

DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK'S PROPOSED MEANS TO SOLVE THE UFO MYSTERY

In a long feature article on UFOs published in the December, 1967, issue of PLAYBOY Magazine, Dr. J. Allen Hynek (whom PLAYBOY called "America's leading UFOlogist") offered his recommendations for speedily solving the UFO mystery.

"As a backup to the investigative readiness teams [which would fly to areas of impressive UFO activity], and as an over-all means of garnering improved original data, a central UFO center in the United States should be established. A central telephone exchange (UFO-1000) could be manned 24 hours a day by competent interrogators..."

"If UFOs as previously defined actually exist, we would have photographs, movies, spectrograms, plaster casts of indentations (if a landing occurs) and detailed measurements and quantitative estimates of brightnesses, speeds, and so on within a year of the initiation of such a no-nonsense program. [Emphasis added.]

"But if the UFO-1000 program is sincerely and intensively carried out for a full year and yields nothing, this, in itself, would be of great negative significance...I will be surprised if an intensive, yearlong study yields nothing..." [Emphasis added.]

In the fall of 1973, Hynek formed such an operation, his Center For UFO Studies, with a toll-free (800) telephone number that has been made available to law enforcement agencies around the country. The Center's toll-free telephone, reportedly, is manned around the clock--as Hynek recommended in 1967.

Instead of centralized investigative readiness teams that would jet to the scene of a "UFO hot-spot," Hynek's Center utilizes its own nationwide network of local UFO investigators as well as MUFON local investigators.

The Center For UFO Studies has now been in operation for more than the one year that Hynek predicted would be needed to provide solid, scientific data to resolve the UFO mystery.

The world is waiting...while remembering that Hynek said that "if the UFO-1000 program is sincerely and intensively carried out for a full year and yields nothing, this, in itself, would be of great negative significance."

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
July 10, 1975

Have
ordered
100 copies TO TAKE TO Ft Smith

DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK'S CHANGING "UFO INVARIANT"

In a paper prepared for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics UFO Symposium in Pasadena, in January, 1975, J. Allen Hynek wrote:

"Study of some 12,600 cases in Air Force files showed that the great majority of initial reports -- about 80% of them -- proved merely to be misidentifications of common objects or phenomena, other types of mistakes, and a few hoaxes. This finding is fully substantiated by my own many years of experience... The ratio of 4:1 seems to be a sort of invariant; it was present in the early Project Sign report (1949) and has been so far present down the years since then." [Emphasis supplied.]

But quite a different "UFO invariant" emerges from figures presented by Hynek in his article in the December, 1967, issue of "Playboy" magazine.

"In the past 20 years, I have analyzed more than 15,000 reports of UFO sightings. About 90 percent of these turned out, on quick inspection, not to have been UFOs at all, but readily identifiable objects. Of the remaining 10 percent, I made a further division in my mind between those that came to me from reasonably reliable observers -- about 70 percent -- and those that came from oddballs of one stripe or another. [i.e. 3% of all reports came from "oddballs".] What this means is that there are at least 1000 UFO reports that remain completely unresolved in my own mind." [Emphasis added.]

Using Hynek's "Playboy" figures to determine the ratio of "explainable" to "unexplainable" in initial UFO reports yields the following:

$$\frac{\text{Explainable}}{\text{Unexplainable}} = \frac{93\%}{7\%} = \underline{13:1}$$

WHICH IS THE CORRECT FIGURE: 4:1? 13:1?

Hynek's Center For UFO Studies has now been collecting, and presumably analyzing reports submitted to the Center during the past two years.

WHEN WILL THE CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES PUBLISH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THESE REPORTS AND THE RATIO OF "EXPLAINABLE" TO "UNEXPLAINABLE" REPORTS?

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
Sept. 30, 1975

DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK'S EVER-CHANGING "UFO INVARIANT"

What percentage of UFO reports are explainable in prosaic terms, i.e. are really "Identifiable Flying Objects," or "IFOs"?

Writing in the December, 1967, issue of "Playboy" magazine, J. Allen Hynek, then the USAF's principal consultant on UFOs, stated: "In the past 20 years, I have analyzed more than 15,000 reports of UFO sightings. About 90 percent of these turned out, on quick inspection, not to have been UFOs at all, but readily identifiable objects. Of the remaining 10 percent, I made a further division in my mind between those that came to me from reasonably reliable observers -- about 70 percent -- and those that came from oddballs of one stripe or another." [i.e. 3% of all reports came from "oddballs," leaving 7% that were "true UFOs."] (Emphasis added.)

But in a paper prepared for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics UFO Symposium, held in Pasadena, Calif., in January, 1975, Hynek wrote: "Study of some 12,600 cases in Air Force files showed that the great majority of initial reports -- about 80% of them -- proved merely to be misidentifications of common objects or phenomena, other types of mistakes, and a few hoaxes. This finding is fully substantiated by my own many years of experience... The ratio of 4:1 seems to be a sort of invariant. [i.e. 80% are IFOs and 20% are true UFOs]. It was present in the early Project Sign report (1949) and has been so far present down the years since then." (Emphasis added.)

However, the February, 1977, issue of "International UFO Reporter" ("IUR"), of which Hynek is Editor-in-Chief, published the results of what it called "A Statistical Analysis of the Air Force Project Blue Book Files -- prepared from material for a forthcoming book by Dr. J. Allen Hynek." The article is based on what "IUR" called an "impartial re-evaluation" of copies of all UFO reports in the Blue Book files, obtained from the National Archives. According to "IUR":

"The re-evaluation did create some additional 'unidentifieds' out of the Air Force 'identifieds,' but it also dropped some of the Air Force unknowns [listed previously] as solved; hence the revised totals:

"Total Air Force Unknowns: 587, or 4.5% [of the total cases].

"Total Revised Unknowns: 640, or 4.9% [of the total cases].

"IUR" has made a commendable effort to inform readers what percentage of all sighting reports submitted to Hynek's Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS) have, upon investigation, turned out to be IFOs and what percentage remain unexplained, i.e. UFOs. For the first five months of "IUR" operation (Sept. 15, 1976 to Feb. 14, 1977), a tabulation shows a total of 356 reports. But one could not be investigated because of the unavailability of the witness, leaving a net total of 355 reported sightings. Of this total, 353 have been characterized by "IUR" as IFOs, leaving only TWO (2) remaining as unexplainable UFOs. On this basis, 99.5% of the sightings reported to CUFOS during these five months were IFOs, only 0.5% were "true UFOs."

THIS PROMPTS THE QUESTION: WHICH IS THE CORRECT FIGURE FOR HYNEK'S "UFO INVARIANT"?

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF UFO SIGHTING REPORTS ARE REALLY "IDENTIFIABLE FLYING OBJECTS"?

IS IT 80%? OR 93%? OR 95%? or 99.5% (Or could it possibly be 100%?)

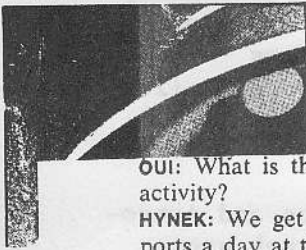
[OVER]

Hynek attempts to rationalize these discrepancies in an interview-article that appeared in the April, 1977, issue of "OUI," a magazine similar to "Playboy" that is published by the same company. A portion of the article is shown below:

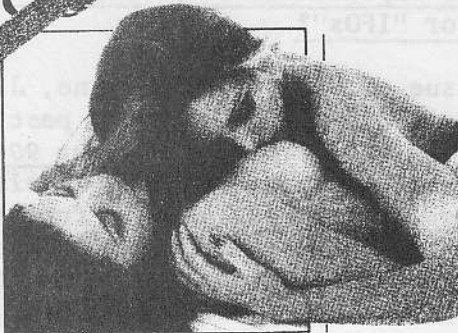
70

CONVERSATION WITH DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK

In which the most respected
UFO scientist sheds
light on the weirdness
around us.



85



OUI: What is the current level of UFO activity?

HYNEK: We get about three or four reports a day at the Center, over the hotline we have available for local police officials. About 95 percent of the reports turn out to be IFOs—that is, Identified Flying Objects such as advertising planes, Venus, weather balloons or whatever. That's a much higher percentage of "explaineds" than is reported to UFO organizations in general. The reason is that we are using local police officials as our source, and the average person might not report a really strange UFO case to the police for fear of ridicule; he will, however, report seeing Venus, if he does not recognize it, because it's "safe" to report a peculiar light in the sky. On the other hand, a witness will think twice about reporting a close encounter with an object that has creatures in it. So the kinds of reports we get on the hotline are usually not that impressive. The percentage of true UFOs is only slightly more than one percent.

OUI: How does this figure compare with other sources of UFO reports?

HYNEK: A more realistic figure for unexplained reports in general is about ten percent, which is roughly the percentage of unidentifieds I encountered when I was with Project Blue Book. I would say that an average of one dozen authentic UFO reports come to the attention of researchers every month. Of course, that number is considerably higher during a "flap" period, when UFO activity is quite intense. But even then I would estimate that, for every UFO reported, at least a dozen go unreported.

OUI: How can you even estimate an unknown quantity like that?

HYNEK: One way is by means of an informal procedure I use at the end of my lectures. After I speak, I will ask the audience who among them has had a UFO experience. Ten to 20 percent will raise their hands. Then when I ask how many reported their experience, I'll get no more than two or three hands.

A STARTLING SCIENTIFIC INTERVIEW WITH THE GALILEO OF UFO STUDIES

SEX AND FOOD: A MOUTH- WATERING SEX TAPES

NOTE that Hynek says that "about 95 percent of the reports [received by CUFOS hot-line] turn out to be IFOs."

Hynek claims that "the average person might not report a really strange UFO case to the police for fear of ridicule." Yet Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker did report their alleged abduction by UFO to the sheriff at Pascagoula. And Mike Rogers reported the alleged UFO abduction of Travis Walton to the sheriff's office at Heber, Ariz.

Now Hynek claims that "The percentage of true UFOs is only slightly more than one percent," yet only a few moments earlier he had said that "about 95 percent of the reports turn out to be IFOs."

Once again the "UFO invariant" has changed: "A more realistic figure for unexplained reports in general is about ten [10] percent, which is roughly the percentage of unidentifieds I encountered when I was with Project Blue Book." Yet in Hynek's published AIAA paper of 1975, he claimed the figure was 20%, and the recent CUFOS "re-evaluation" of the Project Blue Book cases shows slightly less than 5%.

This assumes that a group of persons who have come to hear a lecture on UFOs is a representative sample of the general population. This is a faulty assumption.

Later in the "OUI" interview, Hynek seemingly forgets the results of the "IUR" and CUFOS re-evaluation of Project Blue Book cases and the first-hand experience with reports submitted to CUFOS via its hot-line.

OUI: How do you use the term?

HYNEK: I define a UFO as a phenomenon that remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all available evidence by persons who are technically capable of identifying those conventional phenomena—aircraft, astronomical bodies, temperature inversions, hallucinations—that are often reported as UFOs. And, as I said, we generally find that about 10 percent of the reports remain unexplained.

Note that here Hynek claims that "we generally find that about 10 percent of the reports remain unexplained."

Another way to judge the number of reports would be to consider a 1973 Gallup Poll that revealed that 11 percent of the population—or 15,000,000 people—believe they have seen UFOs. So if we say that ten percent of these 15,000,000 Americans actually saw a UFO, it means that 1,500,000 people have probably seen something that no one could explain. Even if we cut that number down to, say, 800,000 Americans, that still is a tremendous number of genuine sightings. And that's just in the United States. UFOs are a global phenomenon.

But a recent survey of 2,611 professional and amateur astronomers (members of the American Astronomical Society), many of whom spend many hours in sky observations, indicates that less than 2.7% of the AAS members had ever seen anything they had difficulty in explaining and that even professional astronomers can be mystified by prosaic things seen under unusual circumstances.

"genuine sightings" ?? Hynek seems to imply that all of these are "true UFOs." But perhaps 99.5% (or more) are really IFOs.

Dr. David Saunders, formerly of the University of Chicago, has computerized more than 50,000 individual cases and thinks that he has arrived at a formula for predicting UFO events. He says that UFO flaps take place every 61 months and that these flaps seem to be moving east 30 degrees of longitude every five years. The next major sighting wave should take place around Christmas of this year somewhere around the longitude of the Aral Sea in Siberia.

I agree with Saunders that "The next major sighting wave should take place around Christmas of this year." But I predict that this "UFO flap" will occur in the United States, following the release to the nation's theatres of the new UFO movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," produced by Steven Spielberg who created the thriller "JAWS".

DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK *Skeptics who insist that UFOs are all nonsense really are not talking about UFOs—they're calling into question the whole process of deciding anything by human testimony.*

BUT WHEN HYNEK HIMSELF ADMITS THAT "ABOUT 95 PERCENT OF THE [UFO] REPORTS TURN OUT TO BE IFOS -- THAT IS, IDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS SUCH AS ADVERTISING PLANES, VENUS, WEATHER BALLOONS OR WHATEVER" HE HIMSELF UNWITTINGLY CONFIRMS THE UNRELIABILITY OF EYEWITNESS REPORTS.

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
April 17, 1977

02
NRDR. J. ALLEN HYNEK'S VIEWS ON UFOs IN 1960 AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE USAF

(Excerpts from Hynek's letter of Feb. 17, 1960, to Brig. Gen. Ben G. Holzman, Commander of the Air Force Research Div. Emphasis added by undersigned.)

"As you well know, the Air Force has attempted to do as creditable a job on this touch subject [UFOs] as was within their province. However, much of their work has been misunderstood by the public...wishful thinking portions of the public are all too ready to accuse the Air Force of covering up the evidence and misleading the public. This is most unfortunate, but is in part a natural outcome of placing this problem in an intelligence division of the Air Force rather than in an out-and-out scientific department.

"The subject of Unidentified Flying Objects more logically belongs in a scientific office rather than in an intelligence center...I think it is amply clear by now that those relatively few sightings that are puzzling are related to upper atmosphere phenomena and may offer interesting examples of meteorological and atmospheric optics phenomena and, as such be worthy of study in themselves...

"With its excellent roster of physicists and upper atmosphere specialists, it seems to me that the [USAF's] Geophysics Research Directorate might well undertake this aspect of the UFO problem. I do believe that with their staff of scientists many of the reported sightings which remain 'unknown' and develop into political headaches for the Air Force...would be quickly cleared up; and secondly, and of greater importance to me as a scientist, many such reports, properly examined, might add a rich chapter to atmospheric optics and upper atmosphere research."

THIS WAS HYNEK'S STATED VIEW AS OF Feb. 17, 1960.

In a recent interview with Hynek, published in the Aug. 16, 1976, issue of "People" magazine, he was asked: "Do you discount all UFO sightings as optical illusions?" Hynek's published reply was the following:

"No, confound it! There is so much nuts-and-bolts evidence. How do you explain things you can see on radar? How do you explain imprints on the ground? How do you explain something that comes along and tears off the tops of trees? Or, as once happened in the Soviet Union, razes thousands of acres of forest? How do you explain bullets ricocheting off whatever was in the sky?"

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
Mar. 4, 1977

THE "TWO FACES" OF DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK (or) WILL THE REAL DR. HYNEK PLEASE RISE

Interview in "UFO REPORT" August 1976:

"In recent times I have come to support less and less the idea that UFOs are 'nuts-and-bolts' spacecraft from other worlds. There are just too many things going against this theory."

Interview in "PEOPLE" August 16, 1976:

"There is so much nuts-and-bolts evidence. How do you explain things you can see on radar? How do you explain imprints on the ground? How do you explain something that comes along and tears off the tops of trees? ... How do you explain bullets ricocheting off whatever was in the sky?"

Interview in "UFO REPORT" August 1976:

"The close encounter of the third kind...involves humanoid occupants. Currently we have an estimated 800 sightings of this sort on file...When I first heard of such episodes, my own natural prejudices told me to throw them out...I've since come to believe that no scientist should discard data simply because he doesn't like it... I had been building toward a positive attitude [toward occupant cases] when John Fuller, the well-known writer... told me the fascinating story of Betty and Barney Hill... My thinking was altered completely when I was called in along with Dr. Harder of the University of California to interrogate two Mississippi fishermen, Calvin Parker and Charles Hickson, who insist they were literally 'kidnapped' and forced to go aboard a spacecraft, where they were subjected -- just as in the case of the Hills -- to a physical examination. The tale told by these two rugged shipyard workers held up under grueling cross-examination."

Interview in "PEOPLE" August 16, 1976: (When Hynek was asked: "What do you think of people who claim to have boarded spaceships," Hynek replied:)

"Frankly, I quite strenuously avoid them. [NOTE: Hynek has personally interviewed Betty Hill, Charles Hickson, Calvin Parker, Travis Walton and Sandra Larson, all of whom claim to have been aboard a UFO.] I'm almost embarrassed by the reports. None of those people have ever been able to produce anything reliable. It's junk, just junk!"

AS OF AUGUST, 1976, WHAT DOES DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK REALLY BELIEVE??????

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
August 13, 1976

PHILIP J. KLASS
404 "N" ST. SOUTHWEST
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024
(202) 554-5901

June 27, 1983

Ken Frazier:

Dear Ken:

Many thanks for your memo on your recent discussions with Allen Hynek. It is clear that you were visited by the Dr. Jekell version, not the Mr. Hyde. Both reside in the same body, share the same wife and residence, but each voices quite different views about UFOs.

Your visitor was the one that authored the article in the respected MIT magazine Technology Review (July, 1981), invoking the best scientific tradition, i.e. "I have come to believe that if we 'precipitate out' the essential elements from the chaos of 'popular UFOlogy,' we will uncover a new empirical phenomenon, perhaps comparable to the first glimpses of microorganisms by Leeuwenhock or Jupiter's satellites by Galileo..."

The other Allen Hynek is the one who lectured to Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship on July 11, 1979, a group whose constitution indicates its objective is "to sponsor, explore and interpret the growing interest in psychic phenomena...."

This other Allen Hynek began by saying: "In speaking to this very special group, I can feel freer to discuss the more esoteric aspects of the subject of UFOs simply because you all have had, shall we say, a certain expansion of consciousness and you have an awareness of the possibilities that the solely materialistically oriented person, like scientists in general, do not have. In talking to them about certain subjects, would be like trying to explain calculus to a kindergarten student. He has the potential of learning it, but it hasn't developed yet.

"Take the concept of reality, for instance. The physical scientist has a very restricted notion of that word. He lives in a nuts and bolts world and everything must be laboratory tested according to his rather right rules. Not that there is anything wrong about laboratory testing; it's very productive...but I feel the concept should be broadened. For instance, in his work in parapsychology, Dr. Rhine stated a long time ago that he got better results when a state of friendship existed between two persons. Now that would have no meaning to a physicist or a chemist.....

"To you folks I can talk much more cogently, I think, because you're prepared; I couldn't talk this way, for instance, if I were giving a talk to Sigma Xi scientific fraternity, for example, or at some physics colloquium. They don't have the background and you do...

"It is inescapable to me that there is an intelligence behind the UFO...But whence this intelligence? Does it come from great distances? From some other solar system? Is it perhaps meta-terrestrial--much closer to us but on another plane of existence, a parallel reality? Or is it perhaps something that even is perpetuated by our own psychic energies in some strange way...

"Might be civilizations millions of years older than we are and they just might know something we don't...Perhaps in their technology psychokinesis, and what we are just beginning to become familiar with--the paranormal and parapsychological things--are just as much a part of their technology as transistors are a part of ours...

"It would be a comedy if it were not so tragic. Here is NASA spending billions of dollars to find microbes on Mars and something like \$20 billion to eventually try to listen in this manner for civilizations elsewhere ((NOT TRUE)), but not one cent on UFOs. It would really be quite a joke on NASA if this intelligence were right under our noses all the time and they just disdained it..."

Those were the views of the "other" Allen Hynek just four years ago. Now, during his visit he told you that he "does not believe UFO reports have anything to do with extraterrestrial spacecraft," and that his upcoming paper to MUFON conference will explain why.

This raises a very interesting question, actually a series of questions.

- (1) What has happened, after 35 years of UFO investigations, to so alter Hynek's views??
- (2) Considering that one Allen Hynek has endorsed the alleged UFO abductions of Betty Andreasson, Travis Walton, the Pascagoula men (Hickson and Parker), and Betty/Barney Hill, is Hynek now prepared to publicly disavow his earlier endorsement and attribute these claims--and several hundred others and admit that they are hoaxes and/or self-delusion?? (And admit that we skeptics were correct all along?)
- (3) Or will he now argue that some even more exotic, "unfalsifiable" hypothesis is involved--perhaps related to Uri Geller's psychic spoon-bending powers, as Hynek suggested in print several years ago??

So Hynek "repeatedly emphasized that he is not in the mystery business, and only wants to see important UFO cases solved."

I am certain that Hynek abhors his celebrity status and only wants to return to being an obscure, retired former professor of astronomy. After all, who enjoys appearing on TV talk-shows in this country and abroad? Who enjoys being honored as the world's greatest UFO expert, taking all-expenses-paid trips to Japan, to South America, to Europe, to lecture on UFOs. Hynek only wants to see "important UFO cases solved" -- like politicians hope to be defeated for office.

So Hynek said he would like to see me investigate a case from Westchester County. Apparently it never occurred to Hynek to write me, or call me. He simply had no idea how to reach me--despite many letters from me in his file. In the nearly 17 years I have been active in the field, and since Hynek and I first corresponded, he has never once sought my assistance.

Nor has Hynek ever publicly acknowledged--to my knowledge--that he accepts a single one of my prosaic case explanations, nor one of Sheaffer's.

Hynek told you that "he attempts to reject at the beginning the majority of UFO reports that are likely to have simple explanations....." Bulloney. In the case of the Pring UFO photo, as described in SI Summer, 1983, Hynek quickly rejected any possibility that the photo might be a hoax. And even tho he and his associate have trapped Pring in falsehoods, CUFOS/Hynek still refuses to characterize the case as an outright hoax.

Let me hasten to acknowledge that as Hynek's host, common rules of hospitality dictated that you should not press him too hard during his visit. Further, that you have never claimed great expertise in UFology, or in Hynek's chameleon-like behavior.

And who could reject Hynek's offer of "communication and cooperation" -- as ~~decent~~ as "Motherhood" (for married women, that is) and Apple-Pie. But how curious that Hynek should extend his offer via the editor of SI, rather than in a memo to CSICOP's UFO Subcommittee's officials? Or to Paul Kurtz.

Me-thinks his visit provides you with a marvelous opportunity to explore key issues in correspondence with Hynek, providing you with the material for a feature story for SI or some other publication.

You might pose to Hynek the questions cited above (p. 2), along with a few others that come to mind, and still others that Sheaffer and Oberg may wish to suggest. For example:

- (4) Hynek personally investigated the UFO photos taken by young David Dorn, who lives near Hynek, and they received Hynek's endorsement. Sheaffer's investigation, detailed in his book, indicate the photos are a hoax. Does Hynek still endorse the Dorn photos? (And don't let him off the hook by saying he has not read Sheaffer's book. Surely a man who is simply looking for explanations for UFO cases ought to read explanations offered by Sheaffer, Oberg, Klass, et al.
- (5) Does Hynek now endorse Oberg's explanations for numerous Soviet UFO reports as reentering FOBs (Fractional-Orbit Bombardment System) test rockets? And has he appended this explanation to copies of the Soviet report on these UFOs being sold by CUFOS?
- (6) Does Hynek now accept my prosaic explanation for the classic Capt. Coyne/Mansfield, Ohio, helicopter UFO case?
- (7) Ditto for my explanation for the Iranian F-4 UFO incident?
- (8) Ditto for my explanation for the 1975 UFOs over SAC bases incidents?
- (9) Ditto for my RB-47 UFO incident explanation in "UFOs Explained"?
- (10) Ditto for my Bentwaters-Lakenheath UFO incident explanation in "UFOs Explained"?

Finally, why don't you ask Hynek to list for you the five (5) or ten (10) most inexplicable UFO cases of all time -- cases which, if prosaic explanations can be found-- he would agree that there really is no "UFO mystery". (And be sure to tell Hynek that you may wish to publish his answers to your questions.) With that Caveat, I would predict that Hynek will supply you with the requested list of 5 or 10 top UFO cases around the 25th Century, via your favorite spiritualist.

If my judgement of Hynek seems a bit harsh, might I remind you that any successful "con-man" has to be convincing--otherwise he is forced to take up some other trade.

Recall that for 20 years, Hynek was a well-paid consultant to the USAF--its leading explainer and debunker, who never once publicly criticized his employer. Then, following the Condon Report, when the USAF got out of the UFO field, Hynek flipped to the otherside of the issue and has since accused the USAF of doctoring the data, withholding the truth from the public, misleading the public, etc. etc. Curious that he never thought to speak out when he was drawing down a fat consultant's fee.

June 27, 1983

When the late Dr. James McDonald privately confronted Hynek with his two-faced practices, Hynek tried to explain that he could not speak out publicly because this would deny him access to important UFO cases, to which he could only gain access by cooperating with the USAF. McDonald, rightly, denounced this explanation as nonsense, pointing out that he (McDonald) was able to get data on important UFO cases as an independent investigator.

Unlike Hynek, who talks about UFOs in one manner when writing for MIT, when talking to you, and when talking to astronomers--but who speaks quite differently to UFO-believers--McDonald voiced the same hypothesis (E-T Probes) whether he was talking to a NICAP audience, to Naval research laboratory scientists, or before a Congressional UFO Panel.

That is why I have often expressed by admiration for McDonald's candor and intellectual honesty--and why I am so contemptuous of Hynek.

FYI, many, many months ago--in response to Marcello Truzzi's suggestion of increased cooperation between UFO proponents and skeptics, I proposed that Hynek submit a list of 5, or 10, outstanding UFO cases to the National Academy of Sciences, asking that NAS create a panel to study these cases, to consider prosaic explanations proffered by the skeptics.

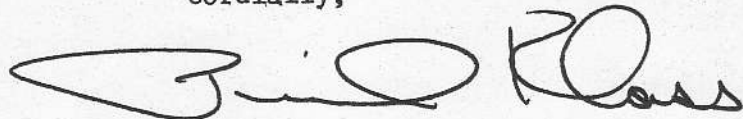
I proposed that if the NAS panel concluded that one or more of these cases could not possibly be explained in prosaic terms, I would publicly recommend that the U.S. Government fund a new scientific investigation into the issue. But if the NAS panel concluded that all of Hynek's top cases could be explained in prosaic terms, that he would publicly acknowledge that there was no persistent UFO mystery that required resolution.

If Hynek has ever responded to my proposal--made many, many months ago via Truzzi--I have yet to receive a copy of his response.

I have no objection to communications and cooperation--even with the Devil (considering that Winston Churchill said he was prepared to even sign a pact with the Devil to defeat Hitler).

But I would hope that SI and CSICOP will move very cautiously in providing space for pious mouthings of the Allen Hynek who visited your home, without simultaneously informing SI readers of the publicly stated views of the "other" Allen Hynek.

Cordially,



cc: Kurtz
Sheaffer
Oberg
Abell

J. ALLEN HYNEK -- A SELF-APPRAISAL:

"When I look back on my career, I've done damn little that was original. I seem to have had the ability of seeing the value of an idea and bringing other people together to do something about it. I've never launched any new theories; I've never made any outstanding discoveries. I guess I am not very innovative."

... From an interview with Hynek,
published in "New Scientist,"
May 17, 1973

U.F.O. REPORTS FROM PROJECT MOONWATCH - TWO VIEWS BY DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK

Historians of the UFO controversy will not want to overlook the following two statements about UFO sightings reported by members of "Project Moonwatch" teams (the Optical Satellite Tracking Program for the International Geophysical Year, July, 1957 - December, 1958). Both statements are by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who is described by his publisher, Dell Publishing Co., Inc., as "the world's leading expert on UFOs". (Whom he is leading is not explained.)

1. "When I was in charge of the United States Optical Satellite Tracking Program during the International Geophysical Year, we received many reports from our Moonwatch stations concerning the strange lights that certainly weren't satellites. Many of these witnesses were amateur astronomers and generally well acquainted with the skies."

(Source: J. Allen Hynek, The Hynek UFO Report, New York: Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 1977. Page 78.)

2. "I can quite safely say that we have no record of ever having received from our Moonwatch teams any reports of sightings of unidentified objects which had any characteristics different from those of an orbiting satellite, a slow meteor, or of a suspected plane mistaken for a satellite."

(Source: Statement by Hynek quoted in Edward J. Ruppelt, The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, Enlarged Edition, Garden City, New York: Doubleday and Company, Inc., circa 1959. Page 271.)

Is this an example of the credibility of "the world's leading expert on UFOs"?

David A. Schroth
May 24, 1978

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, world famous astronomer and scientific UFO investigator, joins a distinguished panel of "top sensitives and spiritual Healing authorities" in a scholarly symposium on "Out-of-body travel", and "Communication with the unseen world".

Other luminaries in attendance include:

- Uri Geller, the Israeli Cagliostro who claims his 'psychic' powers originate with the mysterious space people of the planet Hoova, who send him messages on tape cassettes which miraculously dematerialize. (URI: A Journal of the Mystery of Uri Geller by Andrija Puharich Doubleday, 1974)
- Ingo Swann, who claims to have been in telepathic communication with a philodendron, but found the mental energy of the "uncooperative" plant to be too formidable, and enjoyed greater success when he attempted to telepathically dominate a piece of "rubberized graphite". (To Kiss Earth Good-Bye by Ingo Swann Hawthorne Books, 1975)

Organizing the conference is Harold Sherman, a longtime ESP enthusiast who claims to have joined Swann in taking 'Out-of-Body' trips around the Solar System, making psychic explorations of the planets Mercury and Jupiter (Swann, *ibid.*, 1975).

For the trifling sum of \$95.00, you, too, can join this assemblage of distinguished researchers as they explore the universe of "Precognition", "Faith Healing", and other mysterious lands beyond the Edge of Reality. (Hynek and Vallee, Regnery Company, 1975)

It's coming! It's worth waiting and planning for!



Harold Sherman

Seventh Annual
**HAROLD SHERMAN
BODY/MIND/SPIRIT
HEALING WORKSHOP**

June 25 - 26 - 27, 1976
St. Louis, MO. Chase Park Plaza Hotel

Never before - Perhaps never again - Such a
Fine assemblage of top sensitives and spiritual
Healing authorities in one workshop!

YOU CAN MEET AND PARTICIPATE with these world authorities during three days of inspiring talks followed by your questions and answers... Send coupon for complete details... You owe yourself firsthand experiences in higher mind energies at work... Out-of-Body Travel... Precognition... Life After Death Witnesses... Space Travel by Mind and Vehicle... Faith Healings... Communication With the Unseen World. Please attend now! Facilities are limited to firstcome first served.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Uri Geller | • Dr. Olga Worrall | • Ingo Swann |
| • Dr. Glenn A. Olds | • Dr. Alex Tanous | • Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross |
| • Dr. David Hoy | • Dr. J. Allen Hynek | • Judy Skutch |
| • William Tantum | • Dr. Evelyn Monahan | • Anne Gehman |
| • Dr. Robert Miller | • Dr. Gerald Jampolsky | • Julia Turchuk |
| • William A. Welch | • John McClernan | • Harold Sherman |
| • Al Pollard • Robert Gannaway | | |

ESP RESEARCH ASSOCIATES FOUNDATION
1660 UNION NATIONAL PLAZA • LITTLE ROCK, ARK. 72201

Dear Harold Sherman: Please send folder with all details.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Attached is my \$95 donation for my advance registration.
(\$105 at door). Send complete details.

FATE magazine
June, 1976

Robert Schaffer

Henize put down of Hynek

THE EDGE OF REALITY

HASTINGS: Did they say they saw something ahead of them?

HYNEK: Yes. Apparently Neil Armstrong was asleep at the time; I was told that the other two saw something that looked like an open book in the great distance, but when they looked at it through binoculars (they didn't photograph it, in that particular case), it was a cylindrical object.

Another related topic is the fact that people say, "Well, if these things are real, why don't our infrared satellites, why don't our radar networks, why don't our sky surveys, why don't the weather satellites and all that pick these things up?" Well, of course, we don't know whether they do or not. I certainly know that in the satellite tracking mission⁴ we got a number of things that appeared on the films that were never tracked down; they weren't part of the mission! A person who says that the Baker-Nunn cameras never picked up anything is just dead wrong because I know they did. I was in charge of the project! We just didn't bother about it. It would have been too much work to investigate some strange lights; it would have diverted men from the job they were supposed to do; this undoubtedly is true in the case of radar. Radars do pick up all sorts of cockeyed things, but the military figures they're not of interest to a particular mission, so heck with it!

I have a wealthy friend in Texas whom I thought I might interest in this research, but his objection was that if the UFOs were real, more people would see them at any one time. He asked me, "Why is it such a localized thing? Why do two or three people here see it and lots of people around the town in a populated area don't see it?" Well, how do we know they don't? Lots of people don't report! I've had a number of cases where people have said that they didn't say anything about it because they fully expected to see it all written up in the papers the next day, and then were surprised to find that there was nothing in the paper about it! But, on the other hand, the UFO is what has been termed a "jealous phenomenon." A Boeing 747 is not a jealous

⁴ Dr. Hynek was Associate Director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory from 1956 to 1960 and headed the United States satellite optical tracking program.

phenomenon
But a UFO
show itself p
to be localiz

WHY

HASTINGS: One c
aren't they
they droppe
HYNEK: Ah, that
hardware le
surely they
things up. S
know the an
actual phys
and these ha
Not only wo
would const
were a bush
747 would y
airplane fly
once be "fo
Think of the
over the U.S

HASTINGS: That i
that they ca
broken bran
effects, don
another?

VALLEE: Accide
material has
apparently,

HYNEK: Yes, bu
not at least

HASTINGS: Are a
HYNEK: APRO' t

⁵ The Aerial Ph
headquarters in Tuc



NEVER

*Never sense! I was in charge of the
Baker-Nunn cameras and never saw anything
that couldn't be related to
planes. KGH.*

OK
22

by whom?