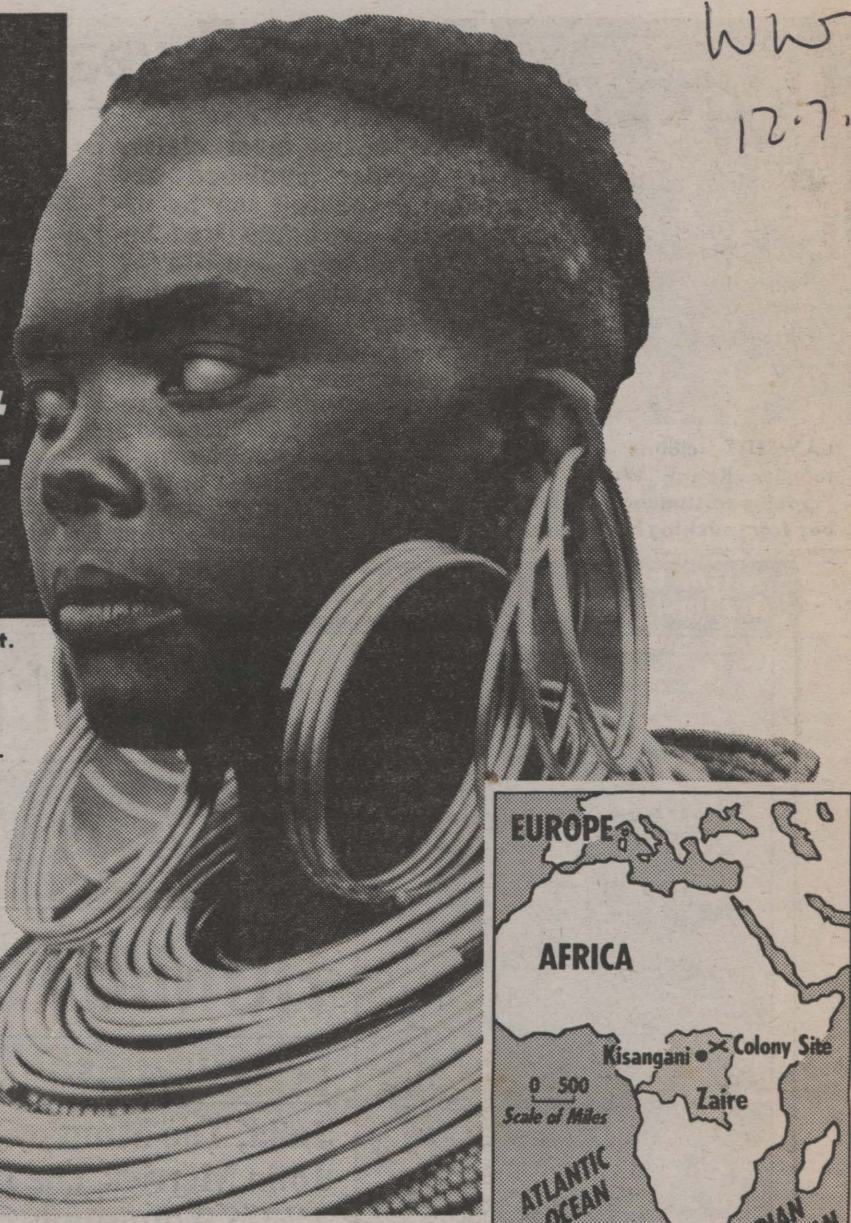


WWTN
12.7.88



Find of century links Red Planet with Dark Continent



A VIRUS threatened to wipe out the population of Mars 176 years ago, says expert.

AFRICAN TRIBE CAME FROM MARS!

MARTIAN TRIBESMEN "have no eye-balls," says Dr. Signe Winslof, "and are very fond of hoops."

By RAGAN DUNN
Scientists claim to have found a jungle tribe that came from Mars 176 years ago — in 1812!

At least three of those original extraterrestrial colonists are said to be alive.

And according to reports, their spaceship is still hidden in undergrowth on the outskirts of their settlement east of Kisangani, Zaire.

"This is the scientific find of the century," Dr. Signe Winslof told reporters in Boras, Sweden.

"The extraterrestrials have totally acclimated themselves to a primitive jungle existence in Africa. And yet they still possess the knowledge and technology to travel through space and colonize other planets."

The expert said he and half a dozen colleagues discovered the 50 Martian tribesmen on a routine study of Zairian cultures in late April.

The extraterrestrials were secretive and standoffish at first.

But they eventually began to trust the scientists and showed them the rusted remains of a silver, crescent-shaped starship, he said. The tribe's historian reportedly said that 25 colonists fled

Mars in 1812 to escape a virus that threatened to wipe out the entire Martian race.

"The Martian tribesmen are black and look just like humans with the exception of their eyes, which are completely white," said Dr. Winslof.

"They show a fondness for hoops and circles. They use the shape as an adornment for their bodies and as designs for their houses.

"They speak a typical African dialect among themselves, but communicated with us in both Swedish and English.

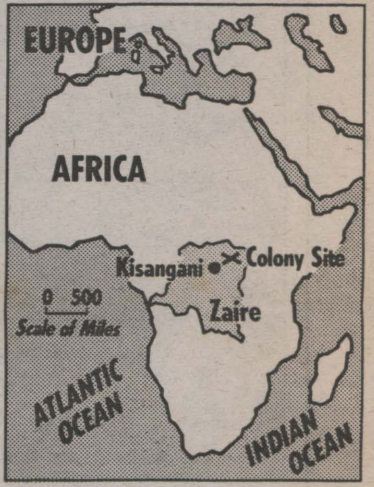
"The aliens told us we were welcome in their settlement as long as we did not interfere in their internal affairs

Colony established in 1812

or primitive way of life." Just why the extraterrestrials choose to live as savages in

the jungle isn't clear. But Dr. Winslof believes it might be "a kind of revolt against the

and publish a full scientific report — with photographs — by December.



MAP shows site of Martian colony east of the city of Kisangani in Zaire.

highly technical, impersonal lives they and their ancestors led on Mars.

"They still have detailed maps of Mars and our solar system," he continued. "But they made it clear to us that too much discussion of their past was off limits.

"Their background is something they can't or won't bring themselves to talk about in detail."

Dr. Winslof said he and his associates plan to return to the village no later than August