

Skywatch

QUARTERLY OF "CONTACT" (S.A.)

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EDITORIAL.

In the article "The Importance of Balance" by the Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench (see Skywatch No. 24), he warns us that foregone conclusions do not lead to a balanced understanding. Indeed, we can learn much from his careful and openminded approach to the many aspects of ufology. And it is important to understand that a person who is no longer prepared to change his concepts, is no longer a useful investigator. That there is more to the U.F.O. phenomenon than nuts and bolts have revealed, has been obvious from the moment that the first controversial reports of U.F.O.'s became known. "Controversial", as on the one hand a number of contacts bear out a friendly and beneficial character, whilst on the other hand some contacts have proved to be harmful and dangerous.

It is said that money is the root of all evil, but as money is used as power, it seems that the "use of power for self" would fit the bill more accurately. But even this notion is not of a true causal nature because causes without further causes are only to be found in the realm of Spirit, of Cause, of God, in the realm That Is.

Seen in this light, the great underlying cause must surely be that we are created an image of God, the image of complete universal beingness. This implies that we are

forever free to express and use power to substantiate our thoughts and actions within the scope of our ever-changing understanding.

As below, so above, there is no reason to believe that power could not be misused in the realms immediately above the earth (space or frequency wise). On the contrary, scriptures state that the struggle between good and evil is one of Principalities, and principal forces are not of this world, but belong to higher echelons of existence, and why not in the space realms? In an ancient Hindu legend there is reference to a colossal air battle between two powerful forces who used death rays to destroy each other. Time and again we have heard of the coming of a great war in the heavens before peace can be a permanent possession of men of goodwill.

Although man is always free to use his understanding for good or evil, he is not always free to choose his environment, his earth. For when a great cycle of learning on the human level terminates, an effective division is brought about between those who truly aspire to become Godman and those who wish to remain human. The earth will become the habitat of the first group - a place of peace and power. It is in this ideal environment that this group will be educated and trained to become cosmic citizens or space beings, no longer bound to live on earth. Before this can take place the heavens around the earth will receive a good cleansing. These realms are not only polluted with material, radio-active and psychic debris, but have also become the habitat of innumerable entities, discarnate and incarnate, amongst which could well be evilly-disposed U.F.O. occupants whose actions and behaviour have been reported at times. If the earth is to be the scene of peace and harmony, which we believe it will be, then this latter group will have to be barred from using it any longer as their playground.

"For the span of a thousand years evil will be chained". How, is anybody's guess! But, maybe we may speculate that if our solar system is entering a vast area of intense cosmic radiation as several sources insist, then it may be just

as uncomfortable for these space beings to stay on here, as it is for us now to be exposed to light or heat of great intensity. However, what we do know beyond any speculation, is that in spite of all "free will power games" on and around the earth, there is universal order, and it is this alone which will be responsible for peace to be restored on earth.

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INTERNATIONAL SKYWATCHING WEEK.

This year the International Chairman of "Contact", the Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench, has arranged that Skywatching Week will be held from SATURDAY, 30TH JUNE to SATURDAY, 8TH JULY, inclusive. Please make a note of these dates.

We ask all our members to make a point of keeping a lookout for any U.F.O.'s, or unusual phenomena. Do devote a little time each day and evening to skywatching - this can be done from a window of a flat or a house, and if small groups can arrange this, some time out in the open country spent skywatching would be a wonderful idea. Keep sending out positive thoughts that the space people will give some sign of their presence round our planet Earth. With this concerted effort of positivity on the part of all "Contact" members, there must come a spate of sightings, and maybe telepathic messages and even contact!

Whatever you might have to report in the way of sightings and paranormal incidents, please telephone the message through as soon as possible. Any long-distance phone calls will be refunded if necessary. Please telephone: Mrs. Frances de la Coliniere at Durban, 882877, daily until the 6th of July, after 4.00 p.m. ; and Mrs. Edna Smith at Durban, 69040, daily after 5.00 p.m.

We wish you all a happy and successful skywatching week and look forward to hearing of the results as soon as you can get to a telephone!

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"BETWEEN YOU AND ME".

By Brinsley Le Poer Trench

There are many puzzling aspects of the U.F.O. subject, and one, in particular, is that phenomenon called "Angel Hair". Students of ufology will have heard about the many occasions when this strange substance has dropped from ufo's and draped itself over the countryside.

Two famous examples are the identical sightings in France during 1952, at Oleron and Gaillac, ten days apart. On each of these occasions, the objects left an abundant trail behind them, which slowly fell to the ground as it dispersed. For several hours, clumps of it hung on trees, on the telephone wires and on the roofs of the houses.

It is appreciated that these two sightings are "old hat", but today over a decade later there may be many young people interested in the U.F.O. subject who have not even heard of these remarkable events. And truly remarkable they were! (1).

I consider these two identical sightings as two of the most important ones that have ever occurred, because so much can be learned from them. In my opinion, for what it is worth, the lessons from these two sightings have not been learned. We have not caught on to what was being presented to us in a very obvious way.

Here, however, we are dealing in this article with the Angel Hair aspect, but there is another one, perhaps more important, emanating from these two sightings of the utmost significance, which I will present in a future article.

The trouble is, that when really big sightings occur, we don't pause to think and realise that they may mean something for us to ponder over. We are so busy just jotting down sightings, investigating them, and so forth, that we miss the real purpose.

The late Professor Charles A. Maney, former head of the

Department of Physics at Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, wrote an article some years ago for "Flying Saucer Review" called "The Phenomena of Angel Hair", in which he documented Angel Hair cases all over the world. (2). Since then, many more cases have been recorded.

In my new book, "The Eternal Subject", I have devoted a chapter to a comparison of Angel Hair with Ectoplasm. (3). The latter is encountered in the seance room. I wrote: "This is the substance of which materialisations are formed and which appears prior to a materialisation. It can be likened to a liquid plasticine and flows over things in the room, and can elongate itself to great lengths. It is rather like whitish bubblegum".

When people have been able to collect Angel Hair, it rapidly becomes gelatinous, sublimed in the air, and disappears.

Now, it is possible that Angel Hair, and maybe other oily substances, could be superfluous materialised energy left over from the materialisation of a U.F.O. from another dimension or space-time continuum. Further, that this superfluous material not used drops back to Earth and gradually dissolves back into its own dimension. As I wrote in my last book this, of course, I cannot prove and is only theoretical speculation. However, you may like to think about this.

Once again, quoting from my book: "If this thought has some interest, it could be compared with ectoplasm to some extent. This, we have seen, is a substance which appears in the seance room and from which materialisations manifest. We are not saying that Angel Hair and Ectoplasm are necessarily the same. However, they may be "cousins". Angel Hair may be a by-product of something more closely connected with ectoplasm. Anyway, these ideas may open up a train of thought for ufologists and another field of research".

(For reference notes, please see overleaf).

Reference Notes:

1. Michel, Aime. The Truth about Flying Saucers. Criterion Books, New York, 1956.
2. Maney, Professor Charles A. "The Phenomena of Angel Hair". Flying Saucer Review, Vol. 2. No. 6. November/December, 1956.
3. Le Poer Trench, Brinsley. The Eternal Subject. Souvenir Press, London, 1973. pp. 67-70.

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SPACE COMIC FAN?

Johnny takes his space comics seriously, and likes to know "why?". He wanted to know why one of his heroes was able to walk through a solid wall. It was fortunate that his Dad had seen a large concreting project a few days previously. To enable the concrete to run out smoothly into all parts of the shuttering, a very effective vibrator was used.

"So you see, Johnny", Dad said, "the man placed the vibrator on the freshly poured concrete, but as it wasn't switched on, it stayed right on top, and did not go down at all. But when he switched it on, immediately the vibrator plunged right through and the operator had no trouble at all in moving it up and down, or even sideways. Now, some people know how to switch themselves on to such high vibrations that they just walk through a concrete wall".

"Gee, Dad, I want to walk through walls. Can't I learn how to"?

"Some day you will, Johnny", was Dad's quiet reply.

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Definition of a space probe - pry in the sky.

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IN PASSING

There was great excitement recently in the British Interplanetary Society. when a young Scottish graduate, Duncan Lunan, delivered a lecture entitled "Space Probe from Epsilon Boötis." This 26-year-old graduate in English and Philosophy has studied physics and astronomy, and certainly does not care to be labelled a 'nut', as he has based his findings on a mathematical scientific background.

Mr. Lunan claims that there is an unmanned spacecraft circling the moon, and that it was sent up into orbit by the people of a dying star 13 000 years ago. He states that while researching he came across a record of experiments done by a group of scientists in 1927-1929 about radio signals beamed out into space and a set of peculiar echoes, which kept coming back. These echoes did not just repeat the original signals, but returned ones of different length at different intervals. With the idea that if a space probe from another planet were trying to contact us, the first thing they would probably do would be to plot their position. He plotted these signals into graphs, which on mathematical deduction led him to believe that the star was Epsilon in the constellation of Boötis. (Boötis, the herdsman, is a fairly well-defined constellation which lies near the Great Bear, which he is supposed to be pursuing. Epsilon Boötis is a double star system, circling a common axis, and it is believed that it has been dying for years because of expansion and overheating.)

Duncan Lunan believes that the inhabitants sent out a space craft to try to contact other planets to which they might travel, or which could help, but the thought springs to mind that to leave one dying star for a planet where the inhabitants are apparently bent on achieving the same end result does not seem a very good bet!

The British Interplanetary Society is launching a scientific experiment to try to establish contact with the space probe, and the results are anxiously awaited.

PRIMARY PERCEPTION IN PLANTS.

In the December issue of "Psychic", an article appears entitled: "Plants, polygraphs and parapsysics" by John W. White. He discusses the discovery by Cleve Backster of primary perception in plants. Backster is a polygraph (lie-detector) expert and was one of the four experts called before Congress in 1964 to testify on polygraph usage in Government. He now directs a school in New York City for basic and advanced training of law enforcement officers in techniques of polygraph usage, and also heads the Backster Research Foundation Inc. which he founded in 1965.

During 1966 Backster was doing some strenuous polygraph research, and whilst watering a plant he idly wondered if he could use his testing equipment to measure the rate at which water rose from the root area into the leaves. After connecting the leaf of a philodendron to his polygraph nothing meaningful happened, but after one minute an unusual tracking appeared - a contour similar to a well-known reaction pattern of a human subject who experiences a short-lived emotional stimulation. This intrigued him to such an extent that he decided to investigate reactions in plants due to "a threat to its well-being", which is a clearly recognised means for triggering off emotionality in humans.

Over a period of months Cleve Backster undertook all manner of tests to establish the existence of a perception ability in plant life. To rule out the possibility of human error or unconscious interference, he and a colleague conducted a series of tests using live brine shrimps and automated equipment. At irregular intervals live shrimps were dumped into a pot of boiling water. Three philodendrons, each in a separate room within the premises of the laboratory were wired to their testing equipment. The result was that five to seven seconds after dumping one of the shrimps in the boiling water, the instruments registered a large burst of plant activity.

Since then Backster has expanded his explorations to include fresh fruit, vegetables, mould cultures, yeast and others. All observations supported his hypothesis of an undefined

primary perception capability. Backster hypothesises that an unknown kind of communication signal links ALL living things. "Unknown", he says, "because the communication is not within the known frequencies we use." He has tried to shield the plants with a Faraday screen cage (which prevents electrical penetration) and even lead-lined containers, but this has not prevented the communication taking place.

Further discoveries are that plants are especially attuned to their caretakers. Good thoughts and a happy mood seem to be major factors in the green thumb gardeners.

A report by "National Wildlife" in November 1971 mentioned the memory aspect of plants in which six of Backster's students participated. One was chosen by lot to destroy a plant. Keeping his identity from Backster, the "criminal" committed his deed secretly with only one other plant as witness. Then Backster connected a polygraph to the surviving plant and the six suspects paraded into the room in turn. Five of them caused no noticeable reaction, but when the "killer" stood before the witness plant, it went into a tizzy!

There have been other men who have explored the strange realm of electrical measurement in vegetation. One of the earliest was the Indian scientist-inventor Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose. In Paramahansa Yogananda's "Autobiography of a Yogi", the author gives an account based on his visits to Bose's research centre in Calcutta. It was there that Bose told him: "The tell-tale charts of my crescograph (instrument which can magnify objects 10 million times) are evidence for the most skeptical that plants have a sensitive nervous system and a varied emotional life. Love, hate, joy, fear, pleasure, pain, excitability, stupor and countless other appropriate responses to stimuli, are as universal in plants as in animals."

What Cleve Backster has discovered, or perhaps rediscovered, has met with a wait-and-see attitude from some scientists, but others have written to him requesting further information. More than 20 universities and research organisations are now attempting to duplicate his observations and

thereby corroborate them. Through the work of these people along with Backster and others, parapsysics is thought by some to be pointing toward a convergence of science and religion, because the 'Backster effect' seen in a metaphysical light implies that all life is one. Apparently a signal linkage exists amongst all things, indicating a subtle unity to all creation.

It is significant to state what Cleve Backster thinks of the implication of his discovery. He says: "Before all this started, I used to be pretty much a disbeliever, an agnostic who didn't take the trouble to be an atheist. But now if you asked me, I'd have to reflect the newly acquired insight regarding what higher levels of spirituality really entail. I feel that avenues are now apparent for scientific explorations of previously elusive phenomena such as meditation and prayer. But even more important, it is my belief that such research can give some overdue meaning to one's concept of the soul. It has already done this for me".

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Professor J. Allen Hynek, author of "The UFO Experience", and currently Director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Centre at Northwestern University and Chairman of the Astronomy Department is trying to persuade the United Nations Organisation to undertake a study of Ufo's. Professor Hynek, a distinguished scientist, has served as an Associate Director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass. as well as heading its NASA-sponsored satellite tracking programme, so one would think his request might carry some weight. However, when the U.N. was approached by Derek Mansell, Director of Contact International Data Research Division, with a similar proposal, the reply was that such a proposal could only be given serious consideration if put forward officially by one of its member countries.

There is increasing speculation in some quarters that at least one of the countries represented at the U.N.O. is giving consideration to such a proposal, so we may yet see a United Nations Unidentified Flying Object Investigations Committee.

(Credit - "Awareness", Contact U.K.)

WAS THIS A UFO LANDING?

We have received no reports of any Ufo sightings over S.A. in the past few months, but once again a rather strange phenomenon has occurred in the Eastern Cape.

On the 30th April, Mr. & Mrs. D. Kruger of Queenstown were woken at about 4 a.m. by a strange droning sound. A dull light was shining into the bedroom, but this disappeared after a little while. Later on during the day Mrs. Kruger discovered four oval marks, 23 cm long and 15 cm broad, clearly visible as the grass was dying and turning yellow. Inside each oval the grass was still green. The marks formed an area 3 metres long and 1½ metres wide.

Mr. J.J. Gerber of Queenstown took a Ufo detector, imported from Switzerland, and placed it over one of the pad marks. The machine recorded a negative magnetic field result. But the test for gamma rays proved positive - the first time the machine has given a positive result. Mr. Gerber also found a scorch mark on a black brick porch pillar close to where the Ufo is purported to have landed.

BULAWAYO (Rhodesia):

A red, boomerang-shaped, unidentified flying object was seen by two Bulawayo policemen at 3.50 a.m. on 9th April, 1973. There was a row of dull red lights in a boomerang shape which the policemen watched for half a minute as it moved across the sky. Eight minutes later the object came overhead again before moving off very fast and dropping out of sight.

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It is with great pleasure that we announce the appointment of Mr. Frank van Vloten, who is Secretary of "Contact" South Africa, as one of the Vice-Presidents of "Contact" International. This honour is due to all the hard work both Frank, and his wife Eve, have done to make "Contact" South Africa the growing movement it is to-day. Our congratulations and best wishes go to both of them.

OPERATION TROJAN HORSE

By John A. Keel.

This book is the culmination of four years' documentation and research, and is extremely well-presented. A must for the serious U.F.O. investigator! The author has gone to great pains to establish the reliability of hundreds of ufo reports, has interviewed editors of newspapers carrying ufo stories, called on witnesses and travelled to various "flap" areas - and has come forward with a lot of food for thought!

Many U.F.O. investigators have turned to the parapsychical hypothesis. What is this parapsychical hypothesis? In the words of R.A.F. Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard, KCB, CBE, "While it may be that some operators of U.F.O.'s are normally the parapsychical denizens of a planet other than Earth, there is no logical need for this to be so. For, if the materiality of the U.F.O. is parapsychical (and consequently normally invisible) U.F.O.'s could more plausibly be creations of an invisible world coincident with the space of our physical Earth planet than creations in the parapsychical realms of any other physical planet in the solar system ...".

John Keel feels that many flying saucers seem to be nothing more than a disguise for some hidden phenomenon; they are like Trojan horses descending into our forests and farm-fields, promising salvation and offering us the splendour of some great supercivilization in the sky. Now our reality is based entirely upon what we can perceive with our physical senses, although we may be sensing only a small portion of the existing universe - our world may be a part of something bigger, something beyond our senses and abilities to comprehend. That bigger something is undoubtedly made of energies too - but energies of a different frequency, forming atoms radically different from the atoms of our own world. These energies could co-exist with us and even share the same space without our becoming acutely aware of them. Furthermore, John Keel tries to demonstrate that the U.F.O. entities are directly related to the entities and manifestations involved in religious miracles and spiritual seances.

A neglected part of the U.F.O. evidence consists of the hundreds of sightings in which the witnesses suffered all the symptoms of ultraviolet ray exposure reactions, and the author goes on to give a basic lesson in physics - something simply put for those of us who are not highly qualified in the subject!

Then there is the phenomenon of purple blobs - like small clouds of glowing gas of a blue or purplish hue. Assuming that ufos exist at frequencies beyond visible light, but that they can adjust their frequency and descend the electromagnetic spectrum, then when a ufo's frequency nears that of visible light it would first appear as a purplish blob. As it moves further down the scale it would seem to change to blue then to bluish green. From this the author has classified that section of the colour spectrum as the ufo entry field. When the objects begin to move into our spatial and time coordinates they gear down from the higher frequencies, passing progressively from ultraviolet to violet to bluish green. When they stabilize within our dimensions they radiate energy on all frequencies and become a glaring white. In the white condition the object can traverse distances visibly, but radical manoeuvres of ascent or descent require it to alter its frequencies again, and this process produces new colour changes. In the majority of all landing reports the objects were said to have turned orange (red and yellow) or red before descending. When they settle on the ground they "solidify" and the light dims or goes out altogether. On take-off they begin to glow red again. Sometimes they reportedly turn a brilliant red and vanish. Other times they shift through all of the colours of the spectrum, turn white, and fly off into the night sky until they look just like another star. Since the colour red is so closely associated with the landing and take-off processes, Keel terms this end of the colour spectrum the ufo departure field.

In the book, reference is made to many extracts from the bible, which, when seen in the ufo light, take on a different meaning from the conventional ideas taught by the churches.

The author describes a number of sightings during the flap of 1897, 1909, 1910, over America, Canada, New Zealand,

and over South Africa in 1914. He also poses the question: were all those unknown "biplanes" and "dirigible balloons" space probes from some distant planet, or were they machines operating from hidden bases or a "hidden world" much closer to home?

One chapter in this book is devoted to something many ufo enthusiasts are not aware of - the incidence of unidentified airplanes. These "pirate" airplanes have been busy all over the world since 1896. A common factor which seems to emerge is the grey colour of the aircraft, the short delta-shaped wings, and the lack of markings. Small planes of the single engined type are frequently observed at low altitudes, sometimes flying back and forth in search patterns over places where ufo's have been seen to alight. Like their larger counterparts, they fly at night with their cabins fully illuminated and they have often been seen hedge hopping in rainstorms and blizzards at night when no private pilot in his right mind would even consider taking off.

Keel spent much time investigating the "path" of alleged meteors, and has charted their path. From this he has established what he calls "windows" - these are areas where ufo's appear repeatedly year after year. These window areas seem to form larger circles of activities. Every state in the U.S.A. has from two to ten "windows", and many of these windows centre directly over areas of magnetic deviation.

The author feels that ufologists have only paid attention to the eccentrics - the objects of unusual configurations - and that they are only a deceptive minority of all parapsychical objects flitting about in our atmosphere, but a part of something much greater. These objects might actually be composed of energies from the high reaches of the electromagnetic spectrum, with the source being a form of intelligent energy. Startling? Then what about the "rays" of ancient lore? And if the "space beings" are mere manipulations of energy, then they might be reconstructed at any time - and know no death as death would mean nothing more than the termination of existence for a period of time. Keel speculates that these beings need living energy which they can restructure into a physical form, as in order to materialize or take

on a definite form, they seem to require a source of energy such as a fire, or living thing, human medium or contactee. There is a surprising similarity between descriptions of the manifestation of angels, elementals and space beings throughout the ages, and accounts of little humanoids with supernatural powers can be found in almost every culture. The manifestations have remained the same throughout history - only our interpretations of those events have changed.

The "miracle of Fatima" is mentioned by Keel, and a new interpretation given - rather than a purely religious phenomenon, could this have been another Ufo contact with the silver disc and strands of angel hair?

John Keel started off as a hardboiled skeptic, but within a year of launching into full-time Ufo investigation in 1966, he rapidly changed his views, after some strange first-hand experiences. This is not a subject for wild-eyed believers. It demands a cautious, comprehensive, well-financed investigation by independent, objective professionals unhampered by the petty causes of the cultists and the political machinations of the government agencies!

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BOOK NEWS.

The International Chairman of "Contact", Brinsley le Poer Trench, has just had his latest book published by Souvenir Press. It is entitled "The Eternal Subject", and promises to be an exciting work. We hope to review it in a later edition of "Skywatch".

Erich von Däniken has written another book - "The Gold of the Gods" - and this is the result of a world-wide expedition through Ceylon, Malaysia, South and North America. For those of you who might be interested, his last book, "Return to the Stars", is now available as a paper-back. Bruce Cathie, airline pilot and author of "Harmonics 33" and "Harmonic 695" is at present preparing his third book on the Ufo subject and the theory of an anti-gravitational grid system. Something to look forward to!

MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

DURBAN:

June: Wednesday, 27th at 8 p.m.

July: Wednesday, 25th at 8 p.m.

Aug.: Wednesday, 22nd at 8 p.m.

Venue:

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

JOHANNESBURG:

June: Monday, 4th at 8 p.m.

July: Monday, 2nd at 8 p.m.

Aug.: Monday, 6th at 8 p.m.

Venue:

Kindly contact Mrs. E. Klarer, at 1
Murray Gordon Mansions, 67 Jan Smuts
Avenue, Johannesburg, for details.

CAPE TOWN:

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

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