

PEGASUS



A journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

DOCTOR ALLEN HYNEK — SPECIAL REPORTS

1973

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**JOURNAL OF THE
SURREY INVESTIGATION GROUP
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA**

15p

Editors

Richard Curzon Beet AFBIS FRAS

Omar Fowler MISM

Carol Godsell

Mike Prewett AFBIS

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Consultants

J M Adams BSc FRMetS
T C Childerhouse
Revd Dr N Cockburn MA BD
Prof F B Salisbury PhD
R T Toft

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SURREY INVESTIGATION GROUP ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

Editorial

In his final lecture of the series given at the Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, WC1, Dr J Allen Hynek gave a spirited talk on his plans for the future investigation of UFO's. He referred to his 'silent partners', a number of well known scientists that have pledged their support for assisting in any major UFO investigation and his plans to set up an International Institute of Study.

Dr Hynek discussed many new aspects of statistical analysis and mentioned that there are now 50,000 cases on computer in the states and that a new breed of young scientists has evolved and showing great interest in the UFO phenomena. In the past the problem has always been that the 'old school' of scientists have been set in their ways and not prepared to consider the UFO evidence, but now there was great interest shown among the younger physicists and there were many signs pointing to a new 'hyper physics'. The problem with dealing with many scientists was that they approached their work as if it was a jigsaw and every piece must fit, if it did not fit the pattern, then it was ignored.

The UFO's appear to have highly localized trajectories, hovering and defying gravity. At the speeds they travel, they should produce a sonic boom, but they do not, therefore scientists say - no boom - no object ... There was the question of dematerialisation, but tell that to a physicist and he would say 'impossible'. How could we explain the many cases where moving lights show definite signs of intelligence. UFO's may be coming from great distances or may be all around us. Dr Hynek added that he preferred to investigate cases where there were many witnesses, rather than one or two. He believed that the ratio of UFO sightings to reports given was in the region of 10 to 1.



What of the so called 'Healing effects' of UFO lights, how could we investigate such reports, were they in fact true? In his many skirmishes with fellow scientists he questioned them about UFO cases that they had studied and was often given the reply 'none'. How can judgement be passed unless the data has been studied? The problem was that there were so many questions to be answered and the questions were often approached, relying upon our present day knowledge. Just imagine trying to explain to one of the old covered waggoners of years ago, that a journey that had taken them weeks would one day be covered in only hours, at that time you would have been considered mad to think about it.

Dr Hynek then continued his lecture with slides, showing new statistics on UFO reports. In one graph showing a study of 1,000 cases, the percentages were given as follows:-

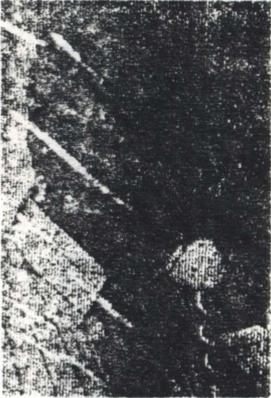
| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| Radar | 4% | White lights | 10% |
| EM | 5% | Luminous Objects | 17% |
| Multiple Objects | 18% | Other lights | 41% |
| Vertical | 11% | Fast Speed | 61% |
| Hovering | 23% | Slow | 24% |
| Erratic Behaviour | 41% | Speed Change | 24% |

One of the most interesting recent cases that he had investigated took place in Missouri. The witnesses were a 41 year old man and his 15 year old daughter, together with a younger child in their mobile home on the outskirts of town. The event took place on June 28 of this year.

The witnesses watched a large ball of light (30 deg. arc) for thirty five minutes. It moved slowly among the trees near the home, two guard dogs hid underneath the home during the activity. There was a loud 'crack' and a huge branch split away from the tree (a slide was shown of the branch hanging down) and the light moved away. Dr Hynek added that the inside of the branch was green, but on the outside the wood was brittle and all the leaves on the tree were withering. There had been a similar case in Kansas not long ago.

Dr Hynek concluded his lecture with further slides showing a new form of analysis carried out by a French scientist, this compared data on a country (France) and world wide scale. In every case the results of the comparison were almost identical. There were scales showing witnesses age, occupation, weather conditions, duration of sighting etc. Dr Hynek's next port of call is Sydney Australia

The man who spoke out on UFOs



A small but growing number of qualified scientists are willing to risk ridicule by publicly admitting that there might be something to the subject of UFOs. Chief among them is American astronomer J. Allen Hynek. To those who ask "What have UFOs to do with astronomy?" he replies: "Fifty years ago, what did radio have to do with astronomy?" Ian Ridpath investigated his work and attitudes

J. Allen Hynek stroked his grey-flecked beard and stared out at the sky. "When I look back on my career, I've done damn little that was original. I seem to have had the ability of seeing the value of an idea and bringing other people together to do something about it. I've never launched any new theories; I've never made any outstanding discoveries. I guess I'm not very innovative."

Such a candid appraisal is typical of the man. He speaks without embarrassment of his two marriages. The first was in 1932 while he was a graduate student—"a bit of a mistake"—and seven years later the two decided on an amicable divorce. They're still friends, and she eventually remarried to a colleague of Hynek's. He intended to stay a bachelor from then on, but it didn't quite work out like that. Indeed, this neat, good-looking man, who bites contentedly on the stem of a pipe he seldom fills, seems ideally suited to be a family man. He now has five children, arranged so that, on the day his eldest got his PhD from MIT, the youngest graduated from kindergarten.

Hynek has asked little of life, and received an amount that surprised him. His initial ambition was to teach. But when he mentioned this to his postgraduate tutor at Yerkes observatory he was advised in tones of genuine alarm: "Don't tell that to anybody around here! You'll never get your degree!"

Hynek, in fact, underrates himself considerably. He is highly humane. Concern for others is paramount; he never forgets a friend or an obligation. His ability to see an overall pattern from a mass of detail makes him a good organiser, although he prefers to describe himself as a "catalytic agent" for others. It was he, for instance, who brought together optician Jim Baker and engineer Joe Nunn to build the famous Baker-Nunn cameras used internationally for satellite tracking.

It is also his honesty that has led him, among relatively few scientists, to face up to the fact that the numerous perplexing reports of Unidentified Flying Objects—UFOs—may describe a branch of the natural world not yet investigated by science. He draws a parallel with scientists' scorn over meteorites, or ball lightning, things that once upon a time science took no account of and therefore officially didn't exist. "Scientists 100 years ago couldn't understand the aurora borealis [northern lights] because they didn't know enough physics. Maybe we don't know enough physics to understand UFOs."

Hynek's orderly, logical mind has been appalled by the haphazard and slipshod way that the UFO problem has so far been officially investigated in the United States. He is highly critical of the report called *The Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects*, produced in 1969 by a University of Colorado team led by Dr Edward U. Condon

and based on US Air Force Project Blue Book files.

He has since written his own book, called *The UFO Experience*, which has been called "Hynek's version of what the Condon report should have been." The book is now in its fourth printing in the United States. In it, he catalogues a large number of puzzling reports that seem inexplicable in terms of current scientific knowledge. He draws no conclusions from these reports: "It is not known what UFOs are," he says. His call is for a proper scientific investigation of UFO sightings, rather than the "rambling, poorly organised" job he feels has so far been done.

He says that Condon's summary of the report was "singularly slanted," and that the so-called "scientific study" was anything but that. These criticisms have led to a simmering conflict (see *New Scientist*, vol 56 p 293), although it is typical of Hynek that he readily pays tribute to Condon: "I thoroughly respect him as a physicist. It's unfortunate that his name will probably go down for his negative connection with UFOs rather than for what it should: his outstanding contributions to quantum mechanics and radar."

Professor Hynek is an uncomplicated and engaging person. He considers himself as puzzled by the UFO phenomenon as the next person, and freely admits that he once poked fun at the public's seeming gullibility over the "flying saucer" craze. Disturbingly for those who would now like to write him off as "another UFO nut," Professor Hynek turns out to be as rational a man as one could hope to meet. This, of course, makes his case so much stronger, and sets him apart from many of the strongly pro- and anti-UFO campaigners who attack him from both sides.

He is also pleased to count a growing number of scientists in the "invisible college" that broadly supports his pleas to take UFO reports seriously. Oddly enough, the Condon report, which tries to show that UFOs are not worth studying at all, has been a strong ally of Hynek's cause. Hynek recalls with amusement the reaction of Claude Poher of CNES, the French equivalent of NASA. "When you read the Condon report," said Poher, "you realise that there really is a problem."

Josef Allen Hynek is a first-generation American, the son of Czechoslovakian parents. He's 62, but could be 20 years younger. His first fascination with astronomy came at the age of seven, when he caught scarlet fever and was quarantined with his mother in their Chicago home for six weeks. When they'd read through all the children's books around, his mother, a school-teacher, brought down a serious-looking tome on astronomy. "I was fascinated immediately," Hynek recalls. At high school, as editor of the school paper, he was faced with a divergence of career

interests: science or writing? Top grade marks in trigonometry sent him along the first path.

In 1931 he graduated in physics and astronomy at the University of Chicago, and went to do his PhD at lonely Yerkes observatory on the tranquil shores of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. There, he slept under the big dome of the 40-inch refractor and cooked his own meals, blissfully unaware of the depression that was sweeping like a plague through the United States. At nights he would haul the mail from the nearby town of Williams Bay up the hill to the monastically secluded observatory. "The whole thing had a sort of mystical quality. One shouldn't say that in connection with science, I guess"—he tips his heavy-rimmed trifocals in embarrassment—"but I was so utterly absorbed in the life of the observatory that I had hardly heard of Hitler."

It was such an idyllic existence that the realities of the world seemed even harsher to Hynek, now in his mid 20s and with a PhD gained in the study of stellar distances deduced from their spectra, at that time a fashionable subject. But wish though he might that he could go "back to the womb" and relive his contemplative existence beside the lake, the world was changing and he had to make a living—something that had so far not occurred to him.

Studying stellar spectra

While he was at Yerkes, Nova Herculis flared up as a first-magnitude point of light in the pre-dawn sky. The newly installed Perkins observatory in Ohio borrowed a spectrograph from Yerkes to study this nova, and Hynek went along to help with its use. In the freezing cold of a bitter winter, Hynek took spectra of this object night after night, and so impressed the Perkins observatory director that he was recommended for a post at the associated Ohio State University.

In 1936 he moved to the department of Physics and Astronomy at Ohio, and used the 69-inch reflector at Perkins to study stellar spectra. His work revealed that there were many hitherto unsuspected double stars identifiable only from the superposition of their spectral lines—he calls them "spectrum binaries".

In 1942 he remarried at Ohio. His bride was a student 14 years his junior. During his honeymoon he visited a friend in Washington who turned out to be recruiting scientists for the war, into which the United States had just been catapulted by the Pearl Harbor disaster. Hynek let it be known that he had been a radio ham, and was immediately signed to work on the radio proximity fuse, while his new bride was sent off to pack up house and bring everything to Washington.

The radio proximity fuse was a device that triggered a shell when reflected radio signals showed that it was near its target. A similar device was used to detonate the atomic bomb over Japan. At the test fields in South Carolina the scientists laid out planks to represent soldiers, and used the fuse to explode shells 40 feet above the imaginary enemy. The showering splinters of shell

ripped holes inches long in the planks. "You had to look at it from a scientific point of view—how many holes there were. I never allowed myself to translate it into terms of deaths. I'm glad that I wasn't with the A-bomb group; I might have had some real misgivings about it. Ours was still a killing venture, but we excused it by saying: 'It's them or us'."

After the war he returned to Ohio State University and its small McMillin observatory, which had been set up by a gas company head whose interest was aroused when he learned that the Sun, too, was made of gas.

In the mid 1950s, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and the Harvard College Observatory combined at Harvard. The joint directors Donald Menzel and Fred Whipple, asked Hynek to join them as associate director of the Smithsonian Observatory in charge of the project to track the US satellite planned for the International Geophysical Year.

In early 1956 Hynek embarked on this, the most exciting part of his career to date, although a colleague at Ohio urged him: "Don't go! They'll never get it up!" Hynek took the opportunity to become involved with something entirely new in astronomy. The project to view this new artificial moon became called Moonwatch, and 247 optical stations were set up around the world. "This was the one thing in the IGY that the common man could get into."

A dozen photographic stations were also needed, and so the Baker-Nunn tracking camera was devised and built in a year. Hynek chose the then virtually unknown Californian firm of Boller and Chivens for the construction; as a result, it is now a major optical company.

"We had always assumed that the United States would have the first satellite," says Hynek in wry amusement. As the satellite schedule slipped back, the Baker-Nunn programme became less pressing. One camera had been tested, and then stripped down again, by the time that Sputnik 1 went up.

"If I've ever had a traumatic experience, that was it," Hynek recalls. October 4, 1957, the fateful day, was a Friday. By evening everyone had left for the weekend, and Hynek was discussing the coming week's plans with his assistant, Kenneth Drummond, when the phone rang. It was a reporter asking for a comment on "the new Russian satellite." Hynek says: "I had him read the dispatch three times before I believed it."

Now came the horrible realisation that he alone was the focusing point of a nation's panic. The Russians had beaten the US into space. For the first few terrible hours, Hynek was at the end of the phone to America's "awe, admiration and fear."

He reconstructs the scene: "For about 10 minutes I was absolutely dumbstruck. I wandered around the office opening file cabinets"—an arm stabs out, his hand opening and closing on thin air to portray his perplexity—"trying to get numbers and hardly being able to dial."

Within hours the place was alive with press, TV, and returning staff, plus a fire crew

who thought the place was ablaze. Moon-watch teams were alerted, and slowly the first observations came in. In his history of the Smithsonian tracking programme, the writer, E. Nelson Hayes, gives Fred Whipple and Hynek credit for their decision that the public should be told everything. Slowly, with twice-daily press conferences, they began to reassure the public after what Hynek calls "this intellectual Pearl Harbor . . . a real gutsy sock to the stomach."

The complacency of the United States was severely jolted and, it was no longer smart to be dumb. Before, only the drags got top marks. Now education—Hynek's original "honourable profession" that his Yerkes professor had warned him to keep quiet about—took on a new and vital image.

Hynek travelled the world setting up the Baker-Nunn stations, and was able to educate the Smithsonian auditors about the International Date Line when they queried his account for two June 12s. He recalls how remarkably conservative his imagination was: "It seemed inconceivable that there would ever be lots of satellites. We had said that if they ever got seven up, we would have a 7-Up party." But in the event, things moved too fast.

Even though he was so close to the start of it, Hynek still admits himself dazed by the pace of the space age. But once things in the satellite tracking field became routine, he preferred to go back to the university life. In 1960, he became chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, where he remains today.

His greatest contribution

At one of the Baker-Nunn sites—Las Cruces, in the new Mexico desert—Hynek and Whipple had experimented with a television camera attached to a telescope. From this has developed what Hynek calls "image-orthicon astronomy," a branch of observing that has grown vastly in popularity since Hynek helped pioneer it. He regards this as probably his greatest contribution to astronomy.

NASA supported the Las Cruces equipment on a programme of lunar surveillance. For night after clear night the Moon was displayed on a TV monitor. A colour wheel rotated in front of the image orthicon to detect possible colour changes such as the red-glowing transient lunar phenomena. These were never recorded, but the equipment did show that the Moon's disk can take on an overall blue tinge. "But it only happens once in a blue Moon," Hynek adds with a twinkle. "We never did find why."

The National Science Foundation supported a search for supernovae in faint galaxies. By letting the image build up in the image orthicon before reading it out, galaxies down to magnitude 19½ can be recorded with a few seconds' exposure—far quicker than by conventional photographic methods. Scanning each galaxy every night with an automated system, the Hynek group locates supernovae as soon as they appear, allowing optical astronomers to make investigations while the

supernova explosion is still taking place.

At Northwestern University, Professor Hynek has been able to set up a new astronomy centre with a donation by a millionaire's widow. Despite competition for the donation from other parts of the university, Hynek pleaded that this was Northwestern's opportunity to enter the space age. The Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center is now established on the shores of Lake Michigan with 40-inch and 16-inch reflectors. "I once kissed the Blarney stone," chuckles Hynek. "Perhaps that's what did it."

J. Allen Hynek's link with UFO's, began by accident in 1948 when the US Air Force set up an investigation at the Wright-Patterson base in Ohio. The nearest astronomer to advise them on possible natural explanations was Hynek—and so he became "the innocent bystander who got shot."

At first Hynek had what he calls "files protection"—he had been asked to participate. But, as time went on, it became apparent that he was putting a lot of his own effort into the subject—he was hooked. Other astronomers took the view that it was "a pity he got involved with this UFO business." He has been a target for numerous crank calls, and there is still a great deal of misunderstanding about his own beliefs and motives. But he has played it slowly and carefully, and not let himself be diverted by opinion. "I have a series of internal gyroscopes that give me an automatic self-stabilisation. Other people's attitudes are ephemeral; I don't allow myself to get despondent.

"There are periods when I've thought the whole thing is a lot of nonsense. But then some interesting reports have come along and I've thought: 'I simply have to look into this.' I always had the feeling that there might be something in it, but I wasn't going to say anything until I was damn sure. There were times when I saw how badly Project Blue Book was handling things that I felt like raising Cain. But then I realised that I would be branded as a nut—all my effectiveness would be gone. And I wanted access to the data." Using an astronomical analogy, he says he "played Kepler to the Air Force's Tycho Brahe."

Now that he has a secure position he feels free to speak out, albeit only to say that there are some puzzling reports that can't be explained: "I don't want to go beyond that."

The sober, factual tone of The UFO Experience has led to a detectable, but not yet concrete, change in the attitude of the scientific funding agencies in the United States; perhaps Hynek will succeed in prising open the lid on a subject that the Condon report tried hard to batten down.

I suggested that Hynek would be remembered not as an astronomer but as the man who made UFO's respectable. "I wouldn't mind it," he replied, repeating the phrase thoughtfully to himself. "It's always nice to add one stone to the total structure of science. If I can succeed in making the study of UFOs scientifically respectable and do something constructive in it, then I think that would be a real contribution."

Correspondence

We have received the following letter from one of our members which we feel should be made known to all members and on which we would welcome any comments they may have.

"It may come as quite a surprise to you to hear that I have given up the study and investigation of UFOs, and in fact all connections with the subject, and I thought that I ought to be perfectly plain and explain myself. It was after some serious thinking that I came to the difficult decision. It is going to be very difficult to give it all up, just like that, but I am resolved that this is what I must do. I am sure in my own mind that I am doing the right thing.

I sincerely believe that there is something behind UFO phenomena, but have come to think that it is an extremely dangerous subject to become involved in, potentially tragic conclusions are likely to come from a study of it. This "thing" behind the UFO sightings has intelligence, and in my opinion, has man's downfall either as a race, but more usually in the personal situations, as its ultimate aim. You will know yourself of cases where people have started innocently in the subject, and are soon hooked, enmeshed, and finally obsessed. Personality disorders are almost certain to occur in persons, even after a short time where a deep interest is started. Some make a religion out of UFOlogy, and this is one of the most blatant results of what I think is usually an unseen danger. In my view, UFOs are a bait, used by this malevolent intelligence (a spiritual intelligence, I believe) and once a person is "hooked" he is gradually taken further and further from the real Truth, which is, after all the thing that people are searching for, basically.

I have found the real Truth in God, and fundamental Christian living. Realising the above observations, I have realised, with a shock I may add, that what I have been studying and researching has in fact been opposed to all I believe, and thus I can no longer justify any study of UFOs, or being part of any encouragement of any other person to do so; I hate to think what damage I might have already done. Any encouragement of a person to study the subject may lead to that person never finding the real truth, once they have been hooked on the UFO "truth". I have been repressing any thought about this problem for some time, and it was only yesterday I faced up to it and made the only decision possible. A difficult decision; I would not be completely honest if I said I had not enjoyed UFOlogy. I have, but that is one of the terrible factors of the subject, the evil behind it is hidden, cleverly camouflaged, and until the ugly face of the real origin is seen, the subject is enjoyable.

I will not be destroying my files or books, but will be storing them away. I will not be prepared to give these to any person or organisation, as this would amount to encouragement in the subject. I cannot have on my

relationship with the living God. From this point onwards I am terminating membership of all the societies to which I belong, and am cancelling my subscriptions to all the UFO magazines I receive.

It is unfortunately true that there will be some people who will say that I have been "got at" by the M.I.B., or some other agency. For what it is worth, I can assure you that this is not the case. I have made this decision on my own, without being forced by any person or agency.

I sincerely hope and pray that you too will see what I have seen before it is too late, and that God will guide you to that special relationship that Born Again believers have with Him.

Thank you for your friendship in the past, one thing that I hope will remain into the future. I hope to see you all some time."

CAN ANTI-GRAVITY REALLY EXIST?

What is anti-gravity? How can it be studied?

There are two types of fields, electromagnetic and gravitational, which fall off in intensity as the square of the distance. This fall in intensity is slow enough to enable an electromagnetic or gravitational field to be detectable at large distances. The earth is firmly held in the grip of the sun's gravitational field even though the sun is 93 million miles away.

The gravitational field is far the weaker of the two, however, The electromagnetic field set up by an electron is something like four million trillion trillion trillion times as strong as the gravitational field it sets up.

Of course, gravitational fields seem strong. We all have painful experience concerning the strength of the earth's gravitational field every time we fall. But that is only because the earth is so huge. Every tiny fragment of it contributes to the gravitational field and in the end the total is enormous.

But suppose we take a hundred million electrons (a quantity too little to see in a microscope if collected in one spot) and scatter them through a volume the size of the earth. They would set up an electromagnetic field equal to the gravitational field of the entire massive earth.

Why aren't we more aware of electromagnetic fields than of gravitational fields? That is where another difference comes in. There are two kinds of electric charge, called positive and negative, so that an electromagnetic field can result in attraction (between a positive and a negative charge) or repulsion (Between two positive or two negative charges). In fact, if the earth's volume contained nothing but a hundred million electrons, those electrons would repel each other and scatter far and wide.

The forces of electromagnetic attraction and repulsion serve to mix positive and negative charges thoroughly so that the effect of those charges tends to cancel out. Very tiny electron excesses and deficiencies can be brought about and it is the electromagnetic fields of those tiny excesses and deficiencies that we study.

The gravitational field, however, seems to produce only a force of attraction. Every object possessing mass attracts every other object possessing mass and as mass piles up so does the intensity of the gravitational field without ever any cancellation.

If a massive object repelled another massive object with the same intensity and the same manner as those objects attract each other under the usual gravitational conditions then we would have 'anti-gravity' or 'negative gravity'.

Such gravitational repulsion has never been detected, but that may be because all the ordinary objects we can study in detail are made up of ordinary particles.

There are also 'anti-particles' which are just like the common particles we know except for the reversal of the electromagnetic field. Where a particular particle has a negative charge, the corresponding anti-particle has a positive charge and so on.

Perhaps anti-particles have the gravitational field reversed also. Two anti-particles would then attract each other gravitationally just as two particles do, but an anti-particle would repel an ordinary one.

The trouble is that a gravitational field is so weak, it can't be detected in individual particles or anti-particles but only for sizable masses. We have sizable masses of particles but no one has ever collected a sizable mass of anti-particles in one place. Nor has anyone ever suggested any practical alternate way of detecting anti-gravitational effects..

Dr. Isaac Asimov Science Digest May 1969

Credit : Jim Bardsley

MEETINGS

1. SURVEY INVESTIGATION GROUP ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

There has been a summer break in our meetings. A new series of meetings is now being organised and members will be told in due course.

2. BRITISH U. F. O. RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Meetings to be held in Kensington Public Library, Campden Hill Rd., London, W8.

Saturday 6 OCTOBER 6pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Agenda: Presidential Address; Chairman's Report; Treasurers Report; Minutes of 1972 AGM; Election of Officers; Any Other Business. There will then be a refreshment break followed by a talk by Mr Trevor Whittaker - TEN YEARS OF UFO RESEARCH IN THE NORTH.

Saturday 3 NOVEMBER 7pm

ISLANDERS IN SPACE

Lecture by Andrew Tomas the well known international Ufologist and Author.

Saturday 1 DECEMBER 7pm

TO CONTACT A SPACEMAN ... ?

Lecture by Norman Oliver.

Saturday 5 JANUARY 7pm

UFO PHENOMENA, ... OR MALICE THROUGH
THE LOCKING GLASS

Lecture by C.A.E. O'Brien CBE BA FRAS

Saturday 2 FEBRUARY 7pm

GUIDE LINES IN THE SEARCH TO SOLVE
THE UFO MYSTERY

Lecture by Charles Bowen, Editor of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

UFO RIDDLE MAY BE SOLVED SOON, SAYS AMERICAN 'ENQUIRER'
TEAM OF EXPERTS

An answer to the riddle of Unidentified Flying Objects appears to be nearer than ever before, says THE ENQUIRER'S blue-ribbon panel of experts (Dr RE Creegan, Dr FB Salisbury, Dr J Harder, Dr JA Hynek, Dr RL Sprinkle and Jim Lorenzen) after studying evidence supplied by readers during the past year.

"A breakthrough in reaching a scientific explanation of UFO's may be closer than generally predicted," said Dr Robert F Creegan, a professor of philosophy at State University of New York and a member of the panel.

On March 12, 1972, The ENQUIRER offered a \$ 50 000 reward to the first person who can prove that a UFO came from outer space and is not a natural phenomenon. A panel of five top scientists and educators was named to judge the evidence, and a deadline for claims was set at Jan 1 1973.

The panel is now considering the information received in well over 1 000 reports of sightings and other UFO data, and from investigation into specific cases.

It will meet again early this year to decide whether a claim exists that satisfies the conditions of the award. In addition, it will award \$5 000 to the claimant who has supplied the most scientifically valuable evidence on UFO's even though short of the proof required for the \$50 000 reward.

"There are reports that clearly can not be explained in conventional terms," said Dr J Allen Hynek, former advisor on UFO's to the U.S. Air Force.

"And many of the reports meet the scientific requirement that more than one witness describe the UFO," added Dr Hynek, chairman of the Department of Astronomy and director of the Dearborn Observatory and Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center of Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

"The ENQUIRER's insistence on a truly scientific approach to this problem is obviously proving its worth." Dr James Harder, prof. of civil engineering at the University of California at Berkeley, said: "Some of the reports contain highly intriguing descriptions of intelligently controlled flying objects. But the most scientifically valuable information has come from reports of landing sites, where physical evidence has been found."

Dr R. Leo Sprinkle, associate professor of psychology and director of the Division of Counseling and Testing of the University of Wyoming, reported. "There are a number of really strong reports on UFO's among those submitted."

Dr Frank B Salisbury, professor of plant science at Utah State University, pointed out: "We have received reports that can be checked by scientific methods."

And the consultant to the panel, Jim Lorenzen, international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., praised what he called "an extremely valuable body of evidence."

QUARTERLY REPORT FROM THE INVESTIGATIONS CO-ORDINATOR

Since I took over in May of this year there have been several reports around the Guildford Area, brief details are as follows.

- S 224 Bright orange/golden light moving slowly across hills - Guildford.
- S 225 Large bright light over Bockham area - possibly 70/66A Agena Rocket debris, seen by housewife.
- Also seen on the same evening by another person in Fetcham similar object which was possibly Samos 2, Satellite which is only visible once every six months.
- S226 Two large round white lights seen by seven people in Yateley. Most likely a small aircraft.
- S 227 Bright light seen over Shamley Green, darting across the sky.
- S 228 Light shooting across the sky near Pewley Down, Guildford, seen by a student.
- S 229 Large golden/orange object seen over Guildford by four people and a Police constable. This object was visible for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
- S 230 Brilliant lights with green one in middle seen by two ladies in Dorking - possibly aircraft.
- S 231 Bright orange object seen moving in NE direction south of Ripley by a man from Guildford.

It is obvious that there appear to be a number of sightings of orange/golden objects over Guildford. We can find no explanation as yet but these are still under investigation.

C Godsell

A POINT TO PONDER

John E Scarry

During the course of research into the possible relationship of UFO's and history, I sometimes find it necessary to consult the pocket oxford dictionary. I would like to put the apparently simple word "Myth" under examination:

Quote:- MYTH noun, primitive tale imaginatively describing or accounting for natural phenomena especially by personification, tale of gods, or demi-gods, old wives tales, prevalent but false belief, person or thing falsely supposed to exist.

Firstly, we have a 'primitive tale imaginatively describing'. I think we can safely parallel this when we say that a UFO witness has exaggerated their sighting. The explanation continues 'or accounting for natural phenomena especially by personification'. Most of us generally accept the word MYTH in connection with historical gods etc., without much ado.

If we take any one of these so-called gods, for instance, the winged figure of Mercury, who must be placed into this category, it is possible that he has been personified. This now leads up to our apparently unanswerable question, 'were spacemen visiting the earth in the Roman or Greek era's.' Without any evidence either way, it may be unfair to state that there was not a figure, or figures, of the humanoid type that could move through the air. In fact, there may have been dozens of humanoids capable of this.

We now have to go back to our dictionary quote of 'by personification'. An ancient person may have seen Mercury in action, when in fact, he had seen A Mercury in action, after all, this is what personification means.

If a humanoid had any kind of antigravity pack, this obviously could not have been comprehended by the peoples of these times. This could be why the figure of Mercury (or a Mercury) can only be comprehensible if the artist or sculptor depicted it with small wings. In the explanation of the word 'Myth', we now reach 'tale of gods or demigods, old wives tales, prevalent but false belief'. It appears here that the peoples of ancient times were divided in their beliefs, (today's UFO scene?) as the word 'prevalent'

is explained as being - generally seen or experienced at a time or place. One may well imagine a man coming home from his place of work, and being met with much disbelief from his family when stating that he had seen 'a Mercury' that day.

Finally (forgive me if this is like an English lesson), our word analysis lesson ends with 'Person or thing falsely supposed to exist'. Sounds very much like a UFO investigation that has run into a blind alley.

I do wish that the editors of dictionaries were more careful.

Example:- Mythical, adj., imaginary, not really existent. OH Really!
