

Ancient Astronauts Modern Mysteries

John A. Keel

THE MISSING YEARS

Don't anyone leave the planet. Ten thousand years are missing! There is a baffling void in our scientific knowledge of the years between 15,000 B.C. and 25,000 B.C. It's as if those 10,000 years never existed. Modern methods can date ancient relics and bones with a fair degree of accuracy. Anthropologists in Africa have turned the clock back 5 million years by locating and dating human bones indicating that our ancestors were roaming this mud ball even then. Archaeologists have uncovered artifacts as old as 30,000 years—primitive tools and living quarters. But there are no finds from the 25,000 B.C. era to the 15,000 B.C. era. Humans seem to have vanished entirely for a long period of time.

Where did all the people go? Why did all the people go? Why did human life on Earth suddenly come to a complete halt for 100 centuries? And how did it start again?

There are innumerable theories for this anomaly. Believers in the Atlantis legend claim that this fabled hub of ancient civilization was destroyed sometime between 12,000 B.C. and 15,000 B.C. A new civilization then developed in Egypt and the Indus Valley in India.

Did the Quaternary Period (the Ice Age) wipe out some great ancient civilization? If intelligent life existed 5 million or more years ago there was plenty of time for it to grow and flourish before the planet went into the deep freeze (about 3 million years ago). Due to some inexplicable change in orbital mechanics, the Earth turned cold and more than one fourth of the land surface was covered with glacial ice. The ice receded around 35,000 B.C. But that didn't end our troubles. Authorities such as Prof. Charles Hapgood contend that sometime around 12,000 B.C. there was a planetary upheaval. Perhaps the entire globe tilted on its axis. Dramatic changes of climate and topography occurred. Fossils, seashells, etc., found in Africa's Sahara desert prove that it was once underwater. The rich coal and oil deposits of the Arctic and Antarctic are proof that those regions once nourished all kinds of plant life.

Were our ancestors cowering in caves and frantically swinging from tree to tree while these catastrophes were taking place? Or were they removed to a safer place—even another planet—until the crises passed?

Today there are many warning signs that a new global disaster is in the making. The ice at both poles is melting at an alarming rate. The Earth's rotation is now rapidly slowing down at a measurable rate. A distinct wobble is developing around the Earth's axis. The ecological balance of the planet is upset. Major changes of climate

are beginning to occur. The Earth's natural magnetic fields are fluctuating wildly. Even the old reliable sun is beginning to misbehave; the sunspot cycles are changing and explosions on the sun have been so massive they endangered some of our space flights.

Scientists are divided into two camps: optimists and pessimists. The optimists, a minority, claim that the projected calamity is still far in the future. The pessimists believe it will happen in our lifetime, or in the lifetime of our children. The gloomiest speculate it will take place within the next 15 years.

The UFO entities have cashed in on these facts by promising UFO contactees that a massive evacuation will take place and that thousands of carefully chosen people will be removed to a safer place before the Earth enters its painful spasm.

HISTORY REPEATS

How often has this happened before? The Earth is approximately 3 billion years old. Our records of man's chaotic existence extend back only a mere 5,000 years. Beyond that point we have to rely entirely on archaeological speculation and anthropological guesswork. Dr. Leakey found a human skull that was at least 2 million years old. It is probable that intelligent forms of life were struggling here 10 million—even 20 million—years ago. They may have gone through all the stages we have passed in 30,000 years . . . from caves to space exploration. Or just measure our progress in the last 500 years. Five centuries ago most of the world was unknown. The people of Asia, Africa, and South America knew nothing about Europe, and vice versa.

Man's most ancient myths not only describe the presence of gods or superbeings but, interestingly, also claim that mankind was enslaved by those gods. This legend of slavery is found in every culture. The gods ordered men to expend enormous amounts of labor in the construction of seemingly senseless monuments, and to make bloody human sacrifices in tribute. The remnants of some of these constructions resemble primitive airports. (While the Nasca lines in Peru are the most famous, there are many similar structures on every continent.)

Even as the Wright brothers, Ford, and Edison worked on their inventions, which would alter our entire civilization, there were still millions of people in Africa, Asia, and South America living under Stone Age conditions. It is probable that 5 million years ago, and even 30,000 years ago, human life existed in various stages of progress simultaneously. The gods of the cave men living on the fringes of the massive glaciers may

have been advanced earthlings, survivors of an earlier civilization, earthlings who were even then reaching for the stars while the cave dwellers were still trying to invent the wheel. Then around 25,000 B.C. something terrible happened. The advanced culture all but vanished. The few scattered survivors, vastly outnumbered by the primitive cavemen, labored to preserve millions of years of knowledge by teaching the primitives the rudiments of astrology, alchemy, and the laws of magic (which are really advanced physics). The catastrophe of 12,000 B.C. finished off the super-culture and primitive man inherited the Earth.

ARE WE ROBOTS?

All of our great religions teach us that we are "robots," mysteriously controlled by a supernatural force; that we were constructed in the image of our Master. While Darwin's Theory of Evolution satisfactorily explains what happens to life after it is created, it fails to explain the act of creation itself. Today many scientists have abandoned the evolutionary concepts, grudgingly admitting that the more complex life forms on this planet seem to be the product of design rather than some hit-or-miss natural process.

From birth we are programmed in much the same way that a computer is programmed. A genetic code predetermines all of our basic characteristics. This system seems to be augmented by a supernatural system. Millions of people in every generation have their minds reprogrammed by it. It involves a beam of high frequency energy transmitted on the exact frequency of the recipient's brain waves. In many instances, the beam is visible and appears to be a shaft of light coming from the sky, or from an object in the sky. This is a well-observed, carefully recorded phenomenon. In religion the process is called "Illumination." A psychiatrist named Richard Bucke carried out an exhaustive study of the process in the last century.

Today we tend to relate these beams of light and their effects on humans with the UFO phenomenon. Each year thousands of people are the focuses of such beams and, every often, develop increased IQs and dramatic changes of personality after their experiences. Once a relatively rare occurrence, this reprogramming process has become commonplace in the past 30 years. The effect is becoming plainly visible in the worldwide social changes which followed the massive UFO activity of the 1960s.

Did this same mysterious force control men and direct human events 5 million years ago? Is it a force from outer space?

(Continued on page 54)

ANCIENT ASTROS

(Continued from page 14)

(Ancient astrology is really an attempt to interpret this force and its influence through mathematics.) Or is it a force unleashed millions of years ago by some super-culture here on Earth . . . a culture that once had the ability to construct biological robots? Is that super-culture still in command?

THE MONOLITH

The end product of evolution will not be a superman. It will be a machine, probably a super computer. Computer technology is advancing so fast that within a few years we will undoubtedly perfect a mechanical brain superior to the human brain. Transistors and miniaturization will enable us to build this brain compactly. It may be a metal cube a few feet square. It will be self-energizing and practically indestructible but it will be so important to us that we'll probably store it in some thick concrete chamber deep underground.

We are just discovering the psychic potential of the human brain. Experiments in ESP and psychic phenomena are confirming what the ancients knew: that the human mind can, within certain limitations, manipulate physical matter and reality itself. Our

super computer will have this same capability—but to a very advanced degree. Its sensors will inform it of everything that is happening on Earth. It will be able to read the minds of the survivors of the next cataclysm, and perhaps even control them. Their descendents will worship it, having lost all memory of our civilization. They might build a temple around it and guard it zealously without ever knowing exactly why.

This may sound like a outlandish concept, but our civilization is heading in this very direction. Our space program is winding down. If—when—real economic disaster strikes we will abandon our dream of colonizing the planets altogether. Development of the super computer, a kind of ultimate dictator for the whole planet, will assume priority. Thirty years ago the first crude UNIVAC computer filled a whole building, and it was inferior to the pocket computers you can buy today in any electronics store. The super computer of tomorrow will be designed to run the whole world more efficiently and more objectively than any man could.

Stanley Kubrick's movie *2001* visualized such a computer. A slablike monolith that influenced apes and turned them into men. A mechanical god placed here by the denizens of some other planet to watch over us and guide us.

Such a monolith may already exist on Earth. It may have been built millions of years ago, and it is growing old and tired, so it is guiding us to a point where we will be able to replace it with a new model. And then we will vanish and future archaeologists will be puzzled because human history will seem to cease after the year 2000 A.D. Then around 12,000 A.D. a cave man will be clawing his way over a glacier when a beam of light will strike him and he will invent the wheel.

Over 2,000 years ago a metallic black cube was discovered in the sands of Arabia and the people of that time viewed it with awe. They actually built a city around it and have guarded it so closely that any non-Arab who dares to penetrate its temple is put to death. A thousand years later the cube—it's called the *Kaaba*—was absorbed into the Muslim religion and became the most prized artifact of Islam. It still exists. It is still heavily guarded in Mecca. Skeptical scientists who have never even viewed it dismiss it as a meteorite. But millions believe it somehow runs the world.

Where did the *Kaaba* come from? Tradition states that it was given to Abraham by a supernatural being. Was this a being from outer space, or was it a straggler from an ancient civilization, or even a psychic projection generated by the *Kaaba* itself? ★