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**UFO UpDates Mailing List****P-1947: November 1957 - UFO wave or IFO flap?**

From: **Herb Taylor** <[HerbUFO@AOL.COM](mailto:HerbUFO@AOL.COM)>  
 Date: Sat, 1 Aug 1998 13:19:52 EDT  
 Fwd Date: Sat, 01 Aug 1998 18:52:57 -0400  
 Subject: P-1947: November 1957 - UFO wave or IFO flap?

Greetings to the List:

In a recent posting I said that the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek didn't regard November 1957 as a genuine UFO wave. This elicited a negative response from certain parties. But, Dr. Hynek did in fact say that. His views on this can be found in The Hynek UFO Report (p. 262). The key sentence states; "First let us examine the two flaps of IFOs, those of 1957 and 1966." These are Dr. Hynek's words, not mine. This was in 1977, twenty years after the period in question. To further illustrate his views on the matter, it should be noted that his revised study of the Blue Book files classified only 25 cases as Unidentified for all of 1957, not just November. Thus, Dr. Hynek had good reason to feel the way he did on this matter.

I also said that misidentifications of Venus as a "UFO" were rampant during this period. This is correct. But, Venus had nothing remotely to do with Levelland, or many other cases during this period. However, it was a big factor in this wave. It's obvious that heavy media attention to Levelland and several other reports spawned a deluge of mistaken sightings of "UFOs". That some very strange events took place in November 1957 cannot be denied, but did a real wave take place? Apparently, Dr. Hynek didn't think so. I suspect he was right.

Regards, Herb Taylor

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