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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,160

The most time on the study is Bob Lowe, assistant dean of the Graduate School and UFO project

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00:00:08,160 --> 00:00:09,480

coordinator.

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00:00:09,480 --> 00:00:12,560

His office is the center of project activities.

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00:00:12,560 --> 00:00:15,160

Lowe has two secretaries.

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00:00:15,160 --> 00:00:20,680

He also has a small library on UFOs, a modest selection of pictures and a mounting pile

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00:00:20,680 --> 00:00:22,240

of correspondence.

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00:00:22,240 --> 00:00:26,240

I asked if any large problems have come up in the project.

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00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:32,520

Well, the whole problem is a big puzzle.

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00:00:32,520 --> 00:00:38,080

I don't think one can say that eight big problems come up, but we certainly have a difficult

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00:00:38,080 --> 00:00:40,880

problem to pursue.

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00:00:40,880 --> 00:00:47,200

It's hard to know how to go about studying this thing.

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00:00:47,200 --> 00:00:50,320

How would you do it if somebody suddenly handed you the job?

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00:00:50,320 --> 00:00:54,080

You investigate unidentified flying objects, how do you go about doing that?

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00:00:54,080 --> 00:00:58,400

That's the problem that we've had and we've been wrestling whether it's a tough one, but

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00:00:58,400 --> 00:01:01,520

I think we're making some headway.

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00:01:01,520 --> 00:01:07,280

The overall director of the project is Dr. Edward Condon, one of the most experienced

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00:01:07,280 --> 00:01:10,720

and distinguished scientists in the United States or anywhere else.

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00:01:10,720 --> 00:01:16,160

He's a physicist and a former director of the National Bureau of Standards in Washington,

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00:01:16,160 --> 00:01:17,160

D.C.

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00:01:17,160 --> 00:01:21,520

Condon is one of the main reasons the Air Force chose the University of Colorado for

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00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:23,360

the UFO project.

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00:01:23,360 --> 00:01:29,680

At the top of impressive Gila Tower on the CU campus, I talked with Dr. Condon and asked

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00:01:29,680 --> 00:01:33,000

if he knows how the UFO study will now proceed.

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00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:36,040

Well, we're just getting started.

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00:01:36,040 --> 00:01:43,400

I must say that the last two and a half months or so that we've been looking into this indicate

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00:01:43,400 --> 00:01:50,640

that the total situation is much more complicated than we appreciated at first, so that while

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00:01:50,640 --> 00:01:57,040

we have some notions of what we're going to do, I don't have any feeling at all of a very

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00:01:57,040 --> 00:02:01,840

orderly or well organized thing at this date.

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00:02:01,840 --> 00:02:09,760

One of the most difficult things is that all of the phenomena are of such short duration

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00:02:09,760 --> 00:02:15,760

and the reports have a way of coming in after the thing is all over so that it looks almost

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00:02:15,760 --> 00:02:24,560

hopeless to plan on getting much in the way of being able to hop in a car and dash out

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00:02:24,560 --> 00:02:28,680

or hop in a jet plane and dash out and get there yourself and see it before it's all

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00:02:28,680 --> 00:02:36,320

over because most people that see things only report after they've seen it and it's

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00:02:36,320 --> 00:02:40,560

gone away and then they come in and use the telephone so it's too late.

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00:02:40,560 --> 00:02:42,320

So that's a great difficulty.

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00:02:42,320 --> 00:02:43,880

I don't mean to give up on that.

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00:02:43,880 --> 00:02:48,520

The important thing would be to try to do that and get some pictures, better pictures

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00:02:48,520 --> 00:02:54,920

and pictures of which we were sure of the reliability simply because our own people

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00:02:54,920 --> 00:02:57,280

have taken them.

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00:02:57,280 --> 00:03:06,240

We would like to get some spectroscopic observations, but that too is difficult.

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00:03:06,240 --> 00:03:12,040

One of the things that's common to many of the reports, I don't mean statistically,

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00:03:12,480 --> 00:03:18,000

but in a good many of the common categories, people complain about ignition failures on

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00:03:18,000 --> 00:03:24,640

their cars and we're negotiating with some of the principal ignition engineers in Detroit

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00:03:24,640 --> 00:03:30,200

to make a special study just on that phase of it.

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00:03:30,200 --> 00:03:35,960

I don't like to be more specific than that because it hasn't been fully set up yet, but

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00:03:35,960 --> 00:03:41,680

we've had indications that we can get a group together that will look into that for us.

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00:03:41,720 --> 00:03:45,880

That is characteristic is a good many people have reported.

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00:03:45,880 --> 00:03:56,400

Well, I'm not a medical man so I don't quite know what the proper term is, but people report

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00:03:56,400 --> 00:04:04,200

the feelings of heat or as if they're like diatherm and heat treatment being very, very

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00:04:04,200 --> 00:04:10,800

much overcome with a feverish feeling when something like an ufo was around when they

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00:04:10,840 --> 00:04:16,840

were a meeting by that they saw something at the same time feelings that would go away.

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00:04:16,840 --> 00:04:21,760

So we're going to try to get some medical people to give a special attention to those

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00:04:21,760 --> 00:04:24,040

reports.

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00:04:24,040 --> 00:04:29,360

Of course, we'll look into all of the other things that have been suggested like the ball

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00:04:29,360 --> 00:04:36,160

lightning possibility and various other things.

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00:04:36,160 --> 00:04:43,160

Quite many of the things that have been suggested it must be said must be realized are things

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00:04:43,160 --> 00:04:49,880

that might be explanations of some of the reports, but I'm convinced there'll be no

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00:04:49,880 --> 00:04:54,760

one single thing that accounts for all of the reports simply because they themselves are

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00:04:54,760 --> 00:04:58,160

so so different in character.

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00:04:58,160 --> 00:05:03,560

As the UFOs have attracted public attention nationally, so have they drawn reaction to

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00:05:03,560 --> 00:05:05,400

the University of Colorado.

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00:05:05,480 --> 00:05:08,400

I asked Dr. Conn and about public reaction.

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00:05:08,400 --> 00:05:10,360

Oh, it's been very good.

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00:05:10,360 --> 00:05:13,320

We've had a very large amount of mail.

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00:05:13,320 --> 00:05:18,640

By that I would guess between seven or eight hundred to a thousand letters along in there.

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00:05:18,640 --> 00:05:22,320

Great many of them are from people that would like to have jobs and I suppose I ought to

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00:05:22,320 --> 00:05:29,200

say that there's not nearly as many jobs on this as people seem to think.

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00:05:29,200 --> 00:05:35,520

Secondly, a lot of people have written in to tell us about experiences they've had.

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00:05:35,520 --> 00:05:40,520

But many university people who have in other universities across the country have written

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00:05:40,520 --> 00:05:46,480

in to volunteer their help and I don't mean as job seekers in the sense of wanting to

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00:05:46,480 --> 00:05:52,000

be on the payroll but wanting to know what they can do cooperatively at their places.

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00:05:52,000 --> 00:05:55,880

So the acceptance that way is extremely good at this time.

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00:05:55,880 --> 00:06:03,400

Our problem is just to try to make some rational sense out of this very complicated picture.

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00:06:03,400 --> 00:06:05,600

In a complicated picture it is.

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00:06:05,600 --> 00:06:11,440

Not only for the University of Colorado but for the Air Force, for private UFO organizations

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00:06:11,440 --> 00:06:14,800

and for plain Mr. Citizen who just wants some answers.