

The APRO NEWSLETTER

Distributed to Staff Members, Advisors, and Consultants of APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, 3910 East Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona, 85716.)

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The APRO Newsletter is intended to provide a forum for the exchange of information about the ideas and activities of persons interested in UFO phenomena. Names and addresses of APRO Staff Members, Representatives, Advisors and Consultants are listed so that interested persons can correspond with their colleagues.

In this first issue of the Newsletter, there are various items which may whet (or dull) your intellectual appetite. Comments, criticisms, and other contributions are welcome. In later issues, we hope to provide you with descriptions of the interests and activities of each staff member and advisor.

You are encouraged to submit open letters with questions or comments about UFO research and investigation. Also, you are encouraged to write to us and describe your current interests and activities in UFO investigation. If you are unduly modest about your accomplishments, you may describe your activities as if you were "the third person." Or, if you wish, the editors will be pleased to describe your activities.

We welcome your views on any item about the physical, biological, psycho-social, and spiritual aspects of UFO phenomena. Whenever possible, please refer to the author, title, date, and source of publication so that we all can "ride the waves" of UFO literature.

We extend to you our best wishes in the continuing search for information and knowledge about the UFO mystery.

R.L.S.

W.D.B.

P. S. For ease in writing the Newsletter, references to authors and dates of publication are used in the text. Detailed information of each reference is listed on the last page of the Newsletter.

WHO GOES THERE? (Activities of APRO Staff and Advisors)

Frank B. Salisbury, known for his studies of Martian biology, has written an excellent article entitled: "The Scientist and the UFO." (See References.) The article reviews the empirical and theoretical considerations of UFO reports. Five hypotheses are considered, and each hypothesis is given support through various authorities and various kinds of evidence. The author concludes with the suggestion of establishing teams of researchers to carry out a "previously planned program of investigation" to obtain the "kind of tangible data with which science is used to dealing." The article should be helpful in orienting professional biologists to problems and procedures in the investigation of UFO phenomena.

VIEWS AND REVIEWS OF UFO LITERATURE

L. Jerome Stanton, Flying Saucers: Hoax or Reality? N.Y.: Belmont Books, 1966.

The author has described the evidence for "flying saucers" in a straightforward and non-sensational manner. He traces the general history of UFO sightings and he emphasizes the scientific and technical hypotheses to account for various types of sightings. Apparently, the book cover claim of a "new solution to the puzzling problem of the UFO" is the result of the publisher's enthusiasm or the author's enthusiasm for the University of Colorado project, directed by physicist, Dr. Edward U. Condon.

In the opinion of this reviewer, the most interesting section of the book is the description of the activities of three groups of atomic scientists. Mr. Stanton (1966, pp. 137-138) states that all three groups tried to find out if there was a correlation between the presence of a UFO and an increase in measured radiation level. The author claims that all three groups obtained positive results.

There are two features of the book which are disappointing to this reviewer: (1) References are not listed, so there is no way for the interested scholar to check the author's descriptions (including the claim about the three groups of atomic scientists). (2) The text contains some unfavorable comments about the characteristics of other authors, e.g., the "liberal artsy" background of Fuller (1966a, 1966b) and the "lack of scientific background" of Lorenzen (1966).

These features are most bothersome because of the possibility that some of the evidence cited by the author came from sources which originally found their expression through the able writings of Mr. Fuller and Mrs. Lorenzen.

R.L.S.

QUOTABLES FROM NOTABLES

"... in Ufology the rule is to think of everything and to believe nothing."
(Michel, 1966, p. 68)

"For years scientists have been searching for a "unified field theory," a single equation that would describe the interrelationship among electrical, magnetic, and gravitational forces...But this unifying equation, when it is found, will not make our present knowledge invalid. Enthusiasts are deluding themselves when they base their belief in flying saucers on the hope of overthrowing the laws of gravity and inertia." (Menzel & Boyd, 1963, p. 196)

"Not more than fifty years ago, Dr. Simon Newcomb, a world-famous astronomer and the first American since Benjamin Franklin to be made an associate of the Institute of France...said, 'It can't be.' Then he went on to explain that flight without gas bags would require the discovery of some new material or a new force in nature.

"And at the same time Rear Admiral George W. Melville, then Engineer for the U.S. Navy, said that attempts to fly heavier-than-air vehicles was (sic) absurd.

"Just a little over ten years ago there was another 'it can't be.' Ex-President Harry S. Truman recalls in the first volume of the Truman Memoirs what Admiral William D. Leahy, then Chief of Staff to the President, had to say about the atomic bomb. 'That is the biggest fool thing we have ever done,' he is quoted as saying. 'The bomb will never go off, and I speak as an expert in explosives.'" (Ruppelt, 1956, p. 242)

SPECULATIONS: WHAT IF ...?

Anyway, all speculation about the UFO phenomenon can have but one useful goal: to teach us to rid ourselves of all ideas, conscious or unconscious, in order to look at the facts, and the facts alone. The rest is useless child's play." (Michel, 1966, p. 70)

What if the velocity of light is not constant? Dudley (1959, pp. 109-110) suggests some implications of this question: "Let us assume that light is a series of paired spinning, uncharged polar particles, also condensations of the polaron flux. Then the 'quanta' will exhibit all of the properties of 'electromagnetic radiation' and the 'corpuscle' will take on the mean velocity of the polaron flux through which it passes. Thus the velocity of the light in empty space is not independent of the emitter and the receiver, but depends on the polaron flux surrounding the emitter. And the velocity of light in intergalactic space containing no polarons will be that of the flux surrounding the emitter. The Law of Inertia will hold, and there need not be a limiting velocity in intergalactic space.

"Quite naturally the above series of hypotheses will have to be modified as nuclear scientists delve below the electron, and the astro-scientists leap farther and farther out of our present flat 'plane' of existence and observation. But new data will emerge; our scientific horizons will widen. And we shall have found a few more bright pebbles on the same beach where Newton trod."

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