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# AQUARIAN NEWS



— INCORPORATING —

# SKYWATCH

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**AQUARIAN ESTATES**  
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OUR NEWS AND VIEWS

Since the issue of the first edition of our magazine early in December, the 'rains came' and almost forgot to stop - Natal was soaked to the roots. Our vegetable crop suffered and we had our losses, but through it we learned that at the peak of the rainy season it was wise to plant in small plastic bags under cover and plant out when the danger of floods was over. So at this time of the year in future our press-pot system will be in operation.

The peach trees, although only 20 months old, didn't at all mind the continued dowsing they received and gave us a plentiful supply of the most gorgeous rosy-red, juicy peaches. Next summer, with more mature trees, we can undoubtedly look forward to a magnificent crop of peaches and as peach trees seem to be so happy in our valley, Terry - he's our 'tree man' - intends planting lots more and will also experiment with nectarines and apricots.

To nurse the soil back to health, to the degree that it can respond once more to the life-giving radiations of a cosmic nature, we have commenced a massive compost-making programme. Guy plans to have approximately 50 tons of compost available each month, and as 70% of our compost consists of grass and weeds, Kees put on his thinking cap and welded together a two cubic metre grass catcher which, when full, releases the grass in a tight roll which is picked up by a 'home made' front end attachment to a tractor. In this facet of the work Dan will be Guy's right hand.

Recently our members have swelled to include Dan and Eve from the Cape, Victor who will be with us until October when he commences his studies at the Agricultural College, Errol who is a Yoga teacher from Johannesburg and Gareth and Sue who also hail from the golden city. With this increase in our ranks and the growing weekly and weekend courses, we are needing more accommodation; with the approach of winter tents could afford a little too much fresh air and so plans are afoot for the building of thatched rondavels.

Following along Findhorn lines we are working to a budget. Our expenses are high, but as we have faith in our project and as we give of ourselves to the fullest, we know we have a powerful Ally Who will bring to us others who are prepared to give as we ourselves give. In this pioneering project of ours we are endeavouring to build a Point of Light, Love and Power where all may become aware of the great cohesion of manifest and unmanifest powers, and we welcome all who have a sincere interest in our Peace Retreat, that they too may play their part in the preparation of a better world.

Some interesting Group seminars have been taking place and all participants have enjoyed themselves so much that they have invariably asked for an encore at some future date. Courses are being held monthly by us; these Courses include such facets as Yoga, biological farming, aspects of health, talks on a variety of subjects, etc. etc. Any are welcome to join in these Courses, which are held during the last week of each month. Those not able to be with us for the whole week are welcome to join in for the weekend only. As we now have an attractive and efficient Housekeeper in Eve, we offer full board and accommodation for R5 per day.

Our Homoeopathic Clinic, held on the first Sunday of every month, got off to a magnificent start on the 1st February when Evelyn was kept consulting all morning. After lunch she gave a most interesting talk based mainly on the operation and purification of the physical body. On the first Sunday of each month Evelyn will give a talk on various facets of health. All are welcome, so pack a picnic basket and join us for the day.

Groups wishing to avail themselves of the facilities of the Centre have only to write in for a booking.

Aquarian Estates is looking beautiful - so lush, so green and when taking a walk one unhesitatingly says, "Thank you Father for this beautiful corner", a corner which we will endeavour to mould according to His Laws.

All at A.E. send our readers thoughts of love, peace and goodwill.

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### FROM THE AGE OF LEO TO THE AGE OF AQUARIUS

Approximately 10 000 B.C. to 2 000 A.D.

(Compiled from 'Towards Aquarius' by Vera Reid)

The twelve glyphs of the Zodiac may be considered as the formula of a sequential life process applicable to every manifestation. As one Age is followed by another with the outpouring of its particular energies, so man, the microcosm, reflects the cosmic macrocosm.

From approx. 10 000 B.C. to 8 000 B.C. the Sun, by precession of the Equinoxes, was in the Sign Leo, the Lion. Leo is the Sign of vital power and spiritual kingship; it is ruled by the Sun, the source of light, the giver of life, the symbol of the Divine Father, the heart of the Solar System.

It is a Fire Sign and the Divine Flame stirred the heart and spirit, stimulating the human mind by the upward surge of spiritual energy. During this Age the spirit of the Sun was worshipped, and the Father principle (Spirit) of divinity dominated.

The Sun moved into Cancer, the Crab, approx. 8 000 B.C. and for the next 2 000 years influenced the evolution and growth of man.

Cancer is the Sign of the Mother, family and home; it is also associated with the inner soul life and the emotional and psychic faculties. Its outstanding characteristics are of a nourishing, sustaining, reproductive and assimilative nature. The Mother principle of Divinity therefore held sway during this Age. Cancer is ruled by the Moon, and the Great Mother Goddess, symbolised by the Moon, was worshipped. Being a Water Sign, the Great Mother had a tremendous emotional impact on her 'children', who, close to her breast felt safe and sustained. Ancient rock shrines, e.g. Mount Vaticanus and the Ka-aba were places of assembly from ancient times (rocks are the haunts of crabs). Today we refer to this Mother Principle (matter) as the forces of nature, or simply Mother Nature (the kingdom of the Devas and Nature Spirits).

When the Sun moved into the Sign Gemini (6 000 B.C. to 4 000 B.C.) the psychic and emotional qualities of Cancer

were replaced by those of an entirely different character. Gemini (The Twins) is an Air Sign, which is mental, and so reasoning power, ingenuity and invention came to the fore, further stimulated by Mercury, planet of the intellect and ruler of Gemini.

Duality was the outstanding feature of this Age, as both Gemini and its polar opposite, Sagittarius, are dual Signs. Man, child of the Earth, is a creature of dual nature (consciousness) born in the union of spirit and matter. Traces of dual organisation in both social and religious life existed in ancient civilisations and appear to have formed the background for a set of religious ideas founded on the worship of dual entities, e.g. the ancient Assyrian gods Nebo and Tasmut his wife. Pairs of gods, identified with sacred pillars, are frequently found at the gates of Babylonian, Assyrian and Egyptian temples. Man, composed of an immortal Soul, functioning in a mortal body, is constantly torn in opposite directions - the higher is ever at variance with the lower; unity between the two is the ideal to be achieved.

In each month (Age) of the Great Year, spiritual evolution is quickened and redirected by the teaching of the great Initiates. The life and words of Rama Chundra is contained in the epic 'Ramayana', and although it was only written down in its present form in the fourth century B.C., there is no doubt that it was taught and transmitted orally for many thousands of years. Rama, an incarnation of Vishnu, the all-pervading supreme creator, is said to have lived and ruled as king on earth. Duality is the theme of the 'Ramayana' and describes the struggle for victory between the forces of good and evil.

The age of Taurus the Bull, 4 000 B.C. to 2 000 B.C. corresponds to that stage in individual development when the child seeks security in possessions and the collecting of whatever seems precious to him. During this Age, Egypt rose to the height of her glory and power, and gives the most complete picture of contemporary life and thought and is an example of the racial stage when the accent was on materiality. The imprint of Taurus can be seen in the size and magnificence of the Egyptian buildings, and Scorpio, its polar opposite, in the preservation of the body after death.

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Under the influence of Venus, ruler of Taurus, Egypt was a peace-loving, artistic and prosperous nation, mostly concerned with material prosperity and practical philosophy.

Religious ceremonies centered round a living animal, the bull 'Apis', who was held as the earthly representative of the god Apis, who lived in the underworld. Apis was one of the many names of Osiris, the national deity of the Egyptians, who traditionally was a divine Being who in remote ages reigned as king on earth. It is possible that Osiris was one of the great Initiates who, in the Age of Leo, recreated the spiritual life of mankind, and who, in the Age of Cancer, became the god of fertility and the son of a Mother Goddess, and again in the Age of Gemini was a brother wind god, and again in the Age of Taurus was known as the god Apis, Orirkapi or Serapis (a combination of Apis and Osiris).

The materialistic qualities of Taurus and Scorpio are evident in the orthodox religion as it was taught to the people, and their latent force, secrecy and occult power are apparent in the mysteries for which Egypt became famous in the Age of Taurus. The ancient mysteries of heaven and earth were also those of the cult of the Dead, whose initiatory rites are compiled in the famous Egyptian 'Book of the Dead'.

The worship of the Great Mother Goddess was also revived in the Age of Taurus as Isis, Goddess of the Moon, and bride of Osiris:

"I, who am Nature, parent of all things, queen of the elements, the greatest of all Divinities, who is venerated by all on earth, according to the multi-form shape in various rites and different appellations".

(Other names of the Mother Goddess are Minerva, Venus, Diana, Proserpina, Ceres, Juno and others). During the Age of Taurus, the Minotaur, half man half bull, was the national deity of Crete. In Nineveh it was the human-faced winged bull. Bass reliefs in the British Museum also show evidence of the cult of the bull in Assyria and Babylon. In this Age Britain was known as the 'Island of the White Bull' and today we have the prototype 'John Bull'.

A.H.

(This article will be continued in the next edition).

WHAT IS IT?

- Atlantis ... The continent that was submerged in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; it was the home of the Fourth Root Race, whom we now call the Atlanteans.
- Ashram ... The centre to which the Master gathers the disciples and aspirants for personal instruction.
- Aura ... A subtle essence which emanates from human and animal bodies, and even from all things; it is electro-vital and electro-mental.
- Buddha (The)... The name given to Gautama. Born in India about B.C.621, He became a full Buddha in B.C.592. The Buddha is one who is the 'Enlightened', and has attained the highest degree of knowledge possible for man in this solar system.
- Deva ... (or Angel). A Deva is a celestial being. Devas are divided into many groups and are called not only angels and archangels, but lesser and greater builders.
- Elementals ... The Spirits of the Elements; the creatures involved in the four kingdoms, or elements, Earth, Air, Fire and Water.
- Kundalini ... The power of Life: one of the forces of nature. It is a power centered within the spine.
- Lemuria ... A continent which preceded Atlantis - it was the home of the Third Root Race.
- Macrocosm ... The great universe, literally; or God manifesting through His body, the solar system.
- Microcosm ... The little universe, or man manifesting through his body, the physical body.

## A CLARIFICATION OF LOVE

At this particular period in the life of mankind, we are experiencing a revolution in our understanding of love. No longer confined to personal relationships, we discover love to be a universal energy. As awareness of our solar environment becomes clearer, it is apparent that certain qualities or types of energy are more profoundly present than others. In a myriad of ways it is being revealed that the predominant characteristic of life in this universe is love.

Love is neither a sentiment, an emotion, nor a desire. Love is the action of a transcendent power and process within us. Love does not begin in us and end in the ones we love; it has a cosmic source, flows out through us and goes on without end. The more we love, the more love can reach out through us to others. This clear light of love as an attractive energy will sweep away the pain and sorrow of ignorance and isolation, revealing joy as the keynote of the coming new age.

This force of energy called love, expressing on Earth as planetary relationships or love of humanity, is a major lack in the character of many. There are limits to our capacity to love humanity as a whole, and it is the transcending of those limits which constitute one of the main problems of humanity today. For centuries we have seen this basic and abundant energy through the unenlightened eyes of our personal capacity to understand; we have taken love personally and made it small, ritualised, cramped and rigid by our definition. Those wise men of history who have seen through the clear eyes of the soul that cosmic radiance, the light of unity in all Life, have attempted to pass on their insight into the magnificence and power of the energy of love which pervades the universe. And how painstakingly slow we have been to learn to respond to that energy.

It has been said that the light of knowledge is of planetary origin, while the light of love is of cosmic origin. Does this perhaps explain why the human family responds as a whole more readily to knowledge than to the finer energy of love? Can response to love and the expression of love in our daily lives be simply the next step forward from active intelligence?

A clarification of love can be better understood when the effects of response to this cosmic energy are seen. When one loves truly and freely, this love is far too potent, too all-encompassing to direct towards or at an individual, although it can be personally shared with many. It is so expansive that without effort one who loves recognises his unity with all that lives and breathes, impersonally, impartially, compassionately. It is this energy which plays upon and around us daily to which we respond or react in our relationships with others. If we could but see, we would realise our relationship with every member of the human race, with every kingdom in nature, with every planetary system, with every star and every state of consciousness. There is nothing existing which is not intrinsically related with every other thing or being in life.

When these relationships are discovered, revealed or seen as the lighted lines of loving relationship they essentially are, true brotherhood, right human relations, inclusiveness, sharing and co-operation will be the result or effect among the human family.

Simple and scientific instructions were given to humanity nearly 2 000 years ago concerning this cosmic energy of love. We were told to love God and to love our neighbours as ourself. We were also told that in what measure you mete or give it out, it shall be measured back to you. Here in these two clear sentences is the law for working with the energy of love. Mankind, through a multitude of bitter experiments will come one day to the realisation that life, lived as Christ taught and lived, is the only method through which happiness and harmony for the individual, as well as the race, can be attained. There will be no need for fresh revelation until that already given is applied, lived and understood. It is still too often the case that people say they love humanity, but in truth they barely tolerate their neighbour. Until we apply these instructions within our daily affairs and environment, how can we possibly come closer to the truth of love?

For us to love God and our neighbours as ourselves is the most reasonable of instructions when we realise that whatever we give out is given back to us. If we would be loved - we have but to love; if we would have friendships -

we have but to give friendship; if we would have compassion - we have but to give compassion. But it is up to each of us to initiate the cycle. As we experiment with this instruction over a period of time the validity and truth becomes apparent. As we become initiators within our own circles, giving out the wealth of the energy of love as goodwill in our environment, we follow in the footsteps of the wisest men of the ages.

Each new age proceeds from the changed heart and attitude of each individual man and woman through his own effort. The need for men and women of goodwill trained in the technique of modern methods of expression is pressing. Today there are thousands of such people in every land, on every continent, who have a just appreciation of truer values, who are emotionally balanced and who desire to be of service to humanity more than they desire personal achievement.

As one by one we bring harmony into our own lives and relationships through responsiveness and sensitivity to the energy of love and goodwill, so too will nations become responsive to the practicality of co-operation and goodwill as the preferred form of international relationship. Love is universal in quality, scope and potency, and is inherent in every atom of matter and every beam of light. It is intrinsic in life itself, abundantly available and apparent to those who choose to see it and to use it for the good of others. This energy which symbolically flows unending from the Aquarian water pitcher IS the 'Life more abundant' poured froth for thirsty men.

(This article is one of a series of radio programme texts, copies of which are available from Triangles, International Headquarters, 235 Finchley Road, Hampstead, London NW3 6LS).

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"The advent of true peace does not depend solely on the wisdom of the great powers, but also on the modification of human thinking and human relationships, and on the dialogues which each of us must agree to undertake with others. The last third of this century will be what men make it. Our responsibility is plain".

(The late Dominique Pire of Belgium, 1958 Nobel Peace Prize Winner)



Extract from:

"THE HIDDEN SIDE OF THINGS"

by C.W. Leadbeater

We must not make the mistake of thinking that the human line of development is the only line. The nature spirits constitute an evolution apart, quite distinct from that of humanity.

In this world of ours the divine life is pressing upwards through several streams of which ours is but one and numerically by no means the most important. It may help us to realise this if we remember that while humanity in its physical manifestation occupies only quite a small part of the surface of the earth, entities at a corresponding level on other lines of evolution not only crowd the earth far more thickly than man, but at the same time populate the enormous plains of the sea and the fields of the air.

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The great Teacher was one day walking along the banks of the Ganges River when a young student rushed up to him pleading, "Please Master, give me knowledge, I want knowledge". The Teacher did a strange thing - he pushed the student into the river and held his head under the water. When the Teacher later helped him out of the water, he said to the student, "What did you desire most whilst I held your head under the water?" "Oh! air, Master, air", he replied. "Yes my son", said the Teacher, "And when you desire knowledge as much as you desired air, then come to me and I will teach you".

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# Skywatch

QUARTERLY OF "CONTACT" (S A)

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## EDITORIAL

The National Skywatch for 1976 has been fixed for the 2nd weekend in April. We hope that all groups in South Africa will participate in this event and we will be very interested to hear, in due course, what plans are proposed for the different groups.

The Durban Group will arrange for a national co-ordinator of information and we suggest that a phone call to Aquarian Estates 033232-1821 be made when there is something interesting to report, night or day, during this time. The Durban Group are planning to hold a seminar and skywatch at Aquarian Estates from Friday 9th to Sunday 11th April where a 48 hour watch will be kept as one aspect of the group work. This will be done on a roster basis throughout the day and night. All country members are invited to take part in this weekend and those who cannot join the Durban, Cape Town or Johannesburg groups are asked to set aside this weekend for a special watch on the skies; invite friends to join you and have some enjoyable open air get-togethers.

To all who read this magazine we invite you to participate, wherever you may be; we will endeavour to make contact at all levels and we will also attempt a telepathic contact.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

by Frank van Vloten, National Secretary and International Vice-President

For those of our members (and others interested) who may not know what has been going on, the Editor has asked me to write a few words to keep them in the picture.

At the outset, let me say how very sorry we were to hear of the resignation of The Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench, as President of Contact International. This was conveyed to all member countries in his latest international newsletter, received only a few weeks ago. In this country, we have tended to regard him as the father figure of the UFO followers and have tried, over the past few years, to bring him out here on a lecture/holiday tour, but it was not to be. Commitments at home were always very pressing, not the least from his publisher, Souvenir Press. Over the past year or so, the final factor was a series of six close family bereavements which ultimately resulted in his succeeding to the title of the Earl of Clancarty, and which now means that he will have to spend much time in the House of Lords. We would like to extend to Brinsley (as we have come to know him) our deepest sympathies and to say that even though he may be out of sight, to us he will not be out of mind.

Brinsley's successor as President of Contact International is Dr. J. Cleary-Baker, a greatly respected ufologist of long standing. He has been a valued member of the International Advisory Council since its inception, and was, prior to that, editor of the British UFO Research Association's magazine BUFORA Journal. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Cleary-Baker and I feel sure that our very cordial association with the International Committee will remain unbroken.

Contact International is one of the largest UFO

organisations in the world, and embraces 37 member countries at the present time. Of those, we have correspondence of some sort, whether by direct mail or exchange publications, with 16 of them, albeit rather sporadically in several cases. We were disappointed when Contact Rhodesia, in particular, had to close down about 2 years ago, due to lack of interest and support. This is all the more so, in view of the unique teleportation fairly recently of the young Rhodesian couple, Peter and Frances, which was exceptionally well documented in one of the latest issues of 'Flying Saucer Review' and was also carried in Skywatch No. 32. The fate of Contact Rhodesia has been similar to that of several other countries over the past few years, in most cases due to lack of interest, but fortunately the status quo has been fairly well maintained, with new groups in other countries taking their places.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention by name, the countries with which we are in contact, and to thank my fellow I.C.Ms, or others who are good enough to co-operate with us, for the various ways in which they help us. Where this is topical, I will quote short extracts of their UFO news received in the course of the past year, or alternatively, give the name of the relevant UFO publication, as I feel sure that some members will be interested in this.

Argentina: We used to be in fairly regular correspondence with Professor Richard Frondizi, until he moved to higher spheres about a year or so ago. He sent us at least one very good UFO photograph which we have on view in our Durban library. As far as we know, UFO investigation has been carried on by C.E.F.A.I., an organisation which occasionally sends us a newsletter in Spanish.

Chile: Alberto Bernal-Berk in Santiago has always acknowledged with thanks, receipt of Skywatch. We hope in his case, as in other countries where English

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is a foreign language, that he is at least able to form some interpretation of the contents.

Denmark: The Danish UFO centre is run by Willy Wegner, of whom we have again recently heard news, after a silence of some years.

Eire (Ireland): This is organised by Fergus Roche. Contact Ireland is a relative newcomer to the world body, it having been established about two years. I must admire Mr. Roche's zeal, as he started off on a very enthusiastic note by sending us all his periodical 'Planet Man'.

Holland: For the past two years or so, Christien de Witte has been doing her best in holding the Dutch group together. Due to ill-health, however, she has recently been obliged to hand over the reins to Mr. J. Oomkens. Prior to Miss de Witte, we were in correspondence with Rey d'Aquila, who was good enough to send over some black-and-white slides of UFO material which are in our Durban library.

Italy: We sometimes have a postcard from Luigi Guarrera, the Contact I.C.M. for Italy. Within the past few months, however, we have been contacted by Antonello Rizzo, the publications editor of Contact Italy, requesting permission to translate into Italian and publish in their magazine, some articles which appeared in back numbers of Skywatch. This was to inspire the younger members of Contact Italy, and I feel it is a compliment to us, and to the erstwhile editors of Skywatch, that this should have happened.

Mexico: We acknowledge with thanks the Christmas cards and good wishes from Ian Norrie, the I.C.M. there.

New Zealand: Our official contact is with I.C.M. Philip Austin in Auckland, who periodically sends us his magazine 'New World', which we are always glad

to receive. There are, however, two other organisations from whom we also receive publications: firstly New Zealand Scientific Space Research, who put out 'Spaceview'; and secondly, 'Heralds of the New Age'. The former was run for many years by a ufologist of long standing, Henk Hinfelaar, who apparently has accumulated a file of UFO material over the years which is exceptionally comprehensive. This is largely due to his methodical manner of investigation of each and every UFO sighting, as far as possible. Unfortunately, he resigned recently from N.Z.S.S.R. and his place has been taken by Vic Harris.

Puerto Rico: Noël Rigau, who runs Contact there, was kind enough to send us a copy of his annual UFO activity report over Puerto Rico, extracts of which may be of interest. There was a UFO wave in 1975 of a new and totally different nature from any experienced before, and its duration of about six months coincided with the period of mass animal slaughter on the island. In many cases, parts of the animals were missing, as if cut with a surgeon's scalpel and animals were also sucked dry of all blood. Cases of both UFO sightings and animal slaughter received very thorough investigation, where this was possible. In most cases of animal slaughter, no warning was given, either by the killer or the animal itself; but the wounds were of a specific pattern in all cases. Often only selected organs had been cut away. One reported UFO case concerned a type of humanoid which was seen by a janitor of a hospital. Fearing attack, he hit it a few times with a spade, but after this he fell and was unable to continue with this treatment, due to his feeling paralysed and sapped of all strength. The creature likewise disappeared. During the year, two mysterious explosions were felt throughout the cities of San Juan and Ponce (see also 'Harmonic 33', Chapter 12, for possible parallels).

No conclusive results from any of the cases of either UFO, animal slaughter or explosion were ever reached, in spite of official investigations by the police

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and other governmental bodies. For Puerto Rico, 1975 therefore remains 'the year of the inexplicable'.

Scandinavia: These countries are covered by the organisation, Skandinavisk U.F.O. Information, with its headquarters in Denmark. Over the past years we have been indebted to the chairmen, previously Erling Jensen and now Flemming Ahrenkiel, for receipt of their excellent bi-monthly publication 'UFO-NYT' in Danish. This is an exceptionally professionally produced magazine, on a par with 'Flying Saucer Review', and contains many translated excerpts from UFO magazines produced elsewhere. I gleaned from the back of one of their recent issues, that Prince Philip of England is an enthusiastic UFO follower, a fact which I don't think is as widely known as it might be.

Sweden: Edith Nicolaisen is our official contact there, although we do send Skywatch to two Swedish bodies more astronomically inclined. She works at the reference library of Parthenon in Hälsingborg and is always most grateful to us for copies of Skywatch. We have received Christmas cards each year, with warm greetings to all Contact members here, and urging us to carry on with our good work!

Turkey: Contact Turkey is also a relative newcomer in our midst, having been under the care of Mehmet Arkun Kunter for the past 18 months. One does not expect to hear from new I.C.M.s until they have their own houses in order, as it were, but Mr. Kunter took the trouble to write to me to express his good wishes and appreciation for Skywatch. This kind of sentiment makes for very good international relations, free of the stigma of politics.

United Kingdom (England): This is the home of some other organisations which concern themselves with UFOs, not only Contact. 'Flying Saucer Review', produced for many years by Charles Bowen is, I think, the most comprehensive of UFO publications I have

come across.

Not for one moment do I wish to deprecate the efforts of Contact U.K., however, with their publication 'Awareness'. This is edited by Bernard Delair; he recently sent me a copy of the latest 'UFO Register', a most comprehensive volume of over 1 000 officially reported sightings throughout the world, up to the end of 1974, this publication having been produced by Data Research Headquarters near Oxford. All sighting reports sent to Data Research are investigated as far as possible, and eventually collated and published.

Two other publications which may be of interest, are 'Aquarius Viewpoint', put out by Rex Dutta, who is well-known in UFO circles, and 'The New Humanity', published by Johan Quanjer, which has a section devoted to UFOs. Both are very readable and deal with other topics of a broad nature, not only UFOs.

U.S.A.: Contact U.S.A., although it has been in existence for many years, relatively recently was taken over by Bryce de Loach, due to the indisposition of the erstwhile chairman, Madeline Teagle. Bryce puts out a monthly journal, 'Terranean Chronicle', and I must admit to being amazed at the varied contents it contains every month, and that he is able to make it available as frequently as this. Subjects which have been covered so far have ranged from parapsychology to Einstein and space travel beyond the speed of light. One may not always agree with the views expressed but I must certainly hand it to him for his zeal!

Venezuela: I recently had a very cordial letter from Andrés Boulton who is I.C.M. there. My wife had tried to contact him when she was in Venezuela in 1974 but was not able to do so. It seems that he is a writer in his spare time and that his interests are wide. One of his works may appear in English soon. He expressed a desire to visit South Africa some day - like any I.C.M. he will be very welcome here.

Yugoslavia: A review of our international contacts

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would not be complete without mentioning our old friend and ex-I.C.M., Vincent Strmenik. My predecessor and I have maintained correspondence with him over many years, and this year he was good enough to send us a copy of his report dealing with another UFO flap over Yugoslavia, extracts of which will now follow.

"The incidents occurred during the last autumn when some sensational sightings had the attention of Yugoslav Airlines staff, pilots, air traffic controllers, aviation engineers and prominent people, as well as being blazoned over the news media. UFO shapes ranged from circular to triangular with a tail, their colours changed from red to yellow to green, and their movements were consistent with UFO performance, including 90° turns. In all cases where these were seen from aircraft, severe disturbances were caused on radio communication channels and in one instance, when pilots were not able to get through to air traffic control (ATC), they heard their own messages time-delayed like distant bounce-off signals. UFOs flew next to aircraft and were tracked on radar by ATC. One UFO emitted what appeared to be a great explosion. In spite of their having been seen by such people as the Zagreb Observatory staff, there was no official explanation given; as Vincent Strmenik succinctly put it, "We know the old story, nobody wants to cause any panic in this already mixed-up world". One tremendous explosion also occurred during this period in Maribor, when a building was partially destroyed - again reminiscent of the happenings related in 'Harmonic 33', Chapter 12. Vincent was bold enough to add his own voice to the public outcry against some of the 'official explanations' which were given, saying "we are not alone - not on the planet and not in the universe". Would that there were more like him in the Communist world.

That brings me to the end of this international summary and I would like to close by again thanking those who do trouble to send us news from their quarter; I shall always be pleased to hear from others and they will be assured of a friendly reply.

A U.F.O?

By Elesa Willies, Durban.

At 10.00 a.m. on Monday the 29th December, 1975, I received a telephone call from the South African Broadcasting Corporation asking if I knew anything about a silvery object which appeared to be near the Moon. I replied that I did not, but asked who had reported it.

It appears that earlier that morning somebody in Kloof had spotted it and told one of the air controllers for the S.A.B.C. This man, together with five other people saw it as a 'glint of light' with the naked eye and then examined it more closely through binoculars. I told the S.A.B.C. that we would investigate and let them know of any further developments.

We phoned a few Contact members who came to our home and together we searched the sky. We found a faint crescent Moon 75 to 80° above the horizon. To the right of this and a little below we spotted the UFO. Six of us saw it through binoculars, of which three also saw it with the naked eye. At first glance it appeared to be nothing more than a celestial body, but on closer inspection this didn't seem to be the case. Its light seemed softly luminous, more than the bright sharpness of a star. One member said she thought the object was cigar-shaped, while another said it appeared to be more spherical. The sceptic in our group admitted that it didn't have the appearance of a star, but came to the conclusion that it was probably a weather balloon.

We kept watch for nearly three hours when the clouds made visibility impossible, and not once did the UFO move. I phoned two members of the Astronomical Society in order to gain a reasonable explanation. One man set up his telescope, but unfortunately the sky had become too hazy by the time he was ready for viewing. He consulted his charts which showed that the only planet in that vicinity was Neptune. It would be impossible to see this planet as it was only 1/8th magnitude. The other possibility was Antares, a red giant in the constellation of Scorpio. However, Mr. Gray (Chairman of the Astronomical Soc.) said

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that even this would be unlikely. He suggested it might be a Super Nova, in which case it would be more or less in the same position the following day. I asked him what he thought about the idea of a weather balloon and he was inclined to dismiss it, as the object had not moved at all during the time of viewing.

We eagerly awaited the next morning but unfortunately it was overcast and remained so for three days. We never saw it again and have not arrived at any definite conclusion as to its origin. Maybe it was a U.F.O. - who knows?

Another report on what appeared to be the same object: At about 10.00 a.m. on 29th December, Lorraine Johnson was sun bathing. Looking at the sky and seeing the moon, she wondered why stars were not visible in the daytime.

Suddenly, she noticed a glint of light very high up, to the right of the moon. She called her sister, her father and a friend. They wondered what it was as it remained so still; then they called their neighbours, who had binoculars, and together they watched the thing intermittently for a couple of hours until clouds made viewing impossible.

At first, the position of the object was approx. at 2.00 o'clock and at last viewing had dropped to 3.00 o'clock.

Remarks for consideration, from the editor:

The above sighting witnessed by many people, some who didn't know that others had seen and reported the same object, is interesting, especially as two astronomers were consulted. The editor thought that she would investigate the possibilities of a good sighting and turned to Raphael's Ephemeris and looked up the positions of the heavenly bodies for December 29th, 1975. The position of the moon at noon was

Moon:

Long. 27.44 Scorpio, Lat. 0.36 North, Dec. 19.4 South

Venus:

Long. 26.24 Scorpio, Lat. 2.16 North, Dec. 17.8 South

Uranus was also in Scorpio but not visible to the naked eye. The moon is not considered a planet, being a satellite of the earth, but it seems that the close proximity of these two heavenly bodies in the same area of the sky at midday would account for this spectacle. As previously stated, eight people on a skywatch saw Venus at 12 noon in the mid-heaven.

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MEETING TIMES AND VENUES OF THE BRANCHES

DURBAN: The fourth Wednesday of every month, at 8 p.m.

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

JOHANNESBURG: The first Monday of every month, at 8 p.m.

Venue: Kindly contact Mrs. Elizabeth Klarer, at 3 Cottage Place, 394 Rifle Range Road, Towerby. For details phone 322084.

CAPE TOWN: The last Friday of every month, at 8 p.m.

Venue: Kindly contact Mr. André Nestel, 9 Schoonvrugt Lane, Constantia, for details.

All correspondence to : National Secretary, Contact, P.O. Box 743, DURBAN. 4000.

# *The Great Invocation*

From the point of Light within the Mind of God  
Let light stream forth into the minds of men,  
Let Light descend on Earth.

From the point of Love within the Heart of God  
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men,  
May Christ return to Earth.

From the centre where the Will of God is known  
Let purpose guide the little wills of men -  
The purpose which the Masters know and serve

From the centre which we call the race of men  
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out  
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

Let Light & Love & Power restore the Plan on Earth.