



Award established

The Oct. issue of the P.I.P.E. Line offered the suggestion that we establish a few awards in order to pay public recognition to those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of UFOlogy in the past year. The responses I have received to date are all in support of this proposal. However, Walt Andrus recommends that for the first year we give only one award. This suggestion is a very practical one, so we will follow it. In order to make the determination as to who the recipient should be, we will need to receive nominations from the members of the P.I.P.E. Committee. All nominations should be sent to Marge Christensen no later than Dec. 6, in order that these may be sent to Walt in time to be placed on a ballot in the MUFON Journal as soon as possible. That will allow for time for members to mark and submit ballots to Walt, and for Walt to have the plaque inscribed appropriately. The award will be presented by Walt at the 1986 MUFON Symposium at Michigan State University.

In making nominations, the following guidelines should be followed: The award will represent the most outstanding contribution to the field of UFOlogy in the calendar year from June 30, 1985- to the date that the ballot appears in the Journal, which should be around March, 1986. The award may be for an individual's contribution in any of the following areas:

Research (in any aspect of the subject or into govt. documents)

Investigation (outstanding performance for a particular case or series of related cases).

Public Education or Public Relations

The recipient need not be a MUFON member in order to be given the award.

A list of the nominees will be included in the Dec. issue of the P.I.P.E. Line.

IMPORTANT

It has been suggested that we honor Dr. J. Allen Hynek by naming the award, **THE J. ALLEN HYNEK AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING WORK IN THE FIELD OF UFOLOGY.** We feel that it is important that we receive input from all of you on the P.I.P.E. Committee on this suggestion. Please include your input when you submit your nominations, and send them to Marge Christensen. Thank you.

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PROBLEMS

At the P.I.P.E. Committee meeting in San Antonio in 1984, we discussed the need to somewhat police our own ranks to ensure that all public information offered was accurate. We now have a comprehensive set of slides with an excellent printed narrative to ensure that information covered is correct and accurate.

However, we seem to have a problem outside our ranks, which poses a potentially serious threat to serious UFO researchers. Robert Hastings, an "independent researcher" from Myrtle Beach, SC, has been lecturing for five months per year, apparently, and has been incorporating a great deal of misinformation within his presentations. According to a series of lengthy newspaper articles from the Colorado Springs newspaper, Hastings recently spoke to 400 persons at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He mentioned a great deal of incorrect information on the "infamous" FBI document signed by J. Edgar Hoover in regard to the recovery of crashed discs. In addition, he claimed that the U.S. has 2 crashed UFOs and 9 dead alien bodies in its possession. Both claims are certainly undocumented. He further discussed a govt. facility which he claimed is the current agency responsible for receiving information on UFO sightings. This information is also untrue, and is unfounded speculation at best. Hastings further offered information which is highly questionable in regard to the FBI document concerning the crashed UFO and bodies of three silver-suited beings.

The reason that Hastings poses such a serious problem for us is that he is focussing on govt. secrecy of the UFO subject and is apparently well-armed with documents released under the FOIA, but is also incorporating into his presentation an abundance of fabrication and wrong information. Thus, he may have his audiences convinced that he is quoting from official documents and sources, when, in fact, he is misquoting from those sources.

This is a free country, and we cannot tell Hastings what he can or cannot say. However it would seem wise to notify him that we do not approve of his presentation and that he is doing the UFO subject more harm than good. We should also inform him that we feel compelled to submit letters to the editor in locations where he has spoken, pointing out the misinformation in his presentations. If he is on the university lecture circuit, this would seem to be a must.

Marge Christensen

Welcome to our new MEMBER

The P.I.P.E. Committee welcomes a new member, Mrs. Mildred Bieseke. Mildred is Utah's State Director, and is also a contributing editor to the MUFON Journal. Mildred will be replacing Doug Labat, who has resigned. We are confident that Mildred will be an asset to our committee. She has done an outstanding job of promoting public information in Utah, with a very small number of members in that State.

RESPONSE TO OMNI MAGAZINE

A recent Omni Magazine included some rather bizarre details in an interview with Betty Hill. In the interest of setting the record straight and of clearly divorcing serious UFO researchers from Betty Hill's current comments on the UFO subject, Walt Webb, of our P.I.P.E. Committee will submit an article to Omni. It is not known whether this will be dealt with by Omni as a letter to the editor or as a feature article. We urge you to watch for this response by Walt.

The Arizona Daily Star

Founded 1877

Michael E. Pulitzer, Editor and Publisher

Page Two — Section D

Tucson, Sunday, October 13, 1985

Lights in the sky

Imagination takes off when no explanations are offered

Somebody knows.

Somebody — probably many somebodies — knows why those 60 flying machines washed over Tucson in waves in the wee hours of Monday.

But why does no one seem especially curious to find out? The uniform shrug of shoulders from the Air Force, the Federal Aviation Administration — even from Jim and Coral Lorenzen at Aerial Phenomena Research Organization — reads like the opening scenes of a Steven Spielberg script.

Officialdom agrees that there were no reports of U.S. military activity in the area at that hour. The idea that it could have been foreign aircraft is dismissed out of hand.

Foreign aircraft would have been detected somewhere else in the nation before being spotted over Tucson. Surely they would have been picked up by scanners at the North American Air Defense Command, in Colorado Springs, as they headed northeast from Tucson. But not a peep of explanation from NORAD was forthcoming, either.

Evidently it was not a convention of crop dusters out on the town, or the filming of some new cross-country-race movie. If it was, no one was talking.

The fertile fields of imagination begin to

bloom. Perhaps they weren't aircraft at all, but multiple laser beams bounced off the ionosphere from a new "Star Wars" transmitter that a U.S. space shuttle put in place last week. The nature of the shuttle's mission was, after all, kept under wraps.

Maybe the visitation explains the rash of disasters in the world of late — the earthquake in Mexico, the mudslides in Puerto Rico, the hurricane on the East Coast and the dozens of tragic airplane crashes. Some journal or other will no doubt make such a connection soon.

Maybe it has something to do with the upcoming summit meeting between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev.

There should be some sort of explanation, even the Air Force's tried-and-true swamp-gas explanation, or that it was a freakish reflection of the northern lights would be better than a casual shrug.

The FAA says that aircraft going over a city at 7,000 feet or so don't have to check in with that city's air-traffic controllers. Davis-Monthan Air Force Base says that military planes that pass more than five miles from a military field don't have to check in either.

But 60 of them? Flying in "waves"?

Somebody knows.