

# THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1969

## Pilots See Formation Over Australia

### The Condon Report— An Appraisal

Although described as a "Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects" it soon became apparent to the discerning reader that the approach taken by the Committee, in a strict sense, is journalistic rather than scientific. By this it is meant that the approach is what one would expect of a news feature writer who starts out with a particular theme in mind and emphasizes those aspects that will support his theme while generally discrediting all that which does not.

Within the leeway granted by the Air Force contract, this approach is permissible but it is certainly questionable to present it as though it were an exhaustive scientific study when it was not. On the small portion of the report that deals with field studies, it is common to find a case dismissed or discredited because of internal inconsistencies. We find that the Report as a whole fails to pass the same test and should therefore be dismissed and/or discredited.

We find, for instance, the major recommendations of Dr. Condon, to-wit, "further extensive study of UFO sightings is not justified in the expectation that science will be advanced thereby" to be in conflict with: "we find that there are important areas of atmospheric optics, including radio wave propagation, and of atmospheric electricity in which present knowledge is quite incomplete. These topics came to our attention in connection with the interpretation of some UFO reports, but they are also of fundamental scientific interest, and they are relevant to practical problems related to the improvement of safety of military and civilian flying."

It seems to us that the finding that knowledge in certain areas of science is incomplete, gained through the interpretation of UFO reports, is an "advance"—a substantial one—since it serves to define the extent and the limits of current scientific knowledge. Also, Condon's definition of UFOs is broad enough to include many cases involving atmospheric optics and atmospheric electricity. His main criterion being an inability on the part

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### Not Thorough—Hynek

"I feel the Report basically was too limited for the scope of the problem," Dr. J. Allen Hynek told a reporter for the Detroit Free Press in an interview conducted during the second week of February.

"There should have been more time and money to examine really puzzling cases," he said, and expressed unconcern with Dr. Condon's conclusion that no intelligent life from other planets would reach Earth for another 10,000 years. "The purpose of the study was to find out if what people said happened really happened" he said "not to talk about life on other planets."

Hynek said that he believes the reports made by many people because he can find no reason to disbelieve them. This does not mean that they have seen spaceships, he pointed out, but that they have seen something they cannot understand. "The findings of the (Condon) Report itself furnish enough evidence that the investigation should be continued" he added, but pointed out that the work should be carried on "by private individuals with a scientific interest who are not doing it for fanfare or shock value."

He announced that he will set forth all his objections to the Condon Report in the April issue of *The Bulletin of The Atomic Scientists*.

### Reaction To Condon Report

Since the *Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects* (Condon Report) was made public recently, APRO has been receiving a voluminous amount of mail from members and non-members expressing their dissatisfaction with the general methodology and conclusions of the report. Interest among both the public and the scientific community has risen sharply as a consequence of the publication of this report. One letter, received from a member, a prominent biologist who has requested his name not be published, appears to be the most representative and concise. We quote this letter below:

"The character of the Condon re-

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A detailed observation by two Australian pilots, Captain Gordon W. Smith and Captain Walter Gardin, was made on August 22, 1968, as they were flying a Piper Navajo between Adelaide and Perth. Captain Smith, who works for Murchison Air Services, was asleep when the observation began at 0940 G.M.T. (1740 W.S.T.). In their detailed report, it is stated that they were cruising at 8,000 feet with a true airspeed of 195 knots, tracking 270° Magnetic, when Captain Gardin observed "a formation of aircraft." Captain Gardin woke Captain Smith and asked him to look at them. The formation which was maintaining station with the Piper Navajo, consisted of one large "aircraft" in the middle, "formatted to the right and left and above, were 4 or 5 smaller aircraft" their report states.

Captain Smith immediately radioed Kalgoorlie D.C.A. communications Center asking for information on civilian or Royal Australian Air Force traffic in the area. Upon receiving a negative reply, Captain Smith informed Kalgoorlie of their observation and other eastbound traffic was notified of the danger of unidentified objects. "At this time we lost communication with Kalgoorlie on all frequencies" said Captain Smith in the report. "We were getting Kalgoorlie carrier wave with no voice propagation, only a rash and static. In the next 10 minutes I transmitted about 7 times and I believe Walter did about 5 times with no results. Also at about this time we noticed that the main ship split into two sections still maintaining the same level, and the smaller aircraft then flew out left and right, but staying at the same level, and coming back to the main halves of the bigger ship. At this time, there appeared to be about 6 smaller aircraft taking turns of going out and coming back and formatting on the two halves. Sometimes the two halves joined and split, and the whole cycle continued for 10 minutes."

The shape of the main "ship" was described as having the ability to change "from spheroid to a slightly elongated form" although "not drastically." Its color remained a constant dark grey or black. The smaller "aircraft" were described as "cigar shaped"

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## New Research Director

Dr. James Harder, former APRO Consultant in Engineering, has become Director of Research. Dr. Harder is an Associate Professor at the College of Engineering of the University of California at Berkeley and was one of the six scientists that participated in the *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects* before the Science & Astronautics Committee of the U.S.

House of Representatives on July 29, 1968.

Mr. A. E. Brown, APRO's former Director of Research, has unfortunately not been able to give much of his time due to other pressures of work. Mr. Brown has, however, joined the Consulting Staff in the field of Electronics (medical). He is Staff Scientist and member of the Research Laboratory of the Lockheed Missiles and Space Company at Palo Alto, California.

## Mrs. Lorenzen III

Mrs. Coral Lorenzen, APRO's Secretary, underwent surgery on the 18th of February. We would like to request that members *not* write letters requiring a personal answer from Mr. Lorenzen for a period extending through May 1.

This is the first time in over 17 years of active participation in APRO's affairs that Mrs. Lorenzen has not had some part in the production of the APRO Bulletin.

## New Members Join APRO Staff

We are pleased to announce that several more members have joined APRO's Consulting Staff, as follows:

John F. Schuessler, Astronautics. Mr. Schuessler is a senior design engineer with McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics Co., Eastern Division, at St. Louis, Missouri, and supervises the engineering group that is responsible for all the mechanical equipment to be used in the Airlock Vehicle, a portion of the Apollo Applications program Orbital Workshop. This Orbital Workshop or "space station," which will be orbited and manned by astronauts in about three years, will have a useful orbital life of about 8 months. We can state that no engineering group has ever had to design for such tough conditions before—it is a step to the planets. Previous to his Apollo work, Mr. Schuessler was attached to the Gemini project and is credited for the design of the environmental control systems on those spacecraft. Mr. Schuessler also serves as co-chairman of the Missouri APRO State Section.

Dr. Leo Vern Standeford, Astronomy. Dr. Standeford obtained his M.S. in astronomy in 1964 and his Ph.D. in astronomy in 1968 at the University of Illinois at Urbana. He is currently Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy at Mankato State College, Mankato, Minnesota. His professional interests are in the fields of astrophysics and dynamics of observational astronomy.

Dr. Kenneth V. Anderson, Anatomy. Dr. Anderson obtained his M.S. in 1963 and his Ph.D. in 1964, both in experimental psychology at Brown Univer-

sity and has held positions at Yale University. He is currently Assistant Professor of Anatomy at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. He has studied various aspects of vertebrate and invertebrate anatomy and physiology and has developed various skills required in the electrophysiological recording of evoked potentials and single unit potentials. Dr. Anderson has conducted many field investigations for APRO in his state and we welcome him to our Consulting Staff.

Dr. Vladimir Stefanovich, Biochemistry. Dr. Stefanovich obtained his Ph.D. in biochemistry in 1960 at Belgrade University, Yugoslavia, and has since undertaken further studies at Clark University, Worcester, Mass., University of Rhode Island and Seton Hall University, West Orange, N.J. Dr. Stefanovich has held positions at the University of Belgrade, Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, Shrewbury, Mass., Hoffman-LaRoche Research Division, Nutley, N.J. and is currently Assistant Resident Professor of Pathology and Biochemistry at the Boston University School of Medicine. He has published a very large number of technical papers in both Europe and the United States and is proficient in French, German, English, Russian and Serbocroat. Dr. Stefanovich is currently conducting an analysis of certain material reported to be a residue from a UFO. When APRO receives his report and if it is considered interesting enough, the results will be made public.

Dr. G. K. Ginnings, Mathematics. Dr. Ginnings obtained his M.A. in mathematics from Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C. and his Ph.D. in mathematics education at Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama. He previously spent two years as field engineer for R.C.A. Service Co. (Atlas Missile Program) and Martin Corp. of Denver (Titan II Program) and two years teaching mathematics at Berry College, Rome, Georgia. He is currently a Professor of Mathematics at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City. Dr. Ginnings has done much work for APRO in the past and we are sure that he will be an important asset to APRO's future research projects.

Dr. Robert Johnson, Metallurgy. Dr. Johnson obtained his B.S. in Chemistry at St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri, his M.S. in Metallurgy at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa and his Ph.D. in Metallurgy at Iowa State University in 1962. Dr. Johnson is currently in charge of the Materials Preparation Laboratory at the James Franck Institute at the University of Chicago and has wide experience in the fields of purification and crystal growth methods, mass spectrometric techniques for trace analysis, refractory inter-metallic compounds, es-

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pecially borides, induction heating, chemistry and metallurgy of less common metals. Dr. Johnson is working on a special report evaluating the analysis of APRO's magnesium samples from Ubatuba, Brazil, by the University of Colorado UFO Project, and which should be published in due course.

Dr. Walter W. Walker, Metallurgy. Dr. Walker obtained his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Metallurgy, all at the University of Arizona at Tucson, in 1950, 1962 and 1968 respectively. Dr. Walker has held several positions with Hughes Aircraft Co. in Tucson and other industrial corporations and has been a metallurgical consultant to a large number of companies. He is currently Associate Professor of Metallurgical Engineering at the University of Arizona. Besides having published many technical papers, Dr. Walker is a member of many technical and scientific societies, including the *American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers*, *American Society for Metals*, *Institute of Metals (British)*, *American Association for the Advancement of Science*, *Arizona Academy of Science* and the *California Academy of Science*. Dr. Walker figured in the *American Men of Science* (11th edition) and received an Honorary Ph.D. in 1958 from the University of Physical Science.

Dr. Harold Cahn, Physiology. Dr. Cahn received his M.A. at the University of Wyoming, Laramie in Zoology and vertebrate paleontology in 1949. His Ph.D. was obtained from the State University of Iowa in 1961 in physiology with specialization in neurophysiology and psychophysiology. He has held positions with several universities and is now Associate Professor of Biology at Utica College of Syracuse University, Utica, N.Y. Dr. Cahn has published a large number of technical papers and belongs to many scientific societies. He has recently begun extensive research in correlating paranormal phenomena with physiological parameters. Dr. Cahn is also the Director of the Utica College Computer Center.

Dr. Robert S. Ellwood, Religion. Dr. Ellwood was an Episcopal clergyman in Nebraska from 1957 to 1960 and Chaplain, U.S. Navy from 1961 to 1962. He obtained his Ph.D. in History of Religions Area at the University of Chicago Divinity School in 1967. Dr. Ellwood is currently Assistant Professor of Religion at the School of Religion at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles. His interest in the religious aspects of the UFO phenomena have led him to conduct research into the "metaphysical" movements in southern California and he

has just completed an article entitled *Religious Aspects of UFO Movement in Southern California*, dealing with the Giant Rock Conventions and various contactees. This article should be published soon. Dr. Ellwood is also an expert on Indian and Far Eastern religions.

Dr. Henry Swann, Science Education. Dr. Swann received his M.S. in physics and mathematics at the University of Mississippi and his Ph.D. in Science Education also at the University of Mississippi. He has had 4 years experience teaching college physical science and science education courses and is currently Assistant Professor of Science Education at the University of Southern Mississippi.

With this additional backing from members of the scientific and engineering community, APRO plans to formulate research projects during 1968 and possibly seek a grant from a private foundation. More details will be made available shortly. At the moment, all Consultants receive the *APRO Newsletter* published by Dr. Leo Sprinkle at the University of Wyoming. This *Newsletter* is intended as a vehicle for the interchange of ideas and theories among APRO's Consulting Staff and is issued whenever sufficient material is available. We would like to express our appreciation to all the new Consultants and also to those who have supported us in the past.

On the international scene, APRO now has new Representatives in the following countries. *Ecuador*: Colonel Raul Gonzales A. Colonel Gonzales is an expert in strategic intelligence and is attached to the Ecuadorian Army Chief of Staff. He was Director and Professor, National Intelligence Institute and was Director of Military Intelligence for 2 years. He is also the author of various books and publications on the subject. *England*: Mr. Anthony Pace, co-author of *Flying Saucer Report* and attached to the Newchapel Observatory, Newchapel, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. (see other section). *Finland*: Mr. Kalevi Hietanen, professional photographer. Mr. Hietanen's duties cover a whole range of photography at the Metallurgical Lab. of the Imatra Steel Works (microscopes, high-speed cameras, etc.) and he has had practical experience in other physical and electronic fields.

*Holland*: Mr. D. J. H. Dreux, author and historian. Mr. Dreux's interest in UFOs stems from an observation he had in April, 1942, while working for the Dutch resistance movement. He is now active in investigating UFO observations in Holland for APRO.

*Ireland*: Martin Feeney, a young businessman from Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan. Mr. Feeney is relatively new to the UFO scene but it is expected that he will provide APRO with valuable information in the future. Mr. Munthir El Khatib has agreed to

represent APRO in *Lebanon*, where he is the managing director of a consulting - engineering company. Mr. Finn Einar Myhre, of the Norwegian UFO Association in Oslo, has become APRO's Representative in that country.

In the Far East, Mr. Yip Mien Chun is new Representative for *Singapore*. Mr. Mien Chun is the news editor of Singapore Television and is planning a book on UFOs in Chinese, the first of its kind. Mr. Anthony Lee, of *Hong Kong*, meanwhile, has offered to be Representative for his area. In *Trinidad*, West Indies, Mr. Eurico Jardim, a school teacher, is the new APRO Representative. Finally, Mr. Antonio Ribera, the well-known Spanish UFO investigator and author, is APRO's new Representative for *Spain*. Mr. Ribera, who is Vice-President of the Center for Interplanetary Studies in Barcelona, has three new UFO books being published in 1969.

**New UFO In Viet-Nam?**

The *Army Times* of January 8, 1969, carries an article on an unidentified flying object, or "pilotless craft" observed by two helicopter pilots shortly after take-off from the Da Nang base. WO-1 Joseph E. Clark and WO-1 Roger Loomis were about 5 miles out of Hoi An when Clark "spotted the thing out of the corner of my eye." The object, described later by the witnesses as "a grey, white, and silver tail-less aircraft with a rotor-system and skids," was at about half the helicopter's altitude (then 1,600 feet). As the pilots directed the helicopter towards the object by dropping to 800 feet and 110 knots, the object flew underneath them. Every time the helicopter crew attempted to get too close, the object would "move away and change course."

After 20 minutes, Clark decided to radio the artillery warning network at Chu Lai. Unfortunately, this only created ridicule and the pilots were asked "Whaddya got up there, a flask?" After landing at Chu Lai, members of the Naval Support Activity Detachment voiced their belief that the object was probably a DASH (Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter) radio-controlled from a destroyer providing security for the battleship *New Jersey*.

One APRO member has indicated his doubt concerning this explanation because a DASH would not possess a "repulse device." Individuals aware of these details are welcome to send their opinions. No date is given for the observation.

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## The Story Behind The Yungay Photos

By Richard Greenwell

I think I can say that the Yungay photos, if proved to be genuine, are the most important photographs of UFOs that have been made public. I say this for the following reasons: They are the first and only sequence of 4 color, day-time photos and it is the first time that 2 objects are depicted, clearly outlined. Naturally, the question arises: are they genuine? Up to this writing, we cannot prove it. But we may one day.

How these remarkable photos came to my attention is a long story and I will limit myself to outlining the bare facts. The photos were supposedly taken in March, 1967, near the town of Yungay, which is located over 11,000 feet above sea-level in the Andes mountain range of Peru. The area is very desolate, populated mainly by Indians. The witness and photographer, as far as we can determine at this time, did not use his own camera, but that of a friend. The camera was a 40-year-old Voigtlander and was returned to the owner with the comment that "flying saucers" had been seen and photographed. The witness returned to Lima, the capital and sent his friend in Yungay copies of all the photographs of the mountains, and the UFOs, in a sealed album. The UFO photos had been placed at the end, as if the photographer did not attach much importance to them, and there they remained for nearly two years, until they were brought to my attention.

I must admit that we have failed so far to locate the witness, although I personally spent several weeks looking for him in Peru. APRO-PERU, our subsidiary, is continuing the search and we have reasons to believe that he will be traced soon. We will then have his report and, hopefully, the negatives.

But without the negatives and the witness' report, what can we tell? Now, I do not profess to be an expert in photography — the photos have already been examined by our Photographic Consultants, John Hopf, Fred Beckman, (an electron microscopist from the University of Chicago) and by Dr. Hynek himself, and while they agree that they are fine looking photos, they reserve final judgment at this time. What I use is human logic (and correct me if I am wrong) to determine if the photos are *probably* authentic or *probably* false. Let us consider the following negative points:

1—We do not have a report from the witness and have therefore been unable to find the exact location of the observation to take measurements and possibly make triangulations.

- 2—We do not have the original negatives, on which an expert in photography would be willing to evaluate the authenticity of the photos.
- 3—We do not know the exact date when the photos were taken, the time or the place; in fact, we are not even sure of the sequence and assume that it is as presented here.
- 4—Consequently, we know so little about the circumstances surrounding this incident, that the possibility of them being a fraud has to be admitted.

Let us consider some positive points:

- 1—The witness travelled several hundred miles to the town of Yungay to photograph the mountains. It is logical to assume that any person intending to falsify UFO photos would do this calmly at home, and not at an altitude of nearly 12,000 feet.
- 2—The witness borrowed somebody else's camera—a very old one at that. It is reasonable to believe that a person intending to falsify UFO pictures would at least use his own equipment.
- 3—The objects on the photograph are clearly outlined, disk-shaped flying craft with domes. The witness was not seen with any small (or large) disk-shaped models in his possession when he went on his trek into the mountains.
- 4—Even if the witness had somehow been able to construct and take such models with him, it would have been necessary for another person to have aided him in his scheme. This is quite apparent in the shots in which two objects are seen. Another person would have had to throw the objects into the air. The witness went alone into the mountains and returned to Yungay alone.

5—The photographs could have conceivably been faked by a professional photographer, with the right equipment. The witness knows little about photography and, as stated already, he did not even have his own camera, let alone photographic equipment for color processing.

6—The witness never tried to sell his photographs to any newspapers or magazines. I am confident of this as I know that any such publications in Peru would immediately obtain such clear photos. (Interest in UFOs in Latin America is much higher than in the United States). The witness did not try to gain fame or acknowledgement from the photos.

7—The friend of the witness, who had copies of the photos sitting in the photo album for 2 years, did not try to sell or publish the photos, *although he is a part-time journalist*. This indicates that he, at

least, did not participate in any hoax with the witness.

- 8—In view of the weight of the above evidence, it is safe to say that the Yungay photos are *probably* authentic. I will be ready to change my mind if future evidence indicates to the contrary, but, as it stands now, there is every indication that an honest citizen went into the mountains, borrowed a camera, saw a phenomena that intrigued him and of which he took four photos, returned the camera and was kind enough to present copies of all the photos to the owner of the camera. And there the matter stands.

As this investigation is not yet complete, I am not able to give the names of the persons involved. There are many more persons involved than I have mentioned here, some have hindered our investigations, but many more have aided us and I wish to thank them all very sincerely. When more evidence is found on this case it will be published in a normal manner.

SEE ALL FOUR YUNGAY PHOTOS  
ON PAGE 8

### Pilots—

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ed" and of "very dark color." The witnesses also stated that the small "craft" had a peculiarity "not associated with normal aircraft in that they appeared to travel out and come back without actually turning like a normal aeroplane would have to."

At 0950 G.M.T., the entire formation departed "at a tremendous speed." This was done "as if at a single command." The time involved in disappearing was calculated at about 3 to 4 seconds, diminishing in size until out of sight. The pilots described the weather conditions as fine, with no haze above 5,000 feet and about 2/8 alto stratus cloud to the south of the Piper Navajo and the strange formation. Coincidentally, immediately after the departure of the UFOs, radio communication was restored in a normal manner. Although the exact distance and sizes of the UFOs could not be gauged, the pilots believed that the main "craft" approximated the size of a Boeing 707 as viewed from about 10 miles.

The report of this interesting observation concludes that the witnesses believe they observed objects "with the solidity of aircraft except perhaps for the fact of the larger UFO's ability to split and change shape slightly."

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**RENEW NOW!**

## Condon—

(Continued from Page One)

of the witness to identify what he sees.

We find also that Condon's recommendations that teachers discourage children from reading UFO literature because of its "erroneous nature" rather medieval — inconsistent with the principles of the Free World. The full text dealing with this particular issue is as follows:

"The subject of UFOs has been widely misrepresented to the public by a small number of individuals who have given sensationalized presentations in writings and public lectures. So far as we can tell, not many people have been misled by such irresponsible behavior, but whatever effect there has been has been bad. (So far, we are in complete agreement—Bulletin Ed.). A related problem to which we wish to direct public attention is the miseducation in our schools which arises from the fact that many children are being allowed if not actually encouraged to devote their science study time to the reading of UFO books and magazines of the type referred to in the preceding paragraph . . ."

One puzzling aspect of the foregoing is that it appears in Section I (*Conclusions and Recommendations*), the initial paragraph of which states the belief that the record and results of the study will support the conclusions indicated. Yet nowhere in the Report do we find an indication of the source of Condon's information that school children are in fact doing the sort of reading he describes. While we do not doubt that his assumption may be true, we object to his presenting it as a factual finding of the study when apparently it is not.

Condon's dissertation continues: "We feel that children are educationally harmed by absorbing unsound and erroneous material as if it were scientifically well founded." In view of this opinion, the recommendation against further study would appear to be an irresponsible one—for who is to set the guidelines as to what is unsound and erroneous if qualified people in positions of accepted authority are not carrying on a continued study of the subject? If his assumption is accurate, that fact alone would seem to justify continued study. Of course, if Dr. Condon is really convinced that all published UFO material for all time is and will be worthless or worse (which must of course include his own work), we could be somewhat more charitable, but is he that certain? He is not. He merely thinks that a study of UFO reports is *unlikely* to be fruitful—of this more later. Back to the text:

"Such study is harmful not mere-

ly because of the erroneous nature of the material itself but also because such study retards the development of a critical faculty with regard to scientific evidence, which to some degree ought to be part of the education of every American." Not necessarily. If a student is taught to take a critical attitude towards everything he reads, his critical faculty could be enhanced by the exercise. After all, history shows us that the scientific certainties of each generation are constantly being overturned by youngsters who examined these certainties with a critical eye! To continue:

"Therefore, we strongly recommend that teachers refrain from giving students credit for school work based on their reading of the presently available UFO books and magazine articles."

Here we find Condon abruptly shifting ground from "sensationalized presentations" to "presently available UFO books and magazine articles". Surely he does not class the pseudoscience of Fry, Adamski, Steiger & Whritenour, etc. together with the writings of Hynek, Menzel, Vallee & Fuller (& Condon?), but that is what he says. Also, Condon apparently thinks children should be taught "critical analysis" only if they are strongly motivated towards the subject of UFOs. Finally:

"Teachers who find their students strongly motivated in this direction should attempt to channel their interests in the direction of serious study of astronomy and meteorology, and in the direction of critical analysis of arguments for fantastic propositions that are being supported by appeals to fallacious reasoning or false data."

It seems worthy of note that the National Academy of Sciences board did not endorse, in fact did not even mention Condon's "miseducation" recommendation.

Project Blue Book should be discontinued, says Condon. This is a recommendation that the Bulletin can heartily support, though not for the same reasons. Blue Book has been a source of misinformation and confusion. Abolishing it would be a first good step towards the establishment of something better. Since Condon also recommends against an expanded, continued study, the stage would be set for the entrance of private foundations. With the shadow of the Government credibility gap thus removed, perhaps we would be on the road to more constructive measures. In addition, many who have thus far expended their energies in criticisms might, with their favorite foil thus removed, be induced to attack the real problem instead.

"We have no evidence of secrecy concerning UFO reports."

This is a meaningless statement when viewed in connection with the information contained in another portion of the Report to the effect that no attempt was made to check this aspect—merely to remain alert to the possibility.

Actually, APRO's information indicates an attempt to avoid coming to grips with the secrecy problem. Your Director, as a personal test, told Mr. Robert Low of several cases which would have cast light on the facet of this problem. Only one of these leads was pursued by bringing the matter up before Pentagon Air Force officers and members of the Brian O'Brien committee, who promptly talked him out of further action. In another instance, Dr. Norman Levine found some 14 feet of film footage in an unclassified Air Force file. When a formal request was made for this film, it was found to be suddenly up-graded to SECRET classification. In addition, Dr. James McDonald has informed this writer that specific cases involving secrecy (Dr. McDonald calls them "obfuscation cases") recommended to the study by himself and Richard Hall (formerly of NICAP) were apparently not pursued.

In general, the body of the Report is characterized by a looseness and shallowness that can best be understood if one first reads *UFOs? Yes!* by Saunders and Markins (*Signet, New York*) in order to acquire a feel for the sort of atmosphere in which the Report was generated. There is a strong tendency to choose and emphasize cases which have no particular significance. Also exhibited is a tendency to fall short of the exhaustive sort of investigation that the better cases call for.

Longtime APRO members will recall that we, in October 1961, issued a report on the Ed Keffel photos taken on May 7, 1952 at Barra de Tijuca, Brazil. Our report made several disclosures: 1) The Brazilian Air Force, based on a thorough on-the-spot investigation and detailed photogrammetry, had decided that the Keffel photos were genuine. 2) Lt. Colonel Hughes, Air Attache at the U.S. Embassy in Rio, saw the pictures shortly after they were taken and later pronounced them to be authentic. 3) In 1954, the Minister of Aviation of Brazil had created an investigations commission of UFOs and appointed Colonel Jao Adil de Oliveira to head it.

One of the checks made by the Brazilian Air Force was to determine the azimuth of each photo and check it for correctness of shadow with respect to sun direction and elevation. They found that all details coincided correctly. In the fourth frame there ap-

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## Condon—

(Continued from Page Five)

pears to be a wrong shadow on a tree trunk. But those who had the opportunity to examine the critical negative and the prints from it under enlargement were satisfied that this apparently wrong shadow was caused by the fact that there were two broken palm fronds on the tree trunk, partly obscuring it and casting its own shadow on the trunk.

In the Condon Report, Dr. William Hartmann discredits these photos on the basis of this wrong shadow, which he calls "an obvious and simple internal inconsistency" pointing out that "the disk is clearly illuminated from the left, while the hillside below appears to be illuminated from the right . . ." and "the palm tree and certain clumps of foliage appear to be illuminated from the right." In a private conversation with your Director, Dr. Hartmann admitted to a certain degree of uncertainty concerning the right-hand lighting, thus his use of the expression "appears to be." He mentions the broken leaf explanation in his report but states that "this does not account for the additional clumps of foliage that also suggest the wrong lighting."

In Fig. 1 we present an enlargement of a portion of the frame in question (the total frame is shown in Fig. 2 showing the tree and a portion of the hillside). It is fairly obvious that, if the apparent shadow on the tree were a true one, that the tree would be back-lighted with light coming from the rear. If this were actually the case, the foreground foliage would be in shadow but instead it appears to be largely frontlighted, as does the lower visible portion of the tree trunk. A difficulty arises in attempting to determine with certainty the direction of lighting on a background with random surface irregularities such as shrubbery.

However, near the left edge of Fig. 1, near the crest of the ridge, rises the naked fork of a dead tree (this section of the photo is for some reason cropped off the enlargement published in conjunction with the *Bantam* edition of the Condon Report). It appears completely frontlighted as would be expected of a vertical cylinder under the lighting conditions exhibited by the disk, which is essentially from over the left shoulder of the photographer.

There is a rather simple solution to this conflict of opinion, which was, in fact, pointed out to your Director by Dr. Hartman: the orientation of the camera needs to be determined. Once this determination has been made, it will be a simple matter to decide who is correct. If Hartmann

and Menzel are correct (Hartmann refers to Menzel & Boyd for support), the camera would have been pointing slightly east of south. In this case, the light on the disk would be coming from near due north, which would be a physical impossibility since the sun never appears at an elevation of 27.5 degrees in the northern sky in Brazil. If, on the other hand, the lighting on the disk is correct, the camera would be pointing very near due east and Hartmann's "apparent illumination from the right" becomes nonsense since the sun never shines from the south in Brazil. We note also that Hartmann's refutation depends partly on a rather elementary misinterpretation of a map of the area (furnished by APRO). He speaks of a ridge SSW of the camera (far left of the sun), when that area is actually occupied by the ocean. The only land mass SSW of the camera consists of two small islands which are quite easily identified in frame 5.

APRO will attempt to send a surveyor and cameraman to the area on next May 7th to duplicate Keffel's shots (minus the UFO, of course!) and determine the azimuth of each one as a step toward clarifying this matter once and for all.

Another case with which APRO has been closely associated is that of the Ubatuba magnesium. A sample was furnished to the study by APRO. It was submitted to neutron activation analysis and was found to contain an unusual impurity structure, particularly in that it contained an unusual amount of strontium, an impurity not usually found in terrestrial magnesium. Saunders (*UFOs? Yes!*) interprets this as meaning that none of the impurities are there by accident since the usually unavoidable impurities (calcium and mercury) were absent.

Dr. Roy Craig, however, dismisses it as evidence for extraterrestrial origin on the basis that the original claim for purity was not verified and that Dow Chemical had produced magnesium samples, to which strontium had been added, much earlier than 1957. His report omitted two items that are, to us, pertinent. 1) The sample submitted to the University of Colorado was not the same fragment for which unusual purity was claimed—it having been consumed by tests performed in Brazil and 2) no comment was given indicating that Dow Chemical had ever produced prior to 1957 samples which were identical to the Ubatuba magnesium, except for the inclusion of strontium. Even in this area there is a discrepancy. Dow produced samples with a strontium content of from 1% to 40%, according to Craig. This would hardly account for a sample containing 500 parts per million as found in the Ubatuba sample

The foregoing are examples of the sort of brinkmanship that was more or less characteristic of the Report in general—stopping short of being completely exhaustive in many cases. We doubt that this bias was consciously imposed. It may have been imposed on an unconscious level but more likely it stemmed from a desire to write a large report—rather than a thorough one consisting of less, but more thoroughly researched cases. For a half million dollars, the Air Force and the public could quite reasonably expect a lot of words.

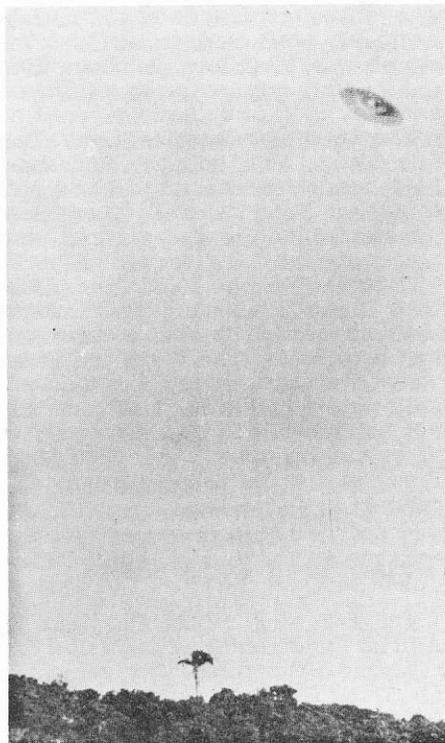
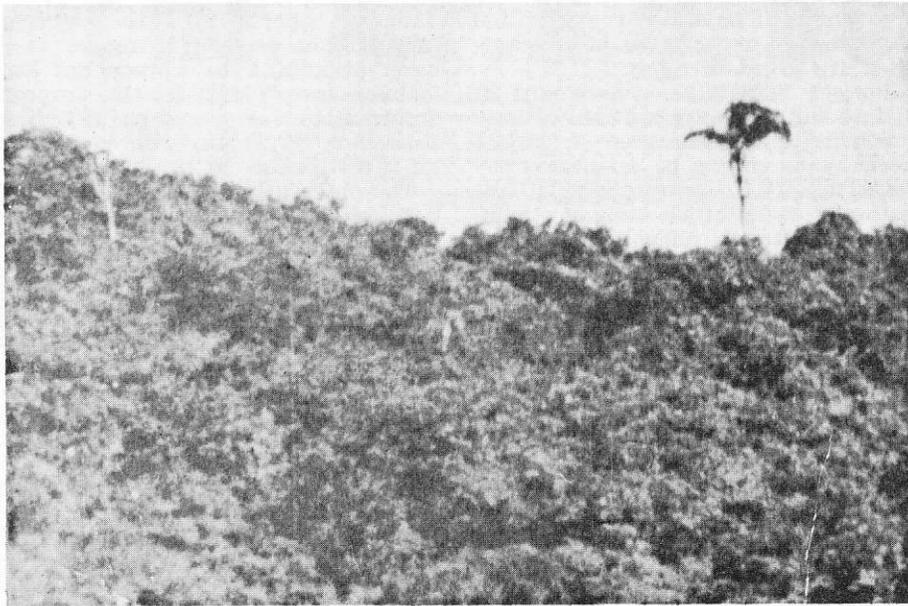
In his initial chapter, Condon seems to be acutely conscious of the shortcomings of the study. He acknowledges indirectly that his study may be "faulty or incomplete" and may not have "stimulated ideas for more accurate studies." He spends more wordage selling the idea that further study of UFOs should be supported by Government agencies and by private foundations than he spends on any other single recommendation.

He refutes an argument against additional research often tendered by UFO detractors (to the effect that the Air Force has already looked into the problem or that Dr. Menzel has already examined the problem) by pointing out that "individual scientists may make errors of judgment about fruitful directions for scientific effort" and "any individual administration or committee which is charged with deciding on financial support for research proposals may also make an error of judgment." And further: "this possibility is minimized by the existence of parallel channels . . ." Therefore, he says, "all the agencies of the Federal Government and the private foundations as well, ought to be willing to consider UFO research proposals along with others presented to them on an open-minded, unprejudiced basis" because "what to some may seem like duplicating machinery actually acts as a safeguard against errors in judgment."

He makes it very clear that further studies should be based on specific proposals. That would, of course, avoid the non-directionality which made his own project such a headache. What he really seems to be saying after all is that further extensive study of UFOs *in the manner and method of his study*, cannot be justified in the expectation that science will be advanced thereby, but those scientists who have specific ideas to the contrary should be encouraged through financial support to pursue such research.

Unfortunately (and typically), military spokesman and the press in general have seen fit to ignore the one recommendation to which Dr. Edward U. Condon gave the most space.

(SEE FIGURES 1 AND 2, NEXT PAGE)



Shown above are Figures 1 and 2. (See story on Pages 1, 5 and 6).

**Reaction—**

*(Continued from Page One)*

port does not surprise me in the least. I never shared the hopes of the directors of APRO that anything substantial would emerge from it. I do not consider that there is anything to be gained by charges of cover-up, directed at the Condon group, Air Force or any other agency, for the very good reason that there has been no cover-up. I can assure you that Dr. Condon and the members of the National Academy of Sciences that reviewed his

investigation definitely think that an unbiased, scientific study has been carried out.

“Of course Dr. Condon did not enter his investigation with an open mind. He is an old man who has absorbed the present models upon which science is based, and indeed helped form some of them. He was no more able to divest himself of the assumptions and principles upon which present-day science is based than a bird is able to divest itself of its wings and grow forelegs to walk on. To even consider seriously most of the more significant UFO reports, he would have had to achieve a frame of mind (or better, perhaps, philosophy) of suspended judgment regarding the basic tenets of his science that is hardly to be expected. I can imagine his position by imagining how I would react to the study of a phenomenon that, for me to take it seriously, would require me to give up the principle of organic evolution. One does not throw overboard a model like that, which draws together so many disparate subjects and pieces of evidence, and makes an organized picture of them, unless something is at hand to replace them. Anyhow, UFOs and their study will not disappear, or be much affected, by the Condon report because the phenomenon does not depend upon the opinions of men for its existence anymore than does the Earth itself (unless it actually consists purely of hallucinations and mistakes), and because younger people are much more able to approach the subject with an open mind.

“The reasons why UFOs are not now, and perhaps can not be, adequately investigated by authoritative agencies are many and complex. Conservatism, reductionism, and psychological factors such as the human tendency to deny the unknown (which

is always fearful) by pretending it does not exist, all play their part. Unless I am much mistaken, students of science 300 years from now will laugh at Dr. Condon, and regard him as we regard the conservative figures of the Middle Ages. Of course many of us would like the subject to be taken seriously now, and the only way to do this is to discredit the Dr. Condons. This won't be done by claiming that there is a fantastic cover-up conspiracy, but by patiently collecting data and eventually putting it together into a model that will constitute so convincing a picture that it will replace much of our present scientific structure. This is a tremendous order. In effect, I am suggesting that science has not evolved far enough to let it accept the UFO for serious study, any more than it can accept ghosts and ESP. New discoveries, many of them seeming initially to have nothing to do with UFOs, will probably have to occur.”

Another APRO member, a feature writer who also prefers to remain anonymous, had this interesting comment to make:

“All organizations are, or become, political, and this includes intellectual disciplines such as the various branches of science. Given this political nature, the first law of politics comes into play, namely that the first function of any political group is to insure its own perpetuation. This is not accomplished by admitting ignorance; hence, any phenomenon that cannot be explained within a recognized discipline elicits a basically hostile response, such as refusing to recognize its existence. Very simple, very elementary and very universal...”

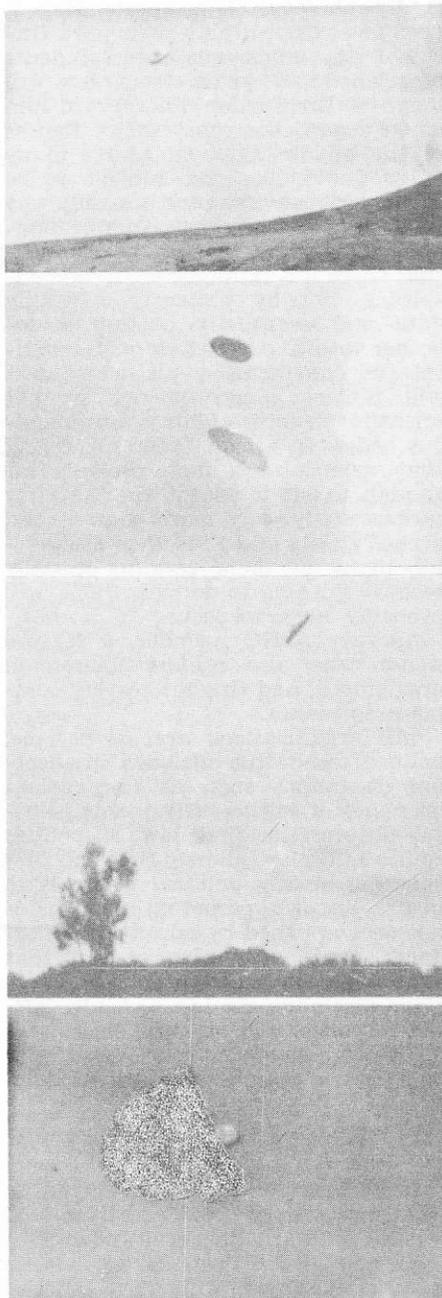
**UFO Research Award**

Dr. Thornton Page has agreed to be a member of the Scientific UFO Research Award Board of Judges. Dr. Page has been a Professor of Astronomy at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. since 1958 and is currently on consulting leave to NASA in Houston, Texas. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. was the first to agree to become a member of the Board of Judges.

The entrance period for Award applicants has been extended to the end of calendar year 1969. It is expected that the first Award will be made about April 1, 1970. Here briefly in matured form is the origin, nature and purpose of the Award.

APRO has created the Olavo T. Fontes Memorial Fund (hereafter called the Fund) to be used to expedite solution to the UFO mystery. As its first project, the Fund will spon-

*(See Award — Page Eight)*



Shown above are the four Yungay Photos in sequence.

## Award—

(Continued from Page Seven)

sor the Scientific UFO Research Award (hereafter called the Award), a cash prize to be presented to that individual or group of individuals who, in the majority opinion of an independent Board of Judges, has produced the most significant contribution to the solution of the UFO phenomenon.

**Applicant Eligibility:** Any one is eligible to receive the Award, except members of the Board of Directors of APRO, employees of APRO central office in Tucson, Arizona, members of the Board of Judges, and their respec-

tive families. The Award is offered internationally and citizens of all countries are urged to apply.

**Project Eligibility:** The Board of Judges will allow a great deal of latitude in project selection. A project need by no means be orientated toward the E.T.H. (extraterrestrial hypothesis). A definitive study of atmospheric electrical phenomena or an empirical study of temperature inversion effects would be acceptable, so long as a direct relationship to the UFO phenomenon is demonstrated. In fact, at this point, a well-written proposal dealing with fruitful areas of future research might well win the Award. A computer program designed to extract "pay dirt" from past reports is another possibility. A thoroughly researched, significant UFO case might also be chosen as the winner. If in doubt about the eligibility of particular projects, inquiries may be made of APRO Headquarters.

**Form of Submittal:** Any project to be considered for the Award must generate a complete report in the form of a standard scientific paper with appropriate supporting documentation. This report may be submitted in any language and should be submitted to APRO Headquarters before the end of calendar year 1969.

The Fund depends entirely on donations of APRO members. We wish to thank those members who have already responded. However, the general response has not been sufficient to make the Award the sort of incentive that it needs to be if the desired results are to be accomplished. We have asked for a donation of one dollar per member. Some have responded with more but for the most part there seems to be a tendency to procrastinate and leave the donating to someone else.

We see the Award as an opportunity to demonstrate meaningfully that APRO stands for action rather than just for conversation. It is our hope that the Award will, among other things, stimulate active interest among college students around the world and thus bring the resources of various universities to bear on the problem.

Anyone donating \$5.00 or more to the Fund will receive an 8" x 10" double weight, matte finish photo portrait of the late Dr. Oľavo T. Fontes.

## Indiana Executive Reports UAO

An unconventional aerial object was reported to police by two witnesses in Indianapolis, Indiana, on February 1, 1969. The witnesses were Mr. Charles Skelton, an executive of a sub-division of General Motors Corp., and Barbara Skelton, his 16-year-old

daughter. Shortly after the sighting, Mr. Skelton decided to report their observation and he approached Patrolman Joseph Moze for this purpose. Information was passed on to Officer Russell J. Freeman, who conducted an investigation on behalf of APRO.

The observation took place at 11:33 p.m. on Guilford Ave. The witnesses were returning from a basketball game, and they turned west into a driveway. Barbara stepped out of the car and turned east to wave goodbye to her father when she screamed. Her father got out and also saw the object that had frightened her. Two more cars stopped to watch the object, which Mr. Skelton said could not have been a meteor due to its flight path. Names of the other witnesses were not obtained. As the object passed overhead, the witnesses calculated its altitude at 5,000 feet, its size as 100 feet wide and 50 feet tall. It took about 40 seconds for the object to cross their area of vision. Mr. Skelton, who makes regular use of mathematics in his profession, stated that the object was travelling at about 6,000 m.p.h. from northeast to southwest and was quite soundless.

The UAO was described as having "an orange glow" on the underside. Patrolman Moze stated in his report to Officer Freeman that "these people seemed sincere and truthful, and I am sure they saw something."

Officer Freeman contacted Wier Cook Airport Radar and was informed that no unusual radar observations had been made. The Weather Bureau stated that skies were clear and visibility was 8 miles at 10:55 p.m. and 5-8 miles at 11:55 p.m. We wish to express our appreciation to Officer Freeman for his cooperation in this case.

## 'Cigar' Seen Over Malta

The following report was sent by APRO's Representative in Malta, Mr. Desmond Brinkworth. The witness is Mr. David Fagan and the observation took place on January 18 at 10:42 p.m. Mr. Fagan was sitting in his car when he spotted "a long object" which was at a high altitude and travelling at a high rate of speed.

The object had become visible through a large break in the cloud cover, (which was at approximately 30,000 feet) and was travelling from NE to SW. The witness described the object as "cigar shaped" in his report and of a reddish color. It made no noise whatsoever and after about 8 seconds of observation it was lost from sight as it sped over the Mediterranean Sea towards Africa.

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Address Changes!**