

MYSTERY RADIO WAVES HEARD IN U. S., TOO

MEMPHIS Commercial Appeal
Bureau Of Standards Scientist
Offers Explanation

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—(AP)—Mysterious radio waves from beyond the Milky Way that are puzzling British scientists also are being received by the United States Bureau of Standards.

Dr. Grote Reber, physical scientist and pioneer in the study of cosmic radiation, reported this Thursday and offered a partial explanation.

He said the mysterious "signals" are electro-magnetic waves which may have been generated by passage of high-speed particles of cosmic rays through interstellar "dust bins."

The bins, he explained, are clouds of dust or smoke lying within the vast distances between stars and showing up on photographic plates of the heavens as dark patches.

Reber said he has made tape recordings of the mystery waves by use of a radio telescope. This instrument, he explained, receives the radio waves as an ordinary telescope receives light from the stars.

Despite the partial explanation, however, the Bureau of Standards scientist added: "These mysterious radio 'transmissions' are one of the biggest questions in science today. We're not sure of their origin or what they mean."

He agreed, however, with British scientists who said the waves—which produced a hissing sound when sent through cathode ray tubes in London—are nothing more than a natural phenomenon.

Reber discounted any possibilities that the waves might have been broadcast from another planet—"if that were the case," he said, "the rays would have some regular pattern like telegraphic signals. As it is, the intensity of the radiation is constant from day to day."

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