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# Skywatch



QUARTERLY OF "CONTACT" (S.A.)

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## EDITORIAL

We have to inform our members that we are changing our name from "International Sky Scouts (S.A.)" to "Contact (S.A.)". Our magazine will remain the same, namely "Skywatch", and apart from the change of name we will be working along the same lines as before.

This change has come about as a result of the resignation of the International Chairman from the I.S.S. and his reason for taking this step. We feel that under the circumstances we would like to stay with the Hon. Brinsley Le Poer Trench, who is heading "Contact". Many I.S.S. members have changed over to this new group because of the recent developments.

Briefly, the International movement of Sky Scouts has its Headquarters in Japan. For some reason best known to themselves, this group overruled the International Chairman in matters of policy and furthermore stated that in future all groups had to swear an oath of allegiance to Japan. The banning of certain books was ordered, amongst them all George Adamski's books. Mr. Le Poer Trench was requested to carry this order out by instructing all International Committee Members to do likewise. This he was not prepared to do and he handed in his resignation.

At our last meeting in Durban we presented members with all

the facts and asked them what their views were. It was the unanimous vote of all present to go over to "Contact". Instead of Sky Scouts we now become known as Sky Watchers.

We feel sorry that this should have happened, but we must remember that each group works towards the same goal though not necessarily in the same way.

We wish I.S.S. groups all over the world success in their undertakings.

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THE FRED WHITE INCIDENT

by Philip J. Human

One night during March, 1961, Fred White and his friend Henry O'Dank were fishing at Paterson's groyne, North Beach, Durban. They were alone. At 3a.m. a light suddenly appeared high in the Eastern sky. It was travelling in a southerly direction when it suddenly changed its course and headed for the spot where they were standing. When it was about 25 yards away, and only about 100 feet above the sea, it stopped abruptly. They were amazed to see that it was a circular craft, at least 100 feet in diameter and lit up with a greenish glow. On top a distinct dome could be seen with large port holes at regular intervals. It hovered at a slight angle for about five minutes, then levelled itself and moved off northwards following the beach for about half a mile to the Dock area where it circled for a few times before ascending rapidly in a steep climb and disappearing down the coast. They had heard a soft whine whilst the craft was in motion, but when it hovered it was completely silent.

Fred had never heard of a flying saucer before, and when Henry suggested that it might have been one, they thought it best not to mention this amazing sighting to anybody.

During the Easter weekend the following year, Fred and a friend Michael motored to Richards Bay for another fishing trip. They decided to camp under some palm trees quite close

to the beach and about a mile away from the village.

In the evening after a day's fishing Michael switched on the car radio but could not tune in to a single station. There was nothing but a noise and static interference. He was justly annoyed and greatly puzzled as the reception had previously been excellent. However, after a light meal Michael decided to retire for the night and Fred went for a walk along the beach.

It was already dark. Not a soul was in sight. Suddenly he heard a high-pitched whine which seemed to come from the east. Then he spotted a very bright light the apparent size of the moon travelling over the sea from east to south at a height of about 200 feet. As on the previous occasion it suddenly changed direction and came travelling up the beach to where he was sitting. It was then only 100 feet above the shore. He became alarmed and backed away as it started descending, but his only escape was to climb the steep embankment. The more he struggled to get away, the more he seemed to dig himself into the loose sea sand. He was afraid as he saw the huge metallic craft, or so it seemed, circular-shaped, and at least 100 feet in diameter and about 75 feet high.

As soon as it settled down the whine stopped. It glowed with a green light that seemed to come from within and once again he saw large port holes at regular intervals. From his vantage point he could see right into the craft. The floor seemed to be covered with strips of foam rubber carpeting. A circular control panel ran along the outer wall. Everything was brilliantly illuminated but he could not see the source of its lighting.

It was then that he noticed a man staring at him from the nearest porthole. He had a fair complexion and wore what appeared to be a shining metallic crash helmet which merged with a high-collared tunic made of blue material. He could only see him from the waist upwards, but he seemed to be muscular and his overall sported no visible buckles, buttons or fasteners. He crossed his arms over his chest and Fred noticed that he wore gloves made of a shiny mesh. He wondered where this magnificent craft had come from, and why it had landed in the first place as no one made any attempt

to alight. They obviously did not need to effect any repairs. The man was still gazing at him and no one else could be seen, although Fred had a strong presentment that several personnel were aboard.

After a full six minutes Fred heard a peculiar hum which increased to a distinct whine as the ship lifted bodily from the sand. The man at the porthole was still there. There was a strong draught which scattered the sand in all directions. It rose vertically, very slowly at first, but as it reached height of about 200 feet it hovered momentarily, then moved out to sea and disappeared from sight at a fantastic speed.

Breathless from excitement Fred rushed to the camp but found Michael soundly asleep and decided not to wake him. Very early the following morning he made his way to the beach to see if there were perhaps any tell-tale marks left by the craft, but if there had been, the tide had obliterated them during the night. In vain he searched for any sort of evidence to show Michael but there was nothing with which to substantiate his story. On arriving back at the camp Michael was playing his radio and he said he wished to know what had caused the electrical interference that had blocked all radio stations the previous evening!

It was during June, 1963 that I first met Fred and heard of his interest in flying saucers. Fred had decided not to tell of his experiences to anybody as he had no wish to be ridiculed by his friends or relations, nor to be massacred by newspaper reporters. I soon realised that Fred knew more than he cared to admit, and after gaining his confidence he shared his experiences with me.

Soon Fred became a regular visitor to our home and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to tinker with my tape recorder or radiogram. Fred took me into his sanctum to show off the very powerful receiving set he had built single handed. He said that most nights after his family had retired he would fool around with the dial and was picking up certain signals which he wanted to explore as he thought they were messages that were being beamed from one planet to another.

On Thursday 8th September, 1966 Fred became ill at work and was taken to a specialist. The X-rays showed that his left lung had completely collapsed and had a large hole. He was immediately hospitalised and booked off work indefinitely. I only heard about it the following Monday and went to see him. I found him in a four-bedded ward, and much to my surprise he looked the picture of health. He then told me the following story:

"It appeared that the morning after being admitted to hospital, and during the visiting hour between 9 to 10a.m. a visitor had walked into the ward, pulled up a chair to his bed and said: You are Fred White! Fred said yes, and he remarked how well Fred was looking.

At first he thought that it had perhaps been another doctor who might have seen him during the night whilst he was asleep and who had come to examine him, but this man made no such attempt. Instead he reached forward to shake Fred's hand and in doing so Fred noticed that he was wearing a gleaming wrist watch which seemed quite unusual. The man spoke with a slightly foreign accent. He was medium height and build, had fair hair which brushed backwards without a parting. His skin glowed with the freshness of youth, although his age could not be guessed. His blue eyes seemed to probe Fred's very soul.

'Tell me what happened Fred' he said suddenly, so Fred explained about a sudden choking feeling and severe pain in the chest he had experienced at work the previous day.

He replied that there was absolutely no cause for alarm and that he was pleased to see the improvement in Fred's condition. 'Now tell me about your work' he continued. Fred immediately understood that he was referring to his interest in radionics and the signals he was picking up at night which no one in the house knew about. But he seemed to know as he smiled and nodded as Fred was telling him all about it. Fred then confessed that he had virtually come to a dead end and did not know what line of action to take next.

'Never mind' said the visitor, 'you will meet a certain man who will help you along. Be prepared for great changes, and there will be contacts!'

The visitor had stayed for at least half an hour and Fred noticed that he seemed uncomfortable in his tailored suit and he was distinctly fidgety.

Then he said it was time to go. As he stood up Fred asked who had told him about his illness. He replied, 'I just knew!' When asked if he would not give his name, he replied that names were of no importance at all. With a smile he said goodbye and walked out of the ward. Soon after the visitor had left, Fred realised that he felt no more pain and the rattle in his lung had ceased.

His doctor examined him that afternoon and was distinctly puzzled at his sudden improvement as no drugs or injections had been prescribed or administered. He suggested more X-rays on the Monday (12th September). These revealed that the lung was once again fully inflated and the hole had been healed without any trace of even a scar. He admitted that he had never come across anything like that before and gave permission for Fred's discharge the next day."

As I listened to this fantastic story I realised that Fred White had undoubtedly been singled out by the space people for a definite purpose, and I was therefore not surprised when he suddenly said that he was absolutely convinced that his visitor and the man inside the flying saucer at Richards Bay were in fact one and the same person. How he had healed him, he couldn't say.

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ESSENTIALS OF ASTRONOMY.

*by Gregory Roberts*

The Planets: Around the central star of our Solar System, the sun, revolve nine major planets, plus several thousand planetoids, and the satellites of the planets. These planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

The first four and Pluto are sometimes distinguished as the Terrestrial planets since their sizes are comparable to the earth's. The remaining planets are called the Giant planets on account of their relatively large size. The planets closer to the sun than the earth are called the Inferior planets, whilst those outside the earth's orbit are the Superior planets. We shall now briefly consider the appearance and visibility of the planets.

Mercury, being the closest planet to the sun, is sometimes difficult to see as it usually sets soon after the sun in the west, or rises shortly before it in the east. At times however the planet reaches its maximum distance above the horizon from the sun and can then be favourably seen as a rather bright starlike object, setting about two hours after the sun, or rising two hours before it. A fairly large telescope is needed to show anything worthwhile on Mercury.

Venus is the brightest of the planets and is frequently referred to as the morning or evening star as at times it is a very conspicuous object and can even be seen in daylight under favourable conditions. Even a small telescope will show that Venus goes through phases like the moon and that she is brightest when her phase is like a two day old moon. Venus is currently a morning star object where she will be for the next few months.

Mars is the mystery planet - or was until a few years ago when Mariner 4 photographed the surface in detail to show features similar to that of the moon, with little or no water. It appears as a reddish star, visible for long periods at a time, with correspondingly long periods of invisibility. Surface detail can only be seen in a telescope when the planet is relatively close to the earth, coming as close as 35,000,000 miles and going out as far as 234,000,000 miles from the earth. Mars has two small satellites and one theory put forward that they are artificial has little, if any support, amongst astronomers.

Jupiter is the giant of the Solar System and is a fine object in a small telescope, showing an elliptical disc, crossed by parallel darkish lines. It can usually be seen for most of the

year, first as a morning star, rising progressively earlier every day until visible through the entire night, and eventually ending up just visible before sunset, after which it passes into the day sky and back to the morning sky again. She has 12 satellites, of which only four can be seen with anything but a rather large telescope.

Saturn is the show piece of the heavens, being surrounded by a ring which is apparently unique in the Universe at present. She has a similar visibility cycle to Jupiter, and is not as bright, appearing as a yellowish star. She has ten moons, the latest discovered last year. Twice every  $29\frac{1}{2}$  years Saturn becomes ringless as the rings either present their edge to the sun, the earth or turn their unilluminated side towards the earth. The rings are currently opening out after having being invisible for a short spell last year.

Uranus is difficult to see with the naked eye but can be seen if one knows exactly where to look, appearing as a 6th magnitude greenish star. A telescope will show a disc with a white equatorial belt and little else. Uranus has 5 moons.

Neptune is even more difficult to see than Uranus and is not visible to the naked eye under any conditions. A large telescope is required to show a disc which has little detail. Neptune has 2 moons.

Pluto discovered in 1930 requires a relatively large telescope to see it as a starlike object and no detail has been seen on its surface by any telescope. As yet no moons have been discovered.

The next article will deal with the sun, moon, planetoids, comets and meteors.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE BOOK

"I HAVE BEEN ON THE PLANET MARS"

by *Narciso Genovese*

PART II

The Story so far:

Narcosi Genovese the Italian scientist and pupil of Guglielmo Marconi claims to have been one of nine scientists to have contacted the "Visitors" from Mars who helped them to build space ships in underground workshops in the Andes in S. America.

After help from Martian technicians the space craft were built and they were then taken on a journey to the moon where they changed their small craft for a gigantic disc-shaped ship for their journey to Mars.

This space ship now travelled in convoy with another ten vessels, from Moon to Mars. The average speed of the convoy was 3,800,000 miles per hour (Speed of light 670,000,000 m.p.h.)

On approaching the planet Mars the Satellite Phobos was sighted. This was called SORI by the Martians. On the surface of Mars, islands, inland seas and continents were visible.

This convoy was met by thousands of smaller craft. These were Martians, who came to welcome the visitors from the planet Earth:- The whole population of Mars had been advised and many had come to meet the convoy.

The landing was uneventful and the party were met by three leading personalities on Mars. After the formalities the nine Earth visitors were taken to a beautifully prepared building where they were to stay for their five days on Mars.

During this time every effort was made to let Earth visitors experience as much as possible of life on this planet.

Geographically they learnt that two thirds of the surface

area of Mars was land and one third water; the land was mainly flat with a few mountains, not more than 6,000 feet high and the water was in the form of lakes and canals. The oceans as we know them were non-existent.

Phobos was an artificial satellite (this has already been discussed by Earth scientists). Total population was approximately 600,000,000. Agriculture and forestry were practised and as mineral deposits were great, metallurgy was a highly advanced science.

Political and social life were totally different from Earth's. The Martians had a "board of Governors" chosen by majority vote. No army or police force was necessary as the breaking of the law was regarded as a malady and treated accordingly.

Medicine was highly advanced and much research done on the brain; preventive medicine was practised and aimed for as the body was regarded as the "Temple of the Soul".

The women filled the role of teacher as there were no schools for the young as we know them. All children were taught in their own homes.

Religion was the corner stone of the civilisation and God was known as SUNDI to the Martians. They taught that "God is" and "All exists through God". Death was not regarded as final and not viewed with the same tragedy as on Earth.

So we come to an end of Narciso Genovese's book; the author says:

"The Martians come in peace and look forward to our friendship".

For those who would like to read the original book, the

title is "Yo He Estada end Marti" published in Mexico in 1958 or in German "Ich Bin auf den Mars Gewesen" published by Ventla Verlag in 1964. (The latter is a translation of the Spanish). These can probably be obtained through the publishers.

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FLYING SAUCERS IN THE BERG

*Time: 1.15a.m. - Four witnesses*

*Giant's Castle on  
19th November, 1967*

A very bright instense star-like object was sighted, travelling in a north-easterly direction at approximately  $45^{\circ}$  above Giant's Castle base camp. The object was in sight for 15 minutes. The Ufo followed a straight course for a few minutes at steady speed and then appeared to zig-zag after which it branched off at  $45^{\circ}$  angle to original course. Then suddenly it stopped dead. It then dropped vertically at great speed and hovered for a few minutes. To return to its original course and disappear in the clouds. Approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  minute later it appeared again - flew in what appeared to be a square, and then slowly disappeared. -To begin with the object was as bright as Venus, but as it travelled it became less brilliant and smaller.

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OPTICAL ILLUSION OR FACT?

*by E.H. Viles, Durban.*

Do you believe anybody when he says he has seen a flying saucer? This is the problem one faces when one has seen celestial craft. Do you laugh at them or take them seriously?

I will stick my neck out and say I have seen five such machines in approximately 19 years. Do you still believe me? I do not think you would be members of CONTACT if you did not believe to a certain extent.

My first sighting was a mother ship over a district called Bedford View near Johannesburg. I was on my way to visit a friend who lived over the crest of the hill and about to go down the other side when there was this gigantic object just raising itself from the ground about half a mile away. This must have been a mother ship because of its sheer size. Standing on end like a cigar with a ring rising to the middle. The ring being the motive power. (As someone said to me, a big sausage with a doughnut round the middle.) The size of it was about 300 feet high and 100 feet in diameter. It shone a metallic grey as the sun caught it coming out of its shadow. There was a series of windows from top to bottom, round in appearance. I was ten years old at the time.

The second sighting was witnessed by myself and hundreds of other people in 1953. This object came down from the sky for six nights in succession. It stayed in the eastern sky pulsating different colours from green to orange to red to light blue and then back to green. It was a round object in appearance with many windows that could be seen when you looked through binoculars. It flew at a height of about 2,000 feet. After being suspended in space for about a quarter of an hour it moved in a semi-circle towards the north doing 2,000 miles per hour (this was worked out by persons unknown to myself, not by me). After doing these same tactics four times it disappeared into the void of space.

The third, fourth and possibly the fifth craft was the same one seen over a period of two years from my present address, where I can see Woodlands, Rosburgh, Seaview, Cato Ridge and Pinetown with an uninterrupted view all round the Durban area.

I know in my own mind that they are there patiently watching and waiting, and seeking to help us if we would only accept them.

STOP! LOOK! READ! ..... TRENDS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Suggestions have been put forward for the forming of small study groups in the New Year on the following subjects:-

1. Astronomy
2. Space Communication (Electronics)
3. Mental Telepathy
4. E.S.P. (Extra Sensory Perception)
5. Metaphysics
6. Psychosynthesis

Also, all allied subjects which will prepare us in all ways for the coming meeting with the "Visitors from Space".

Will all those interested, particularly those who have any knowledge of these subjects and would like to assist please contact the Secretary.

To those who live away from Durban and would be interested to form one of these groups in their own vicinity, we shall be pleased to be of assistance if necessary.

We feel that these studies will stand us in good stead in our future "Contact" with the "Space People", and aid in a greater understanding of worlds other than our own.

If there are any more ideas that you would like to bring forward please do not hesitate to communicate with the Secretary.

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#### ACTIVITIES IN THE SKIES.

Very little has been reported over the Republic for the last three months. Our observation sheets are practically empty, but there has been a large spate of "sightings in England and many of these sightings have been in the form of illuminated flying crosses.

The Astronomer Royal has now issued a statement to the effect that "there is definitely something going on overhead", they cannot place "these activities" into any known category and seem to be deeply puzzled by the whole phenomena.

Please, watch the skies from now onwards. From a telepathic message comes the information that "they, the visitors" will be with us in great numbers in the following weeks.

Good skywatching and please send in your records.

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### NOTICES

#### MEETINGS.

Thursday, 29th February, 1968. and 31ST MARCH, 1968

Time and place as usual - 7.30p.m. at "The Centre", 3rd Floor, Prince of Wales Buildings, 380 Smith Street, Durban. Doors open at 7p.m.

#### FIELD ACTIVITIES

During the summer months more field activities will be organised. Will all those who wish to partake in Skywatches and Picnics, please, send a postcard with name, address AND telephone number to the Secretary. Sometimes these activities are arranged at short notice and the telephone is the quickest means of communication.

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Questions, suggestions, articles in both English and Afrikaans are welcomed. Acceptance is subject to approval.

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<sup>MS</sup>  
Correspondence Address : Secretary, P.O. Box 2320, Durban.