

THE UFO BREAKTHROUGH

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The murky sky of Saucerology <sup>MANIA</sup> has at last begun to clear and a shaft of light has broken through from the illumined world of reason beyond.

Ivan T. Sanderson.

The breakthrough actually occurred at 10:30 am. on one of the murkiest, gloomiest, and most horrible mornings that I have ever endured, even in Boston where this astonishing event began. I and my partner Mike Freedman were present as newsmen to cover the proceedings of a ~~special~~ two day symposium/organized by a special committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science which held its annual meeting there starting the day after last Christmas. We were more than a little dubious as to just what if anything would come out of this effort and, I will admit, leaned rather heavily to the opinion that it would probably turn out to be another debunking session. However, by 10:45 EST precisely, we realized that dawn was breaking.

Activities started on that miserable, snow-clogged morning with a press conference at which ten of the leading scientists participating in this symposium were presented to the working press. These as listed in the box on the next page, and the proceedings were were no less than ~~exceptional~~ ~~remarkable~~ ~~outstanding~~ ~~President of the~~

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It is really becoming very difficult to report on what has come  
to be called Ufology, <sup>this estimable publication.</sup> ~~and even for~~ <sup>BEING 3</sup> ~~the~~ principal reason ~~for~~  
~~this is~~ that the reporter is faced with an abominable dichotomy.  
On the one hand, while just about everybody in the western world  
has now at least heard of the subject, just about half of them still  
look upon it as some kind crackpot hysteria. On the other hand, the  
other half who are truly interested and take the matter seriously,  
have become far too close to it. Writers who have published on the  
business have coined a ~~semi-technical~~ jargon that is incomprehen-  
sible to the vast majority of even the second party but they have  
now published so much, and <sup>SO ELSE NOW OTHERWISE</sup> ~~much~~ <sup>has</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>reported</sup> on the subject  
that it is almost impossible to introduce it to the first party  
short of asking them to read a volume of more words than the Bible.  
~~Yet what's the good of reporting about it at all in popular form?~~  
~~The point is -- and I address this remark especially to the~~  
~~first party or the disinterested and non-believers~~ <sup>THIS SHOULD HOWEVER BE ADVISED THE THAT</sup> even orthodox  
science has now, and as <sup>of</sup> that gloomy morning in Boston, acknowledges  
that <sup>THIS ONE OF</sup> ufology is <sup>IS</sup> probably the greatest mystery <sup>OF</sup> of life confronting  
us today and <sup>ONE REQUIRING</sup> possibly that most urgently <sup>PAST</sup> requiring investigation.  
The basic reason for this is that, despite all the <sup>PAST</sup> debunking by  
everybody, from officialdom and 'sciencedom' to the press and the  
general public, the damned things have refused to go away; and this

during several thousand years, and not just the twenty since we  
<sup>PUBLIC</sup> Americans woke up to the business. <sup>THE</sup> <sup>EXISTENCE</sup> OF UFOs. (4)

A remark like that calls for some explanation. However, I do not propose to submit to you a history of this <sup>WENT</sup> business though I venture to say that this article is basically historical just as the <sup>HAPPENING IN BOSTON WAS</sup> reporting in it is truly historic. While several millions of you Americans -- at least according to a Gallup pole -- now accept <sup>EVEN OF THESE</sup> the fact that these UFOs exist, very few of you, comparatively speaking, have read those books which demonstrate the fact that such things have apparently been seen all over the world and as <sup>FAR</sup> back back in time as history has been recorded. As a matter of fact, <sup>PRESENTS THE REPLY HAS AS FOLLOWS: -</sup> considerably convincing evidence has <sup>BEING</sup> <sup>ALLEGEDLY</sup> now been presented of the depiction of such things, and of creatures occupying or coming out of them, in cave paintings going back ten thousand years before man started to write. The writings, both religious and lay of all ancient peoples are stuffed full of accounts or inferences of UFOs, and the theme ran on through classical literature and that of the Dark and Middle Ages <sup>IN</sup> <sup>DID</sup> of Europe. So it does through the whole age of modern science although called by another name, namely, meteors and fireballs.

For the benefit of those who may not have cared to read anything about this business previously we have to tell once again <sup>HOWEVER</sup> that this country only became aware of the matter in 1947 when a

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The history of events, in this country at least, during the  
 PAST ~~next~~ twenty years has been grossly over-written and is crashingly  
 boring. While the Dept of Defense urged the public to fill in forms  
 its own Air arm did everything it could to denigrate the business  
 though continuing to issue <sup>ANNUAL</sup> statistics clearly showing that after the  
 best they could do by way of investigation there always remained  
 a quite noticeable percentage of reports that could not be explained  
<sup>EVEN WITH</sup> despite all the data required. Civilian groups popped up everywhere  
 and started pouring out drivel on the subject; the working press  
 had a field day; and the scientific establishment after making it  
 known publicly that they thought the whole thing was a lot of damn  
 nonsense, simply clammed up. However, the bloody UFOs refused to go  
 away and the popular clamour for proper and official investigation  
 of the whole thing reached such proportions by 1967 that even Con-  
 gress took note and various procedures were initiated to comply  
 with these perfectly valid demands. The results we will come to in  
 a moment as I have some other things to <sup>SAY</sup> record first.

Forgive me if I approach this from the personal angle. I have  
 to explain that I was trained as a scientist obtaining ~~a~~ combined  
 MAs in zoology, geology, and botany, and that for twelve years there  
 after worked as a professional. However, I almost simultaneously  
 entered government service in my country and was employed during  
 the war in <sup>AN</sup> the United States <sup>sphere.</sup> Also, being a field operator  
 in both my professions I took up popular writing and entered the  
 news business as a science writer, and this is what I finally  
 emerged as, and still am, and solely. I only put this on record to  
 explain why and how I obtained the information that I will now  
 offer. There is a lot more I could say but, having been given <sup>THAT PART</sup> off  
 the record, I cannot as a newsman do so. Further, much of what I will  
 say was given to me in other countries where my background and  
 record was known to the authorities who placed trust in me not to

<sup>TOLD ME @ HOWEVER</sup>  
"make a story" out of what they ~~had to say~~. Now that a lot of this <sup>54</sup>  
is beginning to surface from other sources, both official and other-  
wise, and for public consumption, I am no longer under obligation in  
such cases and may publish fair comment.

Several strange and alarming things took place in the muddy TV --  
field of both what I ~~like to~~ call "saucermania" and what came to  
be called <sup>POPULARLY</sup> ufology which do not seem to have come to <sup>GENERAL</sup> the attention  
of the buffs in either department. Despite all the uproar and the  
accusations by practically everybody, ~~both~~ matters <sup>WERE, IN MY OPINION,</sup> seem to have  
been very intelligently handled <sup>BY OFFICIAL DOM</sup> from the outset. I say this because,  
~~having~~ <sup>FIRST</sup> been introduced to this matter in 1929, and having pursued  
it with the very greatest (scientific) interest in Europe, Africa,  
and Central and South America for almost twenty years before the  
storm broke in North America, I knew perfectly well that at least  
half a dozen governments were <sup>FULLY</sup> ~~perfectly~~ conversant with it for many  
years before a Mr. Kenneth Arnold reported a flight of discoidal  
objects manoeuvring around Mount Rainier in Washington in 1947,  
and which were dubbed by a reporter with the catchy phrase "Flying  
Saucers". One government even had a special department to cover the  
business as long ago as 1930, <sup>AND OUR OWN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT</sup> ~~AND OUR OWN~~ <sup>CONDUCTED A RATHER DEEP ENQUIRY INTO THE</sup> ~~CONDUCTED~~ <sup>MATTER IN 1942-43.</sup>

As a result of these two circumstances I have been able to  
speak <sup>P</sup> frankly with a number of people in and from various countries  
who really knew what they were talking about during all the uproar  
in this country. I have had a number of briefings too which by  
<sup>WHERE THEY WERE CONDUCTED, I COULD BUT ACCEPT AS</sup> ~~locale~~ <sup>MA</sup> convinced me that I was being given the straight facts. ~~of~~  
~~these~~ ~~there~~ ~~are~~ ~~two~~ ~~that~~ ~~are~~ ~~somewhat~~ ~~general~~ ~~but~~ ~~none~~ ~~the~~ ~~less~~  
~~most~~ ~~pertinent~~.

<sup>FACT THAT WAS IMPRESSED UPON ME WAS THAT,</sup> ~~DESPITE THIS, THIS~~  
The first ~~was that~~ this country was one of the countries, and  
COUNTRY WAS TOTALLY UNPREPARED ANYTHING OF THIS NATURE  
of course the lead in one at that, that was not prepared for this.  
Pondering this, I once asked a highly intelligent military man how  
come (I received the thoughtful reply) and, after a long pause while  
he started out at the cherry trees, "I suppose you could ~~be~~ say  
that we must all have come from Missouri". <sup>THIS AT FIRST</sup> ~~It~~ sounded incredible

reports of funny lights and apparently solid objects in the sky that could not be identified. These got first attention <sup>WAS</sup> not only because they were the more obvious <sup>BUT</sup> <sup>AND</sup> <sup>IN THE EYES OF THE PUBLIC</sup> <sup>BECAUSE</sup> they could have <sup>REPRESENTED</sup> been a potential menace to the security of the country. <sup>THIS WAS</sup> <sup>OTHER</sup> <sup>CONTRARY</sup> they formed a most perfect screen for the much nastier aspect of the matter, <sup>THE ONE</sup> <sup>WAS</sup> <sup>NG EVERYBODY</sup> and it was this that really worried <sup>CGNVERSANT WITH THE IMMEDIATELY PAST HISTORY OF THE BUSINESS</sup> <sup>ORIGINS</sup> <sup>HOWEVER</sup> it sounded so balmy that it was frightfully simple to bury it in ridicule. This is what was immediately tagged by the more serious minded people who had become interested in ufology, the "contact syndrome" <sup>IN THE SOMEWHAT DESPERATE HOPE THAT IT MIGHT BE BURIED IN RIDICULE</sup>

For the benefit of you non-buffs let me explain that not a few people started coming forward with accounts of having met and communed with living creatures that came out of "flying saucers". These descriptions <sup>OF THESE ENTITIES FROM</sup> ranged from those of the famous "little green men" to horrible hairy pigmies and giants, and to perfectly normal looking

humans <sup>AND</sup> with all kinds of variations in between. <sup>AT FIRST</sup> Everybody let out a guffaw and the people making such reports were dubbed Contactees <sup>SO MUCH AS</sup>

<sup>PP</sup> <sup>PP</sup> <sup>THE SAME</sup> <sup>AND</sup> <sup>IMMEDIATELY</sup> <sup>MOREOVER</sup> However, certain psychological warfare outfits in several countries, sounded a very clear warning, and this warning was heeded, for the simple reason that sodium penthol and

(the technical name for lie-detector machines) <sup>HAVE</sup> <sup>HANDLE</sup> were not even then by any means the only methods available for extracting the truth from people while at the same time ascertaining within very close limits <sup>AS TO WHETHER OR HOW</sup> the degree of their mental normality (i.e. sanity, in popular parlance), <sup>AND JUST SUCH STORIES HAD PROVED TO BE EXTREMELY TROUBLESOME</sup>

<sup>AND</sup> <sup>SO CLAIMING</sup> <sup>CONTACTEES</sup> <sup>WHO WERE</sup> <sup>EXAMINED</sup> <sup>APPEARED</sup> <sup>TO BE</sup> <sup>EMINENTLY</sup> <sup>SANE</sup> <sup>OR</sup> <sup>ONLY</sup> <sup>TEMPORARILY</sup> <sup>PSYCHOTIC</sup> <sup>AND</sup> <sup>THIS</sup> <sup>DUE</sup> <sup>TO</sup> <sup>THE</sup> <sup>EXPERIENCE</sup> <sup>THEY</sup> <sup>CLAIMED</sup> <sup>THEY</sup> <sup>HAD</sup> <sup>HAD</sup>, Nuts and crackpots, and hoaxsters and pranksters, there were aplenty, but the curious thing about a lot of these was that, although they <sup>COULD</sup> <sup>HAVE</sup> never possibly had any contact with each other, they so often came up with a number of trivial details of a most extraordinary nature that not even an insane

to a foreigner but, over simple as it may sound, it just could be the right answer. The United States <sup>WAS</sup> <sup>HAS BEEN</sup> so busy getting away from Europe and building a new kind of civilization <sup>THAT</sup> it simply had not the inclination to look into such esoteric matters. Besides, <sup>HAVE BEEN</sup> there <sup>WERE</sup> so many Barnums in its short history that authority jolly well had to be <sup>CONVINCED</sup> shown absolutely proof of anything before they would believe it <sup>AND</sup> <sup>GET</sup> <sup>TAKEN</sup> <sup>IN</sup>. The result was that when the storm broke in 1947 they <sup>HAD</sup> <sup>THE</sup> <sup>FOGGIEST</sup> <sup>NOTION</sup> <sup>WHAT</sup> <sup>TO</sup> <sup>DO</sup> <sup>OR</sup> <sup>HOW</sup> <sup>TO</sup> <sup>DO</sup> <sup>IT</sup>, and they have been vacillating ever since.

<sup>TP</sup> This resulted in a most extraordinary state of affairs. I remember once sort of lounging in a very high ranking military man's office with secretaries and others wandering in and out while he regaled me with a most detailed account of two personal encounters with UFOs in broad daylight with a crew of fourteen and with latches on by airborne radar and from the ground and simultaneous visual observations from more than one military base. Then, I was literally thrown out of <sup>ANOTHER</sup> <sup>TWO</sup> <sup>DOORS</sup> <sup>SO MUCH AS</sup> two offices down the corridor for just mentioning the subject <sup>AND</sup> <sup>BY</sup> <sup>AN</sup> <sup>OFFICER</sup> <sup>OF</sup> <sup>EQUIVALENT</sup> <sup>RANK</sup>. No wonder some civilian organizations have been so vociferous in their accusations and with cries of "cover up". The truth of the matter is

officialdom has never made up its mind just <sup>WHAT</sup> <sup>TO</sup> <sup>DO</sup> <sup>ABOUT</sup> the whole mess <sup>PUBLICLY</sup> in this country. This is in contrast to some other countries. The Brazilians have always been perfectly open about it all, and the British, as you will doubtless say is their wont, just say nothing for the record but, if pressed, come back with such tongue in cheek observations as <sup>THEY</sup> "The incident occurred just after the pubs closed".

<sup>ANOTHER</sup> <sup>ITEM</sup> <sup>THAT</sup> <sup>CAME</sup> <sup>TO</sup> <sup>LIGHT</sup>, and <sup>AS</sup> <sup>AT</sup> <sup>A</sup> <sup>SURPRISINGLY</sup> <sup>EARLY</sup> <sup>DATE</sup> <sup>IN</sup> <sup>THIS</sup> <sup>COUNTRY</sup>, is much more important and remained until last year a well guarded <sup>AND</sup> <sup>TRUE</sup> secret. Now it is out; and in print; but still very few seem to have cottoned on to it. When saucermania broke out <sup>HERE</sup> <sup>TWO</sup> <sup>VERY</sup> <sup>DIFFERENT</sup> <sup>KINDS</sup> <sup>OF</sup> <sup>STORIES</sup> immediately began to come in. The first were really rather straight

of scientists and technologists, work began in of 196 . The history of this effort has also been overtold and is common know- ledge; even unto some pretty appalling skullduggery within itself. Was disclosed in a book by one of its leading members, who was fired and by an article in LOOK Magazine by John Fuller. However, all this too was but a smoke screen, either deliberately devised or which eventuated by pure happenstance, and really had little to do with the basic problem. It was a singularly unpleasant airing of the sort of sparrow-fights that go on perpetually within scientific establishments, but served well to divert the public's attention from the main theme. CHANNEL, REGARDLESS WHETHER THEY WERE DELIBERATELY DEvised OR PURE HAPPENSTANCE

Nevertheless, there were those who immediately pointed out that on the one hand Dr. Condon was rather considerably obligated to the government, and who hinted that he knew from the outset exactly what he was about, then almost in the same breath as the saying goes not only the same people but many others started pointing out that Dr. Condon did not seem to be in the least interested in UFOs per se and left the investigation of them to his staff, while he concentrated on the "contactees". He took the trouble to travel quite a lot to attend meetings of organizations who permitted the stories and views of these people to be aired and, if Dr. Saunders' book is to be believed, he devoted much of his valuable time to them. The report of his committee was finally issued in January of 1968 in the form of a very large paperback pocket book. It was a very bad report and full of inconsistencies and contradictions; but the point is it was on UFOs, NOT ON THE MATTERS THAT HAD SO OCCUPIED DR. CONDON'S ATTENTION. Along with this report went a very strongly worded recommendation from Dr. Condon that no more time or money should be wasted on the business as usology could not contribute anything to the advancement of scientific knowledge. Later Dr. Condon went so far as to state to the that: "Any teacher....etc..should be horse-whipped". Those were strong words. The issuance of the report was however enough for the press to take it upon themselves to tell the

person might be expected to think up. As you may well by now infer, this presented a pretty grim overall picture -- and especially to organizations and people in positions of authority. Such persons do not like having no answer to anything, elected to manage our affairs and protect us. On the one hand there were the bloody UFOs and the latent historical background of these that we in this country had never even heard of; let alone ignored. Then on the other hand there turned out to be whole bunches of "waste peoples" with stories that came through the best we had to offer by way of screening with flying colors as it were. Did this mean that we were expected to accept all this, or could we no longer rely on our best efforts at screening? If the latter, how come said methods had proved themselves over and over again and almost a hundred percent? And still what to do with the UFOs?

It is within this framework that all those interested in this subject should assess developments subsequent to the hearings held by the Armed Services Committee of the Congress on the of in Washington in 1967. This was chaired by and to it were invited one the one hand certain civilian groups and most notably N.I.C.A.P whose Director Major Donald E. Keyhoe acted as their spokesman, and on the other a number of leading scientists, including list names. The party in the first part stressed the necessity for a more open policy on the part of the Air Force with regard to its findings releases; the party in the second part, stressed the necessity for the initiation of some proper scientific investigation of the matter. The Congress agreed with both parties and the Dept of Defense was instructed to prepare to turn the matter over to the scientists.

The search for an scientific establishment willing to undertake such a study was begun but ran into very heavy weather. Eventually, the Air Force signed contract for half a million dollars with the University of Colorado where such a project was set up under the chairmanship of the very wellknown physicist, Dr. Edward Uhler Condon. Gathering unto himself a considerably distinguished group

It is pertinent to observe that Project Bluebook had always been under intelligence and its findings released through information.

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~~New discovery... situation~~

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announced the closing of their Project Blue Book two days before this meeting.

Sam  
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Now here was a very strange situation indeed. Government had consulted the scientific community way back in 1952 resulting in the now famous (to ufo buffs) so-called Robertson report which leaked out in bits over the years and from which it was clear that the latter wanted no part of the matter but recommended methods of abating the public uproar. Several years later, we find a number of individual scientists backing the public demand for a scientific enquiry, as per the Hearings before the ASC. Next, the government very correctly complies with this public request and instructs the Air Force to contract with a university to undertake the work. <sup>So</sup> AT LAST GETTING RID OF THE WHOLE CONFOUNDED BUSINESS: AND THEY Air Force is turned down everywhere ~~and~~ so resort to Dr. Condon DID TOO, SINCE THEY CLOSED OUT PROJECT BLUEBOOK TWO DAYS BEFORE THE a greatly respected scientist with almost a lifetime of official BOSTON SYMPOSIUM OPENED.

public at large that, even if they could not understand it, they might now rest assured that the best scientific brains, after a prolonged investigation, had proved that there was nothing to the whole thing except a concatenation of psychological aberrations, mechanical failures, and meteorological oddities! <sup>TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THIS ORGANIZATION DR. SAUNDERS</sup> POOR PRESS: DID THAT ONE <sup>BY CONDON "FOR THE MOMENT"</sup> BACKFIRE? <sup>INTEREST IN THE MATTER BUT THIS WAS MADE ALL</sup> That should have ended the business of UFOs, that is -- but it did not. In fact, it stimulated it and in two quite different ways. First, <sup>WHILE THERE WERE TRUE UFOS APPARENTLY</sup> let's not forget that remark about all having come from Missouri and at the same time note that the UFOs rather than going away have positively burst out all over. Second, the scientists picked up the ball! And it is no good saying that they just hadn't read Dr. Condon's recommendations because some of them actually worked with him until the completion of the report. xxxxxxxxxxxx



LET ALONE THE

expressed either firm beliefs or ~~strong~~ conviction that some ufos are constructions or machines, or who had pointed out the very obvious fact that a machine must be made by an intelligent entity. This, of course, implied other intelligencies in our midst ; and so back to the contactee-syndrome, with all its modern connotations such as ETIs (or Extraterrestrial Intelligencies), what others ~~the~~ <sup>Buffis</sup> call "Occupants", but which I personally prefer to call simply "OINTs" or other intelligencies. This is the real problem and the one that scares all authority <sup>ies</sup> because if the general public ever ~~got~~ DID get it into their heads that the things were for real, they really might panic.

INFORMATION

I mentioned above that since some of this ~~matter~~ has now been published I feel free to comment but I shall make but one observation. I think the whole business has been most clearly stated in Dr. Jacques Vallee's latest book entitled PASSPORT TO MAGONIA. <sup>(\*)</sup> In this he makes a suggestion, that I find highly acceptable on all counts, by way of one possible explanation of landings and contacts. This is that both UFOs (the hardware) and their occupants (the software) could be .....(next page).....

(\*) Footnote : Dr. Vallee is a distinguished...etc.....

The "trick" memorandum referred to above has played a strange part in all this. According to the accounts as published by John Fuller and Messrs Saunders and in their book, this was found in an open file at the Colorado ~~xxxxx~~ Project's headquarters by Mr. who is a newspaper reporter and who had permission to read therein. Since it was in an open file it was shown around and published. It was written by one and addressed to and contained the sentence : " trick.....etc. ing Now come on ! Leave a statement like that in a file in which outsiders and newsmen at that are allowed to browse is/xxxxxx "trick" as to be positively corny ~~indeed, in certain circles of the project, call them~~, and you cant convince me that it was a mere oversight, and more than you can that experienced reporters were so naive as to think that it was. Of course I dont know what the gimmick was but it certainly got rid of saunders and some others, <sup>FROM THEN ON) OUTSIDERS AWAY FROM,</sup> and kept still others ~~out~~ of the project ~~hair from then on.~~ AND IT IS VERY INTERESTING TO NOTE WHAT THESE PEOPLE HAD IN COMMON. THEY WERE TO A MAN THOSE WHO HAD

I recently read rather thoroughly back through my files and  
listened to a lot of tapes compiled over the past <sup>TWELVE</sup> years and  
not only from information that surfaced in this country and I was  
appalled. How can the news media and the buffs have missed the very  
plain fact that every time an UFO has been said to land, <sup>AT LAST GETTING RID OF THE WHOLE CONFUSED BUSINESS AND THEY DID TOO SINCE THEY CLOSED OUT PROJECT BLUEBOOK TWO DAYS BEFORE THE BOSTON SYMPOSIUM OPENED.</sup> stop some-  
thing, or more especially when any kind of living creature has been  
said to have been encountered in connection with it, military and  
other governmental personnel seem to pop up <sup>LITERALLY AND OUTWIDERE AWAY FROM GROUND</sup> from nowhere.  
Further, there is case after case of local police and sheriffs and  
even state police completely changing their stories or refusing  
any statement, from the time said personnel arrives. Statements made  
by these often bewildered police officers have <sup>BEEN MADE SEVERAL TIMES</sup> even been made by  
beeper-phone to radio programs and both taped and broadcast alive.

WHEREAS If its just a ufo in the sky that is reported no official seems  
ever to bother to turn up to investigate. In other words, the hard-  
ware, in the form of the ufos have been very carefully, and in my  
opinion judiciously, sensible, and correctly made use of as a dis-  
traction, while we do all that <sup>POSSIBLE</sup> we can to learn what we can about  
the real trouble, and the one that really scares the daylights out  
of everybody, and which would really create a panic among the public  
if they ever got it into their heads that it was true.

His suggestion that both ufos and their occupants could be  
"projections" from another space-time-continuum of the nature of  
the sort of tridimensional photographs we call holograms, 'pictures'  
that you can walk around and view from all angles and look just as  
you would see them from those angles if you walked around the thing  
photographed. However, he goes further and suggests that these  
other intelligencies could well be so far ahead of us that they  
can similarly project solid objects (and then withdraw them), so  
that they could leave solid bits and pieces in our space-time  
and he goes on to point out how odd it is that the contactees  
throughout the ages and all over the world seem always to encounter  
just about what they might be expected to encounter. And this is  
indeed a fact. As Vallee rather delightfully remarks, if this is  
what these OINTS, as I call them, have been up to for two thousand  
years, <sup>EITHER</sup> deliberately guiding or misguiding us, "They certainly don't  
deserve our congratulations."



Thus the breakthrough achieved in Boston at the end of last year is a very real one for it means that the government has been relieved of not just an irksome but an extremely worrisome matter at a time when it has its hands more than full with other matters, and that the scientific establishment has shown itself willing to accept the ball and carry it. There is only one thing that worries me though, and this is that in dealing with the software, we are dealing with "live" things but there isn't a single biologist officially involved as yet that I know of. Dr. Carl Sagan, the sort of father of what is called exobiology or "life elsewhere", is a our space program is now crawling with biologists but I doubt if they have any time to devote to this matter as yet, and I contend that we need them in ufology. If the OINTs haven't always completely controlled us they would not seem to be more than a damned nuisance, for dont forget they seem to have been with us since ever.

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AND I CONTINUE TO CONTEND THAT THEY ARE NEEDED IN UFOLOGY.

(P)

IN CONCLUSION LET ME SAY THIS

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UFO BREAKTHROUGH

Ivan T. Sanderson

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The American Association for the Advancement of Science, commonly known as the "Triple A.S.", and today perhaps the largest congenerie of working scientists and technologists in the world, hold its annual meeting in Boston last week. No less than 10,000 scientists were registered to attend, and more than 350 newsmen covered the five day event. The most astonishing announcement made by the AAAS when its plans were first announced some months ago, was that a special symposium would run for two full days on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects.

The roster of top-notch scientists participating in this symposium covered the entire field, from outright and ~~and~~ professed sceptics to those who have publicly ~~stated~~ stated that they believe there is something in all this that calls for serious investigation.

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NEEDED*

Their names include none less ~~xxxx~~ than: Prof. Thornton Page (Fisk Professor of Astronomy and Director of the Van Vleck Observatory, Wesleyan University, NAS Research Associate, NASA Manned Spacecraft Center); Prof. Philip Morrison (Professor of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology); Walter Orr Roberts (Retiring President and Chairman of the Board, AAAS, and President of University Corporation for Atmospheric Research); Prof. Carl Sagan (Director of Laboratory for Planetary Studies, and Associate Professor of Astronomy, Cornell University); Dr. Franklin Roach (Affiliate Astronomer, University of Hawaii, and Research Associate in Astronomy, Battelle Northwest, Richland, Washington); Prof. William Hartmann (Assistant Professor of Astronomy and Staff Member, Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona); Dr. Robert Hall (Chairman, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois); Dr. Douglas Price-Williams (Chairman, Department of Psychology, Rice University); Prof. Lester Grinspoon (Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical

School, and Director of Psychiatry Research, Massachusetts Mental Health Center, Boston); Dr. Allan B. Persky (Junior Associate in Medicine, Psychiatry, Harvard University); Dr. J. Allen Hynek ( Chairman, Department of Astronomy, and Director, Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center, Northwestern University); Prof. James E. McDonald (Senior Physicist, Institute for Atmospheric Physics, and Professor of Meteorology, University of Arizona); Prof. Donald H. Menzel (Paine Professor of Astronomy, Harvard University, and Director Emeritus of the Harvard College Observatory); Dr. R.M.L. Baker, Jr. (Senior Scientist, Computer Sciences Corporation, and Lecturer, Department of Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles); Kenneth R. Hardy (Chief, Weather Radar Branch, Meteorology Laboratory, Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, Bedford Massachusetts); and Walter Sullivan (Science Editor, The New York Times).

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School, and Director of Psychiatry Research, Massachusetts  
 General Hospital, Boston; Dr. Allen C. Lewis (Junior)  
 Associate in Medicine, Psychiatry, Harvard University; Dr. J.  
 Allen Gray (Senior), Department of Anatomy, and Director,  
 Lindbergh Anatomical Research Center, Northwestern Univer-  
 sity; Prof. James W. Roberts (Senior), Division of  
 Experimental Physics, and Professor of Astronomy, Uni-  
 versity of Illinois; Prof. Donald S. Kemp (Senior Professor  
 of Astronomy, Harvard University, and Director, Division of the  
 Harvard College Observatory); Dr. E. L. Baker, Jr. (Senior  
 Scientist, Computer Science Corporation, and Professor, Depart-  
 ment of Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles);  
 Leonard B. Stoltz (Chief, Weather Radar Branch, Research and  
 Development, Air Force Electronics Research Laboratory, Dayton  
 Research Center); and Walter Sullivan (Science Editor, The New

York Times).

The history of this business, originally called that of "Flying Saucers", ~~was~~ has been heartily scoffed at by just about everybody, since it began in earnest in this country in 1947. People at that time were mighty nervous about the new world of the atom bomb and they were ready to listen to almost anything. As a result, the government set up a small recording department under the Air Force to keep tabs on the flood of reports of (allegedly) unidentified objects seen in the sky.

This organization, known as Project Blue Book, was located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and continued for 21 years. It was ~~closed~~ <sup>CLOSED-OUT</sup> on the 17th of December this year. The consultant to this outfit was Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Head of the Department of Astronomy of Northwestern University. Dr. Hynek became increasingly worried about the lack of understanding of the problem involved by his scientific colleagues over the years, AND <sup>S</sup> ~~in~~ he was finally instrumental in assembling a group to discuss the matter in open forum under the auspices of ~~the~~

~~signal~~ → THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS



Partly as a result of this, the U.S. Air Force, Dept. of Scientific Research, through the auspices of Dr. Hatchford, was instructed to co-opt the services of non-government scientists to investigate the matter in depth. This project was finally ~~was~~ assigned to the University of Colorado, under the famed physicist Dr. Edward U. Condon, at a <sup>COST</sup> ~~cost~~ of half a million dollars, as a special project (1)

This committee issued its report at the beginning of this year (1969) and it was reviewed in a few days by the National Academy of Science and approved. However, the Air Force did not approve it until December. Further, the Air Force then announced its intention to get out of the <sup>UFO</sup> ~~business~~ by closing its Project Blue Book.

It has been ~~presumed~~ <sup>(2)</sup> that this would end <sup>THIS</sup> ~~the~~ troublesome matter but the AAAS had already planned before the publication of this report to set up its own committee to review the whole business. This, according to Dr. Thornton Page of Wesleyan

who was the moving spirit in this endeavour, ~~was~~ initially met with almost overwhelming opposition from his colleagues; but Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, President of AAAS, supported this enlightened project. However, this was postponed for almost a full year so that the Condon Report could be published.

Thus, the public which has become so confused by this whole thing, is being officially informed that science with a capital "S" has <sup>N</sup> not abandoned them. In fact, what is often and quite erroneously called the scientific "Establishment" is taking the matter as seriously as it can. Further, the endeavour <sup>I</sup> that the Triple A.S. has initiated is free and unencumbered <sup>N</sup> by officialdom.

Despite the horrors of Vietnam, poverty, death and taxes, this is one of the healthiest signs of our current times. Why? Because these UFOs are a problem for all of us, and they just will not go away. Let us not forget that scientists debated

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DATE

TIME

The first meeting of the committee was held on the 15th of January.

At this meeting the following members were present:

Mr. A. B. C., Mr. D. E. F., Mr. G. H. I., Mr. J. K. L.

The first business of the meeting was to elect a chairman.

Mr. A. B. C. was elected chairman and Mr. D. E. F. secretary.

The committee then considered the report of the previous year.

It was found that the work of the committee had been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The committee then discussed the work to be done during the next year.

It was decided that the committee should continue to work on the same lines.

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m. and the committee adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on the 15th of February.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. A. B. C., Chairman.

This is one of the principal aims of our current plan.

It is our hope that you will be able to help us in this work.

With best wishes for the future, I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

STORY #1

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the validity and possibility of meteorites for a century on ~~the~~  
the grounds that " Since there are no stones in the sky, none  
can fall therefrom".

UFOs - WHERE NOW ?

Perhaps the most pertinent<sup>E</sup> question left unanswered by the special Symposium set-up by the august American Association for the Advancement of Science at its annual meeting in Boston last week, to air the UFO ~~is~~<sup>t</sup> or 'flying saucer' controversy, is "where now sweet chariots?"

This symposium has proved enormously impressive to this reporter. After more than twenty years of argument, ridicule, sneering, and recriminations, between the public, the press, and governmental agencies over this matter, the awe inspiring-- though ~~somewhat~~ admittedly somewhat ponderous -- scientific establishment has finally taken this bull by ~~the~~<sup>ITS</sup> horns, or, should we say, this 'thing by its antennae'. The AAAS now suggests<sup>t</sup> that UFOs should at least be considered scientifically and in an unbiased manner.

This symposium, with fifteen papers to be read by topnotch scientists, and covering two days, was organized by Dr. Thorn-

~~ton. Those who were attending and delivering papers were:~~

NEWS

ton Page. Those attending and delivering papers were: Thornton Page, Prof. of Astronomy, Wesleyan; Philip Morrison, Prof. of Physics, M.I.T.; Walter Orr Roberts, Retiring President and Chairman of the Board, AAAS, and President of University Corporation for Atmospheric Research; Carl Sagan, Associate Prof. of Astronomy, Cornell; Dr. Franklin Roach, Affiliate Astronomer, Univ. of Hawaii; William Hartmann, Prof. of Astronomy, Univ. of Ariz.; Robert Hall, Chairman, Department of Sociology, Univ. of Ill.; Douglas Price-Williams, Chairman, Department of Psychology, Rice University; Lester Grinspoon, Prof. of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; Allan D. Porsky, Junior Associate in Medicine, Psychiatry, Harvard University; J. Allen Hynek, Chairman, Department of Astronomy, Northwestern Univ.; James E. McDonald, Prof. of Meteorology, Univ. of Arizona; Donald H Menzel, Prof. of Astronomy, Harvard; R.M.L. Baker, Jr., Dept. of Engineering, U.C.L.A.; Kenneth S. Hardy, Chief, Weather Radar Branch, Meteorology Laboratory, Cambridge Research Laboratories; and Walter Sullivan, Science Editor, The New York Times.



The meetings have been open to the public as well as <sup>To</sup> members of the AAAS and ~~members~~ of affiliated societies.

But the most fascinating information was obtained from a preliminary press conference with the nine leading spirits in this unique endeavour. These were: <sup>Dr.</sup> ~~Roberts~~, Page, Sagen, Hynek, Hall, Hartmann, Koch, Hardy, and Grinspoon.

Among several most enlightening answers to questions from the floor (which have been reported elsewhere) one stands out as a real challenge. This is: <sup>W</sup> ~~What~~ next?

Dr. Condon of the now famous special committee appointed by the Air Force to conduct a two year study of the matter, has washed his hands of the whole affair. The Air Force then closed-out its 21-year-old investigative Project Blue Book on the 17th of December this year. Therefore, unless there is some ultra secret new project-- and none of the scientists present knew of any such -- the United States has officially washed its hands of this whole troublesome matter.



But, there is a nasty one ~~is~~ here, As Dr. J. Allen  
 S  
 Hynek, who was official scientific consultant to the Air  
 Force's Project <sup>E/</sup> ~~Blu~~ <sup>(TO RECORD FLYING SAUCERS)</sup> ~~Book~~ for over twenty years pointed out  
 in a subsequent interview, the rest of the world has for long  
 adopted the attitude that, ~~despite the fact that they have as~~  
~~many reports as we do~~ -- the "Yankees have it well in hand".  
 But now, <sup>6</sup> the United States Government has washed ~~it~~ <sup>THE WHOLE BUSINESS</sup> down the  
 drain. So again, what next ?

Will, ~~we~~ <sup>WE</sup> ~~asked~~ asked, the AAAS now set up a  
 permanent committee? Will they try to obtain all the unclassi-  
 fied Air Force files that are being shipped to Maxwell Air Force  
 Base for storage ? Will they press for these files, which  
 are <sup>m</sup> completely open (and quite distinct from those classified  
 on the grounds of national security) to be lodged instead with  
 some University that has the space to store them and to make  
 them available for serious minded research workers ?

Something just must be done because UFOs are not going to go away -- be they fact or fancy. They have been with us since long before biblical ~~times~~ times ; and now that we are heading into space and getting reports of them from our astronauts, somebody is going to have to do something. After all the public exposure that has now been given to this business by our and several other governments, not only the sceptical public but even the press is going to blow its stack if something is not done. It is now up to the scientists to act.


You might just as well try to drop the space program on the grounds that the whole thing is a salary. As long as we of the West run on what is called democratic principles, the average citizen just will not go for ~~any such~~ <sup>ANY SUCH</sup> crazy ~~ideas~~ <sup>IDEA.</sup>

Even the Russians have found this out when it comes to the matter of UFOs.

Ivan T. Sanderson

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At a press conference given by the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston, on the opening morning of their five-day annual meeting, nine leading scientists confronted the press to answer questions on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects.

These topnotch scientists were Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, President of University Corporation for Atmospheric Research; Dr. Thornton Page, Professor of Astronomy at Wesleyan University; Dr. Carl Sagan, Professor of Astronomy, Cornell University; Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University; Dr. Robert Hall, Chairman of the Department of Sociology of the University of Illinois; Prof. William Hartmann, Professor of Astronomy, University of Arizona; Dr. Franklin Roach, Affiliate Astronomer at the University of Hawaii; Dr. Kenneth R. Hardy, Chief of the Weather Branch of the Cambridge Research Laboratories; 

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Dr. Lester Grinspoon, Prof. of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

At one point Dr. J. Allen Hynek mentioned that the rest of the world had for many years looked to the United States to carry the ball in this funny field. When questioned as to what these other countries would do now he said that "I's probably up to them now".

As a result of this, and in view of the closing out of the United States Air Force's<sup>F</sup> investigative unit known as "Project Blue Book" on the 17th of December of this year, this reporter asked the panel whether it had any information as to what foreign official organizations set up by other governments to record similar incidents might be going to do now. Such outfits are alleged to have been established in Brazil, Chile, the Argentine, Denmark, Britain, Sweden, and some other countries.

<sup>D</sup>It transpired that this panel of scientists, all sincerely

interested in this matter, simply did not know, except that Dr. Szynek had "Heard ~~the~~ rumors that the Brazilians have a Project like Blue Book".

This presents a curious situation. First, we are told that the rest of the world looked to the U.S. to handle this matter. Next, the U.S. Government discontinues its investigations, and the scientists picked up the ball. But now nobody can say what the rest of the world is going to do about it; and we are wondering just what the poor "benighted" foreigners will feel about this.

Several foreign governments have in the past, and are still, treating this matter most seriously indeed and not just as a scientific problem, but as a potential ~~menace~~ menace in the field of mass psychology, and also for another such more serious reason. This is that, in this day of ICBMs, artificial satellites, space probes, and orbiting platforms, the possibility of such "natural" phenomena as Unidentified Flying Objects being mistaken for an approaching ICBM is very real indeed.

It is all too easy already for a junior rank military man manning a radar or other spotting device, to push an alert button due to ~~the~~ mistaking ~~an~~ an UFO for an approaching ICBM. ~~And, since the computers then take over~~ And, since the computers then take over because of the speed at which attack can come, it could well be too late to stop retaliatory action <sup>BEING INITIATED</sup> before the aerial object was properly identified. This one 'mistake' could bring on Armageddon.

Several foreign governments are quite aware of this menace; so it would seem at least to be prudent to establish an informational network to report UFOs; and, what is much more important, to start educating the public to the possibility of their existence.

This was the consensus of opinion on this aspect of the matter given to this reporter by five of the panel of scientists who organized and attended this meeting.

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DR. CONDON'S ATTITUDE TO THE  
 "FLYING SAUCER" BUSINESS.

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Famed physicist Dr. Edward Uler Condon, formerly of the Manhattan Project and later Head of the U.S. Patent Office, was assigned by the government three years ago to set up an investigative committee and research project to report upon the troublesome matter of UFOs or, as they used to be more popularly called "Flying Saucers". This was undertaken by the University of Colorado where Dr. Condon holds the Chair of Physics. ~~AND~~ <sup>AND</sup> ~~was assigned~~ <sup>A</sup> half ~~a~~ <sup>GRANT</sup> million dollars ~~out~~ <sup>out</sup> of Air Force research funds. <sup>WENT WITH THIS CONTRACT</sup> <sup>①</sup>

This committee issued its official report through the medium of an enormous paperback book published by Bantam Books in January, 1969. Its substance was reviewed by the National Academy of Sciences prior to publication, but it was not until late November that the Air Force accepted it. Incidentally, they have not as yet stated this publicly. In the meantime, on the 17th of December, the Air Force closed out its own investigative or-

ganization after twenty-one years. This was known as Project Blue Book.

In submitting his report, Dr. Condon stated categorically that he felt the matter of UFOs did not call for further efforts on the part of organized science. He also issued some very strong statements to the effect that he considered permitting young people to discuss the matter while at school to be frankly subversive. He advocated, outright, that teachers should be strongly censored for, or positively prevented from, even mentioning the business in class.

Dr. Condon's committee had been working under a government grant. The findings and recommendations of this committee were, however, so much at variance with the hearings held previously by the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, in July of 1968, that it has<sup>been</sup> almost wholly rejected by the public, and even by many established scientists. As a result, the greatest scientific body in this country -- The American Association for the Advancement of Science -- started planning a symposium to reopen

the whole business on more truly scientific grounds.

This was initiated by a special AAAS Committee under the chairmanship of none other than Dr. Thornton Page, Professor of Astronomy at Wesleyan University, at the beginning of this year, and came to fruition in Boston where the AAAS held its annual meeting starting the day after Christmas. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

At an opening press conference, members of this committee\*

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(\*) Dr. Thornton Page, Professor of Astronomy, Wesleyan University; Philip Morrison, Professor of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Walter Orr Roberts, President, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research; Dr. Carl Sagan, Associate Professor of Astronomy, Cornell University.

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were asked why Dr. Condon was not present. It was known previously to this reporter that he had been invited but had declined. <sup>BUT</sup> we did not ~~know~~ know his stated reasons. These were given by Dr. Page in the following words; and I report from a

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

taped record:-

" We had hoped to have Conden speak here at the symposium. Unfortunately, it is a psychological fact that he is too emotionally involved to do that. So he is not here, will not appear, and does not want to have anything to do with it. And he made a big effort to prevent us <sup>FROM</sup> having this meeting here this afternoon and tomorrow. He even <sup>N</sup>wrote to the Vice-President of the United States to try and stop us."

This is a rather astonishing statement emanating from the source that it did. Its implications are even more astonishing. As we see it, and we had this impression confirmed in private interviews with a number of the other participating scientists, it can mean only that Dr. Conden is now almost violently opposed to any further investigation of this most troublesome ~~one~~ of all problems that today confronts scientists and laymen alike-- and even politicians.

Just what is Dr. Condon's beef? Dr. Walter Orr Roberts,<sup>S</sup> retiring President of the AAAS, said that "He ~~was~~ (Dr. Condon) felt that false conclusions would be drawn from the fact that the AAAS was sponsoring a major meeting to discuss these conclusions, when in fact the last word had been said, essentially." Dr. Roberts further stated that Dr. Condon felt that "As far as <sup>N</sup> any contributions he had to make, he had said his piece and that he did not want to be engaged in any further controversy about it."

Now, is this really just a personal opinion or does it indicate a new official policy? Does it mean that Dr. Edward U. Condon is personally piqued ~~was~~ (i.e. peeked) at his colleagues for having disagreed with him on this matter by picking up the ball and presenting it on the highest scientific level; or, on the other hand, is he under instructions to mount a last ditch stand against acceptance of this matter as a problem that calls for inquiry by scientists?

STORY

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PAGE

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Time may show; but then again, it may not. Meantime the

UFOs go rolling along !

PRICELESS UFO FILES MAY BE DESTROYEDIvan T. Sanderson

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At a press conference set up by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as an opening gambit of its five-day annual meeting in Boston on the 26th of December, the press was able to query nine top-notch scientists on the troublesome matter of Unidentified Flying Objects.

The scientists present were Drs. Walter Orr Roberts, J. Allen Hynek, Thornton Page, Franklin E. Roach, William Hartmann, Lester Grinspoon, Carl Sagan, Robert Hall, and Kenneth R. Hardy.

In reply to a question <sup>A</sup> as to what is going to happen to the files accumulated by Project Blue Book, set up 21 years ago by the U.S. Air Force to record UFO reports, a very astonishing reply <sup>iv</sup> was given. As a result of the general discussion that followed, <sup>w</sup> led off by Dr. Page, the following came to light.

The material accumulated by ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base consists, among other things,

of a large volume of punch cards, covering extensive files of correspondence , reports, etc. This material is divided clearly into two parts -- (1) open, i.e. never classified, and (2) classified on the grounds of national security.

Dr. Page stated that, according to the correspondence he has had with the Archivist at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, all unclassified Project Blue Book files <sup>ARE</sup> ~~are~~ to be transferred there. Classified files and papers apparently are not to be transferred there.

At this point, Dr. Page <sup>W</sup>~~A~~shed it to be made clear that it was his personal feeling that this is " Very unfortunate, and that data contained in the Blue Book files ought to be preserved." He went on to state that " Most scientists would agree that you don't go destroying data, and apparently the Air Force is going to destroy the data..... classified information is <sup>EVENTUALLY</sup> either burned or declassified."

Dr. J.Allen Hynek, who was official scientific consultant to Project Blue Book for twenty-one years until it was closed



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out on the 17th of December this year (1969) heartily endorsed Dr. Page's expressions by saying that he "Would like to concur and support that point of view. Regardless of how we may feel about the problem, the raw data are the original reports and it would be bad for posterity to destroy them, and, particularly, the classified ones because these are the ones that contain the hard-core material."

Dr. Hynek openly told the assembled members of the press that " During the 1952 investigation all the material up to then was put on punch-cards, and all those punch-cards have already been destroyed."

These scientists wished it to be made perfectly clear that none of them were speaking on behalf of the AAAS, and that they individually had not received any indication that such destruction is definitely going to take place. \_\_\_\_\_  
However, should such happen , they all felt very strongly that it would be an appalling procedure from a purely scientific point of view.

STORY # *No. 5*

PAGE 4

There are matters that should quite properly be kept locked up on the grounds of national security; but, such priceless material should not be destroyed.

These were the questions we asked Dr. Sagan. His answers were somewhat surprising; but then, Dr. Sagan is a rather surprising person.

First off, we wanted to know if he considered any of these <sup>reports</sup> of UFOs that have defied explanation after the most exhaustive investigation by the best <sup>THAT</sup> our current scientific and technological expertise could bring to bear upon them, might constitute evidence of the existence of ETIs. Surprisingly, Dr. Sagan's answer was a flat, No.

Thoroughly puzzled by this because of his previous published statements -- notably in his book, "INTELLIGENT LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE" -- we asked simply: Why? And here we hit a dichotomy, for it transpired that this scientist does not consider ufology to be a valid science and that therefore none of its findings, assumptions, theories, or concepts can constitute valid evidence for anything. This point was well taken, <sup>AND IT</sup> but brought us to our next question.

This was: <sup>AND HE ADDED</sup> What then do you consider all this uproar about UFOs does constitute? <sup>AND WE ADDED</sup> with the rather frontal rider: Just what are you then doing mixed up in it? Dr. Sagan's answer was equally frank. He stated that, as of now, he considers <sup>B/</sup> ~~ufology~~ ~~and its~~ ~~relationship~~ ~~between~~ ~~science~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~so-called~~ ~~ufology~~ ~~to~~ ~~fall~~ ~~into~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~class~~ <sup>CATEGORY</sup> that contains astrology, mythology, and suchlike interests. Pressed a little, he stated categorically that he does not equate <sup>EVEN</sup> or combine the serious-minded aspects of ufology with his exobiology on one side of a hard and fast line, <sup>AND</sup> ~~the~~ ~~astrology~~ ~~is~~ <sup>AND SO FORTH</sup> on the other. In fact, his remark was that he draws firm lines between all outlooks, with basic science in its own box at one end and pure kookery at the other.

Of course this brought on our next question, to wit, <sup>AT THIS POINT</sup> why do you feel that so-called Ufology is not a science? And, <sup>APPARENT</sup> I think we came to an explanation of this ~~great~~ scientist's strange dichotomy

THE STATUS OF UFOLOGY

Story #6

During the <sup>THE</sup> course of annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Boston from the 26th to the 31st of December last, we had the pleasure of an exclusive interview with Dr. Carl Sagan. The occasion was a symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects set up by a special committee of the AAAS, at which fourteen leading scientists, ranging from astronomers to a professor of ~~xxx~~ psychiatry, read papers. <sup>IT IS</sup> Dr. Sagan, currently Director of the Laboratory for Planetary Studies at Cornell,

~~Dr. Sagan~~ is the doyen of, and virtually the founder of the new field of scientific enquiry known as Exobiology of which we are going to hear a great deal <sup>M</sup> more in the coming years. This concerns itself with the concept of life elsewhere in the universe with, of course, particular interest in the possibility of intelligent life, and studies both the theoretical aspects of this through statistical analysis, and the much vaguer possibility of there being concrete evidence of such life having visited this planet. Dr. Sagan was the first to suggest that archaeologists ~~for instance~~ might consider this possibility, and keep their eyes open for concrete evidence of such events in the past.

These concepts <sup>RATHER NATURALLY</sup> of course landed the exobiologists right in the middle of the UFO controversy. If Extra-Terrestrial Intelligencies (now known widely as ETIs) could have visited this earth throughout its 4-billion year history, might they not still be doing so. And, if so, could some of the aerial objects that can not be identified, out of the tens of thousands reported, be constructed by or manned by ETIs? \*

on this reporter during this fascinating interview, because Sagan trotted out the two (admittedly perfectly valid) constitute <sup>A</sup> ~~the~~ check-mate) standard answers. One, that <sup>THAT IS</sup> proof of an UFO acceptable to science; and, two, that alleged evidence has been reproducible.

These answers, corny and divaricating as they are, are valid. Until we <sup>DO</sup> get an UFO that is not some man-made thing known or explicable natural object, there is no concrete <sup>IF WE DID GET ONE, WE WOULD STILL HAVE TO DECIDE</sup> ~~AND~~ even then would come the question whether said captured is a construction, and one constructed by an intelligent entity not just something like a shell made by a shellfish. Yet ~~not feel that Dr. Sagan's answer was wholly valid.~~

<sup>NONETHELESS, DR SAGAN</sup> It was he himself who first made so bold as to suggest could possibly be extraterrestrial intelligent life. The line between fact and fancy must be drawn as a very hard line by scientists who must allocate this line. However, there is an old bugbear -- namely, where do you draw the line between fact and probability. Dr Sagan has stated for the record that the existence of ETIs is possible. What of the probability? Do we have to wait to capture an UFO, or should we proceed as Dr. Sagan himself has suggested to implore the archaeologists and geologists to look for any possible evidence of the prior visitation of our planet by ETIs?

Dr. Sagan endorses his own suggestion that the second step should be initiated. This is a great step forward in the development of our cosmic concept.

THE ~~64~~-MILLION DOLLAR QUESTION

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Ivan T. Sanderson.

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The most significant question left unanswered by the Special Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science which organized a symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects conducted at their annual meeting in Boston after Christmas last year was not, it appears, even asked. For all the talk and discussion by the panel of household names in science who participated in and read papers to this symposium, there was not one single representative of the life sciences, or in more general terms, a biologist. Why ?

We asked the organizer of this symposium, Dr. Thornton Page, Director of the Van Vleck Observatory at Wesleyan University, and currently a visiting scientist at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, Texas, this question in a private interview. We obtained a very sad answer and one which distresses Dr. Page as much as it does us, and which should distress everybody else. In

[MORE]

1950-1951

Page 1

The first step in the process of the development of the program was the selection of the personnel who would be responsible for its execution. This was done by the selection of a committee of representatives from the various departments of the organization. The committee was charged with the task of selecting a group of individuals who would be capable of handling the program in a most efficient manner. The selection process was a most difficult one, as it was necessary to find individuals who were not only capable of handling the program, but who were also willing to accept the responsibility of doing so. The committee was successful in its task, and a group of individuals was selected who were well qualified to handle the program. The first step in the process of the development of the program was the selection of the personnel who would be responsible for its execution. This was done by the selection of a committee of representatives from the various departments of the organization. The committee was charged with the task of selecting a group of individuals who would be capable of handling the program in a most efficient manner. The selection process was a most difficult one, as it was necessary to find individuals who were not only capable of handling the program, but who were also willing to accept the responsibility of doing so. The committee was successful in its task, and a group of individuals was selected who were well qualified to handle the program.

all frankness, Dr. Page said that since they had started to organize this symposium over a year ago, they had sought a scientist of standing in this most vital of all the departments of scientific endeavour, to participate. However, they failed to find one, either within the membership of the AAAS or even outside it.

This was the most deplorable thing that we learned at this meeting of what is probably the largest and greatest scientific organization in the world today. Further, coming on the heels of the positively terrifying disclosures made during the previous few weeks that our whole space program is in jeopardy for exactly the same reason, it should give all of us pause to consider just what is what.

The demise of "Bonny" the Rhesus Monkey that succumbed to the exigencies of weightlessness and had to be brought back down from orbit to die, brought to light the fact that the physical scientists and technologists and technicians have been romping ahead with our space program without proper referral to the bio-scientists, and their handmaidens, from biochemists to the medical men. Biologists have in fact been relegated to such a basement for both planning and the allocation of funds that they have simply not been able to conduct the experimentation so vitally needed for this master enterprise.

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What the space program planners seem to have overlooked is that all science is basically biological and that such expertises as astronomy, physics, and chemistry are but adjuncts to it. Quite apart from the fact that the whole Universe may itself be "alive", and that such gross bodies as suns and planets may be likewise in a manner of speaking, just what is the purpose of the pursuit of any knowledge but to understand Life, and thus how to maintain our own? Unless we ascertain, in advance and to the best of our ability, just how our kind of life is going to react to the novel environment of what we call "space", how can we predict what will happen when we dash off into it? Are there unknown factors -- unknown as of now, that is -- that are going to stop us dead in this endeavour?

Exactly the same thing may be said about our enquiry into the troublesome matter of these UFOs, or Unidentified Flying Objects. After eliminating all those that have, can, or could be explained away as either man-made objects, or known or unknown natural phenomena, we are left with a hard core of truly unexplaineds. This was agreed to by all the participants in this symposium. But then comes the question: Could any of these hard-core reports be of "constructions", as practically all the witnesses have claimed on one ground or another?

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If any of them are, it can mean only that they are what we call machines, and they must then have been constructed by intelligent entities. Ergo, they are manifestations of LIFE. (They could, incidentally, be life-forms themselves in some cases, but that is another story.) But, however you look at this matter, you come right back to the absolute necessity for considering the "biological" possibilities.

The most appalling aspect of this matter, vis-a-vis the AAAS meeting, is that biologists (or life-science specialists, if you will) were polled but that they themselves declined to participate. What is the matter with these people ? Are they so overawed by the physical scientists and the technologists that they shrink from standing up and being counted ; or have they too just failed to realise the true nature of this problem ?

By the same token what, may we ask, do cosmologists, astronomers, meteorologists, and engineers know about "life" ? Apart from these, Dr. Sagan the exobiologist alone participated in this symposium. The rest were psychologists and sociologists who discussed only the observed and possible effects of the mere idea of UFOs on human beings. This contributed strictly nothing to the debate. Even one botanist -- such as Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, Head of the Plant Science Department of the College of Agriculture, of Utah State University -- would have

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been able to straighten out all these good gentlemen on some of the basic aspects of ufology and just those which seem to puzzle them the most.

Let us hope that the biologists will so make themselves heard, and thus straighten out the overall thinking of other scientists, and not just on life but also reality and its endless possibilities.

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STORY # 8.

AN ASTRONOMER SPEAKS OUT

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Ivan T. Sanderson.

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Possibly the most remarkable paper read at the special symposium on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects organized by the AAAS for its annual meeting in Boston on the 26th to the 31st of December last, appears to have sort of got lost in the shuffle. This was entitled "Astronomers' Views on UFOs" and was presented by none other than Dr. Franklin Roach, Affiliate Astronomer, University of Hawaii, and Research Associate in Astronomy, Battell Northwest, Richland, Washington, who devoted 100% percent of his working time for two years to the Colorado Project, better known as the Condon Committee. This was set up by the Air Force to investigate the whole UFO problem.

Dr. Roach, whom we had the honor of interviewing later, made some statements at a press conference, and then repeated them in his paper, that thoroughly shook up this reporter. In our interview he stood by these statements with the rugged individuality for which he is known and respected in the scientific com-

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munity. After forty years covering this extraordinary business of Unidentified Flying Objects as they are now popularly called, this reporter never in his wildest imaginings expected to live to hear such statements coming from such a source. Condensed, they are as follows.

At the press conference, Dr. Roach stated :- "I am an observing astronomer so my bias is that of an observer who never attempts to interpret what he sees in the sky but reports carefully what he has seen. I shall concentrate on the astronomical implications of the possible visitation by extraterrestrials to this [our] particular planet. My interest in the problem is to explore the implications and the possibility of such extraterrestrial visitations to this planet. I shall mention some observational information on this possibility ; and mention that we [of the Colorado Project] did pick up a "U.B.O." (i.e. an unidentified bright object), but I shall discuss later the limited amount of information one can get from this kind of physical observation of an event. My conclusions are as follows :- I think there is a likelihood of a generality or a plurality of extraterrestrial life and civilizations. I think, however, that the evidence of the UFO sightings does not support the hypothesis of visitations by such extraterrestrials to this planet. I think that interstellar

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travel poses problems outside of our present technology, and even by extrapolation of it for centuries to come. I leave open, however, the nature of a technology that might be based on what I shall call "mega-physics" -- i.e. mega (million plus) physics -- which even we might have in a million years on this planet but which another civilization that is a million years ahead of us might already have at the present time. As an astronomer, I propose to speculate on objects which Dr. Harlow Shapley has aptly called "Lilliputs" : namely planets which might have been formed independently of a neighboring star such as we have (the sun). I strongly recommend that astronomers over the next "megennium" keep their eyes open for any such astral bodies!"

What Dr. Roach said -- and said not only well but in terms that we ordinary folk can understand -- is that we must not rule out the possibility that not just other civilizations exist today elsewhere in our Universe but that some of them could be a million years ahead of us, at least. Further, while he does not yet see any concrete evidence of any such intelligent entities (or ETIs as they are now called) having visited this planet in Flying Saucers or other UFOs, he does not rule out the possibility ; and this after spending two years working as a top scientist for the Colorado Project.

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At last a true scientist who has the guts to come right out and make such a statement. And be it noted that a couple of years ago our Russian friends came out with one of their fantastic theories to the effect that Mega-Civilizations could exist. One of these theories was to the effect that such civilizations could have developed a technology that could encapsulate a whole planetary system or even a galaxy in a sort of vast plastic bubble, and so control its mega-environment!

Wild thoughts but, if people would just consider what we miserable little mammals on this dreary little planet, going around a very ordinary sun near the outskirts of a modest galaxy have accomplished in the last two hundred years, we might take a rather different view of Dr. Roach's "Mega-Physics".

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