

Ancient Astronauts Modern Mysteries

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UFO PIONEER

Parapsychologist, Dr. Meade Layne, was one of the first serious UFO investigators in 1947 and his *Round Robin* newsletter was a pioneer publication eventually imitated by hundreds of others. In those early years very few educated observers dared enter the flying saucer controversy. Dr. Hermann Oberth of Germany and astrophysicist Morris K. Jessup of the U.S. stood virtually alone. Both were intrigued by the extraterrestrial explanation while Layne took a more unpopular position. He saw links between the UFOs and psychic manifestations. He labeled the UFO pilots "Ethereans" and speculated that they did not come from another planet but were crossing over into our reality from some other dimension or space-time continuum. It has taken ufology nearly 30 years to catch up with him.

In a recent interview, astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek, current leader of the somewhat confused UFO scene, admitted that he is now leaning toward the extradimensional theory. The ability of the objects to appear and disappear instantaneously seems to rule out the more mundane physical explanations, he said.

Dr. Layne witnessed the UFOs mysterious vanishing act in the early years and coined the words "mat" and "demat" (for *materialization* and *dematerialization*) to describe their behavior. Next to the often reported "falling leaf" motion, this was the most frequently mentioned action of the strange aerial objects. Years later, photographers equipped with infrared lenses and film, added to the puzzle by successfully photographing aerial objects which were not visible to the naked eye. Apparently the disappearing act really consisted of an ability to somehow traverse the visible spectrum of light (which is very narrow) and pass from the invisible field of infrared at one extreme to the invisible area of ultraviolet at the other extreme.

It has now been well established, by thousands of sightings, that the UFOs emit both infrared rays (heat) and ultraviolet rays (which burn the skin and eyes). But passing across the visible spectrum is not really an interdimensional action. It seems more likely that

some UFOs are masses of plastic energy which are normally invisible to us, but which can—when the conditions are just right—alter their frequencies and enter the visible spectrum. In other words, UFOs are always present in the skies but can only be seen at certain times . . . or by certain people; people with latent or active psychic abilities whose eyes are tuned to see slightly beyond the visible spectrum. Recent studies by ufologists all over the world have, in fact, found that a majority of UFO witnesses do have some psychic ability. The most exclusive group, flying saucer contactees, are extremely psychic. So although he was subjected to considerable ridicule during his lifetime, Dr. Layne may yet have the last laugh.

ALTERNATE REALITIES

A few years ago Allen Greenfield of Atlanta, Ga., revived Layne's findings by postulating the theory of alternate realities. He wondered if UFOs could not be coming to us from another reality very similar to our own. They had somehow figured out a system for crossing some mysterious barrier of time and space to visit us. They did not come from a distant planet but, in a sense, were our next door neighbors even though we were not fully aware of their existence.

Some of the UFO contactees also spoke of "time travelers" and offered cryptic explanations for the UFOs' amazing abilities. Others who had close experiences with the objects and entities but did not claim direct contact, offered information which seemed to indicate that while the flying saucer occupants looked human, or nearly so, they lacked free wills and were almost robot-like. When they spoke, they seemed to recite like a computer. They rarely revealed any human-like emotions but seemed more like confused ghosts, human-like yet very inhuman. If they came from another reality like our own, it must be a very grim place.

The best clue about their place of origin lies in the definitely unearthly behavior of the objects themselves. Flying saucers do not actually fly (that is, they are not supported by the air in our atmosphere), rather they defy all our laws

of motion. They are not disturbed by turbulent air as our airplanes are, and they have often been seen making right angle turns at incredibly high speeds, demonstrating their disassociation with normal inertia and gravity forces. Of course, if they hail from another dimension, or an alternate reality, their actions may be governed by an entirely different set of natural laws. The forces that bind us to Earth are not necessarily uniform throughout the universe.

If most UFOs are actually masses of energy with the ability to tune their frequencies . . . the vibrations of their atoms . . . up and down the electromagnetic scale, they could not only alter their color while in the visible spectrum, but they could change their sizes and shapes as well. A reddish cigar-shaped object seen at one point could become the silvery saucer-shaped object spotted a few miles away. If the saucer should land and discharge a tall spectral passenger he could actually be an integral part of the saucer itself . . . a robotized extension of the energy mass. The mass would possess intelligence, not the robot. In fact, innumerable witnesses have muttered incomprehensibly, "I don't know why, but I had the feeling that the saucer itself was *alive!*"

Is there an alternate reality populated with living masses of energy something like intelligent lightning bolts?

FROM SEANCES TO SCIENCE

Dr. Layne's method for communicating with the Ethereans was simple but unscientific. He spoke to them through trance mediums and transcripts of some of these amazing seances are still available. As a parapsychologist Layne was familiar with the weird phenomenon of materialization. And it occurred to him that UFOs were following the unnatural laws of psychic phenomena. Their appearances and disappearances could be equated to the materializations of ghostly entities in the seance room.

Spiritualism was all the rage in the last half of the 19th Century and materializations were almost commonplace. Entities would slowly appear in dimly lit rooms and then perform

(Continued on page 62)

ANCIENT ASTRONAUTS

(Continued from page 14)

physical acts, shake hands with the participants, even leave fingerprints in trays of wax. Then they would just as mysteriously fade into thin air. While they came in all sizes and shapes, the most common type was an Indian-like figure with high cheekbones and Oriental eyes. Often these characters wore some kind of metal headpiece. People are still describing such beings except that they no longer pop up in seance rooms; they step out of glistening flying saucers. Ray Stanford, a famous psychic and the twin brother of Dr. Rex Stanford, a well-known psychiatrist, claims to have been present at the materialization of such an entity.

Perhaps the most famous of all the witnesses to materializations was Sir William Crookes (1832-1919). He ranked with Edison and Einstein, and developed the Crookes Tube, forerunner of the X-ray tube and an important

62 ★ SAGA

(Continued from page 62)

ped into a field with a pair of binoculars to look at an aerial object. Later he found the strap on the binoculars had been broken but he had no memory of how it happened, probably because *he was entranced*. He was barely conscious throughout the entire episode in his *Interrupted Journey*, but his wife, Betty, was apparently awake throughout.

More recently, in the Pascagoula, Miss., incident in 1973, Calvin Parker was unconscious while Charles Hickson was only paralyzed. Both men were allegedly hauled into a UFO and examined by weird looking beings with crab-like claws. Was Parker the medium in this case?

If you sift through the UFO literature you will find many comparable cases, such as the Flatwoods, W.Va., monster

step toward the development of modern television. He was also one of the first men of science to become interested in psychic phenomena and he made many important contributions to the then-infant science of parapsychology.

"I have seen a solid self-luminous body, the size and nearly the shape of a turkey's egg, float noiselessly about the room," Crookes wrote. "I have had questions answered by the flashing of a bright light a desired number of times in front of my face . . . *In the light*, I have seen a luminous cloud hover over a heliotrope on a side table, break a spring off, and carry the sprig to a lady

Was he describing UFOs? No, he was writing about things that had materialized in seance rooms. But his most famous experiments were his study of the mysterious "Katie," a female entity who appeared no less than 45 times and permitted the scientist to touch her and even to give her a medical examination. She only appeared after a lady medium collapsed

story of 1952. A young National Guardsman passed out in the presence of that weird creature.

This need for energy could also explain why so many luminous UFOs have been seen hovering around power lines and the antennae of radio transmitters. The late Ivan Sanderson, a zoologist, studied cases of this sort and wondered out loud, "Are we providing a free lunch for energy forms from space?"

Brinsley Le Poer Trench and Gordon Creighton of England, Dr. Jacques Vallée and Aime Michel of France, and most of the leading ufologists around the world have quietly abandoned the extraterrestrial (interplanetary) theory. They now regard the alternate reality of interdimensional concept as a more valid explanation for the things that continue to haunt our skies. Several important parapsychologists such as Dr. Julie

in a trance. (Katie was taller than the medium and different in other ways.) Sir William naturally explored every possibility for trickery but could find no explanation for the phenomenon.

In countless modern UFO cases we have examples of mediumship. One or more of the witnesses collapses before or during the materialization of a UFO or entity. Usually investigators regard this as a reaction to the smell (which is often terrible), or energies radiated by the object. But since these events follow the same course as comparable psychic manifestations, it is more probable that the collapse of the witness contributes directly to the UFO materialization. Parapsychologists have long suspected that the occult force needs to draw on energy from this reality. Human mediums apparently supply this energy. There are also innumerable cases in which cows, horses, dogs, and cats may have been the energy source. Barney Hill, the best known of all modern contactees, step-

(Continued on page 64)

Eisenbud and Dr. Bernard Schwarz have now quietly entered into UFO investigations. Ideas that once seemed laughable are now being carefully considered by a generation of new ufologists. The "hardware boys" (those who believed UFOs were manufactured machines from another planet) have had nearly 30 years in which to prove their case. It is plain that they have failed.

Dr. Meade Layne's Ethereans are beginning to seem more real than the Martians and Venusians of yesterday's ufology. But proving that they come from an alien space-time continuum populated by living energy will be just as difficult as proving they come from another planet with "a superior technology." Earth will be a free lunch counter for a long time to come. ★