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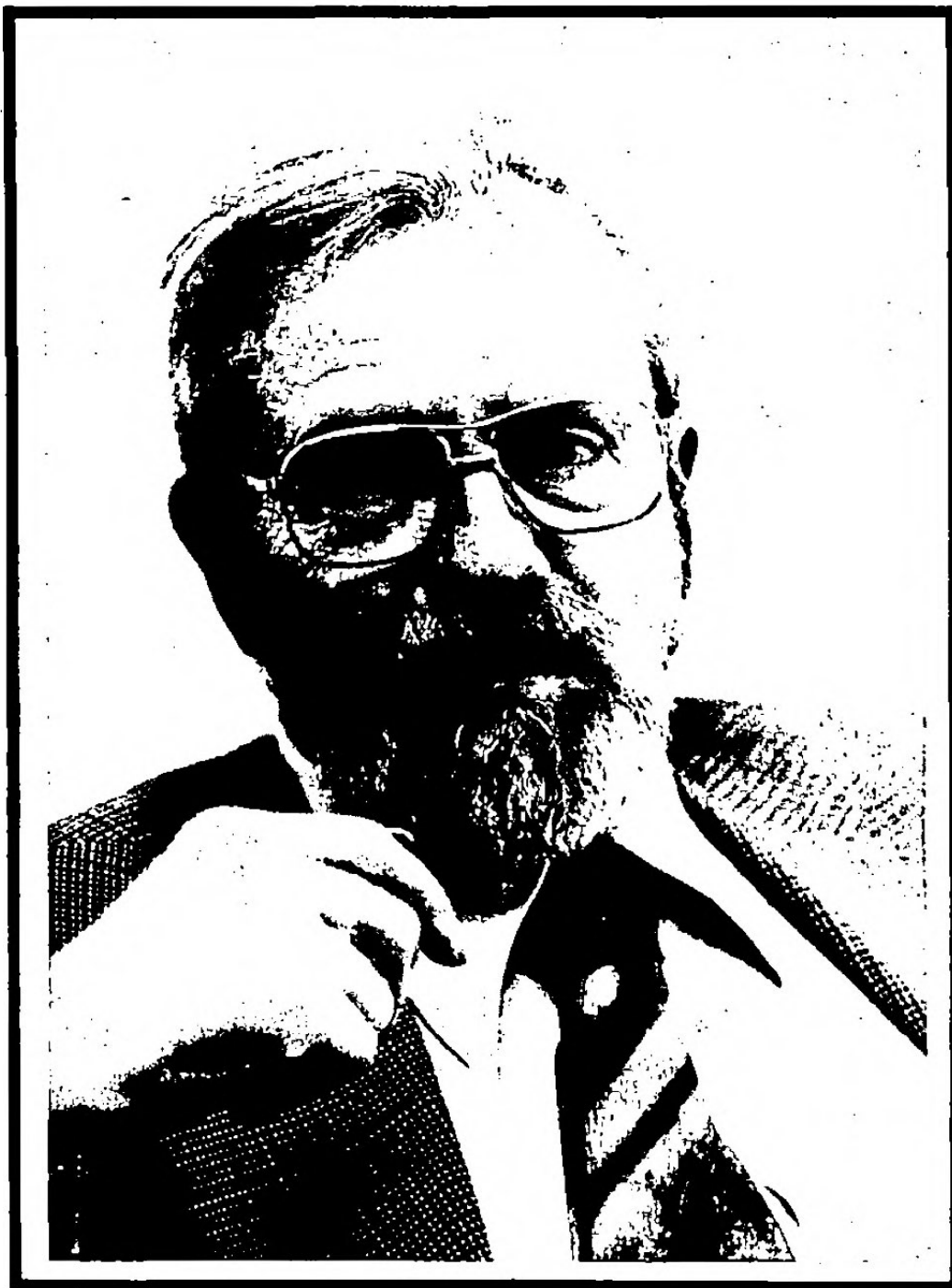
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# FROM THE EDITOR

Ufology lost not only a founding father but a friend when Dr. J. Allen Hynek passed away at the end of April. I knew him neither as long nor as well as many of you, yet I found Dr. Hynek invariably patient and considerate, willing to give of his time and energy when the demands put on either would have strained any man half his age and less gifted with enthusiasm for his life's work. He was indefatigable, but alas, not indestructible.

News of his death came just as we were going to press. No doubt more tributes and memories of the man will appear in the future. In the meantime, this issue of the Journal is respectfully dedicated to the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek, now outward bound on the Closest Encounter of them all, that of a man with his Maker. Rest in peace.

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# Dr. J. Allen Hynek

(1910 - 1986)

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1986

## J. Allen Hynek, Astronomer And U.F.O. Consultant, Dies

By JOAN COOK

J. Allen Hynek, an astrophysicist and consultant to an Air Force project to assess reports of unidentified flying objects, died of a malignant brain tumor Sunday at Memorial Hospital in Scottsdale, Ariz. He was 75 years old.

Dr. Hynek, who moved to Scottsdale from Evanston, Ill., a year ago, was for 18 years professor and chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University and director of its Dearborn Observatory, until he retired in 1978. He was involved in the Air Force U.F.O. research effort from 1948 to 1969.

Often his task for the Air Force was to examine at first hand more substantial reports of flying saucers and the like. In 1966, after a rash of sightings in Michigan, he went to the area to take charge of the investigation. After interviewing scores of people, he ascribed certain sightings to luminous marsh gas rather than something from space. Nevertheless, he said, "Scientists in the year 2066 may think us very naive in our denials."

He long asserted that U.F.O.'s should be taken seriously and he eventually became displeased with the Air Force approach. He said that its methods were slipshod and that it was not conducting a scientific study. The Air Force, in turn, concluded that there was no evidence of extraterrestrial craft and the U.F.O. project was abandoned.

### He Avoids 'U.F.O. Nut' Label

In an interview in 1974, Dr. Hynek said that he had remained with the program as long as he did to retain access to Air Force data and to avoid being marked a "U.F.O. nut."

Dr. Hynek founded the Center for U.F.O. Studies in Evanston in 1973 and took it with him when he moved to Scottsdale.

He is credited with coining the phrase "close encounters of the third

kind" to describe humans meeting creatures from space. He used the phrase in his 1972 book "The U.F.O. Experience" and it became the title of the 1977 Steven Spielberg film, on which he served as technical adviser.

When a reporter once suggested that Dr. Hynek he might be remembered not as an astronomer but as the man who made U.F.O.'s respectable, he replied: "I wouldn't mind. If I can succeed in making the study of U.F.O.'s scientifically respectable and do something constructive in it, then I think that would be a real contribution."

He resigned from the center he founded a few months ago for ill health, according to the director, Tina Choate.

### He Worked on Proximity Fuse

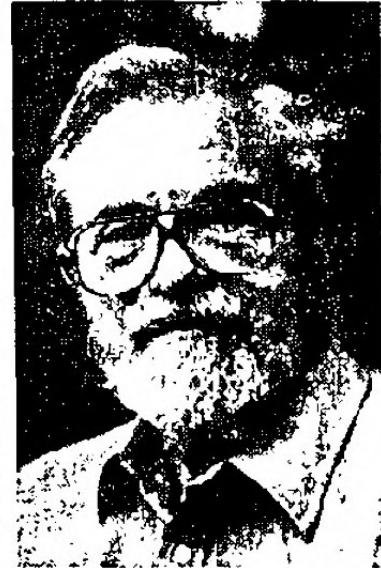
In World War II, Dr. Hynek was a civilian scientist at the Johns Hopkins Applied Science Laboratory, where he helped to develop the Navy's radio proximity fuse.

Josef Allen Hynek was born in Chicago, Ill., to Czechoslovak parents. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 1931 and earned a Ph.D degree there in 1935.

He joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Ohio State in 1936. After the war he returned there, rising to full professor in 1950.

In 1956 he left to join Prof. Fred Whipple, the Harvard astronomer, at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, which had combined with the Harvard Observatory at Harvard. Dr. Hynek had the assignment of directing the tracking of an American space satellite, a project for the International Geophysical Year in 1956 and thereafter.

In addition to 247 optical stations around the world, there were to be 12 photographic stations. A special camera was devised for the task and a



The New York Times

J. Allen Hynek

prototype was built and tested and then stripped apart again when, on Oct. 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched its first satellite, Sputnik.

### Assumed the U.S Would Be First

"We had always assumed that the United States would have the first satellite," Dr. Hynek said ruefully at the time. "If I've ever had a traumatic experience, that was it."

Observations of the Soviet satellite were received, and with twice-daily news conferences, Dr. Hynek and Dr. Whipple began to reassure the public after what Dr. Hynek called "this intellectual Pearl Harbor, a real gutsy sock to the stomach."

Once things in satellite tracking settled down to a routine, Dr. Hynek went back to teaching, taking the chairmanship at Northwestern in 1960.

He is survived by his wife, the former Miriam Curtis; four sons and a daughter, Scott Josef, of Waltham, Mass.; Joel Curtis, of Leonia, N.J.; Paul Curtis, of Scottsdale, Ross Allen, of Lake Forest, Ill.; Roxane, of Hanover, Mass.; and five grandchildren.

# UFO ACTIVITY OVER OHIO

By Irena Scott

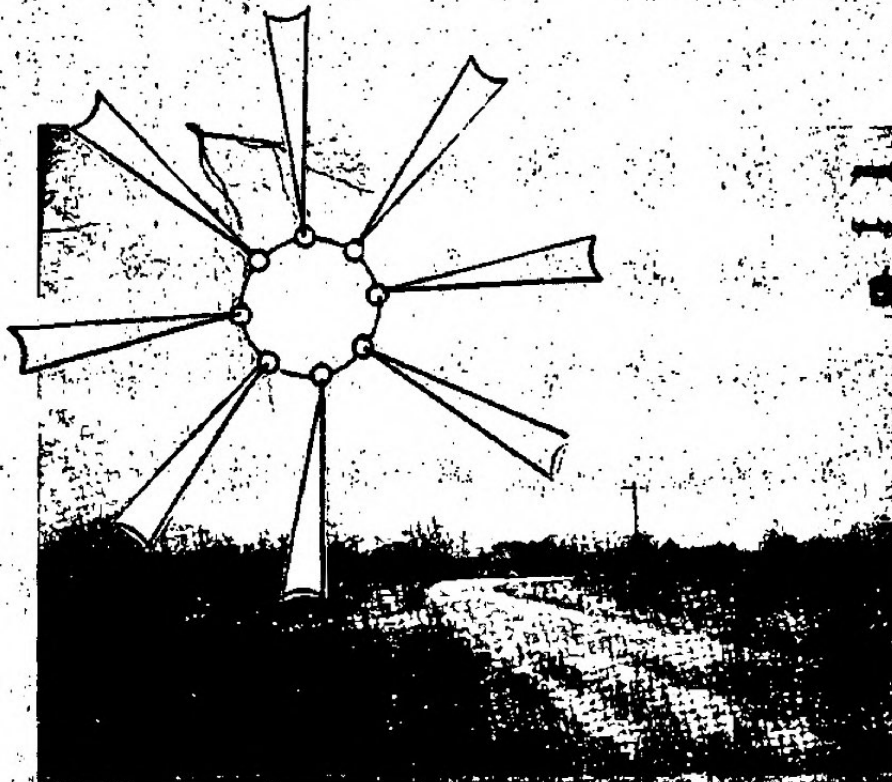
**Irena Scott, Ph.D., is a MUFON field investigator and consultant in physiology.**

In spring 1984 several possible UFO sightings occurred in the Columbus, Ohio, area. I learned of this first sighting from a local newspaper article. On 18 May, 1984, at 9:35 PM, two witnesses saw a flash of light as though from a large flash camera. One witness, a retired Army colonel, said the flash "was followed by a jet-like rocket propellant, which was a bright white rocket exhaust for just a split second. At that time a long (approximately 12') rocket-like vehicle proceeded in a westerly direction, tree-top high on a gradual descent path."

He saw a black object that he believed was around 125 feet from him. On July 30, he reported the sighting to the police, because on July 27, a Russian rocket had fallen from space and he thought the object he had seen might have been falling space debris.

Both witnesses (the other witness was a nurse) described a streak-shape having a west or northwest trajectory. It appeared several times larger in apparent diameter than the moon. They both thought the object might have come down just over a hillside from them. I checked with the neighbors, who owned this property, but no one had noticed a disturbance. A check with the power company showed no disturbance, there was no record of falling space debris, and no one knew of anyone shooting rockets or firecrackers at that time. The people lived near a resort area close to two airports and were familiar with landing lights, ultra-light air craft, balloons, meteors, and astronomical objects and did not believe they had seen a conventional object. The weather had been clear.

## FRIGHTENED



*Artist's impression superimposed over site of reported sighting.*

In order to gather additional information, I asked other neighbors and discovered several other possible sightings. Another had taken place approximately 0.4 miles to the southeast on a Tuesday in April, 1984. The witness (a retired accountant) said, "I saw a red flashing light in the sky; about the time some trees cut out my view, so I kept driving and then I saw it again. It was a very large, round object. It appeared overhead in the sky about tree top-high with amber lights all around it and the rest of it was quite red all over. It kept coming closer so I stopped the car and turned off the radio, and just looked at it because I was frightened and thought that it was going to land in the road in front of me."

She said that it was traveling very slowly and all at once it disappeared. Judging by the trees behind the object

she believed it had descended to 20 feet elevation and disappeared when it was around 80 feet away from her. The object was a sphere with amber rays projecting from lights around its periphery and it appeared to be approximately 10 times the moon's apparent diameter. She kept watching for it as she drove home and, upon arrival, dashed into the house. She continues to feel creepy when she drives by the area at night (1986). However, she did not tell anyone about the observation, because her husband had told her not to talk about it.

Several other possible UFO sightings were reported within 15 miles of these sightings during the spring. One of these occurred on February 23, 1984 at approximately 4:00 to 4:25 PM.

*(continued next page)*

## OHIO, continued

This sighting was by five highly educated witnesses and was over Columbus, Ohio. The object's appearance underwent a regular change (possible rotation) approximately every 60 seconds from an upside-down ice cream cone to a rectangle. No circular or balloon-shaped component was visible above it and it appeared to have traveled 5-10 miles during the period of observation.

It was first sighted over the Ohio State University and traveled to the northeast. It appeared higher in elevation than the aircraft leaving Port Columbus airport, but otherwise its elevation could not be determined. An investigator, Warren Nicholson, said that in checking with Port Columbus (east of the sighting location) immediately after the sighting, he found that the ground wind speed was 0 and that the airport radar had not detected anything.

## CONTRAILS

Later that evening, Mr. Nicholson said that he received a report from a highly credible witness and his family about a group of four objects (over west Columbus, Ohio) that appeared as black contrails and then flew away in different directions. An attempt was made to photograph one of the objects. The next week, February 29, 1985, at around 3:30 PM, a witness sighted an amorphous black-brown object around 1-2 feet in diameter, briefly hovering close to the roof of a building near the Ohio State University campus, that rapidly flew to the southeast.

Around the times of these sightings some possible poltergeist activity occurred. In March, 1984, approximately 0.8 mile from the red sphere sighting location, a woman's neighbor called to ask if she were all right because, "there's a man walking down the road. He had been walking back and forth (repetitively) across another neighbor's driveway on the opposite side of the road and next door to her. He then started walking down the road and as he passed my house, would take a few steps, stop and look in

at my house (repetitively), then continue until he passed by the house."

She rushed to her picture window (that has a good view of both ways of the road) and was unable to see anyone. The following morning after a fresh snowfall, she found a man's tracks in her yard, which started in the middle of her yard about 20 feet from the road, walked up to her doorstep and stopped, with no tracks leading to or away from them. She had lived there for around 30 years and nothing like this had happened to her previously. She knew of no reason why anyone would play jokes on her. Also, the controversial "Columbus Poltergeist" activity began on March 3, 1984.

## BURN-MARK

Another interesting event, although it was not correlated with a UFO sighting and was investigated only as an unidentified burn, was a roughly 130-foot by 6-foot elliptical burn that made a sudden appearance in an isolated field of knee-high, green alfalfa about 0.8 mile northwest of the location of the rocket sighting.

The farmer, who discovered it in early June, 1984, had reported it to the fire department, asking if it could have been caused by a helicopter. It was unusual in that no tracks were found near the area, the field had been planted in alfalfa the previous years and had grown normally, and nothing had been applied to the area. This was not an ordinary grass fire because June was a wet month with water standing in the field and special equipment would have been required to burn the alfalfa. It must have its water vaporized first.

I had the soil analyzed by mass spectrometry. Neither the biochemist, who did the analysis, nor the soil scientists, who examined the chromatograms, found any trace of herbicide, pesticide, or gasoline. The following spring, an unusually large proportion of the dandelions that grew in the area were thick-stemmed. Some looked as if five or more stems had grown together to make one stalk. These stalks lay along the ground rather than standing as dandelions normally do. The trace remains visible (1986).

All the witnesses were reliable, well-educated people, who were used to being out-of-doors. Since several of these sightings were over Columbus, Ohio, one wonders how to get other witnesses to report sightings. Also, if investigators were able to obtain enough reports, they might be able to examine possible relationships between reported poltergeist activity and reported UFO sightings.

Jennie Zeidman's assistance in this investigation was very much appreciated.

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# ETs: AN ECONOMY OF MEANS

By Raymond M. Reddy

Mr. Reddy is a research specialist who joined MUFON in 1983. This is his first article for the Journal.

A question damaging to the opposition of the ET theory is, If we have no visitors from the stars, why not? Consider the near certainty of hundreds of billions of planets in our galaxy alone, the evidence and arguments for the widespread distribution of life, and the probably billions of years that civilizations evolved on the planets would have had by this time to propagate throughout the Milky Way, utilizing intelligence and technology that presumably would have become ever more extremely advanced. Why has such alien intelligence not colonized all of the planetary systems, including ours, and indeed refashioned the universe?

To address the question, firstly, we should realize that not all scientific feats loosely conceivable are necessarily physically possible. Time travel into the past is almost certainly not, as it would permit the traveler to change events which had to occur as they did in order that the world of the present be as it is, a logical contradiction. This likely impossibility is but one of many that together may create a general limitedness of science, technology, and space travel. (At a level which, however, may be far above our modern attainment.) Another major always-inviolable limitation may well be the speed of light.

## LIMITATIONS

The various inherent limits to science and technology, if they exist, could be approached but not exceeded no matter how old our or any other civilization becomes. And, if technology does advance within an overall limit, a question arises as to how far above the present human level innate intelligence

capacity might evolve or whether it would evolve further at all. It too might come to a maximum, with computers doing the noncreative brainwork.

Such an idea of limitation is not new, and may seem to have been discredited by the surpassing of some supposedly established limits. Nonetheless it may turn out to be truer than notions of far-out possibilities realizable sometime or somewhere, or truer than extreme extrapolations of present trends of progress. Perhaps indicatively, most biological species have ended their upward evolution. Immediately this could explain why ET civilizations have not swamped and revamped the universe. It is the *first* reason, within the present theory, why that has not occurred.

A few years ago I wrote an article explaining that the most advanced ET civilization may not be as far beyond us as one might infer, presuming it had an eons-earlier starting date, for a different reason than that just stated.<sup>1</sup>

This is: Probably, life in the universe and especially within galaxies began and evolved with some degree of concurrency, owing to an interconnectedness. Organic chemicals produced and evolved to some extent in space, and wafted by gaseous currents, starlight, and gravity, might have established the first life or stimulated life on planets all around our galaxy at about the same time. Then, as life developed on the planets, complex organic molecules or even actual spores might have begun to escape into space, bringing about a still-continuing interchange of genetic material throughout the galaxy, accelerating the evolution of less-developed life. Later, when the first civilizations ventured into deep space, they may have begun sending various kinds of seeds — and occupied interstellar vehicles being or containing our UFOs — to initiate and promote evolution on other planets.

Thus, life may not have begun elsewhere so very long before it began on Earth, and even if it did, it may not be all that far ahead today, biologically or technologically.

I referred to this process as the "compression of evolution" — the more backward a place is, the more it tends to have its evolution assisted. Conversely, the more advanced a place is the less help it receives and the lower its rate of evolution; this is the *second* reason herewith proposed why extraterrestrials have not taken over — they have not yet had enough time, because they themselves came to spacefaring not so long ago.

If the most advanced part of galactic civilization were, say, 100,000 years beyond that on Earth (i.e., were at present where we would be in 100,000 years without help), a moment in the age of the galaxy, it may still be very, very advanced even if technological progress slows owing to the aforesaid limitation effect. However, as this length of time approximates that required to span our galaxy at the speed of light, it probably is insufficient for a complete galactic colonization.

Moreover, if what has been theorized here so far is true, we may not have had visitors from other galaxies because they may not be advanced enough nor have had time, in view of the great distances.

## ECONOMICS

The *third* such reason is connected with a theory of mine about the economic progress of industrialized societies: As they develop beyond a certain point of diminishing returns, they will gradually cease investing their economic products (e.g., money) toward the employment of more and more energy, materials, space, and labor, and thenceforth will increasingly

(continued next page)

## ECONOMY, Continued

invest toward the conservation of these economic bases, so as to realize growing savings derived from this conservation.<sup>2</sup>

To do so will avoid the multiplying various costs of exponential quantitative (or gross) economic growth, and indeed will become the only way to raise profits and benefits, to enhance the real, net standard of living. The change will come about owing to the multifarious limits, shortages, and "diseconomies" encountered more and more frequently with the obsolescent gross growth of the economy. Thus, a new mode of growth will ensue, continued growth in value but by way of technologically increasing conservation — qualitative, net growth. Therein, just about all tasks will be performed with less and less means (especially in respect to the quantities utilized of energy, materials, space and labor). Obviously this runs directly counter to the conventional wisdom that future society will employ ever more energy, etc.; but if the conventional wisdom were right, astronomers should have seen evidence of advanced ET civilizations' effects.

This new kind of growth, I submit, is an inevitability pertaining to all economically advanced civilizations everywhere. It implies that the society or societies behind the UFOs use methods of operation that employ minimal means.<sup>3</sup> And this jibes with what has been seen: the fleeting appearances, the dearth of hard evidence, the lack of the full-scale contact that would bring sudden and drastic change upon us.

On Earth today we are gradually shifting toward this new kind of economic growth, although by no means are we yet into it. This alone (which should bring our socio-economic systems progressively into harmony with that of the UFOs), plus our progress in general, plus an expected gradual rise in UFO activity (as per this theory), may well bring us into increasing contact with the "galactic community."

## MAGIC

Now, here are some remarks of inference and summary:

1. I believe that the three "reasons" while mainly independent are consistent with each other and all essentially true. Even if only any one is true, many of the observed UFO characteristics are accounted for on the basis of an ET origin.

2. It is because of unknown near-term objectives, methods of operation that differ radically from ours, and advanced technology producing magic-like effects, that particular acts of UFOs are incomprehensible to us.

3. But "they" are not so advanced as to be omnipotent. Their innate intelligence capacity may perhaps not be much greater or better than ours.

4. At least three factors account for the overall UFO influence being, so far, inconspicuous and nondisruptive: (a) the limitations of their technology and time in existence, (b) the time requirements incurred and other difficulties caused by stellar distances, and (c) the socio-economic imperative to do things by lesser and lesser means. These would be connected with a likely intention to "extend the community" by utilizing and improving the existing material — we Earthlings and our works — rather than invading in force, destroying it, and replacing it.

5. Relatedly, putting across new or differing ideas within a society is not easy, nor is transferring technology from one society, relatively a little ahead, to another on the same planet. So it must be unfeasible for "them" to teach us quickly their science, far advanced (even if it is only thousands rather than a billion years beyond ours) and very different in objective and kind. The technical problem of transferring technology probably constitutes another inherent limitation. This too would serve to reduce contact, but still they might be imparting incremental advances to our minds more or less secretly.

6. We can form a rough idea of the propulsion of UFOs, based on assumptions consonant with this ET theory, as follows. With relativity and other known physical laws setting limiting conditions, an interstellar ship could travel up to nearly the speed of light without a prohibitively great

power source requirement (or one violating minimal means) only by controlled conversion of its own matter and that of its contents into kinetic energy.

This would be done in variable degrees up to nearly the entire  $mc^2$  content of the said matter, affording almost instant acceleration, and reversibly, with rematerialization at the destination.<sup>4</sup> Of course, we do not know whether this can ever be a technological possibility; as of now it seems to be a reasonable guess according with the observed features of UFOs and with what must be.

To hypothesize further: (a) The implementation technique of this "energization" of the UFO tends to energize also the immediate surroundings, disrupting matter (with electromagnetic and radiation effects), causing the adjacent air to glow and move aside so that it presents no resistance, and, farther away, making insulators conductive, thereby stopping car engines; (b) uniform energization of all particles of the craft and its contents eliminates any force of acceleration thereupon, permitting sudden acceleration to speeds up to nearly that of light (this could explain the seemingly instant vanishings, also); (c) in accordance with conservation of momentum, a "jet" of completely energized matter (matter or antimatter carried by the craft as a sort of fuel) is ejected in the direction opposite that of the craft's acceleration, but without a rocket-like blast; (d) for space travel, nearly complete energization allows the ship to pass through thin gas and dust without damage (complete energization, with a corresponding speed equal to light, would reduce the material component to zero, causing loss of control and indeed disintegration); (e) the changes of shape observed are only apparent due to refraction of light or varying stimulation of light emission by the energization means, or real due to slightly nonuniform energization or to external forces on a craft rendered flexible by energization, or a combination of these.

## OCCUPANTS

(continued on page 17)

# SIGHTING REPORTS

## HUMMING DISC

A recurrent feature of UFO inquiry is the surfacing of sightings and encounters that actually took place many years before. Recently, during the latter part of 1985, one such incident was brought to my attention by one of my co-workers who made mention of her mother's sighting. Eventually, I obtained a signed account from the witness (via her daughter), and also had the opportunity to briefly meet her in person.

The locale of this nearly lost UFO observation was Far Rockaway, an outlying section of Queens county, one of the five boroughs that comprise New York City.

The incident itself took place sometime between 1975-1978 though the witness, Rose M. Kras, then in her late fifties, cannot specify the exact year. She recalled that it must have been the beginning of November as the leaves were no longer on the trees. It was a warm clear night, around 11 PM, and Rose was taking her dog for his evening walk.

They were about 100 feet from the shore of Jamaica Bay when Rose suddenly heard a low humming sound. She looked up and saw nearly overhead a round object emitting a soft silvery glow. Its altitude was not very high, being about three stories above the houses in the area. Rose estimated the diameter at about 20 feet, and the thickness at between 6-8 feet.

The object hovered motionlessly for some 2-3 minutes, then took off very slowly to the east. When the object started to move, the humming sound increased slightly in pitch. It disappeared from sight about a minute later over the LILCO (Long Island Lighting Company) power plant two blocks away.

And what was the reaction of the witness to this very out of the ordinary and unexpected occurrence? Her own

words tell it best: "I wasn't frightened; but as I looked at it I wondered if someone was in the object and was looking down at me. Naturally I got excited that I had seen this."

When I had the opportunity to briefly meet with Rose Kras she made a point of emphasizing the feeling of excitement. In fact, she went back a number of times to the sighting location "hoping it would come back and I could see it again." Her hope never materialized. Rose had no dreams about the incident (I had been a bit suspicious concerning a possible abduction factor), nor did she experience any physical effects. The dog did look up, but continued his walk, exhibiting none of the oft-reported animal reactions.

Though my personal meeting with the witness was unfortunately brief, I was impressed by her demeanor as a solid-type individual. She had no interest in seeking notoriety, and although most curious as to her own observation, had no interest in pursuing the matter of the subject further. She did express regret that no one else could offer supporting testimony as to what she saw.

What did Rose Kras see? Was she a victim of some gross misperception, or an observer of something truly anomalous? While the passage of time since her sighting acts as an inhibitive factor in a thorough inquiry, nonetheless the data provided does allow for a reasonable analysis. Ruled out with absolute certainty is a misperception of any type of astronomical source (bright planet or star, fireball meteor, the moon). Also ruled out with absolute certainty is any misperception of a satellite, or of any type of fixed-wing aircraft (including the troublesome advertising plane).

Could a lighted weather balloon or a helicopter be the responsible stimulus? While each of these two explanation modes might satisfy some

of the sighting characteristics, neither such explanation can satisfy *all* of the observational data as provided by the witness. Was a true UFO present that night over Far Rockaway? Perhaps. At the very least such a possibility must be given serious consideration.

**Herbert S. Taylor**

## BOOMERANG

I would like to report a sighting that occurred on September 14, 1985 at Lake Casitas near Ojai, California. I have not had a chance to follow up on reports from other witnesses so include here a description by the principals, Phyllis and her husband Hector. Phyllis reported that nine people were in her camping party including some children.

At about 8 p.m. on that night, Phyllis was preparing a barbecue when someone in her camping party spotted some bright white lights that were moving in the sky west of her position on a course from northeast to southwest. One light rose to a high point in the sky, then stopped. This light then swooped down on the camping party and passed slowly over their heads at low altitude.

Phyllis said the object appeared to be a very large craft shaped like a boomerang with a continuous row of fixed white lights along the outer perimeter and fixed blue lights along the inner perimeter. The object had rounded edges with no sharp corners. A bulkier mid-section seemed to protrude from the under belly. The surface was dark.

Hector reported the object as oval-shaped and said he could see dimly-lit windows. Hector is a carpenter by trade and used to working with measurements so I asked him to estimate the object's size and altitude. He felt it was approximately 600 ft. from tip to tip and had passed not more than

(continued on page 19)

# A MANTELL DIARY

By T. Scott Crain, Jr.

T. Scott Crain, Jr. is a staff writer for the MUFON Journal.

On January 7, 1948, Captain Thomas F. Mantell was fatally injured in the crash of his P-51 Interceptor while attempting to identify a UFO over Godman Field, Kentucky. Speculation over the cause of Mantell's death has been raging for decades, primarily because the identity of the object has never been proven. Although the Air Force pieced together several explanations for the cause of the crash, the official conclusions do not stand up under scrutiny. Upon review Air Force documents of the incident from Project Bluebook, a copy of Mantell's Aircraft Accident Report, and numerous research notes of UFO investigators from here and abroad, I've come to the conclusion that the object Mantell was chasing was neither the planet Venus or a Navy skyhook balloon. The evidence points to something of a more extraordinary nature. This report examines the facts that led me to this conclusion.

At 1:15 p.m. on January 7, 1948, several witnesses from Maysville, Kentucky, called the Kentucky State Highway Patrol to report a strange aerial object moving westward. Twenty minutes later, witnesses in Owensboro and Irvington, Kentucky, called the State Police to report something unusual in the sky that was "circular, about 250 to 300 feet in diameter," accelerating west at a "pretty good clip."

At 1:45 p.m. the Assistant Tower Operator at Godman Air Force Base, Kentucky, suddenly saw the unusual object and called his chief to see it. When the two officers were convinced the UFO "was not an airplane or a weather balloon" they informed flight operations.<sup>2</sup> The presence of the UFO was brought to the attention of the Base Operations Officer, the Base Intelligence Officer and the Base



Capt. Thomas F. Mantell

Commander who all observed the UFO through the tower's 6X50 binoculars and were unable to identify it. At 2:30 p.m. an unidentified man in Madisonville, Kentucky, "...called in a report on an unknown which, with the aid of a telescope, he had identified as a balloon."<sup>3</sup> At 2:45 p.m. the P-51's flew over Godman Field. At 2:48 p.m. Mantell is asked by the tower if he would investigate. What happens next can best be described in the summary from the official Aircraft Accident Report on Mantell:

"On 7 January 1948, a flight of four P-51's departed Marietta Air Base, Marietta, Georgia, en route to Standiford Field, Louisville, Kentucky. Captain Mantell was acting flight commander for the four aircraft. The flight was planned and scheduled as a ferry and navigational trip at low level. The flight proceeded without incident to the vicinity of Godman Field, Kentucky. Nearing the field, Captain Mantell was asked by Godman tower to investigate an unidentified object in the sky to the southwest if his mission

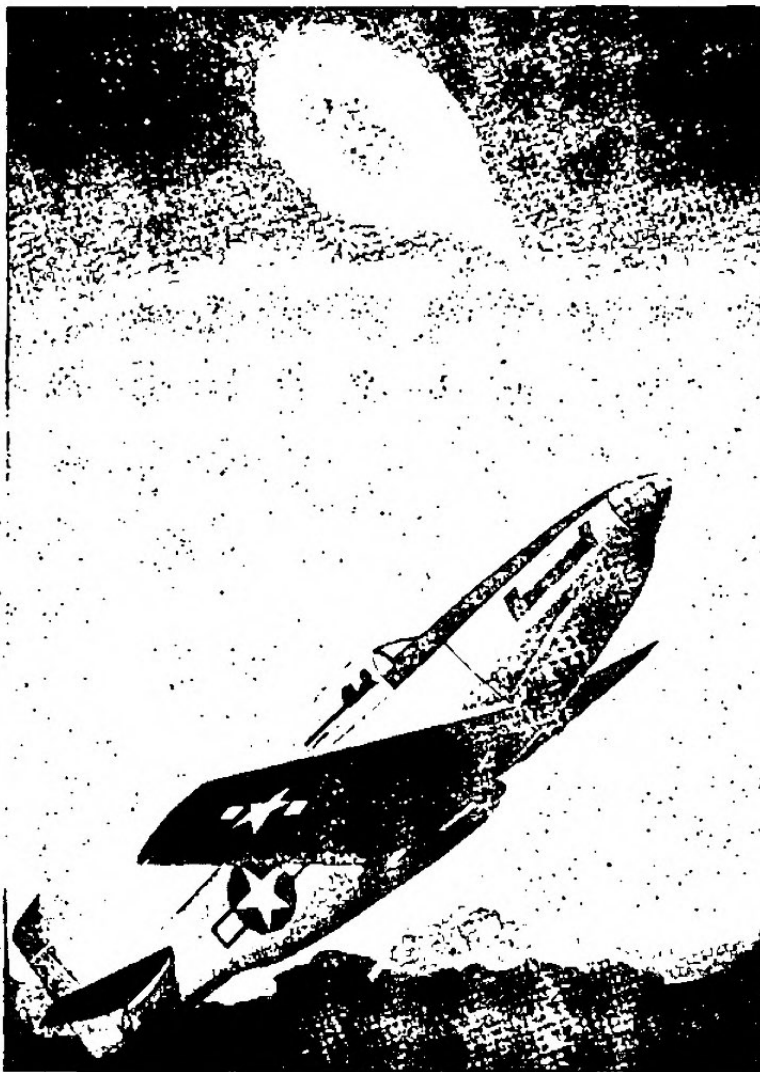
would permit. Captain Mantell replied his mission was ferrying aircraft, but he would attempt to identify the object. He turned the flight in that direction and began a maximum climb in left spirals until approximately 14,000 feet, then transitioned to a straight climb at maximum power. By the time Captain Mantell had reached approximately 22,500 feet, three of the four flight members broke off because of lack of oxygen. When last observed by one of his departing wingmen, Captain Mantell had passed 22,500 feet and was heard to say that he would level at 25,000 feet for about 10 minutes. Further transmissions were garbled and attempts to contact him by his flight went unanswered. A ground observer noted an aircraft circling at high altitude, then descending in a spiral. Approximately halfway through the descent, the plane was observed to disintegrate and crash. Captain Mantell was fatally injured in the crash."<sup>4</sup>

## QUESTIONS

The controversy in this case has two parts: one, what was Mantell pursuing and two, why did he crash? The official answers to these questions appear in the book, *Project Bluebook*, edited by Brad Steiger. The report states:

"It is the [Air Technical Information Command] opinion that Captain Mantell lost consciousness due to oxygen starvation, the aircraft being trimmed continued to climb until increasing altitude caused a sufficient loss of power for it to level out. The aircraft then began a turn to the left due to torque and as the wing drooped so did the nose until the aircraft was in a tight diving spiral. The uncontrolled descent resulted in excessive speed causing the aircraft to disintegrate. It is believed that Captain Mantell never

(continued next page)



## MANTELL, continued

regained consciousness. This is born out by the fact that the canopy lock was still in place after the crash, discounting any attempt to abandon the aircraft. The UFO was in way directly responsible for this experienced pilot conducting a high altitude flight without the necessary oxygen equipment.

There were two conceptions as to the identity of the object; Venus, one of the brightest objects in our heavens, or a large balloon used for high altitude experimental flights and known as 'sky hooks.'<sup>5</sup>

## VENUS

Now let us examine the official version in detail. The first conception as to the identity of the object was Venus, which was located at the approximate directional position coinciding with the UFO. An Air Force representative from

the Pentagon stated, without reservation, that "...they checked again and it was Venus," according to an article in the *Saturday Evening Post*.<sup>6</sup> This is the only explanation that was offered and it met little opposition for many months. Hence, poor Mantell was officially listed as attempting to reach Venus before he crash and died. The story might have ended here except for a few noted individuals who pursued the case further and through careful analysis determined that the facts disagreed with official conclusion.

In his book, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Edward J. Ruppelt, former head of the U.S. Air Force project investigating flying saucers, wrote he was "...convinced that the UFO wasn't Venus."<sup>7</sup> He, along with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, then head of the Ohio State University Astronomy Department and now director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Illinois, reviewed the entire

case. They concluded that although Venus was located in approximately the same spot as the UFO, "...Venus wasn't bright enough to be seen," the day Mantell was killed.<sup>8</sup>

When Air Force brass got wind of this, the official explanation was changed to teeter on a new conclusion. The Air Force now decided that the UFO responsible for killing Mantell, "might have been Venus or it could have been a balloon. Maybe two balloons. It probably was Venus except that this is doubtful because Venus was too dim to be seen in the afternoon."<sup>9</sup> A curious way to put the death of an Air Force pilot.

Even the official report says "...atmosphere conditions must be exceptionally good," to view Venus in the daytime.<sup>10</sup> Atmospheric conditions were anything but good the day Mantell died, for weather reports indicated there was considerable haze in the area.<sup>11</sup> The point to be made here is that the Air Force switched their opinion of the cause of the crash from a positive solution (Venus), to an uncertain solution (probably not Venus, maybe a balloon). It's obvious the Air Force lacked sufficient evidence to foist either solution with certainty, so they unconvincingly stated it probably was a balloon or a planet; not knowing for sure which it was.

## BALLOON

The second conception as to the identity of the object came several years later when the Navy Department disclosed they were using large balloons for high altitude experimental flights known as "sky-hooks," in the vicinity on the day of the sighting. The reason the explanation wasn't offered sooner is that the Navy program was classified at the time. Therefore these balloon flights were known only to a select few. Hence, the official report states, "It has been unofficially reported that the object was a Navy cosmic ray balloon. If this can be established, it is to be preferred as an explanation."<sup>12</sup>

The Air Force goes on to substantiate their "new" conclusion in Steiger's book.

(continued next page)

**MANTELL, Continued**

Flight Flight Service Center  
Right Field  
Clinton, Ohio

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Date 9 January 1948

SUBJECT: Report of Aircraft Accident

TO: Commanding Officer, Flying Safety Division, Field Office of the  
Air Inspector, HQ USAF, Langley Field, Virginia  
Commanding Officer, Flight Service, Washington 25, D.C.  
Commanding Officer, 7th AF BU, 102nd Weather Group, Mitchel Field  
Hempstead, New York

1. Flight Plan: 7 Jan 1947 EG3869 4-PSL Mantell Marietta Ga. VFR  
Standiford Field, Louisville Ky 30 D1342C 110/300/32

2. Date, time and scene of accident: 7 Jan 1948 Approximately 1645G  
2 miles SW Franklin Ky 36°-42'N 86°-35'W

3. Flight Service Clearance: (Yes) (No) (Not Necessary) (If "Yes" attach Copy -  
If "No" explain why) Flight was cleared by an established base operations office

4. ATIS Clearance: (Yes) (No)

5. Flight advisory issued: (Yes) (No) (If "Yes" attach Copy - If "No"  
explain why) No. No hazardous conditions were foreseen to exist for this  
flight.

6. Position Reports: None

7. Pertinent weather: (See Inclosure # 1)

8. Narrative Summary of Additional Information: EG3869 was contacted by Godman tower  
as his flight of 4 PSL passed over Godman Field enroute from Marietta Ga. to Standiford  
Field, Louisville Ky and requested him to investigate unidentified balloon like object  
hovering in the sky in the vicinity of Godman Field. Three of the ships started to  
climb toward the object. Pilot Hendricks in N.G. 336 continued on and landed 1001C at  
Standiford Field Louisville Ky. Pilots Hammond, NG737 & Clements NG800, climbed to  
22,000 feet with Mantell in EG3869 then continued on to their original destination  
because of lack of oxygen arriving there at 1640C. Mantell continued climbing toward  
object. Standiford operations advised Flight Flight Service Center at 1700E that EG3869  
pilot Mantell, crashed 2 miles southwest of Franklin Kentucky at approximately 1645C.  
Accident fatal to pilot, major damage to aircraft.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 Incl Mantell  
Weather Reports  
223-000  
-91-  
PS Form 1, 18 Dec 16 (Rev 12 Feb 47)

W. Hammond  
DE ARTHUR E. MATTHEWS  
Major, USAF  
Deputy Commander

"It was subsequently determined that on the date of the Godman sighting a balloon was released by the Navy from Clinton County airport in Ohio. The release time of the balloon was related to a wind plot for 7 January 1948, and it revealed that the balloon would have been in the area of Godman at the time of the sighting."<sup>13</sup>

The first flaw in this explanation is that no one to this day has ever produced the records of a balloon launching that would put a skyhook in the right place at the right time the day Mantell died. Captain Ruppelt, an insider to the official UFO investigation, could find no records to put a skyhook in the area during that day. If records did exist, as the Air Force claims they do, they surely would have been made public by now.

Secondly, the official Bluebook report states "...the prime culprit is believed to have been the skyhook balloon released by the Navy. Captain Mantell was attempting to close in on a balloon which was still more than 40,000 feet above him."<sup>14</sup> However, in an article in "Official UFO," February 1975 issue, B.R. Strong writes, "...the balloon isn't high enough for all the other sightings. Air Force calculations showed that it would have to be 25 to 50 miles high."<sup>15</sup> The skyhook balloon had only half the required altitude. And finally, the balloon that was supposedly the cause of Mantell's misfortune was never recovered.<sup>16</sup>

**OTHER SIGHTINGS**

Sometime between 5-5:20 p.m. reports of a large ball of light in the sky are reported over Lockbourne tower (Columbus, Ohio) and Clinton County tower, another airport in Ohio. According to Aime Michel in his book, *The Truth About Flying Saucers*, observers at Lockbourne tower said the object was "...traveling at 500 miles per hour and has changed in color from silvery grey to amber, leaving in its track a tail five times its own length..."<sup>17</sup>

Other reports of UFOs were being made over a wide area. In *Project Bluebook*, edited by Brad Steiger, investigators report: "Later we

received a call from St. Louis Tower, advising that a great ball of light was passing directly over the field. Scott Tower also verified this.

"We then received a call from Air Defense Command through Olmsted Flight Service Center advising us to alert Coffeville, Kansas; Ft. Smith, Arkansas; and Kansas City, Missouri. The object had been plotted as moving WSW at 250 miles per hour."<sup>18</sup>

**TIME AND DISTANCE**

On January 7, literally hundreds of witnesses from various states observed an unusual object in the sky. Among the witnesses were police officers, military pilots, aircraft control tower operators and ranking military officers, all of

whom are familiar with the planet Venus and balloons, but were unable to identify this object.

An interesting study was made by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Director of the Center for UFO Studies, shortly after the incident. Michel writes: "The investigations conducted by Professor Hynek during the period immediately after Mantell's death showed that the same object had been seen simultaneously at Madisonville, Elizabethtown and Lexington, nearly 100 miles from Fort Knox, a few minutes after the F-51 had disintegrated."<sup>19</sup>

In other words, the UFO was observed at the same time in three

(continued next page)

## MANTELL, Continued

different locations, up to 175 miles apart. How is that possible?

Michel continues: "...the observers in the Lockbourne control tower who estimated its speed at more than 500 miles per hour reported that they were watching it for no less than twenty minutes. In twenty minutes an object traveling at 500 miles an hour covers a distance of about 175 miles, a figure which tallies with the previous one."<sup>20</sup>

## SKYHOOK

Based on the above scenario, it is conceivable that one object could have been responsible for the UFO sightings in those three areas. Based on Air Force calculations, in order for the UFO to account for all the other sightings, it had to be flying at an altitude of at least 25 miles, possibly 50, to be seen in all three towns and Lockbourne tower. If we can believe Mantell, an experienced pilot, when he says "It's directly ahead of me. I am going to climb and get nearer," one could estimate the object to be at 25,000 feet since Mantell was a little over 22,000 feet when he saw it. With this information, three points can be made, which throw considerable doubt on the "skyhook explanation" for Mantell's death.

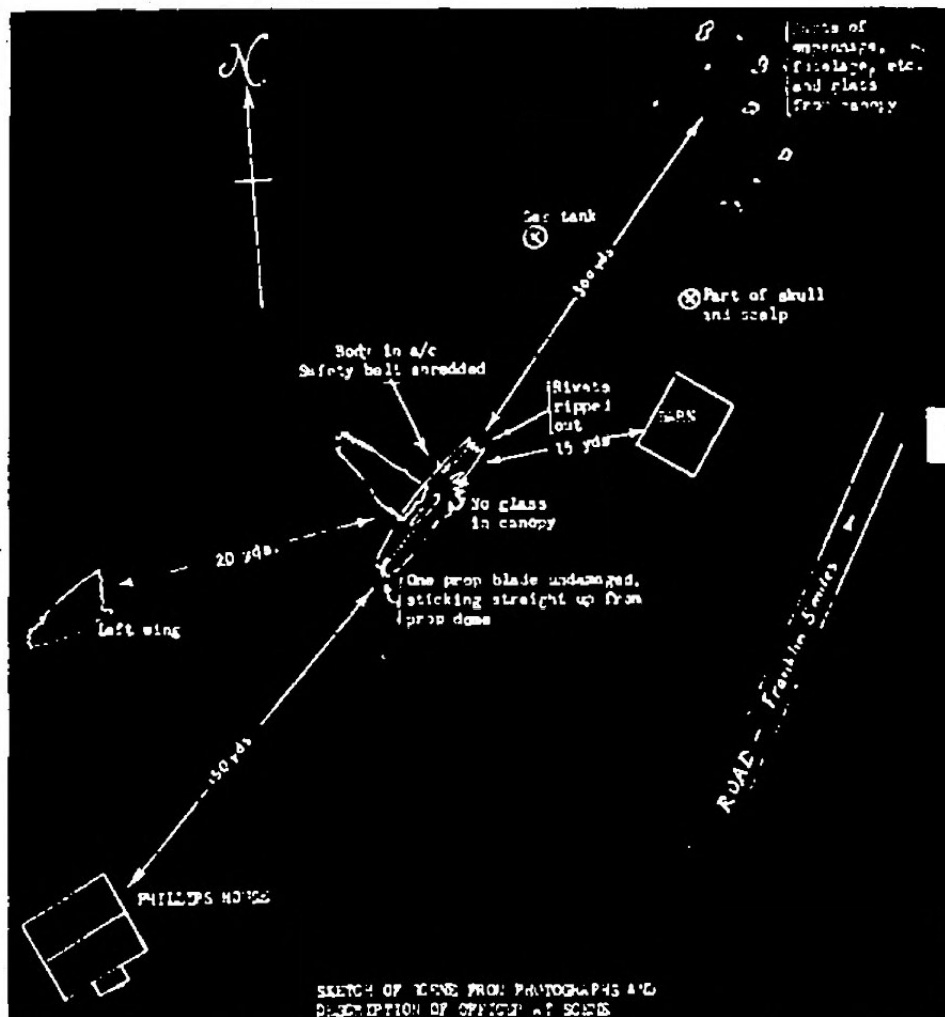
1. A skyhook balloon had less than half the required altitude to account for all the other UFO sightings. Skyhook balloons can ascend to about 70,000 feet (14 miles), whereas Mantell's UFO is estimated to be 25 to 50 miles high.

2. In the few minutes that passed between Mantell's crash and the UFO's appearance in three towns, the object had risen from approximately 25,000 feet (5 miles), to an altitude of at least 25 miles. That speed is at least 420 miles per hour.

3. In his book, Michel estimates the UFO would have to be between 300 and 450 feet in diameter to account for the sightings over such a large geographical area. Skyhook balloons are approximately 100 feet in diameter.

## MANTELL & OXYGEN

ATIC's opinion that Mantell lost



Sketch of Accident Scene

consciousness because he conducted a high altitude flight without sufficient oxygen is an interesting point, but not necessarily correct. Mantell knew he was reaching the maximum altitude for his P-51 without oxygen, yet he continued to climb. Why?

Ruppelt writes: "Why did Mantell, an experienced pilot, try to go to 20,000 feet when he didn't even have an oxygen mask? If he had run out of oxygen, it would have been different. Every pilot and crewman has it pounded into him, 'do not, under any circumstances, go above 15,000 feet without oxygen.' In high-altitude indoctrination during World War II, I made several trips up to 30,000 feet in a pressure chamber. To demonstrate anoxia we would leave our oxygen masks off until we became dizzy. A few more of the hardy souls could get to 15,000 feet, but nobody got over 17,000. Possibly Mantell thought he could climb up to 20,000 in a hurry and get back

down before he got anoxia and blacked out, but this would be a foolish chance. This point was covered in the sighting report. A long-time friend of Mantell's went on record as saying that he'd flown with him for several years and knew him personally. He couldn't conceive of Mantell's even thinking about disregarding his lack of oxygen. Mantell was one of the most cautious pilots he knew. 'The only thing I can think,' he commented, 'was that he was after something that he believed to be more important than his life or his family.'<sup>21</sup>

The question remains, what did Mantell see that would entice him to altitudes that he knew would kill him quickly? A possible solution which is in direct contrast to official Air Force reports is related in Leonard H. Stringfield's book, *Situation Red, The UFO Siege*. Stringfield, a long-time

(continued next page)

## MANTELL, Continued

UFO investigator, worked with the Air Defense Command from 1953-57 in the investigation and reporting of UFO activity as well as an early warning coordinator for the Colorado Project under Dr. Condon. His credentials are impeccable, having served in important posts with NICAP, IUFOR, MUFON and the Center for UFO Studies.

Stringfield writes, "My informant, preferring anonymity, related that he had talked with Mantell's wing man, who witnessed the incident. The pilot stated that Mantell pursued the UFO because he was the only pilot with an adequate oxygen mask. The pilot also related that he saw a burst of 'what appeared to be tracer' fired from the UFO, which hit the P-51 and caused it to disintegrate in the air! Since the Mantell case, all other military encounters ending in disaster have been hidden from the public."<sup>22</sup>

Stringfield's account certainly contradicts the Air Force version, and if we didn't know Stringfield better, one would think he was guilty of sensationalizing the incident. But when one examines Stringfield's passage closer, do the known facts really contradict the informant's allegations? Let's examine the evidence.

The informant states, contrary to the Air Force opinion, that Mantell did have an adequate oxygen mask aboard his plane. I researched this question in detail because if he was carrying oxygen, Mantell had no reason not to continue pursuing the object. Through the assistance of two New Jersey UFO Researchers, Fred Schafer and Gerald Miskar, we purchased a copy of Mantell's Aircraft Accident Report from Norton Air Force Base, California, for some help with this question.

The report had one document relevant to the oxygen question. It states: "Aircraft were not serviced with oxygen as none was available at this station. Pilots of aircraft did not request oxygen on checking in with line chief or operations."

The location of the station is censored, but since Mantell and his crew took off at Marietta, we assume it was Marietta Air Base in Georgia. One

must remember that Standiford Field, Louisville, Kentucky was Mantell's home base, so it's possible he could have gotten oxygen there before he left.

According to Project Bluebook, Mantell's wingman Lt. Buford Hammond advised Lt. Albert Clements that he had no oxygen equipment, but Mantell continued to climb.

Nowhere in the official report could I find any evidence to suggest that Mantell indicated that he had no oxygen mask. Why did the Air Force assume Mantell carried no such oxygen? According to Stringfield, one wingman (either Hammond or Clements) knew Mantell had oxygen. This could explain why Mantell continued to climb. Some research was carried out by Captain Ruppelt to secure Mantell's wingmen's accounts of the incident. But according to Ruppelt all this evidence was, "...in the ruined portion of the microfilm, even their names were missing."<sup>23</sup> How convenient for the Air Force to have this critical testimony destroyed. If one of the wingmen had mentioned this fact, it was not to be rediscovered.

According to the informant, one of Mantell's wingmen saw the UFO emit something at Mantell's plane. Is this possible? Lt. Buford Hammond and Lt. Albert Clements, the other two pilots who pursued the object with Mantell, saw the unusual object. In the book, *Flying Saucers on the Attack*, Harold T. Wilkins writes that the other two pilots radioed, "This strange object is too high for us to catch. It's going too fast."<sup>24</sup>

In *The Encyclopedia of UFOs*, edited by Ronald D. Story, he writes that one of the other pilots described it as "round like a teardrop, and at times almost fluid." One of these pilots could have observed what happened to Mantell.<sup>25</sup>

The informant also states the UFO fired a projectile at Mantell's plane causing it to explode in the air. Flammonde, in his book, *UFOs Exist*, writes, "...Glen Mayes, who lives near Franklin, said he saw the Mantell plane flying at an extremely high altitude just before it seemed to explode in the air."<sup>26</sup>

The informant concludes that other military encounters with UFOs

ending in disaster have been withheld from the public. There are numerous cases on record, where the military have attempted to cover up incidents where planes or personnel have been lost.<sup>27</sup>

When one examines the facts in the case, is Stringfield's account so far fetched? In May 1985, I wrote to Leonard Stringfield, asking for more details about the statements in his book. His response was that his informant related this information to him in the mid 1970s, and was at the time a student at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. When I asked about his informant's reliability, Stringfield said, "Hard to say. He seemed sincere and knowledgeable in his profession, but that is not enough to pass a qualified judgment." Commenting on his informant's information, he states, "What he did relate is contrary to the known facts about the incident and, if true, I'm sure the Air Force would never admit it." The wingman who the informant claims made these statements was 2nd Lt. Buford Hammond. If Hammond is still alive and could be interviewed, we may have another story of what really killed Thomas Mantell.

## CONCLUSIONS

The object Mantell allegedly chased was estimated to be 300-450 feet in diameter, accelerated at 500 miles per hour, and reached altitudes from 25 to 50 miles high. In contrast, skyhook balloons are 100 feet in diameter, have average speeds of 175 miles per hour and reach altitudes of 13.2 miles.

The idea that Mantell was playing cat and mouse in the air with Venus that afternoon is highly improbable.

In my opinion, the cause of the crash was due to Mantell losing consciousness at approximately 25,000 feet. The plane then went into a spiraling dive, and plummeted back to earth. Although I have presented evidence that an aerial attack may have taken place, I find this conclusion an unlikely explanation.

Stringfield's informant creates a fanciful scenario, but lacking stronger

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# NEWS'N'VIEWS

## IN OTHERS' WORDS

The NATIONAL ENQUIRER's February 11 issue reports that the late Senator Richard Russell of Georgia observed two disc-shaped UFOs while traveling through Russia in 1955. This information was obtained from CIA, FBI and Air Force files through the efforts of the Fund for UFO Research. A UFO which was chased by fighter jets over the country of Zimbabwe is the subject of a report in the ENQUIRER's February 18 issue. According to the fighter pilots, the UFO disappeared by zooming straight up at more than 1,400 miles an hour.

The "Anti-Matter/UFO Update" column in the February issue of OMNI tells of psychological tests which have been performed on persons believed to be UFO abductees. Clinical psychologist Lisa Slater, who conducted the testing, is quoted as saying that her findings are "not inconsistent with the possibility that the reported abductions have, in fact, actually occurred."

North Carolina's Brown Mountain is not the state's only mountain "afflicted" with strange lights, according to an article in the February issue of FATE. Walker Mountain, near Brevard, N.C., was the scene of UFO/"light" activity in 1983. The March issue of FATE has Part 1 of Jerome Clark's three-part series on UFO contactees. Clark reviews some of the better-known contact stories, as well as reporting on a little-known case which he has personally investigated. Part 2 of the series appears in FATE's March issue.

New/forthcoming books and booklets which we hope to review in future columns include: SPOOK-LIGHTS: A BRITISH SURVEY by David Clarke & Granville Oldroyd; ALIENS OVER ANTIPODES by Murray Stott; THE FACE ON MARS by Randolph Rafael Pazos; IN

ADVANCE OF THE LANDING by Douglas Curran; THE GENIUS OF THE FEW by Christian O'Brien. Readers wanting more details of these publications before reviews are published may write to me c/o MUFON.

-Lucius Farish

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN

The Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation will bring UFO contactees and investigators together on the campus of the University of Wyoming at Laramie, July 17-19, for an opportunity to share information and experience.

Registrants who have a story to tell to a select and sympathetic audience should send a brief outline and request for information to the address below. Group meetings are closed to the public and the press.

Prior to the conference, July 14-15, individual appointments for regressive hypnosis by Dr. Leo Sprinkle will be scheduled, and on July 16 a hypnosis workshop will give investigators an opportunity to learn more about the applications and limitations of hypnosis as a procedure for UFO investigations.

For more information, the complete schedule and a registration form, write to Institute for UFO Contactee Studies, 1425 Steele St., Laramie, WY 82070.

-Mildred Biesele

## THE CRITIC

There seems to exist in mankind a natural fear of criticism. The critic causes fear and apprehension to run rampant in the average person.

Movie stars read the daily trade journals to see if a critic has gotten on their case. Politicians do crazy things to be accepted and to avoid criticism. Engineers hate to have their designs criticized. Cooks become irate if their

culinary creation is not loved by all. UFO researchers will close out a case with only cursory investigation if a critic questions their endeavors.

The effort to please the critic is natural in a way. Human beings generally strive for perfection. When the critic questions that perfection the natural reaction is to neutralize the criticism. The easiest way to accomplish that is to give in and try to be liked by the critic. Hopefully then, the critic will pick on someone else as the target of their venom.

Actually, people should accept criticism only when it is done in a constructive manner. There is no inherent requirement for people to accept abusive behavior, whether verbal or written.

Maybe it would help to remember that the critic makes a living off of the people that do the work. Naturally, the critic hopes to gain some personal recognition out of the interchange and often does. Often this is ill-gotten gain.

In 1910, Theodore Roosevelt clearly defined the difference between the critic and the doer, as follows:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievements, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

In closing, consider how few monuments have been built in honor of

critics. Apparently, the critic doesn't count.

-John Schuessler

### TRIBUTE

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of Mrs. Norma E. Short on February 24, 1986 in Stover, Missouri. In September 1967, Mrs. Short became the first editor of SKYLOOK and served faithfully in this position until January 1974 when health dictated that she relinquish the reins to her monthly UFO magazine. During the intervening years she has been listed as Editor/Publisher Emeritus in the MUFON UFO JOURNAL masthead.

The MUFON 1985 UFO

Symposium Proceedings were respectfully dedicated to Norma in the following manner: Public recognition is hereby bestowed upon Norma E. Short for her conscientious editing and publishing of the monthly UFO magazine SKYLOOK for over six years (the predecessor of the MUFON UFO JOURNAL). Norma is credited for providing the publishing link for the fledgling Midwest UFO Network that ultimately became the world's largest UFO membership organization — the Mutual UFO Network. She will be remembered for her editorial policy "We Tell It Like It Is." It is with profound gratitude that voluntary dedicated service may be honored in this manner to such a gracious lady.

-Walt Andrus



Norma E. Short

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New Scientist 3 April 1986

## TECHNOLOGY

### Hybrid aircraft prepares for test flight

**A** CROSS between an airship and a helicopter, called Hystar, could soon help the Canadian forestry industry. It can reach trees that other aircraft cannot reach—at least not economically.

Hystar is the result of a development project that George Ninkovich of the Hystar Development Corporation in Vancouver started in 1978. Ninkovich's team of engineers is working on both piloted and remotely-controlled models. This month, the first remotely-controlled Hystar will be delivered to the Canadian government and the piloted version will fly for the first time.

The Canadian government will show its Hystar at the World Fair, which opens in Vancouver in May. The fair's theme is transport and communication. Visitors to the Canada pavilion will see Hystar being manoeuvred around the main hall.

The remotely-controlled models can be any size between 4.5 and 17 metres long, and be able to lift between 18 and 680 kilograms. The piloted craft, known as Hystar 2, will be between 17 and 35 metres long with lifting capacities of 680 to 6800 kilograms.

Ninkovich says that the Hystar should find applications in agriculture, for example crop spraying, and in mining. But the industry which inspired the machine's development is logging.

Helen Gavaghan

Ninkovich says: "There is some lovely old timber deep in the Canadian forests." If it could be felled and removed without disturbing surrounding trees, the forest would replant itself naturally, and the old timber would not rot away. Unfortunately,



Canada's latest contribution to air travel

the economics of such selective logging are not favourable. Building roads is expensive and can damage the environment, because when trees are felled for the road, the natural drainage is disturbed. The result can be landslides or sediment washing down into rivers and damaging the environment for fish.

Another way to reach the timber would be from the air. The forestry industry in the US has employed helicopters to airlift timber from the centre of forests. But the

helicopters needed for such a task must be modified to cope with a large number of short runs each day. Only 15 helicopters in the world have been modified for aerial logging. These include Sikorsky 64s and Boeing 107s.

Another disadvantage of helicopters is the amount of fuel needed to lift the machine itself. For example, the Sikorsky 64 can lift 19 885 kilograms. Of this, only 9000 kilograms is load.

As an alternative to helicopters, Ninkovich considered balloons, but these proved difficult to operate and to control. Airships are equally impractical, because they need to be very large to lift heavy loads. Airships are also difficult to control and to hold steady while they are being loaded and unloaded.

In 1978, Ninkovich decided that what was needed was an envelope containing helium to provide lift and rotors and/or propellers to provide additional lift and control. His first design resembled a catamaran, with two hulls filled with helium. This design, however, proved unstable. Eventually, Ninkovich's team settled on the idea of a toroidally-shaped envelope.

"The Hystar can describe a square, travel at speeds between 1.6 and 104.6 kilometres/hour, and its operating costs are about one third those of a helicopter," Ninkovich says. □

# FIELD INVESTIGATION

By Francis L. Ridge

The next wave of UFO activity may be just around the corner, just how far I do not know. It may be a local mini-flap of high significance, or it may be a regional, national, or worldwide wave. But, we all want to be prepared so that we can make the best of it. Waves or flaps such as the 1973 experience are scarce, and each wave brings us one step closer to the answer. To help prepare you, I am offering these suggestions:

- 1) Read the MUFON Field Investigator's Manual.
- 2) Take the F.I. Exam as soon as possible.
- 3) Get the F.I. Kits organized and equipped.
- 4) Set up a "Filter Center" with a published telephone number, a 24-hour "hotline."
- 5) Send out, periodically, a status report to local law enforcement dispatchers and airport control tower operators, and, occasionally, the news media.

## MUFON MANUAL

The Field Investigator's Manual is a tool some of us veterans never had available. It was prepared through the combined experience of many UFO researchers and its use will make you a more qualified Field Investigator. Just asking questions and filling out papers is a good part of being an investigator, but anyone can do that. Separating the UFOs from the IFOs requires something extra. If we want to get to the bottom of this UFO mystery, we must do the best we can. Besides, our work is being scrutinized and criticized by a few skeptics who get a lot of attention in the press. Let's be professional about our work and take it very seriously. As Marge Christensen, our MUFON Public Relations Director, has said, this is a "volunteer profession."

If you do not have a Field Investigator's Manual, one can be

obtained from MUFON for only \$6.00; the best \$6.00 you ever spent. The cost to non-members is \$10.00, plus \$1.50 for postage and handling.

## EXAMINATION

After you have read the F.I. Manual, you should be able to pass the F.I. Exam. Knowing what you are lacking in UFO-related knowledge will help you to be a better UFO investigator. Your state director will help you acquire and submit your test to the appropriate people. If you need further assistance, contact Walter Andrus, at MUFON headquarters.

## INVESTIGATOR KITS

Materials needed for your kits are listed in the manual on page 13. They are grouped under three classifications: "necessary," "desirable" and "optional." A small briefcase works well for the primary kit, which I call Kit #1B. I put the MUFON questionnaires and the Manual in this kit. The Kit #1A contains the rest of the necessary materials, such as maps, compass, flashlight, etc. Kit #2 has the "desirable" materials for special evidence gathering, including tape recorders, binoculars, plaster of paris, etc. I have other kits for "optional" materials. One of these is Kit #3 for the V-700 geiger counter and data recorder, etc. The point is, being organized will help you avoid loss of data, and even if no one knows what you missed, you will. I think we are all in this for the same reason. We want to solve the mystery and want to help if we can.

## STATUS REPORT

When I was a state-section director (and as state director, I still do it), I sent a monthly status report to police, sheriff, state police and airport control tower people in my three

counties. This helped maintain good relations after an initial in-person contact and has worked well for the last 13-years in my district. I now send this report to all my state investigators by making it a state report. If you wish a sample copy, send a SASE and I will send you a copy. My address is 618 Davis Drive, Mt. Vernon, IN 47620.

The people who read these, basically dispatchers, know to transfer UFO reports to you by constantly seeing your group exposed monthly or periodically. In fact, they don't particularly want to pursue this type of an occurrence, so they are glad to "dump" it on you. My state people will get a "3x5" card that lists MUFON Field Investigators in their particular area. This card can be placed under glass or on a bulletin board near the dispatcher, so that he or she has ready access to the local UFO person by phone. Kerry Teverbaugh, one of my state-section directors, advised us that the Indiana State Police suggested this. I will provide these so that they can be filled out and sent to all law-enforcement and control tower people.

A lot of UFOs, observed by local citizens (some highly qualified), do not get reported. A news bulletin or story will focus attention on the fact that they can phone you anytime and get a fair hearing or, if they can't remember, they will call the local police who will forward the report to you. Remember, the police dispatcher may not believe in UFOs, but if you use finesse and courtesy, he/she will probably transfer these calls to you.

## SKYNET

I go a little further than these five suggestions. I set up a SKYNET, which includes law enforcement people who want to help and other people who I call "spotters." These "spotters" are

(continued on page 18)

## MANTELL, Continued

evidence, the credibility of a single, unidentified informant is not grounds enough to support his allegations.

As to the identity of the UFO, the evidence clearly shows that neither Venus or a Skyhook balloon is the probable solution. The object Mantell chased remains unidentified.

(Portions of this article originally appeared in Search Magazine, printed by Palmer Publications.)

### NOTES

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## ECONOMICS, Continued

UFO humanoids? No problem for the ET theory. There is a biological principle of convergent evolution of morphology, namely, that two or more species evolving in separate places, without contact and with different genetic constitutions, sometimes do develop very similar forms so as to fill similar environmental niches. It is evidently true then that only (or predominately) the human-like form is suitable for technology and space travel, based on the reports of the beings associated with UFOs. Moreover, such evolutionary parallelism is enhanced to the degree that the lines of development are not genetically separate, and all the more so when an intelligent species guides the development of a less-advanced one, the ultimate conclusion of which could be the merging of the two.

8. The consistency of no gross interference by a variety of UFO entities over many, many years suggests either the reality of a galactic community or confederation implementing in coordination the principle of minimal means, or a remarkably uniform execution of this

principle among all of the civilizations producing UFOs.

9. It would not be a coincidence that UFOs are visiting Earth at this time (rather than, say, anytime within the last two billion years) if indeed our present state of advancement were due in part to concurrency in galactic evolution in general and in part to the influence of galactic civilization in particular.

There is no need to resort to recondite hypotheses, nor to stretch ideas of mundane origin to the far-fetched (e.g., UFOs are floaters in the eye), to account for UFOs. The extraterrestrial theory suffices, it fulfills Occam's Razor. There is no substantial reason not to at least tentatively accept it: Advanced ET civilization almost certainly exists, and UFOs are evidence thereof. Reasonable assumptions made within the ET framework to explain their characteristics serve as clues to the nature of ET society and the future of Earth society.

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4. *The mutual annihilation of an electron and a positron, producing photons, and the creation of an electron-positron pair from a photon impinging upon an atomic nucleus ("destination"), constitutes at least an analogy.*

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## MUFON RADIO NET

### DISTRICTS

| FIRST | SECOND | THIRD  | FOURTH | FIFTH  | SIX & SEVEN | EIGHTH | NINE & ZERO |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|
| N1JS  | WB20GS | WA3QLW | K4HXC  | W5UAA  | W6LTP/7     | KNQN   | WAOBNN      |
| W1LHV | WA2IUI | K3HWH  | WA4NKZ | WA5CTJ |             | W8ZDX  | NOCIS       |
| N1BDC | WA2VBT | W31KG  | WA4RPU | K5WLT  |             | KA80GF | WB9QQH      |
| K1AJL | N2EQL  | WB3AMR | N4JUB  | KA5RRL |             | KA8RWM | KAOLYY      |
|       | N2EPG  | N3BBI  | W4SKE  |        |             | WD8PLP | WOAJA       |
|       |        |        | N4FSZ  |        |             | K8ZDZ  | KAODIG      |

## FIELD, Continued

located throughout the county and can be contacted if a UFO "alert" takes place or a UFO is reported in a certain portion of your county. These people should be trained to a certain extent, or at least shouldn't be "UFO nuts."

## OTHER TOOLS

I use an in-line phone patch (Radio Shack) on my telephone with a cassette recorder. All UFO-related calls are taped while I fill out a "message slip," which asks the necessary basic questions about the sighting. The National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle and the Center For UFO Studies, both use such a slip for their incoming calls. It lists when the call came in and who referred it, such as the police, sheriff, etc.

I also have a Muraphone which is a rechargeable portable radio telephone that I take outside to observe the sector of sky alleged to have a UFO in it. I can thus talk to the observer, one of my spotters or the control tower, continuously while this data is being recorded. The recorder stops and starts when the phone is picked up inside or the portable phone is turned on.

I also take along a strobe light (a flashlight would be satisfactory) so that if I did observe a conspicuous lighted object, I could attempt a light beam response. If you have a TV tower in your yard, as I do, you can take your binoculars and other gear right up with you or, if you have a good sighting location, take your gear to that location.

If you have to drive away from the 700 ft. range of the portable phone, you can maintain contact by using a CB radio and another investigator/spotter. We are fortunate to have a good UFO detector system, police and aircraft scanners that record data when actuated by a UFO or switched on during a sighting by the operator (if not automatically activated). The basic tools are within your reach. These are just a few ideas, to help you gather the most data accurately when the next

(continued next page)

# THE NIGHT SKY

By Walter N. Webb  
MUFON Astronomy Consultant

MAY 1986

## Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Venus, still shining at magnitude -3.9, dominates the western sky for some 2½ hours after sunset, not setting until about 10:30 daylight time in midmonth.

Mars, in Sagittarius, rises about midnight in mid-May. The ruddy world continues to brighten, becoming four times more brilliant than its neighbor in the heavens, Saturn, by month's end. It lies 3° above the moon on the 17th.

Saturn, in Ophiuchus, reaches a point opposite the sun on the 27th. At that time it rises at sunset and remains visible all night. With its famous rings tilted 25° to our view, the giant planet reflects more light and thus gleams at magnitude 0.0, its brightest in nine years.

## Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Mars moves to a point due south at dawn.

Jupiter, in Aquarius, rises in the east shortly before 3 AM daylight time in midmonth and stands in the SE at dawn. The brilliant planet is 2° above the quarter moon on the 31st.

Saturn advances to the SW at dawn in mid-May and on its opposition date sets in the WSW at sunrise.

## Meteor Shower:

Unlike last year's moonlit Eta Aquarids display, this year's show will not be spoiled by moon interference. Appearing to radiate from near the star Eta in the Water Jar of Aquarius, the shower is best seen on the mornings of May 4 and 5, darting all over the sky at a rate of about 20 per hour. The May Aquarids represent one of the two meteor showers that originates from debris in Comet Halley's orbit.

## Halley's Comet:

Early in May start observing Halley near the end of evening twilight (about 9:30-9:45 EDT). Although the comet will have ascended to an altitude of some 30° (in midnorthern latitudes) in the SSW sky, it is fading rapidly and by midmonth will probably have vanished from naked-eye view. Binoculars and telescopes will then be required to follow the receding object.

Moonlight will also interfere from about May 13-24. During the month Halley moves from the constellation Crater, across a corner of Hydra, and into Sextans (where it remains until the end of July). It may be observed for a few hours each night before setting in the west after midnight.

(continued next page)

## MESSAGE, Continued

**Adrian Olivo, M.A.** (Lisle, Illinois) in physics and data processing.

The MUFON Annual Corporate Meeting will be held Sunday morning June 29, 1986 in East Lansing Michigan in conjunction with the 1986 symposium at Michigan State University. State Directors should be prepared to give short oral reports of their statewide activities and more detailed written reports.

\* \* \*

The March 1986 issue of the MUFON UFO JOURNAL contained a ballot in which each subscriber was invited and encouraged to cast his/her vote for one of the candidates who will be the recipient of the MUFON AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING WORK IN THE UFO FIELD. The award will be presented at the MUFON 1986 UFO Symposium to the person judged by the ballot of members who has done the most for the UFO subject during the MUFON corporate calendar year from July 1985 through June 1986. The candidates nominated for the 1986 award by the Public Information and Public Education Committee (P.I.P.E.) are as follows: **Marge Christensen, Barry Greenwood, Budd Hopkins, Bruce Maccabee and Dan Wright.**

In addition to the plaque being awarded by MUFON, the Fund for UFO Research will make a monetary

award of \$250 to the awardee in memory of **Isabel Davis.** Please submit your ballot promptly to Walt Andrus before May 15, 1986 for tabulation so adequate time will be available for engraving the plaque.

MUFON and the P.I.P.E. Committee will also present an engraved plaque to **Dr. J. Allen Hynek** in recognition for his lifelong dedication and contributions to UFO research and public information at the UFO Symposium in Lansing, Michigan.

New items concerning MUFON, normally reported in the Director's Message, will be treated as separate articles in the new Journal format so as to improve visibility.

## FIELD, Continued

wave comes. They will not only make your wait bearable, the job more enjoyable, but your team of investigators will be prepared to conduct a professional investigation when necessary, as well.

## BOOMERANG, Continued

600 yards above them. They could hear a whirring sound.

The object passed out of sight as it cleared nearby trees travelling in a general northeast direction. Phyllis and Hector both reported having psychic feelings as the craft passed overhead.

Two weeks later I visited Lake Casitas and found a number of camping sites surrounded by trees and hills. Only one airfield was in the vicinity and it catered to light aircraft. The air is very clear around the lake and the only aircraft I saw in the area were small private planes. I have no explanation for the sighting and report it because of similarities to sightings in New York and Arizona.

-William Hamilton  
Field Investigator



**17TH ANNUAL**

# UFO

**SYMPOSIUM**

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**JUNE 27-29, 1986**

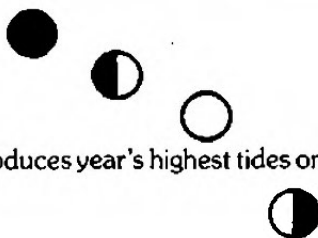
PRESENTED BY



**MUTUAL UFO NETWORK**

## Moon Phases:

New moon--May 8  
First quarter--May 16  
Full moon--May 23  
(nearest full moon of the year produces year's highest tides on the 24th and 26th)  
Last quarter--May 30



## The Stars:

The sky symbol of spring, Leo the Lion, is past the celestial meridian at 10 PM daylight time in midmonth. At that hour we get our last glimpse of the winter stars Capella, Pollux and Castor, and Procyon as they sink into the west. To the NE, two of the three stars of the Summer Triangle, Vega and Deneb, are in view hinting at the approaching summer months. Antares, the heart of the scorpion, appears low in the SE. This first-magnitude red star is occulted by the moon from northern and central states on the morning of May 24. (At Kansas City and Chicago, for example, the star vanishes behind the lunar disc at 3:16 CDT.) The Big Dipper is very favorably placed in its upside-down position high overhead in the north.

**MUFON**

**AMATEUR  
RADIO  
NET**

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**EVERY SATURDAY  
MORNING  
AT 0800 EST (OR DST)  
ON 7237 KHz s.s.B.**

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

by  
Walt Andrus

"UFOs: Beyond the Mainstream of Science" is the theme for the 17th annual MUFON 1986 Symposium to be held June 27, 28, and 29, 1986 at the Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, Michigan State University in East Lansing. A complete roster of the speakers and the titles of their papers is presented: **David M. Jacobs, Ph.D.** - "Abductions: The Consequence of Nonexistence"; **Bruce S. Maccabee, Ph.D.** - "Still In Default"; **Alan C. Holt, M.S.** - "Interstellar Spaceports and Transportation Systems"; **John F. Schuessler, M.S.** - "Cash-Landrum UFO Case File: The Issue of Government Responsibility"; **Robert H. Bletchman, J.D.** - "Setting the UFO Agenda"; **Richard F. Haines, Ph.D.** - "A Scientifically Based Analysis of an Alleged UFO Photograph"; **Harley D. Rutledge, Ph.D.** - "Project Identification: Thirteen Years and One-Hundred and Sixty Sightings Later"; **Michael D. Swords, Ph.D.** - "The Case for E.T.: Within the Mainstream of Science"; and the Keynote Speaker Mrs. **Marge Christensen, A.B.** - "Scientists, UFOs, and Anti-Scientific Thinking."

**Raymond W. Boeche, B.A.** (alternate speaker) has submitted a published paper for the symposium proceedings entitled "Bentwaters -- What Do We Know Now?"

Registration for the symposium and reservations for rooms at the Kellogg Center are now available by writing to **George Coyne, 6171 River Road, Flushing, Michigan 48433.** Registration for the MUFON 1986 UFO Symposium is \$25.00 in U.S. funds (\$30.00 after May 27) by check or money order made payable to Michigan MUFON, Inc. Rooms at the Kellogg Center are \$36.40 per night, tax included, for single occupancy or \$21.84 per person per night, tax included, for double occupancy. Michigan MUFON will forward your room reservation request immediately upon receipt. Reservations received by



**David M. Jacobs, Ph.D.**

the Kellogg Center after May 27 cannot be guaranteed. If you will be arriving after 6 p.m. on the first night of reserved room occupancy, you must prepay by separate check/money order or major credit card number to guarantee the room to Kellogg Center.

Make your plans and reservations before May 27th by writing to George Coyne for both symposium registration and room reservations so that you may obtain the \$25 rate for the symposium. If you will be needing MUFON shuttle service from Capital City Airport, Lansing; AMTRAK, East Lansing; or Greyhound-Indian Trails, East Lansing; please so indicate when you are making your reservations to Mr. Coyne.

The speakers this year constitute an outstanding group of academically talented researchers who have established themselves in present day ufology worldwide. We will be looking forward to meeting many of you in East Lansing, Michigan for MUFON's seventeenth annual UFO symposium.

\* \* \*

It is always a pleasure to have enthusiastic members volunteer their

experience, knowledge, and interest in a leadership role. The following new State-Section Directors were appointed this month: **Charles W. Rosekrans** (Healy, Alaska) for the 4th Judicial Division of Alaska; **Jeffrey R. Neel**, Major U.S.A.F. (Las Vegas, Nevada) for Clark County; **Al F. Lopez**, (Bingham, Maine) for Somerset County; and **Diana DeSimone** (Newton, Massachusetts) for Suffolk County. Mr. Rosekrans will also serve as the Acting State Director for Alaska.

**Dale C. Allison, Jr. Ph.D.** of Wichita, Kansas is a new Consultant in Religion having obtained his doctorate from Duke University in 1982. He has been invited to serve in other leadership positions in Kansas.

Other members who were formerly contributing subscribers have now accepted active roles in MUFON as Research Specialists. They are **Lloyd A. Walker, M.A.** (Burlingame, California) in physics; **Kenneth J. Ewing, M.S.** (Los Alamos, New Mexico) in nuclear engineering; and

(continued on page 19)