

UFO MAGAZINE NEWS BULLETIN

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MYSTICON ONE HELD MAY 30 - 31



Mysticon photos, top: (l-r) Eugene Steinberg, Rick Hilberg, Edward Biebel, Beth Biebel, get together during a break in planning for a little "shop talk." Bottom: First night crowd listens to Robert Lawrence explain the strange powers found in pyramids. Photos by Allen H. Greenfield.

RUNDOWN ON MYSTICON

It was the culmination of many months of planning and work by many individuals, but Mysticon, the first mixed media convention ever held in the Cleveland area, proved to us that such events don't have to be stuffy, strictly "scientific" in order to inform the public, but can really be fun! Not only that, but contact with the public during the various lectures and presentations allows the "experts" to get ideas that in many instances can help "put a new slant" on things related to their studies.

So it was this interchange of ideas and opinions that made the first Mysticon, held at Parma Memorial Hall this last May 30th and 31st, a successful first venture. The public was treated to a series of lectures and slide presentations Friday and Saturday evenings that ranged from such topics as the "Bermuda Triangle" to an illustrated history of pulp adventure magazines of the past. Not to be left out, the science fiction movie fans were treated to the showing of two classics Saturday afternoon: "The Day the Earth Stood Still", and "Things to Come." These two fine movies were preceded by a nostalgic look at the past by local radio personality Archie Rothman.

Experts on many topics were on hand to lecture and answer questions from the public, and to generally get together with old friends and discuss their latest theories and findings. A list of those attending Mysticon sounds like a "who's who" of UFOs, the occult and science fiction: Robert S. Easley, James W. Moseley, Allen H. Greenfield, Eugene R. Steinberg, Curt Sutherly, Edward M. Biebel, Allan Manak, Tom Nealings, Robert Lawrence, Fred G. Cook and many others.

Plans are now in the formative stages for a 1976 event, but you can bet that we will keep you informed so that we can add your name to the above list for next year!

- Rick R. Hilberg

INFORMATION ON THE NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE

Robert S. Easley sends along the following release on his upcoming convention, where we hope to meet many of you in person:

The 12th Annual National UFO Conference (formerly called Congress of Scientific Ufologists) will be held August 15th thru 17th, 1975 at the Holiday Inn Meeting Room in Defiance, Ohio.

Closed sessions for delegates only will be held on Friday night the 15th, Saturday morning and afternoon the 16th, and Sunday morning the 17th. An Open Session for the public will be held Saturday night the 16th from 7 P.M. to 11 P.M. in Schomburg Auditorium, Defiance College Campus.

The Open Session will consist of lectures and slide shows by such famous UFO authorities as Rick R. Hilberg, Edward M. Biebel, Allan J. Manak, Curtis Sutherly, Robert S. Easley and others. There will also be an opportunity to meet these famous investigators of the unknown, and to purchase books, magazines documents and other paraphenalia on UFOs and other related occult and mystic subjects.

The National UFO Conference is probably Northwestern Ohio's only opportunity to meet and hear all these well-known saucer experts at one place and one time.

Suggested delegate housing is at the Holiday Inn Defiance, U.S. 24 at Rt. 66. Please specify that you are attending the UFO conference when making reservations.

For further information contact: Robert S. Easley P.O. Box 696 Defiance, Ohio 43512

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THE SEARCH FOR LIFE ON MARS

By Robert S. Easley

"No one would have believed...that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man's and yet as mortal as his own... No one gave a thought to the older worlds of space as sources of human danger, or thought of them only to dismiss the idea of life upon them as impossible or improbable... Yet across the gulf of space, minds that are to our minds as ours are to those of the beasts that perish, intellects vast and cool and unsympathetic, regarded this earth with envious eyes, and slowly and surely drew their plans against us."

-from The War of The Worlds by H. G. Wells

"And presumably the Martians, an intelligent race, would be feverishly hunting around for other planets to which they might migrate. Earth was the closest, most suitable neighbor."

-from Readers Digest April, 1953 by Morton Clurman

The speculation of life on Mars, which started when man first looked into the sky and is now more intense than ever before, hopefully will be solved on our nation's 200th anniversary when the \$950 million dollar Viking Mars space probe lands on the surface of the Red Planet in the first direct search for extraterrestrial life. Whether the probe finds evidence of extinct, expected, or existing life, the implications of it will be staggering.

Although scientists are split on the question of life on Mars, there is pretty much agreement as to life elsewhere in the universe. Astronomer Carl Sagan, the foremost expert on exobiology, feels that there could be one million civilizations in our galaxy. One of these civilizations could very well be on the planet Mars.

Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, in his "Paradox of Mars" (1964) writes: "If the word 'evidence' refers to observations which suggest intelligence on Mars, which are at present easily interpreted on the basis of intelligence and not yet easily interpreted in any other way, then I hold that there is indeed evidence in favor of intelligent life on Mars."

There are presently five basic observations that could suggest intelligent life on Mars. These are : (1) markings, (2) canal systems, (3) satellites, (4) flares and (5) UFOs.

(1) It appears that, as the polar ice caps melt, there is a definite color change on the planet's surface. The density of this color is greater than the surrounding desert areas. In September of 1954 Dr. E. C. Slipher, head of the International Mars Committee, stated that "This last year must have been a very good and fertile year on Mars" after studying the seasonal color changes.

(2) Although there is still great controversy over the supposed canal system, which was first discovered in 1877 by Italian astronomer Giovanni Schiaparelli, it is still a constant topic of conversation. Dr. Slipher felt that the canals were artificial waterways, whereas Prof. Sagan, in his book Intelligent Life In the Universe with L. S. Shklovski, feels that "...while the canals are almost certainly not the massive engineering works of an advanced Martian civilization, their study may yet give us some further insights into the Martian environment."

(3) First discovered in 1877, the two Martian satellites are very strange indeed. Their size, closeness to Mars, and their almost circular equatorial orbits, make them impossible to be explained in a normal manner. Since the inner satellite is acting like a hollow sphere, it is highly plausible to think of them as artificial, launched into orbit by the same highly advanced beings who built the canal system.

(4) The relatively new phenomena of the flares, which were first seen in 1939, are extremely bright flashes of light seen on the surface from time to time. Since these flashes last anywhere from a few seconds to five minutes, the possibility of them being sunlight reflections or meteor impacts are nil. Volcanic activity would be a red light and last for a much longer time. As Dr. Salisbury states: "...it might be easiest to explain these flares by assuming that they are a product of intelligence, although there is certainly nothing conclusive about this argument."

(5) As far as UFOs go in connection with Mars, there has been an apparent increase in reliable UFO reports when Mars is at it's closest point to earth. No other planet seems to show this correlation, so we can assume that perhaps with less distances to "drive", more Martian ships visit the earth.

Using Dr. Salisbury's criteria for evidence and observations, we can assume that Mars is not a dead planet but rather a planet teeming with life. As Salisbury states: "As the arguments have developed, each fact has seemed to lead more and more to the conclusion that Mars supports not only life but an advanced technology."

In any event, we can only hope that the landing of the Mars Viking space probe on July 4, 1976 will find the evidence needed to either prove that Mars is a dead planet, or a planet full of intelligent, or non-intelligent life.

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BEAT THE RATE INCREASE!

Due to the expected increase in first class postal rates, as well as higher production costs and supplies, we are forced to increase our yearly subscription rate to \$2.00 effective September 1st. Any new subscription or renewal before that date will still be one dollar.