

Arizona Scientist Says UFO Study Not Objective

A University of Arizona scientist charged today that a half-million-dollar "objective" study of Unidentified Flying Objects apparently has not been objective at all.

Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics and professor of meteorology, said the public "can scarcely put its faith in the findings that will emerge" later this year from the scientific UFO study being prepared at the University of Colorado.

The Colorado Project, headed by Dr. Edward Condon, was authorized by the secretary of defense in October, 1966.

Condon said today that field investigations have ended.

He declined, as he has before, to say whether the study has concluded there are, or are not, "flying saucers" — visitors from outer space.

Findings of the study will be submitted to the national academy of sciences on or before Sept. 30. Sometime after that, he said, the conclusions will be made public.

A Look Magazine article this week, researched with McDonald's help, calls the project a "\$500,000 trick."

McDonald has long been critical of the Air Force's investigation of UFO reports, and he said today that what is urgently needed is a UFO probe "entirely divorced from all connections with the Air Force, the agency sponsoring the Colorado study.

He said the Look story "has been carefully prepared and documented," and seems to indicate that the Colorado project is far from scientifically unimpeachable.

Rep. J. Edward Roush, D-Ind., has called for a congressional investigation of flying saucers.

Meanwhile, a former member of the team, Dr. David R. Saunders said the project "essentially is a failure in view of the circumstances and clouds that hang over it."

Saunders and Dr. Norman Levine were fired from the project by Condon who alleged "incompetence."