

Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc.

(APRO)

3910 EAST KLEINDALE ROAD
TUCSON, ARIZONA - 85716
U. S. A.

(602)
793-1825

L.J. Lorenzen International Director
Richard Greenwell Assistant Director
Coral E. Lorenzen Secretary

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CONSULTANTS

Mr. Rayford R. Sanders Aeronautics
Bertea Corp., Irvine, Ca.

Dr. Kenneth V. Anderson Anatomy
Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Leo V. Standeford Astronomy
Mankato State College, Mankato, Mn.

Dr. Richard C. Henry Astrophysics
The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

Dr. Vladimir Stefanovich Biochemistry
Boston University, Boston, Ma.

Dr. Robert S. Mellor Biology
University of Arizona, Tucson, Az.

Dr. John C. Munday Biophysics
Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Va.

Dr. Allen R. Utke Chemistry
Wisconsin State University, Oshkosh, Wi.

Dr. Vlastimil Vysin Computer Technology
The General Electric Co., Phoenix, Az.

Dr. James A. Harder Engineering
University of California, Berkeley, Ca.

Dr. Frank B. Safisbury Exobiology
Utah State University, Logan, Ut.

Dr. Philip Seff Geology
University of Redlands, Redlands, Ca.

Dr. P.M.H. Edwards Linguistics
University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. Canada

Dr. G.K. Ginnings Mathematics
East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tn.

Dr. Benjamin Sawyer Medicine
USAF Flight Surgeon, Middletown, Oh.

Dr. Robert W. Johnson Metallurgy
Materials Research Corp., Orangeburg, Ny.

Dr. Walter W. Walker Metallurgy
University of Arizona, Tucson, Az.

Dr. Roy Frieden Optics
University of Arizona, Tucson, Az.

Dr. Horace C. Dudley Physics
University of Illinois, Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Rene J. Hardy Physics
French Navy, Toulon, France

Dr. Harold A. Cahn Physiology
Utica College, Utica, Ny.

Dr. L. Gerald Laufer Psychiatry
Cornell University, New York, Ny.

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle Psychology
The University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wy.

Dr. Robert S. Ellwood Religion
University of Southern California, L.A. Ca.

Dr. A. Henry Swann Science Education
East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tn.

Dr. John S. Derr Seismology
Martin Marietta Corp., Denver, Co.

In 1957, fragments from an exploded unidentified flying object (UFO) were recovered by observers on a beach near Ubatuba, Brazil. Some of the fragments were obtained by APRO and were subjected to various chemical analyses in the course of the following 12 years in the laboratories of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, The Dow Metal Products Co. and the University of Colorado UFO Project (1966-68). The material was found to be magnesium of an unusually high purity.

More recently, in 1969, APRO proceeded with a structural analysis of the material and two Consultants in Metallurgy undertook the study. Modern materials science is based on the premise that the properties of a material depend solely on its structure; chemical composition is important only to the extent it affects structure. The Ubatuba magnesium fragments were found to be directionally solidified castings. Directional solidification is currently being actively investigated in many countries since it has been found that the strength of directionally solidified metals is far superior to normal random-grain castings. However, directional solidification was not being studied in 1957, when the fragments were retrieved. This may be interpreted as meaning that the fragments belonged to a vehicle from a more advanced civilization.

The APRO scientists who undertook the study on the Ubatuba magnesium were Dr. Walter W. Walker, Associate Professor of Metallurgical Engineering, The University of Arizona, Tucson, and Dr. Robert W. Johnson, Head of the Advanced Materials Division, Materials Research Corporation, Orangeburg, New York.

The Ubatuba magnesium is the only physical evidence known to exist which indicates an extraterrestrial origin for some UFOs. Up to the present, APRO has approximately 20,000 reports of UFO observations received from over 50 countries during the past 19 years. Correlations of these reports have indicated some patterns of intelligence behind UFO performance and behaviour. A project is currently underway to computerize all the existing reports, thus enabling more expedient acquisition of the various kinds of data and allowing far more comprehensive correlations.

It is APRO's position that the UFO phenomenon is important enough to warrant a scientific and objective investigation, regardless of its nature or origin. Although the Ubatuba magnesium is a very strong indication of extraterrestrial origin for some UFOs, there is no absolute proof that this is the case.

On the other hand, considering the age of our galaxy (the Milky Way), the number of probable planets bearing intelligent life with an advanced technology and the number of star traveling civilizations, there is no reason why extraterrestrial intelligence could not visit us at this time. Although homo sapiens does not yet have the engineering capability to undertake inter-stellar travel, there are no known physical laws which would ultimately make inter-stellar travel impossible.

It is therefore important that research on the extraterrestrial hypothesis be conducted, regardless of whether some believe this is "probable" or "improbable." APRO is bringing to bear the various scientific disciplines on the problem. Only in this way will definite answers be forthcoming.

Future progress bulletins will be released pertaining to studies being undertaken related to the extraterrestrial hypothesis on unidentified flying objects.

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