encounter of the first kind occurs when a witness sees a UFO but nothing tangible happens. Some physical effect occurs in an encounter of the second type, such as a car stalling or stopping dead.

The third kind are perhaps what interests the general public the most because they are those sightings in which creatures are reported.

"They are described as overgrown gobblins," Hynek said. "They are three to four feet tall with large heads and eyes. In a less number of cases they try to communicate."

But what can be concluded from these encounters and the physical evidence left behind?

"That is exactly our problem," Hynek said. "This is a research problem. If we knew the answer it wouldn't be research. Our job is to study the properties of each report."

However, Hynek revealed some basic theories of what some believe all this to mean. One theory is that certain human beings are being banded or selected and then programmed by another civilization.

A second theory is that our civilization has just become interesting to this unknown phenomenon. Thousands of years ago we were merely "fighting wars and procreating" but when we advanced technologically, this other civilization became interested.

"It's a little like studying kangaroos in Australia," Hynek said. "If they suddenly built an airplane, we'd become curious."

SUBURBAN LIFE GRAPHIC
OAK BROOK, IL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1980

HYNEK, Dr. J. ALLEN

President went back on his UFO pledge -scientists

By BOB ABBORINO

Dr. J. Allen Hynek says UFO facts have overwhelmed Carter.

PRESIDENT Carter is withholding government information about Unidentified Flying Objects, three top scientists claimed this week.

They said he had broken a campaign promise to reveal secret government files on UFOs. They blame political and military pressure.

The charges were leveled by astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek, psychologist Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, and nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman.

"I believe he wants to but cannot," said Dr. Hynek, head of the astronomy department at Northwestern University and of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill.

"I believe the President is overwhelmed by the amount of information he found the government possesses and of the implications if released."

Dr. Sprinkle, professor of psychology at the University of Wyoming, said that Carter "didn't realize the implications of the release of such information," when he made his campaign promise in 1976.

"If there is conclusive proof that UFOs are real, there could be widespread panic around the world. Governments would collapse," Dr. Sprinkle said. "So would entire economic systems.

"Along with the panic, an epidemic of suicides and insanity would follow."

FROM:
S. J. LARSEN FILES

MILWAUKEE, WI ARTICLE MARCH 26, 1981

Hynek on UFOs / Astronomer intrigued with 'interesting phenomenon'

Milwaukee "Northwest Post," March 26, 1981

By Chuck Stevens
Of the Post staff

MILWAUKEE — On the evening of March 20, 1966 87 women and a civil defense director at the Hillsdale College, Michigan reported seeing an unidentified flying object.

What they saw soon became the focus of national attention for several weeks. Watching for nearly four hours from their dormitory, the students and director saw a football-shaped, glowing object which was hovering over a swamp that was a few hundred yards from the dormitory.

At one point, the witnesses said, the object flew at the dormitory, but abruptly stopped and returned to the swamp. The glow from the object also subsided when autos approached and became brighter after the autos had passed.

The next evening, five people including two police officers, in Dexter, about 63 miles from Hillsdale, saw a large glowing object rise out from a swamp and hover at about 1,000 feet and then take off.

The official explanation for the sightings was that decaying vegetation caused a faint glow through spontaneous combustion — swamp gas. That explanation was offered by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a consultant for the Air Force on UFOs and a noted astronomer.

Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies, Evanston, Ill., said in an interview last week that he now regrets his advancing of the swamp gas theory. He was in Milwaukee at the Northridge Shopping Center promoting the CUFOS and as a guest of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization.

In his tenure as a consultant to the Air Force, beginning at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, near Dayton, Ohio, in 1948, Hynek said his attitude toward the study of UFOs changed. The great number of worldwide sightings and the intensity of some of the witnesses' belief in what they reported forged a new outlook for Hynek. "Finally, I said, I cannot go on calling these people dumbbells."

Public and media attitudes haven't followed, however, according to Hynek. "Much of the controversy, buffoonery perhaps on the subject, rises to the attitude that UFO means little green men from outer space." For Hynek, UFOs mean the study of an "interesting phenomenon."

In 1969 Hynek left the Air Force as a consultant. The Air Force's position on UFOs is they are no longer worth studying. Many of the reports to the Air Force were not thoroughly investigated he said. Leaving the Air Force did not end the interest in UFO study for Hynek. In 1973 he helped establish CUFOS, a privately-funded organization made up of about 40 members, many of them scientists.

The subject of UFOs draws skeptics and scoffers alike. Skeptics can offer meaningful, intelligent debate, said Hynek, but scoffers are "so completely closed minded," that they are "locked into a position."

Hynek criticized the media for taking a closedminded role in coverage of UFOs and the subject itself. He said stories on UFO-related incidents have been suppressed.

Acceptance of UFOs as a valid field of study is "slowly, slowly awakening." Hynek said, "To me, I'm intrigued." He didn't have that perception when he first became involved, however. "A person is apt to be down on what he's not up on."

CUFOS receives about 100 reports of sightings per month. "The majority of reports are explainable," maintains Hynek. But many observers of UFO incidents fail to report their sightings or encounters. Hynek calls these witnesses "the legion of the bewildered silent." He said, "They are silent because they are afraid of ridicule." These people are inclined to say: "'Of course I didn't report it. I didn't want people to think I'm crazy.' "

Many UFO reports are from people who are not trying to perpetuate a hoax or are crackpots, said Hynek A large number of the sightings are from military and citizen pilots, and other "highly respectable people."

The phenomena is worldwide in scope, which lends credibility to the existence of verifiable UFO incidents. "One hundred-thirty countries report. It sounds like the roll call of the United Nations," Hynek said.

Hynek never has had a close encounter with a UFO. But he said the experience is "traumatic" for the people who have. "You can't talk them out of it," he said. "To them it's as believable as can be."

A UFO incident to be verifiable, must be determined not to be an IFO — indentifiable flying object. "If it stumps the experts, then it's a UFO."

A recent UFO encounter occurred in Texas. According to Hynek, two women and a child were traveling a highway in a car when a bright light stopped the car. One woman lost her hair, suffering blisters over her body and the other is going blind Although it "sounds like a cock and bull story," Hynek said the encounter has been documented and verified.

But because most of the persons associated with CUFOS are working full time and are involved in other activities, investigation work is also done by volunteers into UFO reports. These people are usually "just interest parties," said Hynek.

Reports are also funneled to the center from police departments. Hynek was chairman of the department of astronomy at Northwestern University for 15 years and is now professor emeritus there. Through his ties to the university an 800 telephone number is available for police departments. "We do get three to four calls a night from police departments."

The Air Force no longer accepts UFO reports and the "safest" manner to handle a UFO report is to call the center. The center is also interested in persons becoming associates and having people with technical backgrounds act as local investigators.

For a local investigator, the "ideal person" would be a high school science teacher — "he certainly can tell a meteor from a hole in the ground," noted Hynek.

The center, P.O. Box 1402 Evanston, Ill. 60204, can also be contacted by telephone, (312) 491-6666, for sightings or information on becoming an associate said Hynek. The center is working to become more visible for attracting members he added.

The study of UFOs is deserving, according to Hynek. The Smithsonian Institute held a seminar on UFOs recently and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has asked Hynek to write a lengthy paper on UFOs. "That would have been impossible 10 years ago."

If UFOs are just natural phenomena, that would be "interesting," Hynek said, but if they are "truly off this earth, then it's even more interesting."

INDEPENDENT or ANDERSON, S.C. ARTICLE JUL 25, 1981

Ridicule Obstructs Serious UFO Study

By J. Allen Hynek

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UFOs are difficult to take seriously.

Three aspects in particular have led to their general dismissal by the scientific community: the preponderance of *identified* flying objects; the space-age-spawned belief in the concept of "we are not alone" (and its corolary, "We've gone to the moon so why can't they come here?"); and the few but highly visible "true believers" who have adopted the idea of celestial visitors with quasi-religious fervor...

These emotional, even neurotic aspects of the UFO scene could easily lead to the conclusion that the UFO phenomenon is utter rubbish. But this impugns the integrity, and perhaps the competence, of our scientists, pilots, engineers, and others judged sane and responsible who have related sober albeit incredible accounts of UFO encounters. These certainly cannot be put into the same category as alleged visits to Venus and Mars.

After many years of experience with virtually all aspects of the UFO phenomenon, I have come to believe that if we "precipitate out" the essential elements from the chaos of "popular ufology," we will uncover a new empirical phenomenon, perhaps comparable to the first glimpses of microorganisms by Leeuwenhoek or Jupiter's satellites by Galileo. Unfortunately, the process may be almost as taxing as Madame Curie's extraction of a gram of radium from several tons of pitchblende.

This hasn't already been done because in the face of overwhelming ridicule, it has been impossible to obtain qualified personnel and the necessary funds to treat the subject seriously and professionally.

If, in due course, grants for professional study of the UFO phenomenon do become available, how might we proceed? The late astronomer Henry Norris Russell set a fine example in "The Origin of the Solar System." He didn't quite solve the problem, but he did set down the known properties of the solar system for which any viable theory must account.

In our search for the properties of the UFO phenomenon, do we find anything that sets it apart from the everyday world? The answer appears to be yes.

The UFO phenomenon, whatever its origin, is largely localized in both space and time. For example, unlike commercial aircraft, which can be tracked as they pass over town after town, a UFO is rarely observed in more than one locality, and virtually never is it seen sequentially. Like the Cheshire Cat in "Alice in Wonderland," it appears almost out of nowhere, makes its presence known, and then disappears.

Alice's cat had only one witness. Records show that about two-thirds of the cases involve two or more witnesses, but they very rarely have a host of witnesses. This has been the primary objection of some who might otherwise take UFO reports seriously: Why so few witnesses?

The selective appearance of the UFO suggests deliberate staging, but on whose part?

Beyond these reported properties must be added even more bizarre "paranormal" characteristics. In addition to "materialization," "dematerialization," and change of form, implausible accelerations, speeds, and "instantaneous" changes in position without any apparent travel time have also been frequently reported. Although seemingly incredible, these paranormal aspects are too well documented to be disregarded.

We are apparently faced with a dualism similar to the wave-particle dualism of light that physicists had to confront a century ago.

On one hand, the UFO exhibits a physical nature: It can be seen and photographed, registers on radar, and can interact with the environment. On the other hand, it behaves as though it were obeying laws yet unknown to physics.

We may have to accept the possibility that the UFO phenomenon is beyond conventional, straightforward explanation, perhaps as the true source of the sun's light was beyond Kelvin and Helmholtz, who held stoutly to their "contraction theory" at the close of the 19th century — that as the sun shrank under the influence of gravity, potential energy was transformed into kinetic energy.

The concept of the sun as a "nuclear energy device" was, of course, totally beyond them. Indeed, when told that fossils from the distant past proved that the sun must have been shining then as at present, Kelvin would have none of it. Perhaps if Kelvin had been more of a philosopher, he might have pondered whether the fossils were telling him something. Likewise, perhaps we should ponder whether the UFO phenomenon is telling us something.

J. Allen Hynek is a professor emeritus and former chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University and founder of the Center for UFO studies in Evanston, Ill. **© 1981 by Technology Review. Reprinted by permission.**

BERKSHIRE EAGLE
PITTSFIELD, MA

ARTICLE

JUL 27, 1981

Notes and Footnotes

WHEN THE matter of UFOs attracts the attention of so staid a publicaton as *The Christian Science Monitor*, we guess it's time to listen seriously. In the science section of the July 15 edition appears an article headlined: "UFOs: It's Time for a Scientific Approach." Author is J. Allen Hynek, professor emeritus and former chairman of the department of astronomy at Northwestern University, and founder of the Center for UFO Studies at Evanston, Ill.

Professor Hynek reports that in addition to the emotional "true believers" in UFOs, there are many scientists, pilots, engineers and others judged sane and responsible who have related sober, albeit incredible, accounts of UFO encounters.

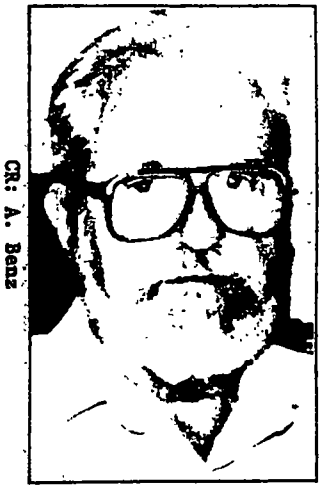
. . . Records show that about two-thirds of the cases involve two or more witnesses, but they rarely have a host of witnesses." He sums up thus: "The selective appearance of the UFOs indicates deliberate staging, but on whose part? For example, it's frequently stated that a UFO landed 'on the road, directly in front of our car.' Why not far off to the side? Why directly in plain view, but then only to a handful of people?"

He touches on the "paranormal" characteristics reported by observers: "In addition to 'materialization,' 'dematerialization' and change of form, implausible accelerations, speeds and 'instantaneous' change in position without any apparent travel time have also been frequently reported . . . and are too well documented to be disregarded." The UFO "behaves as though it were obeying laws yet unknown to physics." He would have scientists sift out the paranormal aspects of sightings and possibly arrive at now-unknown aspects of physics, perhaps, as he speculates, a bridge or connection between the material and the psychic.

"Should we look to distant star systems for the solution to UFOs," he ponders, "or much closer to a metaterrestrial rather than an extraterrestial hypothesis?" The piece was excerpted from an article in the July issue of *Technology Review*.

Astronomer hopes for scientific evidence of UFOs at Phoenix center

ARIZONA DAILY STAR, Tucson, AZ - Aug. 20, 1984



CR: A. Benz

The Associated Press

J. Allen Hynek

By James E. Walters
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Astronomer J. Allen Hynek, after 36 years of trying to solve the riddle of unidentified flying objects, is shifting his research facility to Phoenix to make a massive scientific push for the answer

"I think we're much in the position George Washington would have been if a helicopter had hovered over Valley Forge, landed and two men got out and began talking to other helicopters overhead," he said. "No one today would question the technology of helicopters and walkie-talkies. But how could Washington have comprehended them?"

Considered by many as the world authority on UFOs, Hynek expects to produce something never before accomplished — "evidence that will stand up in the scientific community, taking the subject once and for all out of the realm of the crackpots."

He's not sure where this will lead. But he thinks the UFO sighting reports may be a conditioning process by someone or something "smart enough to realize they didn't want to scare the hell out of us."

Hynek, now 74 and retired chairman of Northwestern University's astronomy department, said he "was sure it was all nonsense" when he began a 20-year association with U.S Air Force projects that eventually concluded UFOs didn't exist. But by 1970 he was convinced the UFO phenomenon was real.

Hynek's scientific credentials include his having directed NASA's Lunar Surveillance Project, part of the Apollo program. He also is a former associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

He founded and is director of the Center for UFO Studies at Evanston, Ill. His book, "The UFO Experience," was the basis of the film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," for which he also was technical adviser.

"I think the time is ripe for massive research into the UFO phenomumen," he said in a weekend interview. "The job has to be taken from the crackpot era to respectable science. That's going to be my contribution. I don't expect to solve the problem. I don't know that the solution will come within the next century, but a start must be made in making the subject respectable "

His plans for a research center envision spending perhaps as much as $2 million a year and focusing on the best half-dozen or so UFO sightings each year — much as a homicide investigation is handled, with scientific experts checking every aspect.

"I would assign a team and they could take as much time as needed, two weeks, two months, or two years or whatever, to produce a technical report that would stand the scrutiny of the scientific community — something that's never been done."

He also has in mind 15 or 16 research projects for starters. "For instance, we have case after case after case in which UFOs were reported to have interferred with the operation of an automobile," Hynek said. "Now think of the military value of something like that, if we were able to stop military vehicles coming at us."

He said other projects and recent UFO sightings will be discussed further at a news conference Wednesday.

Hynek said a "financial backer" who desired anonymity agreed to underwrite a move of the research facilities to Phoenix, though dispensing of information will remain at Evanston, at least for now. Other funds, Hynek hopes, will come from contributions

"The sky is the limit on how much money is needed I'd like to see something like the Manhattan Project (which produced the atom bomb)," he said "But solid research can be done for around $100,000 a year to start."

"I think someday that what we now regard as UFOs will be as common as TV is today," he added. "I'm not saying they're flesh and blood. They do know something we don't "

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - Aug. 22, 1984 CR: R. Heiden

UFO research goes scientific

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — An expert on unidentified flying objects is moving his research headquarters to Phoenix, where he hopes to shift the study of UFOs "from the crackpot era to respectable science."

Astronomer J. Allen Hynek, 74, who spent 20 years working with the Air Force on UFO research and heads the Center for UFO Studies, plans to spend $2 million a year studying the best reported sightings.

'More-open attitude'

With the backing of a sponsor he declined to identify, the former Northwestern University astronomy department chairman and director of the Lunar Surveillance Project — part of the Apollo program — said he will move the center's research operations from Evanston, Ill.

Hynek said he chose Arizona because it is a center for astronomical research, has a burgeoning high-technology industry and "people in general have a more-open attitude . . .

"I think the time is ripe for massive research into the UFO phenomenon," said Hynek, whose book "The UFO Experience" was the basis for the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

"The job has to be taken from the crackpot era to respectable science. That's going to be my contribution. I don't expect to solve the problem. I don't know that the solution will come within the next century, but a start must be made . . ."

Valley Forge example

Hynek, a former associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, said that part of the problem in explaining UFOs is that to arrive here from the nearest star is beyond the capabilities of Earth's current technology.

"I think we're much in the position George Washington would have been in if a helicopter had hovered over Valley Forge, landed and two men got out and began talking to other helicopters overhead," he said.

He suggested that UFO sightings are part of a conditioning process by beings "smart enough to realize they didn't want to scare us.

"I think someday that what we now regard as UFOs will be as common as TV is today. I'm not saying they're flesh and blood. They do know something we don't."

Hynek gathers 1,000 UFO encounters of 'best' kind

By Phillip J. O'Connor

J. Allen Hynek, perhaps the nation's premier UFO enthusiast and the man who coined the phrase "close encounter of the third kind," is at it again.

Hynek, who last year moved his Center for UFO Research from Evanston to Scottsdale, Ariz., currently is feeding into a computer information on 1,000 of the "most unique" sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Hynek, who turned 75 on May 1, said he gleaned the 1,000 most interesting cases from his catalog of 80,000 UFO sightings, compiled over 37 years, and plans to use the data to try to win more respect for UFO research.

He said in an interview he plans to write a report on the 1,000 "very best" sightings and present it to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. And he hopes his report will be published in a scientific journal.

"You can keep talking in your own group [UFO believers], but it is like the converted talking to the converted," he said. "We need to present this information to the scientific world, in a fully acceptable scientific manner."

J. Allen Hynek

Asked if he's reached any conclusions on the source of unexplained UFOs, Hynek was noncommital.

"I do carry a sort of scientific banner on the subject," he said. "If I were to say something [a conclusion], it could be jumped on or overemphasized."

He said there have been few interesting UFO sightings in the Chicago area or most urban areas. "The really interesting UFO cases are in rural areas, generally at night and with relatively few people around," he said. "I don't know why."

Hynek, who taught astronomy at Northwestern University for 13 years, housed his UFO research center in a few rooms in his Evanston home before moving to Arizona, where it is located in a town house separate from his home.

Hynek built up a cadre of Chicago-area volunteers and was reluctant to phase out their operations. And so before he left here, he opened a Center for UFO Studies in Glenview, headed by Sherman Larsen, who is retired.

The Glenview center publishes a $20-a-year International UFO Reporter and Hynek flies here every two months to meet with its board.

He said he moved to Arizona primarily because he came up with a wealthy benefactor, who divides his time between Arizona and Britain.

Hynek, always strapped for research money while living in Evanston, declined to identify the benefactor or say how much money he's provided.

Before moving to Arizona, Hynek said he wanted $2 million for UFO research.

He said the new computer data will be valuable in making comparisons as future UFO sightings are reported.

A retired physicist, Willy Smith of Orlando, Fla., and Smith's wife, Terry, an AT&T computer programmer, are assisting in compiling computer data. Hynek's wife, Miriam, also aids in his research.

J. Allen Hynek, Astronomer And U.F.O. Consultant, Dies

By JOAN COOK

J. Allen Hynek, an astrophysicist and consultant to an Air Force project to assess reports of unidentified flying objects, died of a malignant brain tumor Sunday at Memorial Hospital in Scottsdale, Ariz. He was 75 years old.

Dr. Hynek, who moved to Scottsdale from Evanston, Ill., a year ago, was for 18 years professor and chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University and director of its Dearborn Observatory, until he retired in 1978. He was involved in the Air Force U.F.O. research effort from 1948 to 1969.

Often his task for the Air Force was to examine at first hand more substantial reports of flying saucers and the like. In 1966, after a rash of sightings in Michigan, he went to the area to take charge of the investigation. After interviewing scores of people, he ascribed certain sightings to luminous marsh gas rather that something from space. Nevertheless, he said, "Scientists in the year 2066 may think us very naive in our denials."

He long asserted that U.F.O 's should be taken seriously and he eventually became displeased with the Air Force approach. He said that its methods were slipshod and that it was not conducting a scientific study. The Air Force, in turn, concluded that there was no evidence of extraterrestrial craft and the U.F.O. project was abandoned.

He Avoids 'UF.O. Nut' Label

In an interview in 1974, Dr. Hynek said that he had remained with the program as long as he did to retain access to Air Force data and to avoid being marked a "U.F O. nut."

Dr. Hynek founded the Center for U.F.O. Studies in Evanston in 1973 [redacted]

He is credited with coining the phrase "close encounters of the third kind" to describe humans meeting creatures from space. He used the phrase in his 1972 book "The U.F.O. Experience" and it became the title of the 1977 Steven Spielberg film, on which he served as technical adviser.

When a reporter once suggested that Dr. Hynek he might be remembered not as an astromer but as the man who made U.F.O.'s respectable, he replied: "I wouldn't mind. If I can succeed in making the study of U.F.O.'s scientifically respectable and do something constructive in it, then I thunk that would be a real contribution."

He resigned from the center he founded a few months ago for ill health, according to the director, Tina Choate.

He Worked on Proximity Fuse

In World War II, Dr. Hynek was a civilian scientist at the Johns Hopkins Applied Science Laboratory, where he helped to develop the Navy's radio proximity fuze.

Josef Allen Hynek was born in Chicago, Ill., to Czechoslovak parents He graduated from the University of Chicago in 1931 and earned a Ph.D degree there in 1935

He joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Ohio State in 1936. After the war he returned there, rising to full professor in 1950.

In 1956 he left to join Prof. Fred Whipple, the Harvard astronomer, at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, which had combined with the Harvard Observatory at Harvard. Dr. Hynek had the assignment of directing the tracking of an American space satellite, a project for the International Geophysical Year in 1956 and thereafter.

In addition to 247 optical stations around the world, there were to be 12 photographic stations. A special camera was devised for the task and a prototype was built and tested and then stripped apart again when, on Oct. 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched its first satellite, Sputnik.

Assumed the U.S Would Be First

"We had always assumed that the United States would have the first satellite," Dr. Hynek said ruefully at the time. "If I've ever had a traumatic experience, that was it."

Observations of the Soviet satellite were received, and with twice-daily news conferences, Dr. Hynek and Dr. Whipple began to reassure the public after what Dr. Hynek called "this intellectual Pearl Harbor, a real gutsy sock to the stomach."

Once things in satellite tracking settled down to a routine, Dr. Hynek went back to teaching, taking the chairmanship at Northweatern in 1960.

He is survived by his wife, the former Miriam Curtis; four sons and a daughter, Scott Josef, of Waltham, Mass.; Joel Curtis, of Leonia, N.J., Paul Curtis, of Scottsdale, Ross Allen, of Lake Forest, Ill., Roxane, of Hanover, Mass.; and five grandchildren.

The New York Times

J. Allen Hynek

DR. LAWRENCE W. SLOAN

Dr. Lawrence Wells Sloan, a specialist in diseases of the thyroid gland, died Tuesday, as the result of a stroke, in a nursing home in Hightstown, N.J. He was 89 years old and lived in the Riverdale section of the Bronx.

Dr. Sloan joined the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center as an associate professor of clinical surgery in 1947 and remained on its teaching staff until 1961, when he became professor emeritus. He was a former president of the American Thyroid Association.

He was born in Salt Lake City. Dr. Sloan graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1925.

Surviving are three daughters, Elizabeth Lewis of White Plains, Carolyn Carpenter of Hershey, Pa., and Ann-Lawrie Aisa of Prescott, Ariz.; six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

DEWITT S. HYDE

WASHINGTON, April 30 (AP) — DeWitt S. Hyde, who served 20 years as a Municipal Court judge here and spent three terms in the House as a Republican Congressman from Maryland, died of pneumonia on April 25. He was 77 years old

In 1959, President Eisenhower appointed Mr. Hyde to a 10-year term on the old District of Columbia Court of General Sessions, less than a year after he was defeated in his bid for a fourth term in the House. He was named to a second 10-year term by President Nixon in 1969.

Judge Hyde retired in 1979 from what had then become the District's Superior Court.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred.

Service for Nathan Goldstein

A memorial service for Nathan W. Goldstein, former circulation director of The New York Times, will be held at 1 P.M. on May 9 at St. Malachy's Roman Catholic Church, 239 West 49th Street. Mr. Goldstein, who retired in 1978, died April 15 at the age of 78.

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Monday through Friday
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The New York Times

ROBERT B. MACKALL

Robert B Mackall, former president of Arthur Schmidt & Associates, a New York financial public relations firm, died of cancer Sunday at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center. He was 68 years old and lived in Manhattan

Mr. Mackall joined the Schmidt firm in 1955 and became president in 1959. He retired last year.

He was born in East Palestine, Ohio, and attended Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

He is survived by a brother, Donald C., and a sister, Adena Robertson, both of North Canton, Ohio, and a son, Robert L., of Manhattan.

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The New York Times

DEATH NOTICES

KOSMIAN—Henry On April 29, 86. Husband of Micheiene Herard Vonderschueren Funeral

Asbury Willard
Brewer Viola
Frazier Elizabeth
Frizzell Estelle
Gist Harry
Morris Cornelius
Perlin, Stanley
Rotowsky Samuel

LESLIE—Dean J April 29 Beloved husband of Esther Devoted father of Steven, David and Eileen Lovin grandfather of Harris and Lisa

STRAUSS—Lou The Town Club announces with profound sorrow the death of its beloved and esteemed member

HYNEK

People Are Saying . . .

UFO REPORTERS, is what Dr. J. Allen Hynek calls those who report seeing objects which they cannot identify, in his new book, "The UFO Experience—A Scientific Inquiry".

Dr. Hynek, who chairs the Dept. of Astronomy at Northwestern University, spent 22 years looking into the UFO mystery. He was the astronomer in charge to weed out obvious cases of astronomical phenomena — meteors, planets, twinkling stars and other natural occurrences which would give rise to "flying saucer" stores, under Project Sign ('47) through the Condon Report.

In his book he tells of the thousands of reports — of which are acknowledged cases in Blue Book files alone, which remain puzzling after competent investigation was conducted.

Dr. Hynek explains how the data gathered has been treated in the past, first by the Air Force, and then by the Condon Committee, then his suggestion for a positive program for the study of the UFO phenomenon.

Part II of the book, Chapters 8, 9, 10, on "Close Encounters," first, second and third kinds, will take the reader from himself — suddenly he's experiencing the sighting himself.

In the Third Encounter, Dr. Hynek tells of sessions where the two UFO reporters under hypnosis, revealed some chilling experiences .

Dr. Hynek shows the case for UFOs not closed, the UFO thesis has not been disproved, and suggests a means whereby a process of scientific verification can be established.

Meantime UFO sightings by "reporters" — (those who report seeing objects) continue to be made, reported by local press, and continue to plague the scientific set, at least those who believe an in-depth study could and should be made.

The book by Henry Regnery Co., a Cowles Book Co., $6.95, highly recommended.

HYNEK

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center, NW University, Ill. . . . "UFO's are now a respectable subject for scientific study."

What to Do About 'Saucers'

Photo of a "flying saucer" taken in Rouen, France, in 1954.

BY WESLEY HARTZELL

FIRST MARTIAN: "But I tell you I saw a flying saucer way up there near Phobos taking pictures. And I'll bet it was from Earth!"

SECOND MARTIAN: "Aw, go climb in a crater, you kook! Our air force says there isn't any such thing as a flying saucer. Particularly from Earth, because you know our last Martianer IV space probe showed us Earth's atmosphere was too dense and the temperature too hot for life as we know it."

Tell a joke like the above to Northwestern university astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek and he will acknowledge its point at once with a grin. But he will still insist that none of the more than 9,000 flying saucers reported since 1947 is a space ship bearing visitors from Mars, Venus, or any place else outside our own planet.

HIS OPINION is authoritative. He is the special "unidentified flying object" consultant to the air force and is notified whenever anyone reports a strange object in the sky to the authorities.

Lately Dr. Hynek's phone has been ringing off its hook at the Harvard college observatory in Cambridge, Mass., where he is in summer residence. Since our Mariner IV space probe took pictures of Mars last month, there has been a new wave of UFO sightings. Latest batch of UFO's were reported last week over eight states, including Illinois.

DR. ALLEN J. HYNEK

INTERVIEWED by telephone, Dr. Hynek said:

"I'm very curious because so many people saw them. At least 3,000 calls came in at one spot."

Asked if the sightings could be explained by any natural phenomena such as meteor showers, he said:

There was a meteor shower on the two nights the UFOs were sighted—the 'aquarids' which come every year at this time. But I'm not saying this was the reason. In general, meteor showers do not produce a wave of flying saucer reports."

He said there was no radar confirmation of the sightings, and added:

"In the absence of any radar evidence, the conclusion to be drawn is that they were just optical phenomena, a star winkle or meteor."

THE MARINER IV, he said, very likely brought on a psychological reaction among many people. He said

"It gave a lot of people an excuse to see things. And people like to see things."

Satellites orbiting the earth are "forever being reported as unidentified objects," the astronomer said. There is an awful pile of hardware zooming around up above.

Not all sightings are easily explained or identified, said Dr. Hynek. Of the 9,127 UFOs reported since the first, 667 remain the the category of mysteries. He said:

"Some of these are rather eerie. But there is no way to assemble enough evidence really to validate or invalidate them scientifically."

THE FIRST flying saucers ever reported are still somewhat of a mystery, he said. In June, 1947, a group of UFOs were reported disporting themselves around mountain peaks in Washington. Said Dr. Hynek:

"The tops of the peaks seem to be cut off from their bases and appear to be floating in the sky. It is probably due to some atmospheric effect which at the same time causes them to shimmer and seem to move."

One of the scientific difficulties connected with being a flying saucer consultant is that very few people who see the UFOs collect good evidence. He has some advice for the public on "What to Do While Watching a Flying Saucer." He said:

"First notice the time, and the duration of its flight. This is terribly important. Hold out your hand at arm's length and see how long the object takes to cross from the thumb to the little finger of your hand. Next, try to estimate how bright it is. Compare it to a star, or the moon, or an airplane beacon or something whose brightness can be determined. Then judge the direction of its flight.

"Then report the details to the nearest airbase. In Chicago it's at O'Hare field."

Dr. Hynek anticipates that once the knowledge gets around that Mars is probably lifeless (as indicated by the Mariner IV pictures) the flying saucer reports are likely to go way down in number.

The astronomer looks forward to this. He and his telephone both will get some rest.

HYNEK, DR. J. ALLEN

Some UFOs Could Be Phoneys

By The Associated Press

Swamp gas and the changing seasons, ball lightning and bright stars may all contribute to the cycles of UFO sightings.

For more than 20 years, the Air Force investigated unidentified flying objects, finally concluding in December 1969 that its project Blue Book was no longer justified either for security or science.

But closing the book obviously had little, if any, effect on the UFOs. Sightings continued, as they have in recent days.

The modern flying saucer era in the United States began in 1947 when a businessman-pilot reported seeing nine strange moving objects over Mt. Rainier. A decade later there were a host of reports from Texas, New Mexico and Southern California. In 1965, there were worldwide sightings. In the Antarctic, a sighting coincided with disruption of electromagnetic equipment.

The Blue Book ascribed the bulk of sightings to aircraft, weather, sounding balloons, satellites, meteors, bright stars and planets, missiles, searchlights, clouds, birds, reflections, temperature inversions, mirages, electric wires sparking and swamp gas, and others added ball lightning and plasmas of ionized air.

"Sightings vary according to weather and how much publicity any sightings receive nationally," one expert said. "If publicity continues for several days, sighting reports go up throughout the country as well as in the original locality. Sightings pick up in the spring and fall when meteorological changes are more common."

But for all this, some sightings remain unexplained. In the latest rash of sightings, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Northwestern University astronomer, says all the cases should be thoroughly investigated by a special official agency.

DR. J. ALLEN

PLOT THEM ON A MAP

Professor Wants to Become 'Ralph Nader for UF

EVANSOTON, Ill. (UPI) — Dr. Allen Hynek chairman of Northwestern University's astronomy department, says he would like to become a "Ralph Nader for unidentified flying objects" to quell rising fears of strange lights and hairy creatures.

Hynek said that a government agency should be established to study UFOs and until it is, he volunteered to head a UFO task force.

The astronomer said that if recent UFO reports continue to multiply, "It could set the stage for a panic situation.

"There's no place for citizens to go and make a report to," Hynek said. "The police don't know how to handle it, and in some places the police are almost abusive. They'll ask a guy what he's been drinking.

"At least somebody should keep track of what is going on —make a record of the reports and plot them on map. I wouldn't mind being sort of a Ralph Nader for UFOs for a while. I wonder how he gets his money to do things."

Hynek's proposal in 1966 for establishment of an institute on UFO's helped lead to the formation of the "Condon committee," named after University of Colorado professor Harry Condon, which gathered UFO reports from 1967-69.

"If there ever was a miscarriage of justice that was it," Hynek said. "They didn't solve anything. They simply said the Air Force investigation should be discontinued because they didn't feel anything scientifically worthwhile would come out of the investigation, a conclusion with which I definitely disagreed."

Hynek said he has not called for re-establishment of a UFO committee in the last three years because "the subject was seemingly dead." He has remained conservative in his statements about UFO's but said he believes some of the sightings are more than fantasy.

"I would say that many of these men have had a very real and frightening experience," he said of persons who have reported UFO's.

Hynek said the proper agency to investigate UFO's would be the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) "because they're supposed to be hunting for life elsewhere."

"But the whole thing would be so controversial that I don't think NASA would want to get into it on its won initiative," he said. "They might be open to criticism for dickering around with tom-foolery.

"But I think NASA would be willing to undertake it if they had a directive from Congress to undertake it.

Author Discusses

UFO Sightings No Longer Include Pink Elephants

Contrary to popular belief, today's sightings of UFO's have moved away from the era of Greek mythology's winged horses and Walt Disney's flying pink elephant, says Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

The astronomer, who spoke to a group of students and faculty members Thursday, at East Texas State University, said that most psychologists today have come to the conclusion that people see only what they want to see. But Hynek countered with the fact that people he has come into contact with have almost always tried to explain their experiences in some rational way first.

"To people who have witnessed a UFO sighting," he explained, it is a "real typically crackpot doesn't usually have the ability to sit down and write a logical and coherent report of a UFO sighting.

Dr. Hynek, who is director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center at Northwestern University, said that UFO sightings fit into a number of categories. The categories are nocturnal light, daylight discs, radar visual cases, and close encounters.

He explained close encounters as the sighing of an object within 25-500 feet. During these close encounters witnesses have reported seeing humanoid creatures.

"It makes one wonder whether fairy stories or the myth of the little green men have some truth to them." he said.

Dr. Hyndk is author of a recent book, "The UFO Experience, a Scientific Inquiry' (Regenery, Chicage, 1972), which states the case for belief in UFO's. He served for 20 years as the scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force "Project Blue Book," which ultimately discounted the existance of UFO's

In the book, he explains that the researchers who deny the existance of UFO's tend to investigate only cases where it is proven that the UFO was a natural phenomenon. He said that cases of UFO sightings which were not so easily explained were ignored.

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from outer space and also helped spur a tremendously

FO Studies a Science

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THEIR BEST BUYS

HYNEK, DR. J. ALLEN

DENNIS STACY

An interview with Dr. Hynek, leading expert on UFO mystery

Probably no other name is so prominently associated with the UFO phenomenon in the public mind as that of J. Allen Hynek, professor emeritus of astronomy at Northwestern University and director of the Center for UFO Studies, in Evanston, Ill. That association began on a spring day in 1948 when Hynek, then an astronomer at Ohio State University's Perkins Observatory, was approached by three men from Wright-Patterson AFB and asked what he thought about "flying saucers." Hynek said they "were a lot of junk and nonsense. That seemed to please them, so they got down to business"

Business turned out to be acting as a consultant in astronomy for the Air Force's fledgling UFO investigations program, Project Sign, a capacity in which he duly served for 20 years. The name changed from Sign to Grudge to Blue Book, but the Air Force attitude was basically intractable: UFOs did not exist, therefore there had to be prosaic explanations such as weather balloons, misidentified aircraft and the almost omnipresent Venus.

It was Hynek's job to provide a great number of those explanations, a sometimes odious task that culminated in the now infamous "swamp gas" sightings in Michigan in 1966, and which led directly to the House of Representatives' investigation called for by then Rep. Gerald Ford.

"It seemed to me that from the scientific point of view a lot of data was being washed down the drain. So I said let's do something and make a Center for UFO Studies."

By the time of the Condon Report and the dissolution of Project Blue Book in 1969, Hynek's attitudes had undergone a 180-degree turnaround best expressed in his own words He was interviewed at the recent MUFON Mutual UFO Network Symposium at the Sheraton-Huntington Hotel in Pasadena, Calif.

Dr. Hynek, your change from a hardboiled skeptic to a more receptive approach toward the study of the UFO phenomenon is fairly well known by now. What caused that attitudinal shift?

Two things, really. One was the completely negative and unyielding attitude of the Air Force itself. It became apparent that they simply weren't going to give UFOs the *chance* of existing, even if they were walking up and down the street in broad daylight. Everything *had* to have an explanation I began to resent that, even though I basically felt the same way, because I still thought they weren't going about it in the right way. You can't assume that everything is black, no matter what.

Secondly, the caliber of the witnesses began to trouble me. Quite a few incidents were being reported by military pilots, for example, and since I knew them to be a fairly well-trained group on the whole, this is when I first began to think that, well, maybe there is something to this after all.

The famous "swamp gas" case which came later on finally pushed me over the edge. From that point on, I began to look at reports from a different angle, which was to say that some of them could be true UFOs.

As your own attitude changed, what about the Air Force's toward you? Did the air begin to chill?

Oh, most definitely. Toward the end I was barely speaking with Maj. Quintanilla, who was in charge. We had started as really good friends and then things got very bad because he had one lieutenant who was such a nincompoop, it seemed to me. Everything *had* to be Jupiter or Venus, or this or that. You have no idea what a closed mind, what a closed attitude it was. I kept doggedly on, but I can safely say that the whole time I was with the Air Force we never had anything that resembled a really good scientific dialogue on the subject.

I was with them right up until the very end, but it was just on paper. No one had cut the chicken's head off yet, but the chicken was definitely dead. The last days at Blue Book were just a perfunctory shuffling of papers.

The best I could do was play Kepler to the Air Force's Tycho Brahe. If you remember that story from the history of astronomy, Brahe had the observations and didn't know what to do with them, and Kepler, who was nearsighted and couldn't make the observations, did.

I knew the Air Force was getting the data and I wanted a look at it, so I made very full use of the copying machines at Wright-Patterson.

Following the furor over the 1966 Michigan sightings, some of which you thought might be attributable to methane, or "swamp gas," the Air Force convened the University of Colorado committee which resulted in the Condon Report, a basically negative review of the subject. But what was going on with the UFO phenomenon itself, during and immediately after?

Well, as you know, the Condon Report said that a group of scientists had gotten together, looked at UFOs, and that the subject was dead. What happened, of course, was that the Air Force, instead of going to a group of universities, as the Brian O'Brien committee had recommended, went to a university and a man, Physicist Edward U. Condon, who they were certain would be very hardnosed about it and he was. Fortunately, the UFOs didn't bother to read the report and during the flap of 1973, they came back in force.

It was at the time that I just got totally disturbed. It seemed to me that from the scientific point of view a lot of data was being lost, washed down the drain. There was no longer anyone minding the store. So instead of just waving my hands wildly about in the air, I said let's do something and make a Center for UFO Studies.

One of your major contributions to the public's awareness of the UFO phenomenon was your classification of Close Encounters into three kinds, which ultimately resulted in a blockbuster movie by Steven Spielberg. How did you come to arrive at such a system?

About 1970, right after the Air Force fiasco, I thought it would be interesting to write up some of my experiences. In writing up the Air Force cases I first of all divided them into two separate groups. I wasn't going to assume any kind of classification that would depend on a theory of origin. I wanted something that was completely *observational* in nature.

Well, the first obvious observation was, did you see it far away from you or close up to you? I chose to call near sightings, say within 500 feet, Close Encounters. Then quite naturally the Close Encounters divided themselves into three groups. There were those that were close, but didn't do anything, those that were close and did something, and those that were close and had creatures in them or around them. So I now had Close Encounters of the First, Second and Third kinds. I didn't think the classification would take off and fly like it did, it was mostly for my own edification, a way of separating the cases I had.

How did the movie itself arise? Did Spielberg call you up and ask to use the name?

No, the other way around actually. I'd heard that Spielberg was making a movie called "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," so I called him up and we had a very nice talk. He apparently wanted to make some kind of financial arrangement with me and here I made a very *bad* mistake. Unfortunately, I said, "Be my guest." Of course it's impossible to copyright a title alone, so he didn't pay a thing for its use. He was kind enough, however, to ask me to be technical consultant to the movie, so that worked out very well.

You received a fee for that work, then?

A very small fee, I actually lost money. What happened was that my publisher withheld $25,000 in royalties from the sale of my book "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry." The argument was that I had sold the movie rights to Hollywood. I pointed out that I might be a dumb professor, but I wasn't so dumb as to know you don't sell movie rights for a thousand dollars. Finally, the thing was settled with me getting $15,000 and paying $9,000 in legal fees out of that, so I didn't get very much. Some people think I made a lot of money out of the movie, but I didn't. I lost.

1977-81

UFO reports sifted

Most are explained

By Robert R. Brunn
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Washington

People in more than a dozen states, perhaps cutting their lawns for the first time at twilight, are heralding the return of the UFO season. All of them have reported in recent weeks sightings of "unidentified flying objects."

Some see "flying saucers." Others see vividly glowing objects hovering and flitting through the spring night air.

No matter how puzzling or fanciful, however, these strange incidents continue to be matters of governmental concern.

Air Force Secretary Harold Brown, for example, talks about the phenomena without a smile. A nuclear physicist, he will soon ask a few universities to form scientific teams to investigate promptly, and in depth, about 100 selected UFO sightings this year.

646 reports unexplained

Since 1949, after all, 646 of 10,147 UFO reports remain unexplained. Moreover, some of the explanations appear to have little evidence to support them.

Air Force officers can find humor in some UFO reports, but every citizen's report is carefully tracked down and the results filed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base at Dayton, Ohio. A three-man office in Ohio is always asking, "Is the national security at stake?"

Last year 886 skyborne "somethings" were reported. Of them, 16 were never explained. The year 1952 holds the record—1,501 reports. An average year brings between 400 and 600 reports.

After 19 years of investigating each UFO report, the Air Force still states:

Associated Press

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

'Enough puzzling sightings have been reported . . . to warrant closer attention.'

- No threat to the national security has been discovered.
- No technological developments or principles beyond the range of today's knowledge are involved.
- No evidence has turned up that mysterious devices from outer space exist.

The Air Force cites evidence from leading observatories against its critics. The Air Force Scientific Advisory Board asserts that not a single unidentified object has been seen on the great observatories' photo plates.

The board says none has been seen on some 5,000 plates of the Palomar Observa-

★ **Please turn to Page 6**

B

SCIENCE AND THE UFO PHENOMENON

The basic thrust of my paper is: While no one knows exactly what "UFOS" are (since to the best of my knowledge we have none in captivity), it is equally clear that no one can deny the existence of the "UFO Phenomenon" if this is appropriately defined as the continued flow (albeit small) of Reports of UFOs, from virtually all over the world, the patterns in the contents of those reports, and the broad scope of those who generate the reports (often these are persons of excellent technical training and high standing in their communities). This is why I choose to speak of the UFO Phenomenon rather than of the UFO.

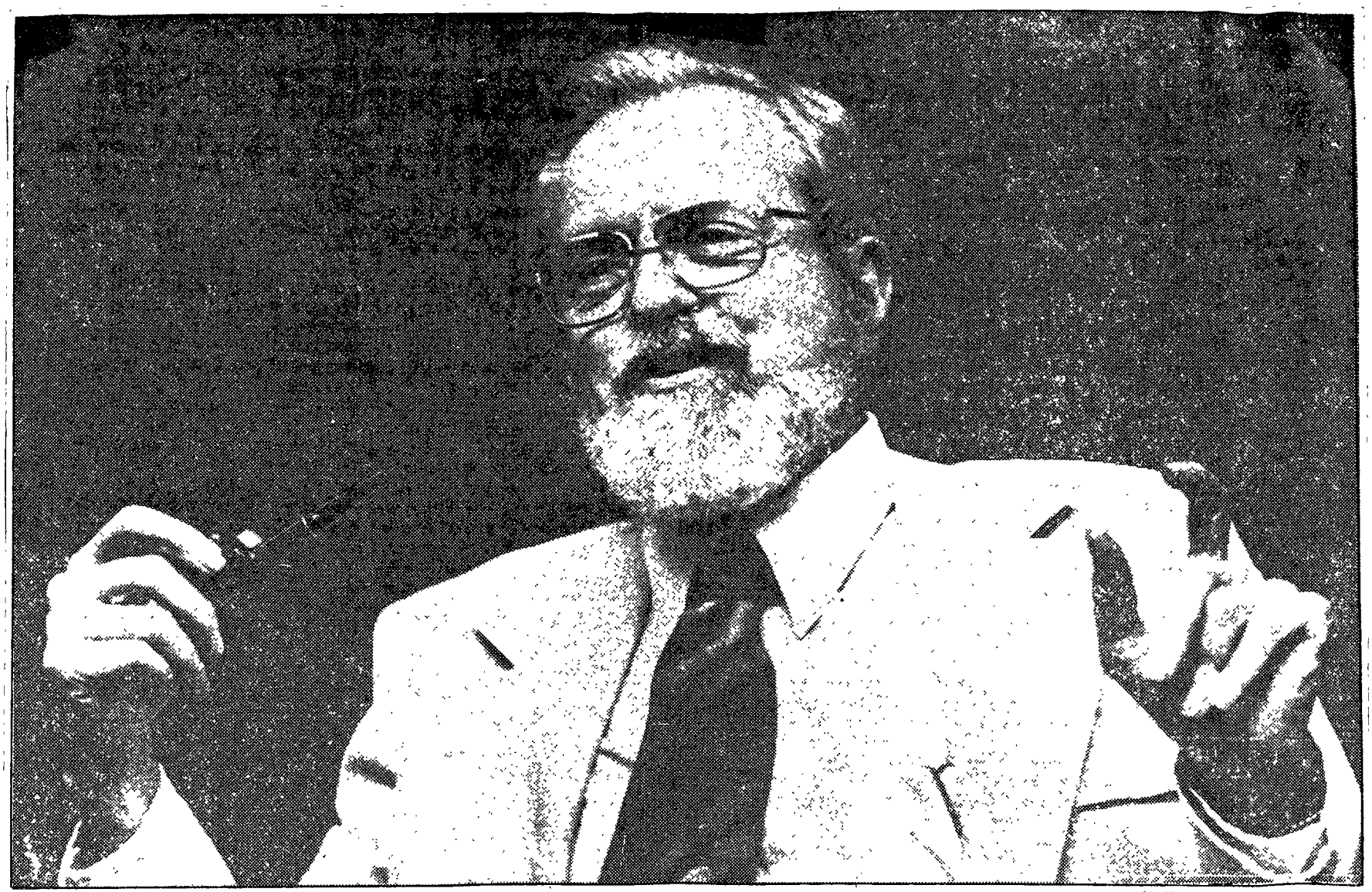
The topics I aim to treat in my final paper will include:

- brief history of the UFO Phenomenon
- the public perception of the UFO Phenomenon
- the perception by the scientific community of the UFO Phenomenon
- given that the UFO Phenomenon is real (by definition), what have been, and are, the principal hypotheses advanced for its existence, by various segments of the population, including, of course, academia
- treatment of the UFO Phenomenon by the media, the movies, and in "pop culture"
- the response of the government to the public perception of the UFO Phenomenon (including of course that of other governments, to the extent that this is publicly known)
- the nature of UFO reports: what sorts of things are most frequently reported from around the world?
- what are the sorts of things that are never reported? e.g.,UFOs with wheels, with wings,etc.
- how often are several witnesses involved in a given UFO report; how often are geographically independent witnesses similarly involved?
- to what extent do highly qualified, responsible, technically and scientifically trained persons report UFO sightings, and do these differ sensibly from reports by the public at large?
- to what extent should the UFO Phenomenon we regarded as a serious scientific problem?

I trust, Fred, that the above topics will be suitable for inclusion in the Proceedings of your conference. I should be happy to have any suggestions you might have

Sincerely,

Allen



Staff Photo by Ronda Phillips

JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM, you can almost guess that J. Allen Hynek is a world-recognized expert on UFOs (unidentified flying objects). Hynek — whose credentials include directorship of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., and being adviser for the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" — was interviewed while on his way to speak at North Texas State University, Friday. Hynek defined, explained and speculated on the UFO phenomenon.

UFO sightings No Longer Include Pink Elephants

Contrary to popular belief, today's sightings of UFO's have moved away from the era of Greek mythology's winged horses and Walt Disney's flying pink elephant, says Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

The astronomer, who spoke to a group of students and faculty members Thursday, at East Texas State University, said that most psychologists today have come to the conclusion that people see only what they want to see. But Hynek countered with the fact that people he has come into contact with have almost always tried to explain their experiences in some rational way first.

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In the book, he explains that the researchers who deny the existance of UFO's tend to investigate only cases where it is proven that the UFO was a natural phenomenon. He said that cases of UFO sightings which were not so easily explained were ignored

Author Discusses Sightings of UFOs

By Karen Fugitt

More interest is shown in unidentified flying objects in other parts of the world, especially the Scandinavin countries, than in the United States, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University and an investigator of UFO sightings, told physics students here Thursday.

A UFO was defined by Dr. Hynek, author of "The UFO Experience," as anything puzzling that is sighted and remains unexplained even after expert study.

Dr. Hynek, director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center, said that the UFO sightings have fallen into patterns. Only when things begin to form patterns can they be studied scientifically, he said. UFO sightings all over the world have generally conformed to patterns in shape, luminosity, speed, flight pattern, place of landing, weather conditions, and time of sighting, he added.

Dr. Hynek, who served for 20 years as the UFO consultant to the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book, noted that if UFO reports are only the imagination of the observers, as many psychologists contend, then it is a poor imagination. The reports cover only a very narrow spectrum, he said, adding that if the sightings were only products of imagination, they would run the "full gambit of flying pink elephants, winged horses, and buildings in the sky."

An investigator of UFO's for 25 years, Dr. Heynek classifies the UFO reports as nocturnal lights, daylight discs, radar visual cases, and clos encounters.

The radar report is considered valid only when corroberated by a visual sighting. He distinguished close encounters from the other sightings as anything appearing within 500 feet of the observer and large enough for the observer to discern detail.

The close encounter category was divided into three types. The first type, according to Dr. Haynek, scares the observer but does not affect the environment. The second type of encounter leaves physical traces in the environment. The third type occurs when occupants are seen in the UFO. Dr. Haynek said there were about 800 reports of this third kind of close encounter. The humanoids in the flying objects were usually described as being much like brownies, elves, and goblins, he said.

Dr. Hynek, who set up a depository for UFO reports at Northwestern University after the Air Force ended its investigations, claimed that the UFO sightings are usually made by solid and reputable persons, not by cranks and crackpots as generally supposed. He added that the typical crackpot does not have the ability to write the articulate reports which he receives.

There is a "huge reservoir of unreported UFO sightings," Dr. Hynek said. At the end of each lecture, he said he has asked for a show of hands of all who had either seen or had a friend who had seen a UFO. He said that usually about 10-20 per cent of the audience indicated having seen a UFO. However, when he asked how many persons had reported the sighting to police or other authorities, few raised their hands, he said.

UFOs that dematerialize before observers' eyes

Vancouver Sun (Undated)

By

J. Allen Hynek

NEW YORK — The possibility that there are civilizations galore scattered throughout our galaxy of 150 billion suns has excited the imaginations of millions.

Have we been visited by representatives of those civilizations in the past? Are we being visited now? Can we communicate with them? Or are they trying in their own way to communicate with us? And if so, what methods, unknown to us, might they be trying — perhaps with as little success as if we tried to communicate with Stone Age men by radio?

Perhaps the entire Unidentified Flying Objects phenomenon, so perplexing to us, is in itself a form of communication we haven't caught onto yet. Maybe it is time we tried.

The many thousands of UFO reports from over the world baffle us. We have no explanation for them. Many have been made by very credible people, persons of considerable training whose testimony in other circumstances would be unquestioned.

Over the past 20 years, I have found that my best reports on UFO phenomena come from air-traffic controllers, pilots, radar technicians, police officers and other persons in responsible positions. It is illogical that while we disregard their testimony on this subject, impugning their very integrity — even their sanity — we often continue to place our welfare and our lives in their hands.

Explanations of the truly puzzling UFO cases by conventional, ordinary means — that they were misperceptions of planets, aircraft, meteors, balloons, etc. — fail miserably to account for the closely studied, truly puzzling "close encounter" cases: the true unidentified flying objects.

Anyone who is really familiar with the cumulative UFO evidence of today, who has actually rolled up his sleeves and dug into the facts, can no longer accept the pontifical rejections of those who know little about the subject.

We *have* a UFO phenomenon. What does that mean? Many people jump to the conclusion that UFOs represent actual nuts-and-bolts hardware from some other civilization.

Yet there is much evidence against this. UFO "craft" appear in some cases to violate well-established physical laws. They take off at prodigious speeds but without producing sonic booms. They make exceedingly sharp turns, involving accelerations no living matter could stand. They can change shape and form while being observed, and some have been reported to dematerialize before the observer's eyes. Nuts-and-bolts hardware, as we know it, cannot do this.

Are these then perhaps some sort of holograph — that is, three-dimensional — images, implanted in our consciousness by other intelligences? If so, why?

For the moment, let us give free rein to our imaginations. The very best UFO reports, corroborated by several witnesses and often by radar observations and photographs, indicate some sort of intelligence, or at least intelligent behavior. But is that intelligence directing the phenomenon here on earth or from afar? Are UFOs perhaps robot devices either with built-in intelligence or directed by distant intelligence?

If we continue to let our imaginations ride free — and why stop here? — let us assume that such intelligences may have followed quite a different evolutionary path from ours. In the past half-century or so, we have learned to communicate by radio and television. Today we'd find it rather difficult to return to smoke signals. Perhaps radio is to them as smoke signals would be to us: a slow and inefficient way of communicating.

Yet National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientists and others insist that since radio signals are the natural way to communicate, listening to them is the best way to detect the presence of other civilizations in space. But is it? For one thing, it is a very slow method: years must elapse before a two-way communication could be established.

In some instances it would be a case of the long-since-dead talking to the not-yet-born. Radio as a way of communicating could have been discarded by other civilizations when man was still in the Stone Age.

We have made great technical strides, but there are stars — presumably solar systems — that are millions, not just hundreds of years older than we are.

Just how would civilizations millions of years more advanced communicate? In Ben Franklin's day, it was impossible to communicate by radio. So perhaps there are other methods of communication still known only to the distant future.

How about projected and materialized thought waves, for instance? Could civilizations in distant space beam down a message — or a UFO — in a manner much like those portrayed in Star Trek? We shall certainly learn of things in the distant future that are impossible to even conceive of today.

Suppose, then, that the whole UFO phenomenon is an advanced communication about which we know nothing. Perhaps are places UFOs are seen, the times they are seen and their appearance represent a key or a code of communication we are too stupid to interpret, preferring to ridicule rather than to think.

UFOs have yet to be studied in a truly scientific fashion, the U.S. Air Force's $500,000 Condon Report notwithstanding. Indeed, the Condon Report, which concluded that no alien craft had been sighted, demonstrated that the problem truly existed — more than a quarter of the cases it examined were left unexplained.

What is needed is a sustained effort to understand what is going on — to separate the sense from the nonsense and to study the interesting patterns presented in UFO reports the world over.

NASA is spending millions to find out whether there are bacteria on Mars. Might it not be wise to spend at least one per cent of that money to examine the UFO phenomenon in an imaginative and challenging way? We might find a message in the UFO phenomenon — perhaps the UFO is the message!

(Newsday)

Dr. Hynek is chairman of the astronomy department of Northwestern University and director of the Lindheimer Research Centre. He was a long-time consultant to the U.S. Air Force in its Blue Book Project on UFO phenomena, and is the author of The UFO Experience, published in 1972.