

THE HOAGLAND-VAN FLANDERN FALLACY

Question asked of MARS: What is your opinion of the video posted on YouTube that has pictures of what Dr. Thomas van Flandern, the presenter, says is evidence of life on Mars?



UFO TV Presents: Life on Mars – New Scientific Evidence

Artificial Structures on Mars

Dr. Thomas van Flandern Meta Research Washington, D.C. Crystal Room Hotel New Yorker May 8, 2001

Scientists announce the discovery of startling, artificial megalithic structures found among recently released NASA-JPL photos taken by the Mars Global Surveyor and argue that these artificial structures are stunning proof that Mars was once inhabited by an intelligent civilization.

This video includes a spectacular collection of new photographs presented by Dr. Thomas van Flandern, former Chief Astronomer for the US Naval Observatory. See remarkable monuments, "T" shaped craters, gigantic glass tube systems, ancient forest remains, and grand edifices that will leave you speechless.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5u-20g7Bwdw



Andrew D. Basiago, president, Mars Anomaly Research Society (MARS):

The artifacts showing evidence of ancient life on Mars presented by the late Dr. Thomas van Flandern in this video are certainly within the time line of significant events pertaining to the question of life on Mars. I have stated so in my writings. I would note, however, that Dr. van Flandern's contributions to the study of the question of life on Mars fall within the position long advanced by Richard Hoagland that holds that the existing data of life on Mars is evidence of an ancient civilization that once flourished there and then died out. I have called this position "The Hoagland-van Flandern Fallacy."

After determining that The Face on Mars at Cydonia is artificial by odds of "one thousand thousand billion to one," Dr. van Flandern then concluded that The Face on Mars was built by a civilization that died out 3.2 million years ago, when life was just beginning on Earth. Similarly, after finding evidence of trees on Mars, Dr. van Flandern concluded that they were "ancient forest remains" – that is, fossils of trees that grew in Mars' past when Mars had a biosphere.

My position is that Mars is inhabited. My paper *The Discovery of Life on Mars* (2008) was the first work to prove that Mars is inhabited. On that basis, I believe that my claim of having discovered life on Mars, in the form of biological life forms existing today on Mars, will prevail over any claim of prior discovery advanced on behalf of the renowned Dr. van Flandern.