

Skywatch



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EDITORIAL.

Someone once jokingly asked a U.F.O. enthusiast what the difference is between an elephant and a flying saucer. When this man hesitated, he quipped: "I guessed you wouldn't know!"

We admit that, after all these years, we haven't produced an extra-terrestrial spacecraft for inspection yet. And, frankly, we know very little about them in terms of scientific understanding. While it is very desirable that scientists should understand and explain the nature of U.F.O.'s, their acceptance and evaluation usually comes long after the presentation of any way-out concept or idea.

Although the U.F.O. phenomenon is ancient, research leads science into a sphere which presents too many intangibles. On the other hand, if this sphere of research is understood, then it must become a most guarded secret, simply because in this world of rival powers the survival of their particular ideologies requires at least equal threats of power. For when, or if, it should come to a naked world power confrontation, any power available will be used to defeat the opponent.

The guardians of this planet are well aware of this,

and the treasure-chest is kept closed, save for a slit necessary to gradually release the knowledge to aid man to become cognisant of the next dimension of Life.

It is not in this dimension of existence that the interpenetration of the spheres will conclusively prove the unity of life and all life-forms; naturally the reward or logical result of such an unfoldment is the ability to apply the new laws of this unity.

The power released as a result of this new understanding may only be handled by responsible persons who have made the cosmic grade. Hence, at present nearly all those who display this power are the unidentified ones.

Whilst the phenomena of U.F.O's, and also miracles, in general are merely visible meeting points between this world dimension and the next, the understanding of the operation of the higher laws will remain a well-guarded secret. However, we will continue to aspire to this greater understanding and raise our vibrational quality to match it.

Meanwhile, if someone also asks you what the difference is between a fourth-dimensional saucer and a three-dimensional elephant, the answer is "One D", which makes all the difference between life and death, perfection and corruption, continuity and disruption.

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"The sun, with all those planets revolving around it and dependent upon it, can still ripen a bunch of grapes as if it had nothing else in the universe to do".

Galileo.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BALANCE.

By: Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench.

The U.F.O. subject is vast and contains so many facets that when the researcher comes to look at the whole picture his mind boggles at the enormity and complexity of it all. Let us review some of the questions that arise. Although many ufologists have their own pet ideas on many aspects, there are whole areas of the subject on which general agreement has not been reached.

First problem: From where do the U.F.O's emanate? This is a question that is continuously being asked me by new-comers to the subject and by journalists. Many theories have been advanced. For example,

1. From our own solar system and/or from further afield in our galaxy and other galaxies of our universe.
2. From invisible universes, possibly interpenetrating our own. This is a theory that has been steadily gaining ground during the last few years.
3. From the depths of the oceans. (See Ivan Sanderson's last book "Invisible Residents").
4. From somewhere in Time. In short, Time Travellers coming back to Earth. This is an interesting idea held by some ufologists.
5. From the centre of the Earth - known as the Hollow Earth Theory. The minority of ufologists that hold this view believe that there are hidden entrances in both the North and South polar regions.
6. From a mixture of some or all points 1 - 5.

Second problem: There have been hundreds of reported landings of alien entities during the last few years. The descriptions of these visitors vary immensely. Naked giants with no hair, splendid looking alleged Venusians with long hair, humanoid robot-like types, entities with high cheek bones and slit eyes, hairy dwarfs, the "birdman" with glaring red eyes described by John Keel and others, and many more varieties. Well, what do we deduce from this? The obvious

answer is that all this variety of alien visitors points to the fact that they do, indeed, emanate from different points of origin. However, we cannot be too sure. Many warnings have been given by leading ufologists that these entities get up to all kinds of tricks.

Third problem: There is considerable argument among ufologists as to whether the visitors are friendly, hostile, or just indifferent to mankind on this planet. There seem to be four different viewpoints on this question.

1. Those that state emphatically that all the ufonauts are friendly. To them all the visitors are like those that Adamski claimed to have met. This group of ufologists refuse to accept that any of the U.F.O's could be hostile and do not believe any reported hostile incidents.
2. Those that incline to the view that most of the U.F.O's are hostile. If you tell them that if the U.F.O's were hostile, then they could have taken the planet over long ago with their advanced technology, their answer is that the planet is already owned by the ufonauts. Furthermore, that we are now in the process of being taken over mentally.
3. There is a section of ufologists who believe that a long-term scientific investigation of our planet is being carried out by the alien visitors, and that they are neutral towards us.
4. There is a growing group that consider a battle is going on between the forces of good and evil, and that there are both friendly and hostile entities around. So, you see, once again, there are considerable differences of opinion on this very important point which could have repercussions for the human race.

Fourth problem: Our researches show that flying objects have been seen in the skies throughout history. (See works of Desmond Leslie, H.T. Wilkins, M.K. Jessup, Arthur Constance and Le Poer Trench). It was that indefatigable collector of "erratics", the late Charles Fort, who made the interesting statement that "we were owned". Is it possible that the space visitors are the "missing link" to Darwin's theory, as Otto Binder, the American U.F.O. writer has

suggested, and that we were seeded here from space? The famous verses in Genesis vi. 2 and 4 certainly suggest interbreeding between the visitors and mankind. This, then, would certainly underline the proprietary interest the U.F.O's have shown in us for thousands of years. If too, they had interbred with us, then they may have done the same on thousands of planets throughout our universe. An interesting thought.

Fifth problem: There are many stories printed in books and magazines about abductions of planes, people, cattle and sheep. Tales too, of human beings being medically examined in spacecraft (the Barney Hill case), and of sexual experiences (the Antonio Villas Boas case). Then, there are the many reported teleportation cases (see Gordon Creighton's articles in back issues of Flying Saucer Review). Are these events true or false? Finally, there are the hotly debated reports of Men in Black. Those mysterious beings that have allegedly harrassed or silenced U.F.O. researchers.

In this article I have tried to give a summation of some of the many undecided problems facing U.F.O. researchers. Just a few of the ingredients that go into the hot U.F.O. cake. What we all want to establish is the real truth about the U.F.O's and whether the U.F.O. cake will eventually nourish or poison us?

I have written elsewhere that in the study of U.F.O's we should not necessarily accept anything nor reject anything, but find a place in the storehouse of our minds for the event or idea that comes to our attention, however bizarre it may seem at the time. Something later may turn up which will validate the first occurrence or idea. This is the scientific method.

What we must realise is that some or all of the visitors are, perhaps, thousands of years ahead of us in technology and in the use of Extra Sensory Perception (ESP).

Therefore, we should not look at this subject solely on the basis of our own limited present "know-how". That too, is why when we hear of something quite fantastic such as a large U.F.O. dwindling down in size to a small object no larger than a toy balloon, we should not necessarily accept nor deny the report.

Now, I want to touch upon the question of "goodies" and "baddies". There is now no doubt that there have been both friendly and hostile U.F.O. reports. There have been many examples of U.F.O.'s flying over us quite harmlessly, and there have also been some hostile incidents. The report of the soldiers being badly burnt at Fort Itaipu in Brazil some years ago is a case in point.

If there are both benevolent and hostile ufonauts it behoves us to be on our guard. Both sides are apparently in possession of an advanced technology and capable of E.S.P. powers, and as many writers (Keel, Creighton, Binder and others) have pointed out, the "baddies" can get up to all sorts of tricks, even pretending to be the "goodies".

Now this item about the "baddies" pretending to be "goodies" is where we can be very vulnerable if we are not fully alert. I would emphasize that the most dangerous area is the mediumistic one. Please do not think that I am against genuine mediums. Far from it. They know how to protect themselves. However, they would be the first to agree that there are a lot of charlatans in their particular field, and even some sincere mediums who do not know how to protect themselves properly, and allow entities to take over and speak through them who are "false prophets". There are literally scores, possibly hundreds, of U.F.O. and so-called spiritual magazines, especially in the U.S.A., putting out alleged "messages of Light" from Ashtar and other so-called space entities.

I have a high regard for the thinking of John A. Keel, the foremost American ufologist, although I do not necessarily agree with all his views. However, he has done a signal

service in exposing some of these fake messages.

Students of the U.F.O. Phenomenon must retain a balance. It is essential that researchers exercise the greatest possible care and discretion about putting out purported messages from alleged space entities received through mediums. I am not saying that there is not a really genuine Ashtar, but there are too many messages from Ashtars putting out contrary information. At the same time I am not suggesting that you turn solely into "nuts and bolts", although the research side is of equal importance. I think that the spiritual, metaphysical and philosophical side of our subject is of tremendous importance, and also the study of ESP, as I have already indicated that the ufonauts use these powers.

All I am asking for is a sense of balance. This is most important. In short, please do not get carried away by mediumistic messages, or for that matter on any particular aspect of the subject. It is the whole picture that counts. This does not mean that you cannot specialise on any special aspect. That is something to be encouraged, and Dr. Allen Hynek, former consultant to the U.S. Air Force's Project Bluebook in a recent Talk sponsored by Flying Saucer Review at the Kensington Library, emphasised the importance of people specialising in various aspects of our subject. It is so big that this is of paramount importance. However, I am asking you all to keep the whole picture in perspective and not get carried away by mediumistic messages. This could be highly dangerous and I would be failing in my duty if I did not pass on these words of warning.

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(We are publishing the above article by Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench, instead of his usual feature, "You and Me". We do feel that he has sound advice for all "Contact" members. We will be publishing the next article entitled "You and Me" in Skywatch No. 25.)

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SIGHTINGS OVER SOUTHERN AFRICA

12.11.1972. MIDDELBURG (Eastern Cape):

A large number of residents watched a U.F.O. move over the town during the evening. The object varied in colour from white to red and blue, and also changed its shape. Just after 9.30 p.m. it seemed as if it was landing near a tennis court at the Rosmead Primary School. The object apparently tore huge holes in the all-weather surface of the tennis court, and scattered pieces of tar up to 14 metres away. Colonel van Heerden (District Commandant of Police, Middelburg), personally went to inspect the damage to the tennis court. There were five holes blasted in the tar surface. The holes were in a half circle, with a large hole in the centre and two smaller holes on each side. The biggest hole was about 4 metres long and 1 metre wide. The others were of the same length, but only half as wide.

17.11.1972. MIDDELBURG (Eastern Cape):

Several people observed a ball of light in the sky, and Mr. G. Pretorius, who was driving with his family on the Graaff Reinet road at about 8 p.m. received "the shock of my life". He watched the glowing ball, which he estimated to be about half a kilometre away over the Ouberg, descend before hovering about three metres above the ground. He said that he then saw two beings resembling men, but about a metre tall, alight from the ball, which appeared about the size of a full moon. Each of them carried a torch-like object in their hands. They were a sort of glowing red colour, and the entire Ouberg was lit up by the ball, so that for a time it was practically daylight. After about a minute the "men" and the object just disappeared. The Postmaster, and Colonel van Heerden, went up the hill where the object had been seen, but no trace of it could be found.

21.11.1972. CAPE TOWN:

Mrs. A. Ritz of Newlands, reported that a U.F.O. had been seen near her house. There was a bright blue flashing light above her garden at 8 a.m., accompanied by a loud "swishing" sound. The maid claimed that she had seen a luminous object moving among the trees in the garden. She could not distinguish any definite shape as the light from the object dazzled her. Nothing was found in the garden after the light had gone.

27.12.1972. SOMERSET WEST:

An engineer and his wife (who have asked that their names should not be published) are convinced that they saw a U.F.O. at 10.20 p.m. They saw a light, which they at first thought to be a shooting star, until they realised that it did not peter out, travelling at tremendous speed. It was an orange-red colour and oval in shape, and was travelling below the patchy cloud that was in the sky. It was travelling from east to west, but then suddenly veered to the south and disappeared.

7.2.1973:

An unidentified flying object flew alongside an aircraft which was on a routine flight from Beira to Lourenco Marques. The object flew at a speed of 850 Km/hour for some time before disappearing.

9.2.1973. DURBAN:

Mrs. H. Fuller spotted a chandelier-shaped object at 1 a.m. She described it as a jagged circle of light which moved slowly over the town and then going higher before disappearing.

RHODESIA has also been having a spate of U.F.O. sightings recently. Five were spotted over Salisbury in October,

four more were seen in November, and several during December. This is a big increase in sightings compared with the previous year, when only one or two U.F.O's. were reported over Rhodesia.

And now for something rather unusual. No reports of any sightings has come in, but was a U.F.O. responsible for the formation of a mysterious circle, covered in fine dust, which appeared on the front lawn of a Uitenhage (Eastern Cape) house during a night in December? This question is baffling the owner, Mr. J. Landman. The unusual circle was spotted at 7.30 a.m. when Mr. Landman was about to leave home for work.

The circle was about 3 metres in diameter, and the perimeter of the circle was covered in fine, brown dust. Inside there appeared to be another circle, covered in grey powder. In the centre there were imprints as if something had been standing there. Mr. Landman could not make out what had happened during the night, but a neighbour had heard a commotion, and dogs in the vicinity had barked incessantly. Meanwhile, police were investigating and they have taken samples of the soil.

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DAFFY DEFINITIONS

Witch - flying sorcerer.

Meteorologist - one who whethers a storm.

Prayer - ground to air missal.

Earthquake expert - a fault-finder.

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IN PASSING

The Apollo 17 moonflight is now over and this brings to a close the series of manned moonflights. Whither now?

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) plan to launch a Skylab next April. This project will be carried out for a wide variety of scientific, engineering and biochemical experiments. Amongst other tasks, Skylab instruments will look skyward to gather data on solar events. With the large telescope attached to the space station, it does seem that there will also be a chance of detecting "life out there". And this question seems to be occupying more time of late, or is it just that we are reading and hearing more about it?

During September, 1971, the world's first Conference on Communication with Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence was held in Soviet Armenia. Visitors from other countries included outstanding radio-astronomers, physicists and biologists. They included leaders of radio astronomy teams who have already begun searches for alien intelligence, notably Dr. Frank Drake and Russia's Dr. Vsevolod Troitsky (Doctor of physical mathematics in charge of the famous radio astronomy observatory at Gorky).

Since this exchange of ideas and knowledge, it seems that there is now to be that longed-for pooling of resources and technology, as it was recently announced by the Space Agency that veteran astronaut Thomas Stafford is to command the U.S. crew for the American-Russian joint space flight in 1975. Does this indicate that the knowledge of other civilizations in the universe will help man to recognise brotherhood on earth?

At this Conference, it was revealed that an elaborate sky watch is now being made in the Soviet Union. The search is being concentrated on 50 selected stars in our own neighbourhood.

Now the Russians are preparing a major new astronomical project in the spurs of the Northern Caucasus. On Mount Semirodniki they have built an observatory to house the world's biggest optical telescope. Nearby at Terenchug they are building an incredible radio telescope of 600 metres in diameter. The object? "To catch faint signals from distant stars and nebulae and to maintain long-range space communications".

Certainly, there seems no doubt in their minds that life is universal. As for Ufo's? Professor Troitsky has been quoted by author Henry Gris as saying recently: "I do not believe that your so-called Ufo sightings are proof of reconnoitring from outer space. I tend to see them rather as natural phenomena embellished by imaginative minds. Yet I do not exclude such reconnoitring at some future date. The point is, that when it does occur, the reconnoitring will prove more determined and more obvious". However, Professor Troitsky does admit that even theories must be based on observations and findings, and some findings may be wrong, or in time be proved wrong.

Meanwhile, any offers to start a branch of "Contact" in Russia?

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"People who do not believe in miracles are not realists".

David Ben-Gurion.

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Seen on a church notice board: "Conquer inner space".

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The astronomer's exclamation: "My heavens!"

Book Review.

"UNINVITED VISITORS".

By Ivan T. Sanderson.

The author takes the reader on a very thought-provoking journey, and if read with an open and probing mind, one emerges from this book with a different outlook on the subject of U.F.O's. Ivan Sanderson believes that the evidence shows that the greater part of the U.F.O. phenomenon is a biological matter.

Although ordinarily biology occupies itself with the study of life, as in organisms, the author enlarges the reader's concepts of organisms to the extent that he finds himself, if not possessing a new openmindedness regarding the subject of U.F.O's, at least acquiring a new thoughtfulness that there must be a great variety of U.F.O's, including cosmic or higher dimensional organisms.

Ivan Sanderson calls the objects U.A.O's, or Unexplained Aerial Objects, and departs from the term U.F.O. since these objects do not seem to fly at all. He contends that many U.A.O's seem to display features of animation, volition and control by intelligence. He substantiates this by eye accounts of personal sightings and also those of others. However, the real difference of his investigations becomes clearer when he compares the unusual aerial forms photographed in 1958 by New Zealander, Trevor James, with unicellular life-forms such as the amoebic ones.

When "normal" ufologists are at a loss to understand the strange movements of their U.F.O's, such as small changes in form, the top-like gyrations, pulsations or complete changing of shape, the author looks at them with a biological knowledge of certain viruses

which are amorphous globs in one generation and regular patterned crystalline items in the next. He proposes that not all one sees in the skies in the way of U.F.O's are objects or machines manufactured by intelligent beings, but could be cosmic life-forms with their own pattern of existence. Or maybe some are a combination of these two possibilities - some extra-terrestrials may have the knowhow to construct machines along biological lines; these could have been copied from existing life-forms which have already adapted themselves to life in space. He also faces the possibility that intelligences are able to breed these animals or life-forms, or even create them, by purely biochemical means.

There is some speculation amongst the biochemical geneticists on earth that their current research suggests that in the not too distant future they may be able to breed entirely new life-forms by test tube, or even human or humanoid geniuses. Sanderson advances the possibility that extra-terrestrial civilisations have reached this point already, creating all manner of entities for different purposes. "Living machines" could be constructed with space within for other living entities. In other words, "could some of the U.F.O's be alive? And what about their occupants?" The author makes the assumption that, seen in this light, most of the occupants could be robots not only in a mechanical but also in a biological sense, with the overlords remotely directing the whole operation, whatever the purpose might be.

He also deals with the enigma of the human form which the extra-terrestrials seem to have. He poses the question why these beings that may come from different solar systems should look like us? Since coincidence must be ruled out, he comes forward with some straightforward answers. Either the human body is the logical form that intelligent beings need to exist in the Universe or we terrestrials are the off-spring of the extra-

terrestrials. He also mentions "the men in black" and the gypsies who look like us, but, so he maintains, are not of us.

He certainly arouses the curiosity of the reader in his last chapter, called "A concept of cosmic evolution". One has to possess a great mental versatility and willingness to follow the author's leading. Everything is just fine when he prepares the reader's mind to acknowledge the great changes of the form in the life-cycle of a moth, starting with the ovum, and taking one through the cycle of the metazoan form of life, the caterpillar, the chrysalis stage and back to the moth.

It is here that he points out that we earthlings go through these same stages, but because the events are telescoped in time, they are not so clearly differentiated. At the moment, he believes, we are in the chrysalis stage, but the future may hold that we will change into our ultimate parental form (like the moth) and be utterly free from gravity or the conservation of energy, and thus be at liberty to visit other worlds and as true cosmic parents repeat the creative cycle.

Having in mind that some, if not most, of the Unexplained Aerial Objects display signs of intelligent life themselves, he clearly points to the sky, or rather the ether, and says that it is there where we will receive our ultimate form and may become what we now term a spaceship or U.A.O.

If the conclusion is a startling discovery that the reader has not quite grasped the way in which he was being led, then it must be remembered that it is not frequently that a very "unstuck" and versatile person with a thorough biological training takes a good look at U.F.O's. Certainly we will transcend our earthly ways of life and, who knows, we may have to change our human form in aeons to come - after all, what we took on we can shed.

MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

DURBAN: March: Wednesday, 28th at 8 p.m.
 April: Wednesday, 24th at 8 p.m.
 May: Wednesday, 23rd at 8 p.m.

Meeting Place: The Centre, 3rd Floor, Progress House,
Hermitage Street, Durban.

JOHANNESBURG: March: Monday, 5th at 8 p.m.
 April: Monday, 2nd at 8 p.m.
 May: Monday, 7th at 8 p.m.

Meeting Place: For further information in connection
with these meetings, kindly contact
Mrs. E. Klarer, at 1 Murray Gordon Mansions,
67 Jan Smuts Avenue, Johannesburg.

EAST LONDON: Please contact Mrs. Una Ryder-Clark of
7 Mirbalt Court, Belgrave Road, East
London,, for information in connection
with "Contact".

CAPE TOWN: Please contact Mr. Andre Nestel, postal
address P.O. Box 4897, Cape Town, for
information on all activities of this
group.