

A FASCINATING THEORY ON EVOLUTION

Did the Missing Link really come from a flying saucer after all?

DID MODERN man really evolve from his primitive cousins, fresh from the trees?

Or should we be looking for an out-of-this-world link to explain the evolution from Ape Man to Advanced Technological Man?

There's a fascinating theory this week in a new and challenging book* by Maurice Chatelain, a space engineer who was one of the team which helped send America's Apollo spacecraft to the Moon.

His claim is simple, but arresting: That extraordinary visitors from a civilisation in deep space landed on Earth around 65,000 years ago and found it good.

Adapted

But they were not fully adapted to Earth's water, air and gravity. So, says Chatelain, they created a hybrid race by crossbreeding, with existing primitive proto-humans to produce a new race.

This would explain the rapid "evolutionary" advance from primitive "humans" with a brain capacity of 800 cubic centimetres to modern man, with one of twice as much.

Chatelain produces a mass of evidence, ranging from the ruins of Atlantis to the Pyramids of Egypt.

He cites such baffling riddles as the astounding maps copied in the sixteenth century, from much more ancient originals, by the Turkish admiral Piri Reis.

These showed, remarkably accurately, the Antarctic continent—which even in the sixteenth century was undiscovered, far less mapped.

Chatelain also tells of the Antithykeria clock, discovered on the bed of the Mediterranean in 1900. About 2,000 years old, it was equipped almost unbelievably, with a differential gear mechanism. Used for calculating planetary movements, it was based on accurate calculations which were, necessarily, far, far older.

Chatelain's most startling arguments, however, revolve around the mathematical

number he calls the Nineveh Constant—the basic number on which astronomical calculations can be made.

This immense figure, translated into our decimal system, works out at 19,955,200,000,000. It was found on tablets in the excavated ruins of the palace of the Assyrian King Assurbanipal, who reigned around 650 B.C.

Evidence

With astronomical evidence, Chatelain worked out that this great constant of the solar system could only have been computed 64,800 years ago and that it relied in part on the revolution periods of three planets—Uranus, Pluto, and Neptune—which are invisible to the naked eye.

Primitive man, with an 800cc brain, could not have computed it. So the answer, says Chatelain, is that he had help.

But who visited Earth? Now we're back to that old riddle, the Unidentified Flying Object. UFOs were seen and photographed from spacecraft Gemini 4 over Hawaii in June, 1965, says Chatelain.

And astronaut James Lovell photographed them from Gemini 7 on December 4, in the same year, looking like "gigantic mushrooms with their propulsion systems (Chatelain's words) clearly showing a glow on the underside. . . ."

Mysteries

Perhaps another world IS watching. Perhaps there HAS been a visit. Over the centuries, absurdities have steadily become genuine mysteries and then, sometimes, commonplace facts.

The questions Chatelain raises cannot easily be dismissed. There are still more things, thank goodness, in Heaven and Earth than are dreamed of in our philosophy. * "Our Ancestors Came From Outer Space," published by Arthur Barker, price £5-95.

DOUGLAS ORGILL