

E. U. CONDON
761 CASCADE AVENUE
BOULDER, COLORADO, 80302

26 July 1968

Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, President
American Association for the Advancement of Science
1829 Bluebell Avenue
Boulder, Colorado

Dear Dr. Roberts:

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

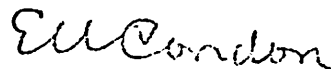
I herewith transmit my resignation from membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science in protest against the falsehoods and mis-representations contained in the article entitled "UFO Project: Trouble on the Ground" (pp. 339-342) in Science for July 26, 1968. The article is bound to contribute to confusion in public discussion because of the inexcusable errors which it contains. More important, however, than my objection to the errors is the whole emphasis on muck-raking to which the article devotes itself. Publication of such stuff is not a proper function for the AAAS house organ.

As you know, I wrote to the Editor on May 6 offering to help him in guarding against error. Again on June 26 I wrote to the reporter offering to safeguard against error. Before that I had telephoned to the News Editor. On July 9 I telephoned to the Editor repeating my offer. All of these offers were arrogantly rejected. On July 18 I discussed the problem with you at length on the telephone, and on July 19 I wrote you a letter about the situation. You wrote me a note on July 18 in which, however, you made it clear that the President of the AAAS is helpless, in your opinion, to control the misconduct of his staff.

The Editor sent me the page proofs which arrived yesterday for an article to be in the July 26 issue. This was obviously planned to arrive late enough to make it impossible for any corrections to be made. The Editor's letter says the proofs were being sent to me "in deference to your many years of distinguished service." This makes it clear that he would give even less consideration to one of fewer years of distinguished service, and that even in this case he is determined that the errors of his reporter be published.

I do not care to be associated with an organization that permits its Editor to behave in this way to any member, distinguished or not. Now that I understand how it is edited, I could never again believe any "news and comment" that it contains.

Sincerely,



E. U. Condon

EUC:kes

cc - Members of the Board of Directors of AAAS,
Treasurer and Executive Director