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Just a Boondoggle

LOOK MAGAZINE has discovered what The Rocky Mountain News has known for some time: That the \$500,000 flying saucer study at the University of Colorado is nothing but a boondoggle.

It is a waste of time for a competent team of scientists, headed by the distinguished Dr. Edward U. Condon, to embark upon such a Wizard of Oz venture. It must be a source of embarrassment to them to be associated with such a foolish project.

If there is conflict and back-biting among the scientists, as Look charges, this comes as no surprise. For the frustration of looking for unidentified flying objects, which they know they'll never find, is enough to dislocate the ganglions of any dedicated scientist.

The project was begun following an amusing congressional hearing in which a stream of witnesses said they had seen suspicious objects in the sky and they wanted to know what they were. The CU team took over after the Air Defense Command, with headquarters in Colorado Springs, had spent three years pursuing clues without ever finding a single saucer. The Air Force couldn't have been happier to get this monkey off their backs.

There are undoubtedly shining phenomena appearing from time to time in the sky and over the ground. These seem to have come from weather balloons, swamp fire, shooting stars, balls of fire, etc. But to date there has not been found one shred of evidence to indicate that any of them is a vehicle from outer space, the possibility of which has caused all the concern.

Dr. Condon's team of scientists obviously knows this. That's the reason that after having spent a good portion of that \$500,000 they're having such a tough time putling together a report that can't really register much except zero.

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