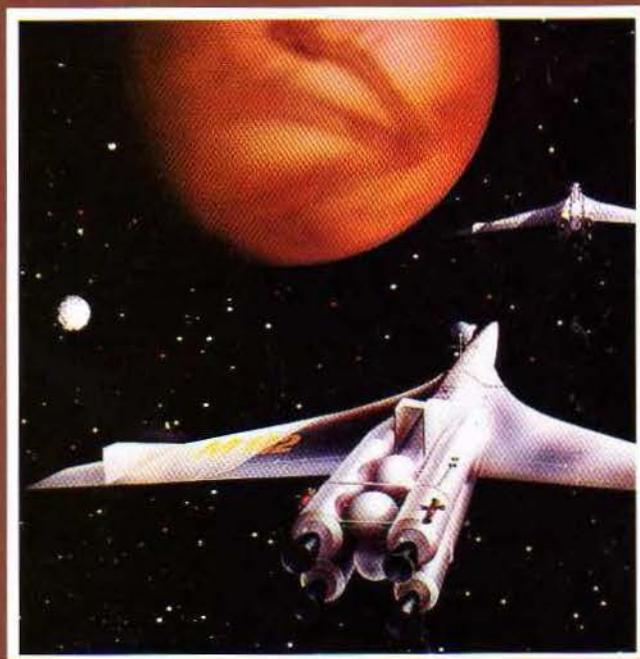


SCIENCE

JULY 1990



MARS

**HOW WE'RE
GOING TO GET THERE AND WHAT
WE'RE GOING TO FIND
THE LONELINESS
OF A LONG-DISTANCE ROBOT
STAR QUEST:
HUNTING FOR THE BIG BANG
AND MISSING MATTER**

\$3.50



“The abductions are real. The fear is real. But the little gray men may actually be hypnotically implanted memory screens.”

ANTI MATTER

Listen carefully to the stories of those who insist they have been shanghaied by otherworldly visitors, says Martin Cannon. Then take a close look at the horror stories told by those who claim to be victims of the government's clandestine mind control programs. What you will find, he says, are some very surprising similarities.

Cannon, a commercial illustrator working in Los Angeles, spells out his findings in a provocative 53-page manuscript called “The Controllers,” which has been circulated informally to members of the UFO community. Cannon is convinced that the CIA and other government agencies have made “striking advances” in thought manipulation, despite their denials to Congress, and that clandestine research on this topic did not end, as claimed, in 1963. He then proposes, as a “working hypothesis,” that “the UFO abduction phenomenon *might* be a continuation of clandestine mind control operations.”

The technology to pull this off, says Cannon, seems to exist. For example, the implants that UFOlogists such as Budd Hopkins say are visible in the brain scans of some abductees strongly resemble devices our own scientists have worked on since the early Sixties. For years, in fact, neuroscientists have been able to induce emotions and behavior in animals and people using miniaturized electrodes implanted in the brain. Such devices have reportedly caused floating sensations and sexual arousal as well as an altered sense of time.

So, Cannon declares, the abductions are real. The fear



UFO UPDATE

abductions seem willing to entertain Cannon's hypothesis. “What takes place during the abduction scenario is more consistent with what humans do to other humans,” says New York criminal defense attorney Peter Gersten, “than what aliens might do to us.”

Most CIA experts, however, dismiss the notion out of hand. William Lear, a University of Georgia historian specializing in CIA matters, says, “People who see the CIA in everything seem to have the same kind of mind-set as those who are prone to believe in the presence of aliens. They give the CIA credit for far too much. It is *not* an omnipresent organization.” Meanwhile, John Marks, the author of *The Search for the Manchurian Candidate*, a book about the CIA's secret mind control program, says he knows nothing on the subject of UFO abductions and has no interest in it. And the CIA? Spokesperson Mark Mansfield's reply was unequivocal: “I've never heard anything so ridiculous in my life.”—PATRICK HUYGHE

is also real. But the little gray men are not.

“They are constructs,” he says, “Halloween masks meant to disguise the real faces of the controllers. By hypnotically implanting a screen memory involving aliens and spaceships to cover their own tracks, the controllers take care of the nagging disposal problem—what to do with all the victims of electroshock, hypnosis, and drug experimentation.” The victims are just talking about space brothers, he says, “rather than Big Brother.”

Those not wed to an out-of-this-world explanation for UFO



MAGNETIC GHOSTS

When a loved one dies, the grieving survivors often report visions of the deceased. And now neuroscientist Michael Persinger has linked these visions to changes in the earth's magnetic field.

To reach this conclusion, Persinger, who works at Laurentian University of Sudbury, Ontario, gathered 203 reports spanning a 37-year period and compared them with the amount of geomagnetic activity that occurred before, on, and after the day of the apparition. His finding: These "bereavement hallucinations" usually took place when magnetic activity was relatively high.

Persinger suspects that the increase in geomagnetic activity electrically stimulates the temporal lobes of the brain. This, in turn, causes a drop in the level of the biochemical melatonin, found in the pineal gland.

The drop in melatonin induces small seizures that transform memory fragments into visual images.

To validate his theory, Persinger has been applying magnetic field pulses across the temporal lobes of subjects while they wear opaque lenses and sit in a quiet room. "They report their subjective experiences but don't know whether the pulse is on or off," says Persinger. "People report a lot of visual imagery," he says, "and they think that there is a presence, that some entity is in there with them when the pulse is on."

—Paul McCarthy

"You know what scares me? When you have to be nice to some paranoid schizophrenic just because she lives in your body."

—Steven Wright

"The breaking of a wave cannot explain the whole sea."

—Vladimir Nabokov

SAUCER FLICKS

If alien craft visit Earth regularly, why do UFO buffs have such a hard time taking good photographs of them? Gary Levine, who has researched UFO sightings for more than 20 years, thinks he has discovered at least one cause. The photographers don't have ESP.

Levine's proof? The UFO movies taken by Patricia Baldwin, a nurse and mother from rural upstate New York.

Baldwin, who doesn't consider herself clairvoyant, had her first UFO experience two years ago, when she spied an unusual light from her bedroom window. "It changed from red to white to green," she says. Hearing that Levine, a professor at nearby Columbia-Greene Community College, investigated UFOs in his spare time, Baldwin approached him with her tales.

"I questioned her and concluded she possessed some psychic ability," Levine recalls. Long interested in paranormal photographs supposedly taken by clairvoyants in the nineteenth century, Levine suspected Baldwin's psychic abilities might somehow help her capture UFOs on film. So Levine loaned Baldwin a camera. Eventually she photographed two triangles—one above the other—along with the broken light streaks associated with UFOs.

Levine quickly gave Baldwin a super-8 movie camera, and she soon produced eight reels of UFO footage—including images of blinking lights and two very large

needle-shaped objects.

But what *exactly* do the films show? So far, experts asked to examine them aren't sure. Richard Powell, professor of criminal justice at Columbia-Greene, studied the original movie, frame by frame, with an electron microscope. "The document is authentic. It had not been cut or altered in any way," he says. "But I can't tell if these are pinpoints of light in front of the camera or huge objects at a distance—there's no way to tell."

As for Baldwin, she now insists she has observed several thousand UFOs—including a disc that appeared to have brightly lit windows. "I feel I shouldn't be afraid," Baldwin says. "But I can't help it. I'm definitely not driving by myself at night anymore."

—Sherry Baker

"One always has to spoil a picture a little bit, in order to finish it."

—Eugène Delacroix

