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EARTHLINK



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**UFOs
and
Related Subjects**

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Earthlink is a serious publication that reports on the UFO phenomenon and related subjects both at home and abroad

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Editor: Mr. Daniel J. Goring (Jr.) Tel. 01-807 6170

Assistant Editor: Mrs. Gloria Saville

Magazine Production: Mr. John Saville

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Readers will have noticed that Earthlink has been running well behind schedule lately - for which we apologise - and this has been due to a number of reasons. Chief among these was the effect of the splitting up of the Essex UFO Study Group during the first few months of 1979, under which this magazine was previously published. In fact, the Essex UFO Study Group no longer exists; only its publication with a suitably modified front cover and content lives on under its own independence and is produced by the hard-core survivors(!) of the expired Group. Please remember that we are not a professional body of people and this magazine is the product of our spare time efforts, as are the vast majority of other UFO publications. However, there will be a great effort made to catch up on our Autumn and Winter editions.

As far as UFO activity is concerned, well during the last few months or so of 1979 the situation improved a great deal with sightings emanating from Spain, France, Great Britain, etc. However, this follows a great lull that began in 1978 shortly after the film "Close Encounters...." was on release, but apart from a number of upsurges in various parts of the world the activity somehow never really got back to normal. With the current sightings now substantially on the increase however, one can only wonder if the world is in for a new phase to coincide, perhaps, with the start of a new decade.

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF UFO EXPERIENCES?

by R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., Director, Division of Counseling and Testing,
Professor of Counseling Services, University of Wyoming, U.S.A.

Introduction

Several years ago, when the "rash" of television programs on medical emergencies was only an "itch", one fearless physician was portrayed as a righteous critic of two colleagues: the other two physicians were discussing their plans to talk to a patient who, according to their diagnosis, was suffering from a terminal illness. The consultant pointed out to his colleagues that the symptoms displayed by the patient could also be diagnosed as those of an ailment from which the patient could recover - if appropriate medical procedures were followed. In dramatic tones, he asked (in effect): "Since the symptoms of both diseases are the same, why not assume that the patient is suffering from the curable disease and do what you can to assist the patient, in the event that the patient is able to recuperate?"

In my opinion, a similar dilemma faces the investigators of UFO witnesses. Shall we assume that UFO experiences are "nonsense" or shall we assume that significant knowledge may be obtained by investigating these experiences? Shall we assume that UFO witnesses are lying and mistaken, or shall we assume that UFO witnesses are sincere and describing a "real" experience? Which hypothesis should be accepted as the research hypothesis?

I believe that we should be tentative or "half-sure" in our conclusions, but committed or "whole-hearted" in our search (Allport, 1962). I believe that the better hypothesis to explore is the hypothesis that UFO witnesses are sincere and, thus, they are describing "truth" as they perceive it to be.

The Problem

The problem, of course, is that UFO experiences are an affront to our sense of decency, our notion of "common sense reality." Some investigators (Klass, 1974; Menzel & Taves, 1977) prefer to view the evidence of UFO experiences from the hypothesis that the UFO witness is lying, or is mistaken, and the UFO investigator is misguided. Certainly, the hypothesis of hoax is appropriate for some UFO reports. However, I have talked with only one UFO witness who seemed to be involved in a hoax. Ruppelt (1956, p211) reported 1.66% hoaxes in the USAF Project Bluebook investigations, with 26.94% "unknowns." If the majority of UFO witnesses are neither lying nor engaged in hoaxes, then we are faced with strange and complex observations (Hynek, 1972, 1977; McCampbell, 1976; Salisbury, 1979; Vallee, 1975) which lead to controversy and contradiction (Condon & Gillmor, 1969; Fisher, 1978; Jacobs, 1976; Sagan & Page, 1972; Saunders & Harkins, 1968; Willcox, 1976).

The implications of UFO experiences are varied, depending upon the viewpoint of the investigator (Sprinkle, 1967). Some investigators view the controversy of UFO reports as a "nonsense" problem; some view the controversy as a problem for physical scientists; some, as a problem for behavioural scientists; some, as a problem for social scientists; some, as a problem for para-psychologists and spiritualists. There are economic, military, political, and religious implications in the evidence on UFO experiences.

For the purposes of this paper, I shall summarize my comments under the headings of personal implications, professional implications, implications for the use of hypnotic time regression procedures, speculations, and tentative conclusions.

Personal Implications

In the autumn of 1950, a fellow student (Joe Waggoner) and I were leaving Hellums Hall, the Arts & Sciences Building of the University of Colorado, Boulder; we were coming from a lecture on General Semantics, and we were practicing what we had learned about the observation of "reality." We asked ourselves questions, similar to the following: "What do you see over there?" "I see what I call a tree." "How do you describe it?" "I see what I call branches, leaves, trunk." "At what level of reality or level of observation are those descriptions? Etc. Then, we asked ourselves, "What's that?" Above us, we observed what seemed to be an object which was round in shape and metallic of surface; the apparent object covered the area of a finger nail at arm's length; no sound was associated with the object; the object was moving from south to north; we could not estimate its speed because we could not estimate its size; if the object were the size of a jet airplane, then it would be moving faster than jet airplanes flew in those days. We watched the object for several seconds, and I observed a flash of light (reflection) on the edge of the object which faced the setting sun. Later, as we discussed our observations, we puzzled about our interpretation of the event: it didn't look like an airplane, or balloon; what was it? A Flying Saucer? No, it couldn't be; only kooks see Flying Saucers! Perhaps it was a "secret" military device, or something equally unusual and unknown to the public. I hardly desired to think about it - certainly I did not desire to talk about it to anyone. I had been a "scoffer" in regard to UFO reports, but now I found myself becoming a "skeptic:" I was puzzled, and I had doubts about the significance of UFO reports.

In the summer of 1956, my wife, Marilyn, and I observed a strange aerial phenomenon over Boulder, Colorado, as we were driving back from Denver. Shortly after sunset, as we topped a hill overlooking Boulder, we saw what we assumed was a planet, an "evening star." We both remarked about the brilliance of the red glow; suddenly, the "star" began to move (back and forth, as Marilyn described it; with a "rocking" or "falling leaf" motion, as I perceived it). I stopped our car; we got out; we watched the "object" or "light" as it moved and hovered, moved and hovered, etc. Apparently, the "light" had descended, because it was between us and the Flat Irons (Rocky Mountain Foothills). We could see no lines or ropes; we could hear no sound which we could associate with the phenomenon; I could not identify or understand the event which we were experiencing. After that observation, I became an "unwilling believer:" I knew that UFO observations were "real" but I was puzzled about the level of "reality" or the significance of these observations. I began to read books and articles about UFO reports (as my wife, previously and unsuccessfully, had encouraged me to do). Upon completing doctoral studies in 1961, I decided to join investigative organisations and to conduct studies on the characteristics of UFO observers. My personal question was: "What kind of characters am I associating with when I think of myself as an UFO observer?" My professional question was: "Is there evidence to support the 'psychosis hypothesis': the hypothesis that only kooks see Flying Saucers?"

Professional Implications

In 1962-63, I conducted a survey of persons interested in UFO reports (Sprinkle, 1969); I came to the tentative conclusion that the responses of participants were similar to the responses of norm groups on the Rokeach Dogmatic Scale. I decided to learn more about the characteristics of UFO observers themselves, and I became a Consultant to the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (co-founded by Jim and Coral Lorenzen).

In 1964, one of my colleagues was concerned about my professional stance: "Leo!" he asked, "What are you trying to do? Lose any reputation you may gain? How can you study such topics as ESP, hypnosis, and UFO reports?" Jokingly, I replied, "Well, what we can do is to locate a person with psychic abilities; have him or her sit in front of a map; with hypnosis procedures, we will suggest that the person gain impression of the area there will be a UFO 'flap. Then, we'll go to that area and record our observations!" My friend groaned and turned away; however, I thought to myself, "Hey! That's a good idea!"

I wrote to several noted professors, asking if they saw any connection between UFO research and practical research. Their responses were not encouraging. So, I began a five-year research study: during the first year, I planned to locate a group of 100 persons who claim to experience psychic impressions of UFO phenomena; next, I planned to identify those persons who seem to exhibit a combination of reliable psychological characteristics, strange claims of UFO experiences, and unusual psychic abilities, then, I would work closely with those people using hypnotic procedures to assist them in exploring and understanding the significance of their psychic impressions. With the assistance of several UFO and parapsychological research organisations who published the notice about the research study, I received replies from 63 persons who were willing to participate in the survey.

Questionnaire on UFO Sightings and ESP Experiences; Adjective Check List; Strong Vocational Interest Blank. Later, another group of 19 persons who had been referred by other UFO investigators, participated in the survey: Questionnaire, Adjective Check List, Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, 16 Personality Factors Test, and Strong Vocational Interest Blank. Now, ten years later, approximately 150 persons have participated in the survey, including men, women, adolescents; well-educated and poorly educated; persons from a variety of vocational and cultural backgrounds. From the viewpoint of definitive conclusions, the results are not impressive; after all, what can one expect from a questionnaire study? However, from the viewpoint of professional curiosity, the results are most interesting (Sprinkle, 1976).

In general, the participants "look good" on paper. Their profiles of measured vocational interests are more similar to the varied patterns of professional persons, rather than the patterns of persons who are limited to technical or outdoor interests. The profiles of personality inventories indicate "normal" patterns of scores, rather than neurotic or psychotic reactions. Some of the participants score like "creative" persons - with wide ranging interests and above average scores on scales such as "Ego Strength," "Intracception," etc. I have concluded, tentatively, that there is little evidence to support the "psychosis hypothesis" that only kooks see Flying Saucers. I have had the opportunity to interview some of the participants; in general, I am impressed with their intelligence, sincerity and courage.

In addition to the thousands of UFO reports I have read, and the hundreds of UFO witnesses with whom I have shared information, I have interviewed approximately 50 persons using hypnotic time regression procedures. Approximately twenty-five of these persons have obtained information during the hypnosis sessions which supports their claims of "abduction" experiences: the claim that, during a UFO sighting, there is an amnesic or "loss of time" period; later, during dream states, meditation, or hypnotic procedures the UFO witness recalls that during the "loss of time" experience, he or she was taken on board a landed craft, examined by humanoids or alien beings and released with the suggestion that he or she would remember nothing of the experience.

Implications of Hypnotic Procedures

The implications of UFO experiences as possible observations of "spacecraft" are exciting; however, the possibility that alien beings are piloting or controlling these craft and abducting and examining human specimens is thrilling to some persons and terrifying to other persons.

My personal and professional bias is to accept, tentatively, the claims of UFO abductions as "real"; however, I do not know if these "abductees" have experienced physical abduction, or whether they have experienced "out of the body" events. In either case, the experiences seem "real" to the "abductee."

Hypnotic procedures appear to be appropriate techniques for exploring the memories of these experiences, as well as helpful procedures for releasing emotional reactions which are associated with the UFO experiences. The classic case of Betty and Barney Hill has been described by Fuller (1966). A recent review of the literature has been presented by Sprinkle (1976). However, some UFO investigators are skeptical about the accuracy of recall during hypnotic regression procedures. For example, Allan Hendry, of the Center for UFO Studies, conducted a survey among UFO investigators about their views on the usefulness of hypnotic procedures; he concluded (Hendry, 1978, p.5): "...Hypnosis is not a well-understood phenomenon and, at this point, it cannot be stated definitely whether or not the accounts provided by UFO witnesses under hypnosis are entirely accurate. Certainly, hypnosis is a useful tool but one whose limitations and capabilities have not yet been calibrated."

Despite the difficulties of obtaining valid information from UFO witnesses, hypnotic procedures offer a method by which these experiences can be explored. Of course, there are ethical, as well as scientific, questions which are posed by the use of hypnotic procedures in UFO research. Interested investigators, witnesses, and hypnosis practitioners are referred to a paper (Sprinkle, 1977) entitled, "Hypnotic time regression procedures in the investigation of UFO experiences." The paper appears as an appendix in the book by Lorenzen, Coral E., & Lorenzen, L.J. Abducted! NY: Berkley Press, 1977.

Any interested psychologist is encouraged to conduct his or her investigations of UFO experiences. Perhaps those of us who have delved into the mass of UFO reports are beginning to perceive an outline of the pattern of reports; if so, we need support from other investigators.

Perhaps we have made important errors in our observations and procedures; if so, we need criticisms and suggestions from other investigators.

A word of caution to any interested psychologist: if you seek certainty, be careful! UFO research seems to be characterised by controversy and absurdity. If you are curious and like to explore a good mystery, come on it! The water is fine! And if you do decide to investigate UFO experiences, what can you expect to learn?

Speculations

Here are the speculations of one investigator (Personal Communication, 1978) about the significance of "contact" experiences between UFO percipients and the intelligence behind the UFO phenomenon:

- * Purpose of Contacts: Filtering of knowledge to people of earth.
- * Method of Operation: A certain type of person is being abducted and implanted with information which is to serve as a bridge to understanding the "extra-terrestrial" perspective on earth. Implantation involves an area of the mind which cannot be tapped by hypnosis unless so permitted by "extra-terrestrials." The knowledge is designed to be doled out in a step by step fashion, to the proper people of earth and at the proper times. This is all controlled by "keys" and "cues" implanted along with the knowledge. Long term contact is maintained with the contactees through tensor beam communication, telepathy, trances, repeated abductions and face to face encounters with "extra-terrestrials" living on earth.
- * Motivation of the Method: To filter information on a grass roots level to the common people of earth. Exploitation, sensationalism and misuse of the information are controlled by selecting contactees who have little use or understanding for the knowledge. Also, each contactee is given a "bit" of knowledge, "or piece of the great puzzle" requiring that he/she unite with other contactees and combine the knowledge with facts already established by earth scientists. A primary concern is to let "earthlings" do the hard work of research, analysis and application of the knowledge so that we do not become "lazy" and sycophantic with relation to the "extra-terrestrials."
- * Relationship Dynamics Between Extra-Terrestrials and Earthlings: The dynamics of the relationship are similar to a counselling and guidance paradigm. The guidance involves psychological guidance leading to self-determinism and spiritual-metaphysical experiences, along with scientific knowledge and technical application of knowledge.

* The Body of Knowledge:

1. Archaeological, involving clues to re-study of pre-history events and patterns of society.
2. Geological, involving earthquakes and land mass shifts.
3. Meteorological, involving current weather conditions as they are affected by magnetic forces.
4. Genetic, involving cloning.
5. Biological, involving extension of life-span, regeneration of tissue and general "body-building" of man.
6. Scientific, involving space travel - Their way - electro-magnetic fields of earth and their relationship to bio-magnetic fields and their combined relationship to electromagnetic properties of matter, energy and thought.
7. Spiritual knowledge involving experience of consciousness beyond the body: telepathy and other paranormal phenomena.

* Each Contactee is given his or her own piece of this vast body of knowledge; she/he is instructed to research the past civilisations of earth and discover indications that this knowledge did, in fact, exist on earth at one time. Then she/he is challenged with presenting the knowledge again to mankind, in a way that proves beneficial to all mankind, without causing division or exploitation with the people and societies and governments of the world. If true, this is a brilliant plan and leads us, by logic, to shift study from UFO sightings and contactees - to the knowledge presented through contactees.

Tentative Conclusions

If UFO investigators have not perceived correctly the general outline of the UFO phenomenon, then we are wrong and wasting our time. But if this general outline is correct, then we have guidelines by which we can analyse and compare the significance and meaning of UFO reports. Hypnotic procedures (by qualified practitioners) offer us a method by which we can explore the memories of UFO contactees and evaluate the meaning of their own UFO experiences.

(This slightly shortened article, kindly forwarded by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, was originally a paper presented at the Symposium: "Using hypnotic procedures in the investigation of UFO experiences." Division 30, Psychological Hypnosis, American Psychological Association; Toronto, August 28, 1978.)

THE UFO THAT CAME FROM THE SEA

What is hidden in the profundity of the oceans? Are they launching centres for the mysterious "flying saucers"? Time and time again men from all parts of the world have raised their eyes to the sky and seen some strange object; crazy, incredible things that have nothing in common with terrestrial things. They have called them 'flying saucers', or UFOs, and till now nobody has been able to explain what these strange sky birds are, and if there are piloting them creatures from outside our universe.

UFOs have not only been seen to fly in the sky, but we have witnesses who can testify that they have seen 'strange objects' afloat on the waves of the sea. And if we assume the extra-terrestrial nature of the flying discs, we can also start to believe that these space-visitors would rather choose some quiet base in the depths of the oceans rather than risk unwelcome encounters with Earth's inhabitants. It must be relatively easy for beings with an advanced technology and ability to move through the space surrounding the universe to protect their craft from the terrible pressures of the deep seas and become the masters of a sixth continent that is still barred to us.

On the 24th November, 1972, all newspapers reported the strange news of an UFO seen on the bottom of the deep Norwegian Sogne fjord, and at first it appeared that the news was only of military interest. The 'Corriere della Sera', an Italian daily, read: "The strangely shaped object is located in the depths of the Norwegian Sogne fjord and is not a foreign submarine as was at first believed. The object, whose identity is still a mystery, has been the target of great bombardment. Norwegian radio confirmed that it was not a submarine."

For a few days the so-called submarine had been the quest of the war fleet of Norway, although it was thought that any military action could end in suicide. The 26th November edition of the 'Corriere della Sera' commented:

"The mystery is thickening with every hour that passes and starts to assume particulars bordering on science fiction."

Meanwhile, in the vicinity of the fjord, strange phenomena started to occur. A torch-light with a yellow-green glow illuminated the mountains surrounding the fjord: a dark object was seen coming to the surface in the nearby Gulf of Luste, which is connected with that of Sogne. The object stayed afloat for seven minutes, then disappeared. At the same time radio transmissions and communications were interrupted.

A subsequent search by more than thirty scouting ships/aeroplanes/helicopters failed to find any evidence, and it seems impossible, but on the fjord bed there is no longer any trace of the object. Naturally, this incident had repercussions: the whole army was made to look silly. But, nevertheless, similar sightings not even mentioned by the newspapers are numerous. In the summer of 1967, for example, many people were witnesses in South America to incidents involving objects diving into and emerging from the sea. At four o'clock one morning, Hugo Sierra Yepes, a mechanic, saw, north of Recife, a disc jump out of the sea, and after staying still for some seconds at a height of one metre from the waves, rose up, slowly at first, and then accelerated to a fantastic velocity skywards. Four days later an evangelist preacher from Salina, Venezuela, spotted a disc emerging from the sea 500 metres from the sea-shore. It was evening. The object was emanating an orange light all around and after a few seconds it disappeared in the sky. Before this, the surface of the sea at the spot where the UFO was going to emerge appeared to be all ripples and waves. The sea water in the space of a few seconds changed from blue to all the graduations of yellow and then orange. Evidently, these objects are manoeuvring with the same ease in the water as they do in the air.

Maybe, as somebody has suggested in a feast of imagination, it was a UFO that cleared the route for the Jews crossing the Red Sea. "Moses stretched out his hand and God compelled the water to part by blowing a strong wind during the night and the path appeared, dry and safe" (Exodus 14.21).

Besides all these conjectures, some very far fetched, we are still left with one of the most spell-bound mysteries of our time: the UFO mystery, without explanation.

Credits. Article sent by Ferraris Enrico, A.C.O.M., Italy.
Translation from Italian to English by Mrs. Lucilla Court, Hornchurch, Essex.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SPACE PEOPLE?

Remember the "space message" that was illegally broadcast over England's Southern ITV news programme at 5.06 p.m. on November 26, 1977? If you do, you'll recall that the first few lines of the "message" went like this:

"This is the voice of Gramaha the representative of the Asta Galactic Command speaking to you. For many years now you have seen us as lights in the skies. We speak to you now in peace and wisdom as we have done to your brothers and sisters all over this, your planet Earth. We come to warn you of the destiny of your race and your worlds so that you may communicate to your fellow beings the course you must take to avoid the disasters which threaten your world and the beings on our worlds around you(etc.)"

EUFOSG Journal, Winter 1978, p.16.

Now, although we don't have another T.V. "space message" to report, there has been sent to us via a reader a message from what appears to be the same source - Asta Command - and in part it refers to the present staff of Earthlink! It was received earlier this year immediately following the split that occurred in the Essex UFO Study Group (see Editor's Notes, p.2), and from what we have learnt, the method of recording sounds very much like automatic writing combined, perhaps, with some form of telepathic communication - symptoms sometimes developed by contactees.

Now we at Earthlink make no claims for the message's alien authenticity, but the theme that runs through many messages from the space people runs through this one as well. In places the message appears to be a little nonsensical and at times the original hand-writing is impossible to decipher, so swiftly were the words written, a swiftness that increases noticeably as one proceeds through the message. On a few occasions it is apparent that words are missed out, but where words were omitted or indecipherable, those in brackets have been added by the editor to connect otherwise unintelligible sentences (but these words may not be those the "Command" actually used). Further, it should be noted that in cases similar to this, spelling errors., etc., frequently occur, but this doesn't invalidate what is believed to be happening, i.e. messages from an external intelligence. "Their" purpose is to get their ideas across: the spelling is up to whoever receives their messages.

For what it's worth, from what I've seen of the whole UFO enigma, more heed should be paid to messages such as this.

Editor.

The Message

"Hear now your inner voice as we are again in your dimension. Your researchers have failed to grasp the fundamental principles of the laws of our universe. They cannot approach us as they are blind inwardly to seeing the energy that is required to manipulate our craft.

We have manifested for you on many occasions through great effort, and yet your people take little heed of our powers - yet you call on us to prove ourselves as right in the seeking of self. This is folly for many of you, therefore some of your members shall be cancelled out for they counter our efforts with primitive and imaginative explain-aways to the extent of mockery; as children they play with tools of adults.

Your literature is negative when it reports our craft as occasional oddities and curiosities. We are here to give your race a chance it lost. Concern for you is our priority our earthly friends, our (help is?) vital for your well being, therefore we shall protect (them ?) from the curious who persecute them. It is now crucial that (they?) go their way in peace as they have done for aeons of time.

With or without sensation they have curbed man's total destruction for a long time. Now it's expedient that they work for the saving of your planet. This year will show signs of man's folly and we shall indicate as usual where and why as usual in your skies in your dimension. Many lights in the sky shall be seen soon, yet it's your inner being that you (should let?) hearken to the response of our lights.

No machinery or camera will ever tell of our message; only the awakened ones will understand our coming. Your Earth is wrecked by men who cannot realise the dimension they're entering. Evolution has brought you to us, therefore we must monitor you carefully for yourselves' sake.

We leave you now for awhile, but soon again your skies shall alight with our craft.... and yet few shall respond to the message we give, we are sorry to say, because of their primitive souls (which) are lagging the evolutionary ladders. Your cities, towns and countries will see the craft near and far: be still when we come, very still, and relax and listen to your inner being. Till then we leave awhile. - Asta Command."

(Received by Alan J. Miles, Spring 1979)

AN UNUSUAL CONTACTEE - PART II

The previous edition of Earthlink outlined the initial experiences of a young man, "Bob" (pseudonym), who claims to have had from an early age contact of some form or another with what is believed to be extra-terrestrial intelligencies.

In recent years - 1976 onwards - Bob, now 29, has sighted a number of remarkable UFOs, some of these being the same objects that he saw, or more likely he feels, perceived in his mind, to a startlingly real degree when only about seven years of age. Now, events other than UFO sightings have also taken place, but since Bob reported all these happenings some 15 months later - summer 1977 - the sequence of events may be in error. However, this is of no great importance.

The most significant UFO to be seen very soon following the two impressive sightings outlined in the previous Earthlink, was that of one evening in April 1976, at Bob's home in Saffron Walden, N.W. Essex. At about 9.00 pm that unrecorded day, Bob was standing at his bedroom window when he sensed that something was going to happen (and this has happened frequently). Then, approaching from the south, came a craft that was similar to an ordinary jet airplane, but with subtle differences (see fig.1). First, the wings were semi-circles and very thick, and slung underneath each wing were two massive oblong 'engines'. At the rear was situated a recognisable tailpiece, while windows emitted a yellowish light along the side and front of the fuselage: there weren't any navigation lights, however. The craft was quite silent and in the light of the Moon, coupled with the craft's close proximity, Bob could see detail quite well. Size was very difficult to judge, but the object was believed to be extremely large - greater than that of a Jumbo Jet. This craft, by the way, was the same object that Bob had seen - either physically or perceived in his mind - during one day in 1956, but there were a few small differences.

Anyway, this now very real object came sailing towards him and then the unexpected happened. From the front part of the fuselage was emitted a narrow beam of light which was whitish-yellow and made up of cells, this ray of light striking Bob in the face. For a while Bob was blinded as all he could see was a mixture of many colours: the light also seemed to have a force of some sort behind it. By the time he could see normally once again the craft had vanished, its mission apparently accomplished for the time being.

As mentioned earlier, other strange things were happening as well as UFO sightings. For one thing, Bob was receiving pictures in his mind and these would appear when he was relaxing on his bed. On at least one occasion, many "voices" summoned him and one voice asked, telepathically, if Bob would like to look around 'their' craft. Bob was given an image like a hazy T.V. picture of the inside of a cabin, then a corridor, and, moving along, finally a front view of the "helm". While there Bob saw people - white and coloured - dressed in bluish suits, and then was shown the complete layout of the (presumed) craft. Bob was so bewildered by all this that he wanted to put it all down to imagination ... but his logic knew that this was not the answer, and outside forces seemed to be involved. Carrying on with this tour of inspection of the spacecraft; the front part of the helm was seen to consist of an arrangement of strange instruments - dials, switches and two "wheels" either side of a consul, a clear screen lying at the front. The colours of blue and silver dominated the scene. Bob also saw (if "saw" is really the right word to use here) someone in an outfit for going beyond the ship - helmet plus hoses to air tanks(?). (Bob felt that the picture quality was similar to that televised of the Apollo missions from the Moon's surface.)

The voice then spoke again to Bob and said that he would be shown more pictures. One picture Bob remembers is that of five planets all in line, their colours being a very realistic green-blue, together with cloudy areas (see fig.2). These worlds were not spinning very quickly and they had one-third of their discs in shadow. (All the drawings illustrating this case are exact copies of Bob's original drawings - luckily he is an artist, with an artist's recall!)

Another set of pictures Bob remembers is that of travelling in a saucer-shaped craft behind a similar vehicle, both vehicles very soon coming near to a large disc-shaped object out in space that was apparently being constructed out of "girders at the back and glass panels at the front ..."

Other voices told Bob that 'they' came from a planet where their Sun is four times as bright as that of Earth's, and that they have to wear sun visors to protect their eyes!

Another craft spotted by Bob is worth recording, this one also seen during the spring of 1976. At about 3.30 am one morning, voices in Bob's head woke him up and asked him who he was, where did he come from, his age, etc., and would he like to go into outer space. The voice came over in some form of English and assured Bob that 'they' "were a Godly people".

After a few moments, Bob went to the window and looked out. There, in the sky, above his house, "was this spacecraft," saucer-shaped with an indent around the edge and three large white domes hanging down from the underside, which was pinkish in colour (see fig.3.) Around the craft's periphery were vertical slots which began to rotate and as they did so the whole object careered upwards at great speed.

For the next one-and-a-half years very little happened to Bob - until late 1977 when "numbers" began to appear (although there were early hints of these numbers soon after the ray of light struck him). These numbers would take the form of a kind of white light on a dark-grey background (see fig.4) and were seen in mid-air slightly to the right in front of Bob's eyes/head. The numbers (at first just numbers, then letters, mathematical symbols, equations, and totally strange and unknown symbols and names), Bob relates, usually fell down to a certain level, building up from the left, and when that series of numbers, etc., was 'complete', after a few seconds the whole lot receded and a new sequence began to fall into place. Sometimes two sets of numbers arranged themselves (see fig.5): Bob compared the appearance and changeover of these numbers to those of a digital clock or a computer. Bob never had to think about anything special, these numbers, etc., just appeared to him, and sometimes even views of compartments; people moving about but all in black, white and greys. From what Bob tells us, these images are projected from inside his own mind (put under some influence) and aren't visible to outsiders. The individual numbers, letters and symbols (shown in figs. 4, 5, 6 & 7) were in view long enough (three seconds?) for them to be written down as usual. Some of them were a little faint, and most of it was totally unknown to him although he put forward ideas. It seems there was no set pattern to the reception time and place, and practically anything could come through, although the main bulk of it hints very strongly indeed towards events and knowledge extra-terrestrial. To date, despite some analysis by various people, the meaning of the numbers and symbols remains largely unknown. Some of the more complex pictures Bob received we'll leave till the next issue. For this issue though, it is worth recording, I feel, some of Bob's thoughts as regards UFOs and some of his 'dreams' - many of which are very interesting indeed (Bob dreams in colour). By the way, Bob dislikes the interpretation of 'psychic' for his experiences, feeling that this is just a convenient label. Bob feels that there are some things outside our present experience.

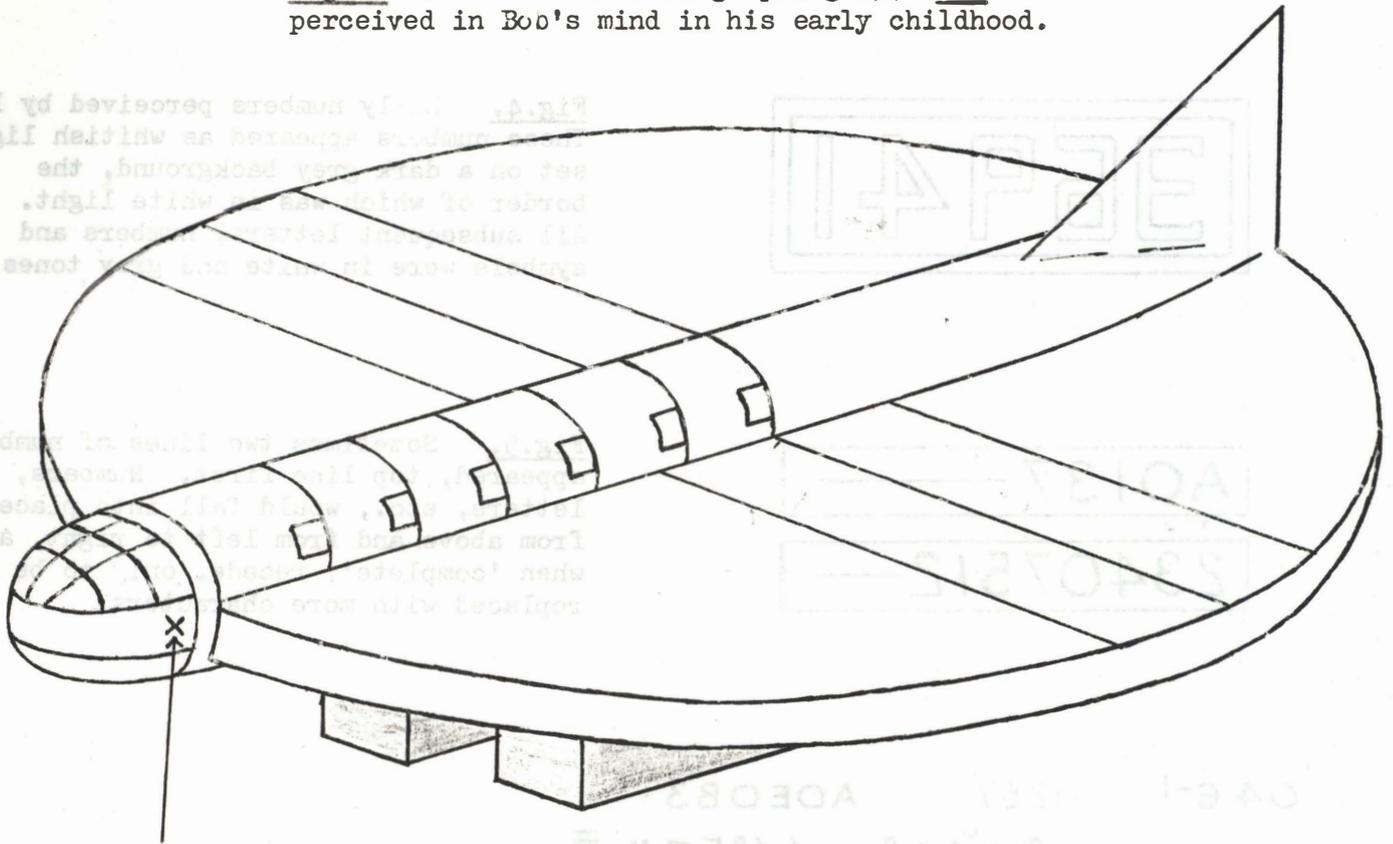
Bob thinks that there may well have been civilised people before the Ice Age began, and that there was a sudden change - volcanoes and earth movements, etc. - and people were taken from the planet (if not Earth, then a nearby planet) just beforehand (and presumably returned later). Ever since, spacecraft, or UFOs, have been visiting us and taking back information as to how we have recovered and what is now going on. Bob doesn't believe that man came originally from the sea, and he feels that vast constructions like the pyramids are out of place in some way. Bob also feels that man may be just a cosmic experiment.

Dreams

Bob's dreams aren't easy to define, and they may well not be true dreams at all, having perhaps an astral or extra-terrestrial origin. However, rather than try and explain what is actually happening to Bob, it is better to list some of the more interesting of his 'dreams'. Before we go into these, though, it should be mentioned that some of his dreams occurred during the awake state and so can be described as 'day-dreams' (of a sort). Bob never recorded when he experienced/received the following:-

- * First, a dream of Jesus dying on the Cross viewed from an elevated position, and an aerial view of the Egyptian pyramids (all in colour).

Fig.1. The UFO seen during spring 1976 and perceived in Bob's mind in his early childhood.



A ray of strong whitish light came from this area and struck Bob in the face.

Fig.2. The view of the five planets that Bob received in his mind. Colours: green-blue with areas of cloud. Planets approx. one-third in shadow.

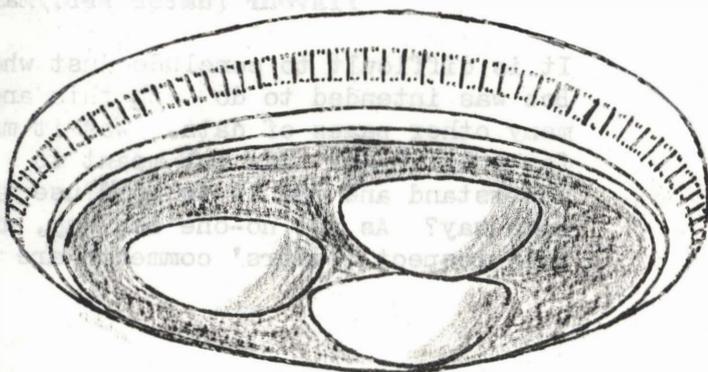
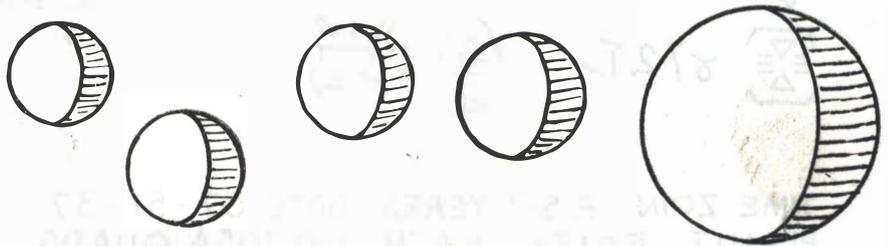


Fig.3. The UFO that Bob saw above his house. Colours: Upper section - orange; Underside - pinkish with three translucent-looking white domes

Dr. Sprinkle delivered a paper that showed no real bias against any theory that might explain the UFO phenomenon, which was most gratifying considering the scientific approach that is so commonly solely used to attack the problem. As to the reason behind the UFOs being here, assuming an intelligence lies behind the phenomenon, I particularly liked Dr. Sprinkle's suggestion that 'they' are possibly modifying social beliefs and performing a cultural transformation in secret and on a worldwide scale. (At the end of this and every lecture, time was allocated for questions.)

Next, for those who preferred the scientific approach to UFOs, this well known speaker was for them: BUFORA's Peter Hill speaking on "From Data to Information".

Italy then came under scrutiny as Edoardo Russo spoke on a very interesting "Italian UFO Wave - 1978". For some reason Italy and its waters - notably the Adriatic - became a favourite resort last year for the UFOs, and it is believed that a good proportion of the population there have now seen them. Some remarkable humanoid cases were described by Mr. Russo, including an abduction case that attracted considerable international attention, "The Zanfretta Case" (see Earthlink, Spring 1979 p2-6). The Adriatic events formed a very interesting part of Mr. Russo's talk, and photographs of many of the weird objects seen by the many witnesses were shown. Mr. Russo and his colleague, Dr. Riberto Pinnoti, who spoke after him, were warmly applauded.

Antonio Ribera, a long-standing Spanish researcher, spoke during the latter part of the afternoon session on UFO sightings in Spain, mentioning numerous cases of landings. A convincing speaker.

Those people who patiently remained until the latter part of the Sunday evening for the documentary film listed in the programme were not disappointed. The film "UFOs: Past, Present & Future", secured from the U.S.A. at the "last moment," was well worth waiting for. Dr. Hynek figured prominently in the film, along with other figures in 'authority', together with interviews of the witnesses themselves - Lonnie Zamora, prime witness of the 1964 Socorro, New Mexico, UFO sighting, being particularly interesting.

DAY 2 - Monday, 27th August.

Mr. J.B. Delair of Contact (UK) was the first speaker of the day, and his rather interesting talk was entitled "Processing UFO Data - The problem re-appraised". Mr. Delair deals with the facts of the UFO enigma and in a truly methodical fashion tries to fit those facts into a pattern/theory. Always an interesting speaker.

Now the main attraction at the Congress and the prime reason for many people attending was the much (over) celebrated and eminent Dr. J. Allen Hynek of the U.S.A. For some 30 years Dr. Hynek has been involved with UFOs, 20 or more of these years as consultant to the U.S. Air Force in their investigations into the UFO phenomenon. He has a number of well known and very respected books to his credit, together with the now generally accepted and very well known Close Encounter (CE) I, II, & III UFO classification system, and he currently heads the Centre for UFO Studies in Illinois, U.S.A.

And so, following the Congress' break for midday lunch, Mr. Tim O'Brien, BUFORA's President, introduced Dr. Hynek to a packed auditorium. For many of those present, however, Dr. Hynek's talk, entitled "Towards a Working Classification of UFO Phenomena", was anything but the illuminating and interesting paper that they hoped it would be. However, while there is no doubt that Dr. Hynek's paper is of great importance to ufology, this was not the place to present it.

"Ufology is a subject in a crisis," everyone was told, and to help the crumbling situation Dr. Hynek related that he was in the process of developing, or greatly extending, his "CE" system to accommodate the many UFO characteristics presently not filed. Dr. Hynek also stressed that ufology must make more use of computers to store the information gained, but it also appears that there still aren't enough basic facts - obtainable from UFO sightings - to establish just what UFOs really are. However, in America there is a computer with some

70,000 to 100,000 reports logged to date; how many more sightings, therefore, does Dr. Hynek need to come to even a tentative conclusion or supposition? Will another 70,000-odd reports help the situation?

So this, together with much verbosity, was the sum total of Dr. Hynek's talk. Had Dr. Hynek travelled well over 3,000 miles at great expense just to tell everyone this? Had BUFORA organisers not informed him that he would be addressing a very mixed audience, many being complete novices? Had Dr. Hynek nothing to say about what UFOs may be, where they might originate from, or what their purpose in being here might be? Even his own unbiased ideas as to the possible answers to such questions would have been something for the expectant - for the most part - audience to have gone away with. Even during the period allocated to questions, I was surprised not to hear anyone put forward a question relating to the three big puzzlers outlined above. One or two questions relating to "cover-ups", etc., received (not surprisingly) negative replies.

In all respects, Dr. Hynek's talk was a big flop, and his paper would have been far better relegated to a publication rather than an audience of novices and 'experts'. Actually BUFORA would have been far better off to have invited someone from the U.S.A. like nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman, a reputable open speaker on the UFO phenomenon, or even Betty Hill, unquestionably the most well known contactee whose many experiences would have greatly intrigued everyone.

As for Dr. Hynek, it must be added for the record that he is still something of a controversial figure among some ufologists as it is believed that he and his Centre for UFO Studies have secret government ties. Further, that Dr. Hynek knows far more about what the UFOs are doing here than anyone suspects, which 30-odd years of 'inside' study should have revealed to him above all others. As far as the outside world's concerned though, it seems certain that Dr. Hynek is going to remain tight-lipped for the foreseeable future.

Immediately following Dr. Hynek came Dr. Erol Faruk speaking on: "Soil Analysis - The Delphos Case", a title which speaks for itself. Now it is a sad fact that although soil analysis of UFO landing cases are very many indeed, and a considerable number of samples show clear indications of having been affected in some strange way, no matter how peculiar and out of place the findings there is always the question: what exactly caused these anomalies in the soil and/or surrounding life forms? An UFO is one of many answers.

Vicente-Juan Ballester-Olmos was the last speaker I heard talk that afternoon, and once again Spanish UFO sightings were discussed - particularly landing cases.

To conclude the Congress lectures, BUFORA's Peter Hill gave a general report on the results of a "working party", which was a committee made up of Congress participants from numerous countries who discussed a common international UFO classification and terminology system. (Although theoretically a good idea, would such a system work practically, considering the vast number of worldwide organisations, many of whom prefer their own individual way of doing things? Or was this system only intended for the larger, more co-operative organisations?)

The Congress was then brought to a close.

Conclusions

UFO Congresses, conferences, and even ordinary group meetings are not easy affairs to organise, and BUFORA did well to stage this important Congress, which was a success despite the shortcomings of some of the speakers.

As has been indicated in several places throughout this report, the audience was a very mixed one and obviously not everyone was happy with the lectures, but to have pleased everybody would have been impossible. It all depends, I suppose, on what one expects to see and hear at such gatherings, although the lectures themselves kept to the printed programme fairly rigidly (too rigidly in Dr. Hynek's case). However, one important aspect of all such events is that of socialising - meeting and talking freely with others of like mind. This particular aspect formed an absolutely indispensable part to my 'programme', although it was marred in places by a few ufological 'luminaries' who felt insults a better way of passing the time than discussing UFOs. Ufology will never get anywhere while this sort of thing persists.

You may feel after reading this report (especially if you were one of those who attended the Congress) that some of the comments are a little harsh and very much at variance with reports in other publications, but I'll say here and now that that I didn't intend to write a report in favour of anybody, as one or two others seem to be. In this respect, perhaps you liked what you have just read... or perhaps you didn't. Of the numerous other accounts I have read, the one I liked the best for its sheer simplicity and honesty was that of BUFORA's Hon. Secretary, Ms. Betty Wood (see MAPIT 'SKYWATCH' No. 34, Dec/Jan.1979/80, pp.15-16. See ADVERTISEMENTS.)

For those interested in joining BUFORA (they publish an excellent little journal) - the membership fee for one year is £5.00 (\$12 USA & Canada). Send to: Ms.P.Kennedy, BUFORA Membership Secretary, 30 Vermont Road, Upper Norwood, London SE19 3SR. Or send s.a.e. to above address for details.

Editor.

SOME LOCAL UFO REPORTS

The following case is not one of a truly unknown object, but an identified man-made object - a balloon (meteorological). Since we have found exceptionally few UFOs to have actually been balloons, I thought this report would make an interesting reading. (Ed.)

Balloon over Harold Wood, Romford, Essex. - December 12, 1979.

I was first made aware of the object by a Mr. Webster calling my attention to it at approximately 10.55 am. It looked very similar to Venus when the sky behind it is a light blue. Although Mr. Webster states that it was not moving, I thought that it was moving, but just discernibly. After a few minutes it appeared to become dim and disperse, and I thought I could make out a parachute-shape laying on its side, but was not totally sure. The whole thing then became slowly fainter and disappeared from sight.

I contacted the London Weather Centre to ask about the possibility of it being a weather balloon, and they put me on to Larkshill, Salisbury. Larkshill were able to confirm that a balloon was released at 10.13 that day. It was about 5ft. dia., when launched, and probably had grown to about 12ft. dia. by the time it reached 45,000ft. at 11.00 hrs. when it ruptured. The wind direction was approximately from the S.W. and its speed was about 60 knots (varying). This would put the balloon in the right place at the right time to have been the object we saw.

Mr. Webster and I were joined by three other people during the sighting and, since none of us had seen such an occurrence before or heard a description of it, we were not at the time able to explain what we were seeing as a rupturing balloon.

Investigator (& witness): Bill Eden,
Chelmsford.

- - -

The following UFO sighting report in the Essex area is typical of many accounts given by witnesses around the world.

The experience of sighting a UFO for Mr. and Mrs. Elkinson and their 13-year-old son, David, happened in the early hours of the 1st June, 1979. Estimated time 12.15 till 12.20 am.

They were just going past Woodford water-works in their car (along the Southend Road) after visiting relatives, when Mr. Elkinson noticed what he thought were the headlights of an aircraft. He pointed this out to his wife and son who immediately looked up. Mr. Elkinson could not keep his eyes on the lights all the time, as he was driving.

Mrs. Elkinson noticed that the lights suddenly started to speed up and were getting lower. Then she and her son observed that there were coloured lights all around the edge and these were flashing on and off continuously,

By the time they had reached Beal High School, a few minutes on, the object was getting in front of them and to the left, about 300 ft. above. At this point, Mr. Elkinson stopped the car to have a look himself. "I tried to put it down to a 'plane, but I could see that there were too many lights for it to be any sort of aircraft and my son, David, had opened the window by this time, and we could hear no noise at all. It then took a sudden dive in front of my car. By then I could see clearly that it was no aircraft. It was surrounded by red, green, orange, blue and white lights flashing all the time. David was hanging out of the window and my wife was telling him to get back inside. She was very frightened by this time."

David explained that he was looking straight up at the underneath of the craft and he could see a dull greyish metal in the middle of the lights. He also explained that he was trying to look for rivets, similar to that of a 'plane, but there were none. He described it as very large, but could not give an exact size. It looked flat and was pointed at the front, and rounded at the back. Mr. Elkinson agreed that this was what he had seen also. Mrs. Elkinson could only remember all the lights flashing, but agreed that it was large and round.

They determined the front from the back by the way it moved. It moved off with colossal speed and was out of sight within seconds, making no noise, and leaving all three witnesses bewildered.

The Elkinson's family car performed normally all through this sighting and they themselves suffered no ill effects.

I interviewed the Elkinson's and found them to be an average family, and they did not infer that the object was a kind of spacecraft, but they were certain that what they had seen was no identifiable form of standard aircraft. Their son, David, seemed to be very knowledgeable about aircraft spotting. He showed me a number of books that he had read, and gave me the impression of a very intelligent boy.

Mr. Elkinson is a representative for a clothing manufacturer.

There are no other witnesses at the present time.

Inv. Mrs. P.R. Moonie, Dagenham.

Note: More investigated UFO reports of a local nature will appear in the next issue of Earthlink.

EXTRACTS

Black Holes

Black holes, which are stars condensed to extreme density, have such an enormous gravity pull that they do not even let go of light. Such black holes may become a sort of cosmic projectors which send out not light but gravitational rays into space, concludes a group of Soviet scientists who carried out investigations in Kiev and Leningrad. Bodies and particles which fall on the black holes are accelerated to the speed of light so fast that in falling into these "graves of matter", they do not have time to signal about their death to surrounding space.

If there is a revolving black hole there appears in some conditions an unexpected effect of "gravitational projector". Inter-stellar gas and particles, rushing to the black hole, behave in such a way that their weak fields of gravitation assume the form of very thin needles.

The star's field of gravitation collects them into a dense beam which is sent out into outer space in the form of a narrow gravitational beam. To find such a beam it is necessary to have special antennae with a sapphire detector. Usually sapphire occurs in nature in small pieces weighing no more than a gramme. But to make such an antenna it is necessary to have a monolith weighing a kilogramme. Therefore, specialists have begun growing a sapphire monocrystal.

Novosti Press Agency, USSR, bulletin.16/7/79.

THE ALIEN ENCOUNTER

"The new Star Trek series will not have the blessing of one of its key characters: 'Mr. Spock', played by Leonard Nimoy. According to Nimoy, "The new Star Trek will use science fiction not only as a vehicle for entertainment but also for making political and social statements as well." This comment of Nimoy's from November 1977, must surely speak for itself!

In March of 1978, at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in New York some other, rather interesting, suggestions were presented to the 5,000 assembled scientists. Dr. Robert Jastrow, director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, told them he believed this world will be contacted by aliens within 15 years. Furthermore, he said, "Scientific evidence now seems to support the Bible - there was a first cause, a force from which everything came - but I don't know how or why."

Carl Sagan, astronomer, author, and head of the Laboratory for Planetary Studies at Cornell University in New York had some equally interesting points to make in the Newsweek interview of September 1977. Sagan - author of "The Cosmic Connection" and "The Dragons of Eden" is ... "fired by a faith that in the reaches of space there are older planetary civilizations, capable of bestowing on humans the bounty of an unimaginably advanced technology" ... a point which he made clear in "The Cosmic Connection" when he wrote, "There must be other starfolk".

The Newsweek interview continued, "He (Sagan) is persuaded that older civilizations, whirling around second - or third - generation stars, would possess technologies so advanced that to earth eyes they would appear 'indistinguishable from magic'. Having survived such technology, which inevitably would include weapons for global destruction, they would also have solved their social problems. They would be 'benign', and probably eager to share their secret of survival. Such a possibility awes Sagan: 'The scientific, logical, cultural, and ethical knowledge to be gained by tuning into galactic transmissions may be, in the long run, the most profound single event in the history of our civilization.'"

Newsweek further observed, "His faith in salvation through science remains unshakeable. He deplores the reversion of young people to mysticism and magic but he still hopes to see, in his lifetime, that magical intelligent signal from the cosmos."

The evidence is plain for all who wish to see. There is a great conspiracy afoot in the affairs of man. Even Captain Bruce Cathie of New Zealand who wrote "Harmonic 33", "Harmonic 695" and "Harmonic 288" has realized the conspiracy. In the September 6th issue of the Western Leader in 1973, Captain Cathie stated that he believed much of the world's knowledge is kept in the hands of a select group of people who would be capable of taking control of world affairs if they continue to keep it secret. He stated, "Unless this knowledge is given to the world freely, they could form a world government."

As this author and Captain Cathie had corresponded from time to time on these matters, it came as no surprise when Captain Cathie rang one fine day in 1974 to tell this author that the American Consulate in Auckland had had a few choice words of advice to give the pair of us. Roughly, the message went something like this, "If you two will keep quiet about your findings on our secret technologies, we will grant you exclusive rights to the story in 1984. If you were to prematurely release what you have discovered, it would collapse the already shaky pillars of the world economy. If you try to fight us, you will be stopped." At that time, Captain Cathie was obviously shaken by the threat; and he stated he was going to co-operate with them. He asked this author to do the same with, obviously, little success. It is hoped that this book will prompt Captain Cathie (and others like him who have yet more information) to publish their findings ... before it is too late."

Extract from "The Cosmic Conspiracy"
by Stan Deyo, p.92 (Australian publication).

The Green Children of Wulpit

It was harvest time in the 1130's and the labourers were reaping the fields near the village of Wulpit, a few miles from the monastery of Bury St. Edmunds, when a very curious thing happened and everyone stopped to stare. Close to the fields were some cavities called the Wolf Pittes, from which the village took its name, and which had long ago indeed harboured wolves. From these Pittes had come two children who started to wander through the fields. Nothing to make the peasants stare in that, children love the harvest fields ... but these children were GREEN.

So sickle and scythe were poised, and bent backs straightened. Better not get too close, they might be Fairies, Little People. So they went along with them cautiously, keeping their distance. At last they grew bolder, drew nearer and tried to speak to them. The children turned and said something too, but no one could understand them. So they decided to take them back to the village. Here they were so much a matter of wonder that they completely forgot to feed them. Talking was no good either, for neither understood the other, neither could the women make head or tail of their clothes which were made of some material quite strange to them, in texture and colour.

So they were kept as objects of curiosity, and people came to look at them from far and near. After a day or two when the first excitement had died down, it occurred to someone that they might be hungry, so they were offered food, in haste, and probably a little shame, for the young things were starving. They brought their own food, meat and bread, milk, cheese and eggs. The children seemed not to recognise any of it and would not eat, though they were obviously ravenous and in tears. Kind at heart the desperate peasants at last brought them beans from the fields and these were eagerly siezed, the stems broken and examined for pulse, but none was there. At last one bright spark among the distracted villagers thought of opening one of the pods and offering them the beans. Jubilation all round, they were eaten. So on a diet of raw beans the children existed for months, but still no one was any nearer finding out who they were or where they had come from.

At last the Lord of the Manor, Sir Richard de Calne, heard about them and ordered them to be brought to his house. There they were treated in more civilised fashion. Certain discreet persons felt they should be baptised, and soon they were taught to eat bread and other normal food and gradually their green colour vanished. Eventually they were taught to speak English and it was felt that the mystery around them would be dispersed.

Their tale, when told, was simple, but solved nothing. They had been watching their father's flocks, they said, when they had heard a great sound, like the bells of St. Edmund's pealing, and suddenly they had found themselves in the Wolf Pittes. Their country was called the Land of St. Martin, who was greatly venerated there; their churches had no bells. It was a twilight land with no noticeable sunset or sunrise, and from it a certain luminous country was to be seen, not far distant and separated from their own by a very considerable river.

And this is all we are likely to know about the Green Children, for although 'there were many other matters too numerous to particularise' which were told to inquirers, they were not written down. Who the Green Children were, where they came from, and how they were transported, their strange language, food, clothes and above all, colour has remained for eight hundred years a mystery.

The little boy died soon after baptism, but his companion grew up in the household of Sir Richard de Calne, and 'differed not in the least from the women of our own country'. She married a man of Lynne, and was still living 'a few years since, at least so they say', the chronicler concludes. Earlier he asserts that he 'deemed it ridiculous to give credit to a circumstance supported on no rational foundation, or at least one of a very mysterious character; yet I was at length so overwhelmed by the weight of so many and competent witnesses, that I have been compelled to believe and wonder over a matter, which I was unable to comprehend, or unravel, by any powers of intellect.'

Can anyone today add more to this strange story, recorded by one of the monastic chroniclers and confirmed by Ralph of Coggeshall, who had it from none other than Sir Richard de Calne himself?

(from N.K. Lock, Devon.)

"The Ley Hunter", pp.18-19, No.86, 1979

The following is taken from the epilog of the book 'Rainbow Around the Sun', Elizabeth Van Buren's diary of her personal discovery of the coming changes that will inevitably befall the civilised world.

"There are two things to consider in looking ahead. The first is survival. We do not need much imagination to visualise a modern city after the catastrophe has struck, communications and transportation having completely broken down, and no food coming into the shops; it will only be a matter of days before men become savages. Therefore it would be advisable to move from the big cities and the coastal areas as soon as the first warning signs appear, if not sooner. Form communities in rural areas, learn to grow your own food, to harness the natural energies of the sun and wind; above all, set up communities bound together by love and consideration. We have been advised that LOVE will be the key to survival, and this implies that those who only think of self in these days, who are greedy and grasping, will not be able to last long once the old age has died. If there is sharing and laughter amongst a group of people, the pangs of hunger will be felt less. Above all, prepare yourselves to be part of the new age, recognizing that though your colony may seem small and insignificant in its beginnings, nevertheless, in time it will join up with other communities of like-minded individuals, and the ideas and ideals which you have nurtured will swiftly spread around the entire planet."

"Changes", De Pere, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Cr. Ms. A. Maclaren.

LETTERS

12th November, 1979.

Dear Mr. Goring,

I read with interest your comments about The Aetherius Society in the Spring edition of "Earthlink".

I must question some of the statements made in this article. In particular your reference to "egoism and false ideas" earning the Society "the disrepute it now has". First of all, The Aetherius Society is not held in disrepute generally at all. On the contrary, it is the one UFO organisation which has been called upon by leading official bodies in recent years. In 1978 we were invited to take part in a Delegation sent in an advisory capacity to the United Nations to help with the proposed motion on UFO's of the then Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy. At the beginning of this year, again The Aetherius Society was called upon to actively advise during the House of Lords Debate on UFOs.

The Aetherius Society is continually being featured in the media throughout the world, and has been invited to take part in many festivals, public meetings, and more recently, to give classes on parapsychology at the Adult Education Institute in Ealing. All these things do not point to disrepute. The Aetherius Society is now being recognised more and more for the genuine authoritative organisation that it is.

As far as "egoism and false ideas" are concerned, this is, you must agree, a purely subjective opinion. Those who know and have studied the Teachings and work of Doctor George King know him to be the very opposite from egoistic. The Aetherius Society is not backward in paying tribute to the greatness of its Leader, or to the greatness of the Society's Teachings. Those who find the Society's message disturbing sometimes put it down to false ideas when it is in fact an expression of Truth.

I hope you will publish this letter because your subjective report may have given some people the impression of being an accurate description when in fact it was only your own opinion.

For all those people who would like to satisfy themselves as to the truth about The Aetherius Society, I take this opportunity to invite letters and phone calls at the European Headquarters of The Aetherius Society in London, where we

will be more than happy to deal with them. Our address is as follows:
Aetherius House, 757 Fulham Road, London, S.W.6. Telephone: 01-736 4187/731 1094.

It is easy to dismiss something; it is difficult, but far more profitable, to investigate.

Yours sincerely,

Richard H. Lawrence,
European Headquarters Secretary.

Editor's reply:

I could comment on the points put forward in Mr. Lawrence's letter, but feel that this would surely invite yet another 'attack' which he'll wish to be published, and so on 'ad infinitum'. Therefore, we'll let the differences of opinion stand and ask those of you who wish to find out "the truth about the Aetherius Society" to contact them at their headquarters.

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UFO INSIGHT A magazine from Federation UFO Research (FUFOR). £1.30 for 6 issues, single copy 25p, payable to 'FUFOR' (Mark Tyrrell, overseas only). Send to: FUFOR, 277B West Street, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 3HU. Also available: "The Llanerchymedd Report", an exhaustive investigation into the strange goings on in Anglesey, N. Wales, from 1-3rd September, 1978. A good read!

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Southern UFO Network Newsletter, No.2 UFO sightings over Southern England. 20p each inc. p & p., payable to "Earthlink" (by P.O. or stamps). Send to: Earthlink magazine, 16 Raydons Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 5JR, England. (Note: We only have a few of these Newsletters left now and judging by our fruitless efforts to contact the editor, Mr. John Makin, - Issue No. 2 could well be the last in the line: we hope we're wrong).

THE GREAT SECOND COMING etc. Dr. C.H. Yeang publishes this leaflet free. It also contains much wisdom concerning the Essenes, meditation, The Great White Brotherhood, etc. For the kernel of all great religious truths and the significance of the present visitations by the highly evolved UFOs, read this paper. Also read the book 'MY TRUTH' available*from The Essene Teachings Inc., 3427 Denson Place, Charlotte, N.C., U.S.A. 28215.

The annual sub. is US \$10 for the most precious*monthly booklets, plus postage. For Dr. Yeang's leaflets, write to: Dr. C.H. Yeang, 24 Cantonment Road, Penang, Malaysia. (Free, as stated).

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THE HOUSE OF LORDS UFO DEBATE by Lord Clancarty (Brinsley le Poer Trench) An account of the Debate on UFOs held in the House of Lords earlier this year. £3.25 inc. p & p. Write: Pentacle Books, 6 Perry Road, Bristol 1, Avon, England.

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FRIENDS OF THE EARTH have played a key role in campaigns which have resulted in: A ban on the import of whale products; a ban on copper-mining in Snowdonia National Park; Government decisions not to purchase unsafe and uneconomic nuclear reactors; An Endangered Species Act to protect Wildlife, etc.etc. To become an active Friend of the Earth, write for details to: 9 Poland Street, London, W1V 3DG., England. (Tel. 01-434 1684).

THE PSYCHICS & MYSTICS FAYRE Sat. & Sun. 12 & 13 April 1980. Alexandra Palace. Yoga, Tarot, Astrology, Clairvoyance, Psychic Phenomena, Re-incarnation, Health Foods, Dreams, UFOs, etc. £1 adults, children and golden-agers 50p. Write for further details to: Festival for Mind-Body-Spirit, 159 George Street, London, W1H 5LB. (Tel. 01-723 7256).

Note: The actual Festival for Mind/Body/Spirit will be held in June, 1980 - details from above address also.

BOOK REVIEW

'THE MUNDO UFO REPORT' by Laura Mundo (90 pages)

Laura Mundo established The Flying Saucer Information Centre in Michigan, U.S.A., 25 years ago, and she has edited a free Newsletter since then - 'The Mundo Monitor'.

THE MUNDO UFO REPORT has been sent to us for review. It is based on a column on UFOs that Laura Mundo wrote in the Broadside Newspaper in Northville, Michigan, in 1976. It contains, in addition to many interesting UFO reports and 'close encounter' cases, her personal anecdotes on some UFO pioneers, including her old friend the late George Adamski. The book is partly autobiographical and is illustrated with personal and UFO photographs. The writing style is lively and introduces a host of subjects associated with Ufology.

Ms. Mundo is very concerned about the increasing sunspot bombardment of our planet, which she says is at present being felt by us as increased sensitivity, and is causing freak climatic conditions and accelerating earthquake activity, and other 'eruptions' all over the Earth. She backs this up with explanations and much technical data. Ms. Mundo believes this will culminate in a disastrous sunspot peak in the near future.

For the space people's part in this I quote from her Report:

"There is a very final examination going on behind the scenes by which Pre-Atomic Energy Being can draw out those Earth people who will qualify to go in their insulated spaceships to safety prior to the approaching sunspot peak when all becomes unbearable.

The less advanced meddling space people will be removed by the more advanced space people (or Pre-Being through them, of course, in their ships back home to their own planets before the peak ... after Pre-B or Preebie as the space people call it affectionately ... discovers through the less advanced meddling space people which Earth people have qualified themselves "to be saved." The lesser advanced space people appeal to the vanity, supposedly presenting "advanced scientific knowledge," etc. Distracting from the very vital job at hand of informing the public, with time short!

There are, as I have written, very, very advanced space people, even beyond the more advanced space people coming to us, on higher and higher atomic vibrating visible planets (and perhaps even on higher and higher Suns: visible radiant people!) All being relative, atomically, by ascending frequencies/degrees within energy octaves/spectrums.

Some will come into our atmosphere when all is settled in their ships. According to my understanding, to help start the Universal Honor System as a way of life on the planet (Excerpt from Chapter 11)

THE MUNDO UFO REPORT gives some very grim warnings, and the above excerpt echoes the theme that we are currently receiving from many different sources. (We have given many references to this throughout this issue.) The 'bone of contention' seems to be the actual 'trigger' for this violent changeover to a new epoch in Earth's history. For those people not familiar with this message, I would say that we are not intending to frighten people by this, but are passing on information received, as this is our main function.

In conclusion, I think THE MUNDO UFO REPORT is very interesting reading, sincerely offered by a dedicated Ufologist who deserves consideration.

Gloria Saville.

THE MUNDO UFO REPORT is available free on request while stocks last from: Laura Mundo, The Flying Saucer Information Centre, 7803 Ruanne Court, Pasadena, Maryland, 21122, U.S.A.

'The Mundo Monitor' is available free on request from the same address.

UFO NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD

Watch this space!

Following alarming reports from America that the U.S. Government is hiding thirty bodies of extra-terrestrial creatures killed in UFO crashes, I immediately contacted the House of Lords' flying saucer expert, the Earl of Clancarty, 67. Says the author of "The Sky People" and "The Flying Saucer Story": "Yes, I've heard. I hope you are not going to make fun of it."

Certainly not. Indeed, I hear that the UFO movement is gathering strength in the Upper House. There are now no less than twenty peers of the realm who have joined Clancarty's study group. And more are showing interest.

Says Clancarty: "We have sightings all the time."

Cr. Ms. P. Finch

"Daily Express", August 21, 1979.

Mystery of Tiniest UFO

Two flying instructors are baffled by a UFO that is just nine inches long. The pilots have reported close encounters with the UFO over Hampshire. The first sighting was by chief instructor Laurie Adlington of the Three Counties Aeroclub during a training flight from Blackbushe airport. He said the object looked like a flattened blob of mercury shining in the sunlight as he approached at 2,500 ft. "It consisted of little flat hexagonal panels, each about an inch across," said Mr. Adlington, 58, yesterday. "It was in two halves and there seemed to be two clasps near the dividing line. There were two short aerials

at the top. From fifteen feet away it seemed to be motionless, although it rose to 3,000 ft. at one stage. It seemed to be rotating. I haven't a clue how it stayed aloft."

The next day a similar object was seen at the same time in the afternoon by pilot Simon Spence, 21, also a Three Counties instructor. He reported that it flew off towards Farnborough at 150 miles per hour.

Cr. Mr. G. Shadrake. "Daily Mirror", August 31, 1979.

...

U.S. is worried by the UFOs

New York: The U.S. is seriously concerned about unidentified flying objects - UFOs - according to secret Government papers now released. A Defence Department document reveals that a squadron of F-106 jet fighters was "scrambled" from a base in Montana after radar picked up objects flying at various heights up to 15,000 ft. The report says: "Site personnel reported objects flying as low as 200 ft. and said that as the fighters approached the lights went out. After the fighters had passed the lights came on again. To date, all efforts have failed to produce positive identification." The incident, four years ago, was regarded so seriously that the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington were kept informed. A full report also went to the C.I.A.

The official papers show that the Government is perplexed by unexplained UFO sightings which amount to approximately 10 per cent of all such incidents reported.

Cr. Mr. D. Canning. "Daily Express", October 17, 1979.

...

"Star Trek - The Motion Picture" (Paramount Pictures)

Such is the title of the long awaited film that has cost £20 million to make and which opened in London on December 15 at the Empire, Leicester Square, London.

The film, which stars all the old series' characters plus two newcomers, took some four years in the preparation and making, and, if a box office success, which already it has every indication of being, will be followed by Star Trek No. 2.

"Star Trek - The Motion Picture" had its world premiere in Washington on December 6, and was well received. That the film is the highly recommendable I can personally verify, for I went to see one of the first screenings and enjoyed it immensely.* (For those with the eyes to see, the finale has, I feel, a message to tell.)

Editor, December 18, 1979.

* Having also less recently seen the film "Alien", I can in no way recommend this film to anyone anticipating/wishing a Close Encounter of the Third Kind! In this respect, "Alien" is quite damaging and in a way is scoring points for the 'negative' forces.

In rounding up, I feel it is fair to add that the parallels some of the old Star Trek programmes had with the UFO phenomenon were truly amazing. (Ed.)

...

Moon Aliens - Riddle of two UFOs in crater as Apollo made historic landing

Were aliens watching when U.S. astronauts first landed on the Moon? Astonishing claims from both American and Russian sources say that two UFOs were already on the surface. Apollo spaceship commander Neil Armstrong spotted them as he made his historic "One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind." But then, it is claimed, his radio report of the sighting was blacked out by mission controllers on earth. NASA - the National Aeronautics and Space Administration - discuss the claims as "absolutely ridiculous." But Maurice Chatelain, a former NASA consultant, insists his version of the Moon landing in 1969 is true. He says Apollo leader Armstrong reported seeing the craft perched on the rim of a crater. "His reports were blacked out in broadcasts to the world for security reasons," says Chatelain.

Chatelain's claims are backed by two Soviet space experts who say they learned about the incident two years ago. But NASA's chief spokesman John McLeaish, who denied the story, said: "The only breaks in transmission from Apollo II occurred when it went round the other side of the Moon. The only conversations we have never made public were private talks between the astronauts and doctors."

Chatelain says that NASA officials ordered a cover-up of the Moon incident. He went on to claim that while Armstrong was reporting his findings, his colleague Buzz Aldrin filmed the alien craft from inside Apollo II.

In Moscow, university professor Dr. Vladimir Ashazha said: "I am certain this episode took place but it was censored by NASA."

Another Soviet space expert, Dr. Sergei Bozhich said: "It is my opinion that beings from another civilisation picked up radio signals from earth and then spied on the Apollo landing to learn the extent of our know-how. Then they took off without making contact."

Cr. Mr. B. Tomlinson

"Sunday Mirror", September 9, 1979.

Editor's comment: Despite denials by NASA officials, there have been too many reports over the last ten years or so of UFOs seen on or near the Moon by Apollo astronauts for them all to be classed as false observations or untrue and ridiculous. Further, judging from all the other reports - many accompanied by photo's - it is certain that UFOs have been witnessed beyond the Earth's atmosphere.

The Apollo II astronauts, referred to in the above article, are thought to have had numerous UFO sightings during their trip: an 'L'-shaped object seen one day out from the Earth; two UFOs seen close together near the Moon and filmed by Edwin Aldrin, the film forming part of a documentary on the mission; and the UFOs seen on the Moon's surface.

In light of the above, it is well worth reading those rather controversial paperback books:-

"Our Mysterious Spaceship Moon" by Don Wilson.

"Someone Else is on our Moon" by George H. Leonard.

"Alternative 3" by Leslie Watkins.

all published by Sphere Books.

...

A Greek cargo ship has disappeared for a month in the "Azores Triangle"

Lisbon, 19th October (A.F.P.) - The fate of the Cypriot cargo ship "Myrina", which disappeared last month off the Azores with 21 people on board, raises many questions in the press of the archipelago and continental Portugal. No news has been received from the 3,646 ton ship since 26th September, when she was steaming past the archipelago on her route from New York to Gibraltar where she was to deliver old iron.

At the beginning of the month of October, 'planes from the Portuguese - American base of the Azores have twice perceived lifebelts which seemed to have not been used. "L'Acoriana Oriental", a daily published on the island of San Miguel, reported in mid-October that a life-boat of the "Myrina", which had on board equipment for raising an alarm (flares) and for survival (food and medicine), had been found intact.

A representative of the ship owner suggested the possibility of the "Myrina" having been the victim of hi-jacking. As for the Portuguese press, it is wondering whether this mysterious disappearance does not prove the existence of an "Azores Triangle" similar to the "Bermuda Triangle" where the disappearance of ships and 'planes is frequent and inexplicable.

Cr. Mr. W. Ager, Belgium.

"Le Soir" (Belgium), October 20, 1979.

Note: Mr. Ager has drawn our attention to the fact that a number of ships that have disappeared in a mysterious fashion - generally in areas like the Bermuda Triangle - have been carrying iron of one sort or another as their cargoes. This suggestion immediately brings to mind magnetism, which perhaps is the best natural force to invoke as being responsible in some way for the disappearances.

Editor.

Inexplicable black-out

The street lights of the village of Villacalabuey in the Spanish province of Leon (300 km - 186 miles) to the north of Madrid, went out momentarily in an inexplicable way, whilst mysterious flying objects gleamed above.

The phenomenon was observed by several farmers who were going to their fields. Tractor lights and lights in certain houses also dimmed whilst, according to the eye witnesses, unidentified flying objects shot out small rays of light of a great intensity.

Then the UFOs "went out" without it being possible to define their eventual trajectory.

Cr. Mr. W. Ager, Belgium.

"Le Soir", (Belgium), October 25, 1979.

...

Followed by four UFOs a Spanish plane is forced to land

Valencia, Spain, 12th November (A.P.P.) - It was reported from a police source on Monday that in the night between Sunday and Monday, four unidentified flying objects followed a Caravelle plane flying between Palma of Majorca and Tenerife for more than four hours, obliging it to land at Valencia.

The plane, belonging to the Transportes Aereos Espanoles (T.A.E.) Company, had 119 passengers on board, the majority of them German and Austrian. It came from Salzburg and was going to the Canary Islands.

According to the pilot, four luminous objects began following the aircraft whilst it was flying over Ibiza. After having tried in vain to outdistance them, the captain consulted the control tower of Valencia who advised him to land.

Four Phantom fighters took off from the base of Los Llanos (province of Albacete). When they arrived over Valencia, the UFOs disappeared. They were seen by other eyewitnesses in the region of Valencia. The military authorities have begun an inquiry.

At the airport of Valencia it is stated that one of the four objects remained visible for two hours, from 1.30 to 3.30 am, having the appearance of a Venetian lantern four or five times more luminous than the planet Mars. They have refused to say anything more about the phenomenon till the inquiry begun by the military authorities has come to some conclusions. But, in any case, its reality is certain, though up to now inexplicable. Many eyewitnesses were able to observe the phenomenon.

As to the pilot, he declares that he was completely blinded by one of the four objects, to the extent that he was obliged to change his course. The object emitted a bright orange light.

The passengers of the plane resumed their journey around noon on Monday after having spent the remainder of the night in various hotels in the town.

Cr. Mr. W. Ager, Belgium.

"Le Soir", (Belgium), November 13, 1979.

Note: Mr. Ager notes something in the above report that isn't explained satisfactorily, and this is the four hours that the UFOs were said to have followed the Caravelle plane. Since only 150 miles or so separates Ibiza from Valencia, and assuming that the plane was flying at "500 k.p.h." (300 m.p.h.), then this distance would have been covered in not much more than half an hour. Was the plane therefore circling the area, or is the press report in error? (Other reports give from two to four hours.) This inconsistency may have no important bearing on the case at all, but it is worth noting. (Ed.)

...

UFO and Occupant seen in Chile

At Santiago, a Chilean Justice of the Peace and an architect state they recently perceived a "humanoid" being standing next to a flying saucer which had landed on a hill near the city. According to the newspaper "La Segunda", which reports this strange adventure, the saucer was a beige colour and emitted lights of several colours.

The Justice of the Peace and the architect, who were walking near the hill Punta De Damas, tried in vain to enter into communication with the being standing stiffly near his craft. But as soon as he was approached by the visitors, he got on board the craft and took off at a fantastic speed in the direction of the Andes.

Cr. Mr. W. Ager. "Le Soir", (Belgium), November 21, 1979.

Madrid has long look at UFO

Hundreds of people in Madrid yesterday watched an unidentified flying object hovering high for several hours. Two late night radio shows devoted almost their entire programmes to the mystery object.

The Spanish Air Force has begun an investigation into the phenomenon. Earlier this month an experienced airline captain made an emergency landing at Valencia after his Caravelle was followed by two UFOs.

Cr. Mr. K. Dee. "The Daily Telegraph", November 29, 1979.

Man Lost in Eerie Cloud

Police throughout France are seeking a young man reported missing in mysterious circumstances near Paris. Initial scepticism was tempered by a report from Madrid that a similar phenomenon had been observed by a large crowd of people, although none had disappeared.

Three young men were loading a van near dawn yesterday in Clergy-Pontoise when they saw a large luminous cloud descending. Two ran home to look for a camera and the third, Franck Fontaine, 19, moved in to take a closer look. Fontaine has not been seen since.

Cr. Mr. K. Dee. "The Daily Telegraph", November 29, 1979.

Close encounter with the law

Franck Fontaine, 19, a French youth whose two friends claimed he was abducted by an extra-terrestrial force a week ago, visited a Paris police station yesterday after turning up on the very spot where he had vanished.

Fontaine's account of a brilliant ball of light descending from the sky on to the roof of his car in which his friends were passengers was identical to the story they had told the police. He said a smarting in his eyes was the last thing he remembered. When he regained consciousness he ran to the home of one of his friends who told him that a whole week had gone by.

Police said Fontaine wore the same clothes and had the same amount of money as on the day he disappeared. After questioning the three men, officials of the Public Prosecutor's Office were un-decided whether to believe their tale or to prosecute for "contempt for the law."

Cr. Mr. K. Dee. "The Daily Telegraph", December 4, 1979.

Forester 'attacked by visitors from space'

An area of Scottish grassland was sealed off on the advice of police yesterday after a forestry worker claimed he was attacked there by creatures from space. Experts in the field of unidentified flying objects rushed to the site at Livingston, West Lothian, to examine imprints on the ground.

Last night a police spokesman said, "It's all very strange. There are indentations on the ground as if made by the legs of some machine. But there are no marks leading to the spot, which is in quite a secluded area."

Mr. Bob Taylor, a 50-year-old forestry foreman says he was assaulted by two creatures who tried to pull him into their spacecraft. It happened early on Friday morning when Mr. Taylor was working alone on Dechmont Hill, near the M8 Glasgow-Edinburgh motorway. His boss Mr. Malcolm Drummond said: "Bob Taylor is not a man to make something up. If he says he was attacked by some creatures then there must have been something there. And the indentations on the ground bear this out."

Mr. Taylor and his wife Mary were last night visiting relatives in England.

"Bob was shocked and upset by the incident," said Mr. Drummond, who is head of the Livingston Development Corporation forestry department. "But he had arranged some time ago to make this trip and he thought he would go ahead with it despite what had happened, as it would allow him to get away from all the publicity."

Neighbours of Mr. Taylor, of Broomyknove Drive, Livingston Station, backed up Mr. Drummond's description of Mr. Taylor as a "sensible and straightforward man."

Mr. Taylor said that as he reached a clearing on the hill he was faced with a silver-coloured spacecraft. Suddenly, two creatures shaped like wheels with arms peeled off from the craft and slowly approached him. They grabbed him by the sides of his trousers and tore them, leaving scratch marks on his thighs. At this point Mr. Taylor fainted. But he said he had the sensation of being dragged towards the craft.

Later, investigations revealed two small trailmarks which could have been made by the feet of someone being dragged. Mr. Taylor also remembers a strong chemical smell and his red setter, normally a placid creature, barking furiously.

When he came round he was dazed and shocked and the creatures and their craft had gone. All that remained were a dozen or so deep triangular marks in the ground. There were also two parallel caterpillar tracks on the same spot. But there were no scorch marks, only flattened grass.

After the incident, Mr. Taylor, a father of seven grown-up children, crawled several hundred yards back to his van. But after reversing it he felt unable to drive and the vehicle was stuck in the mud. Later police found the van with the engine still running and the radiomicrophone lying on the floor.

Mr. Taylor, still dazed, walked the mile-and-a-half to his home before contacting Mr. Drummond.

Cr. Mrs. J. Pillinger. "The Sunday Express", November 11, 1979.

Note: I saw Mr. Taylor interviewed on T.V. by B.B.C's 'Nationwide' programme and Mr. Taylor made an interesting point which was not mentioned in the above account. He said: "When I first saw the craft it didn't seem quite solid, as the edges kept on disappearing and then re-appearing...." (or words to this effect). I wonder if this points to the craft coming from another dimension or another space/time, or ... 'transporting' like in 'Star Trek' from who knows where! (G. Saville).

Occult Experiences Terrify Cast of Spectacular New UFO Movie

A strange spell fell over the entire set during the making of the smash hit film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." And that spell - plus a series of bizarre, terrifying events - forever changed the lives of many cast and crew members. In the end, the making of the spectacular UFO epic turned out to be as incredibly mind-boggling as the movie itself. "It was the most unusual movie I've ever worked on," declared casting director Shari Rhodes, a film veteran who's worked on many major pictures including "Jaws" and "Jaws II."

To uncover the real story behind "Close Encounters," The Enquirer launched a massive investigation - and learned:

- * A ghostly presence terrorized director Steven Spielberg and two associates forcing them to flee in sheer panic from a hotel where they were working on the film.
- * The set was lashed by at least a dozen storms that were so furious some of the cast and crew believed there was a mysterious force behind them.
- * Eerie cloud formations - precisely resembling the one used in the movie to hide a UFO - repeatedly floated over the set.
- * A real UFO - with blinking and glowing lights - soared above the very set where a scene depicting the landing of a UFO was being filmed.

The film, which has religious overtones, climaxes when humans actually meet God-like beings who land on earth in a spaceship. And making the picture became an incredible spiritual experience that was so deeply moving that most of the crew and cast felt a divine force was with them on the set. "The presence of God was very much in evidence," revealed John Veitch, vice president in charge of

production at Columbia Pictures, producers of the film with FMI Films, Inc. "At times we felt as if something was guiding us along the way." Actress Teri Garr marvelled: "It was kind of hard not to think that there was something up there guiding the whole project. I found myself saying, 'All right already, all right already - just don't hurt anybody and we will play your game.'"

The awe-inspiring religious spirit cast a spell over everyone. Early on, actors began squabbling because they were allowed to see only their own sections of the script - and tensions mounted. But inexplicably the hostilities melted into a strange, overwhelming spirit of brotherly love and cooperation that actors and crew members had never before seen. And some screen veterans - with no real interest in religion - flocked to a priest acting in the film to seek his guidance. A casting director, Shari Rhodes, said: "It was as though a spell had come over the cast ... Everyone seemed to become full of joy and gentleness and concern." And Father Michael Dyer - who plays the role of a priest in the film, declared: "Religion found new hope on the floor of that set ... I was surprised that so many different types of film people and extras wanted to discuss religion with me. Particularly because so many were obviously thinking about religion again for the first time in a long while."

The strange series of events that stunned the cast and crew began as early as the planning stages of the film. Late one evening, director Spielberg was seated with two associates in a Jefferson, Tex., hotel planning, "Close Encounters," he recalled, when "I kept seeing things out of the corner of my eye." Every three or four seconds he sensed a presence near him, but when he turned to see it - it was gone. "(The place) was haunted!" he said. "We all felt this thing. We packed our bags and got out of there in 10 minutes!"

The eerie events began piling up, one on top of another, with frightening speed. As the 30-year-old director worked on the script, he visualized a mountain where a UFO would land - and, incredibly, found one precisely like the one he had pictured in his mind. When he found the exact mountain - known as Devils Tower in Wyoming - he recalled with awe: "It was just as I had envisioned it."

Spielberg sketched a UFO for the film, then called an artist to render it in color - only to find that the artist had already pictured the same UFO in an eerie dream. Said the director: "He dreamed about that ship." As soon as the artist saw Spielberg's sketch, he told the director how it matched the spaceship in his dream. "Then when he completed the realization of the mother ship it was based on that dream."

And while the stunning climax of the film was being shot in Alamogordo, fierce storms tore at the set with such explosive might that some members of the cast and crew believed a mysterious force must be causing them. Special effects genius Douglas Trumbull - who worked on the famed "2001" space movie - recalled: "We had a section of the set that stuck out from the hangar (where they were filming) covered by a 150-foot-long tent. At least a dozen times we were hit by tremendous storms over a period of three months. Horrendous hurricane-type winds, lightning and rain kept tearing the tent apart." When the tent was ripped apart, Teri Garr recalled thinking, "There are bigger forces here that are making us go the other way so that we can't shoot with the (tent). Now we will have to shoot it their way." Even when there wasn't a downpour, the clouds formed in an eerie formation - and resembled the same cloud formation used in the movie to hide a UFO. "We saw a similar configuration or cloud formation that looked just like (the one in the picture) - and not once, but two or three times," said Columbia executive Veitch.

Veitch also witnessed the incredible UFO that flew above the set in Mobile, Ala., precisely when the climactic meeting with the outer space creatures was being filmed. Awestruck actors, cameramen, crew and director Spielberg instantly stopped to watch the formation of four lights as they climbed across the night sky, hovered above them and then split up to vanish in different directions. "It was travelling quite fast with red and white or yellow and white lights," recalled Veitch. "They were blinking lights giving a sort of glow ... It didn't look like an aircraft or anything like it. It's possible the fact we were making a UFO picture had some bearing on it. Possibly, it may have attracted them."

Many of those who worked on "Close Encounters" found their lives changed forever. Merrill Connally - who plays the leader of the military team assembled to meet the outer space creatures - declared: "This movie gave me a different

outlook on life. It opened a door that was not open before." He said he now believes that in space "there must be someone or something out there that may exceed us in intelligence."

Added Veitch: "After being involved in this picture, I've changed my thinking toward UFOs and life in general to a degree ... You realize we're not just in our own little world, but we're very small beings which should be humble in the face of God or whatever it is out there."

Trumbull declared: "I have to say that ever since 'Close Encounters,' I have become a confirmed sky watcher. I am buying a telescope to enable me to go out to the mountains, and desert (outside in Los Angeles) where the visibility is greater for me to look around.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., was technical consultant on the film. He told The Enquirer: "I know people in the movie were greatly affected. And because of the film, I am convinced that in 1978 people generally will take a new, more serious view of the UFO phenomenon."

Cr. Mr. D. Reneke, Sydney, N.S.W. "National Enquirer" (U.S.A.) - undated.

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Lost UFO Pilot 'Talks' at Seance

A psychic group today claimed it made contact at a seance with an Australian pilot who disappeared in a UFO incident six months ago. The leader of the group, Mr. Colin Amery, said Mr. Fredrick Valentich, who went missing while piloting a light plane over Bass Strait, gave them five pieces of information. Mr. Amery claimed the pilot told them: He was quite safe - He was now a light body - His plane was in another dimension - He was working with people from the Great Bear Constellation - And that the Melbourne tape (a recording of the pilot's conversation with airport control) was inaccurate in that it had one and a half minutes missing.

Mr. Amery said the Dunedin group was in contact with Mr. Valentich for about eight minutes.

Cr. Mr. D. Reneke, Sydney, N.S.W. "The Sun" (Australia), April 23, 1979.

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ERRATA : Spring 1979 EARTHLINK

Pages 12-17 and 34 "The Winged Beings of Bluestone Walk"

Mrs. J. Hingley, the witness to the three small winged beings, brought to our attention some anomalies in the published story which she wishes us to correct, for she has had so much anguish and strife due to disbelievers that she felt upset when she read of the errors. (Recent communications to us have revealed many new facts, but these will form a short article in, perhaps, the next issue.)

Regarding the three beings, Mrs. Hingley hasn't a single clue as to what they really were: elves, fairies and Martians are other people's interpretations, not her's. Also, the picture on p.34 of all three beings on the couch is incorrect inasmuch as the being in the centre did not have his head to one side. Actually, the heads didn't move, only their hands which they used to activate the buttons (twelve, not six as indicated) on the front of their tunics. The accompanying words to the picture on p.34 and the same words on p.15 should be disregarded. (Ed.)

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OBITUARIES

We sadly report the death of Dr. Christopher Evans, who passed over on October, 10th, 1979. Dr. Evans was noted for his interest in psychic events, UFOs, and other strange phenomena. He appeared on numerous T.V. and radio programmes - the most recent being the B.B.C. T.V. series "The Mighty Micro" - a six-part documentary on the great changes the micro-chip and computer technology will make in our lives in the near future. His death is a very sad loss for us all.

Cbituaries continued ...

We also sadly report the death of Immanuel Velikovsky, distinguished author of books including "Worlds in Collision" and "Ages in Chaos" - who died on November 17th, 1979. He will be mainly remembered for his theory of a near planetary collision, which caused great cataclysms on the Earth thousands of years ago. (Ed.)

A LAST THOUGHT : PROPHECY

The following selected prophecies are but two of some 942 others written by the French 16th. Century astrologer/physician Michel de Nostredame - Nostradamus (1503-1566 a.d.). Although at first reading they seem rather obscure, interpretation of the prophecies has shown them to be remarkably accurate in many cases. Many relate to our own time, and here are just two with possible interpretations (in brackets), by the Editor, of the English translations.

"The year of the great seventh number accomplished (1979/80), it will appear at the time of the Games of Slaughter (July-August 1980 Moscow Olympic Games?), not far from the age of the great millennium (2000) when the dead will come out of their graves." Century X, No.74.

Nostradamus seems to foresee a great war taking place not far from the year 2000. Also, will we see, if the Olympic Games interpretation is correct, another 1972 Munich O.G. incident where many participants were killed? The last line is difficult and no doubt esoteric.

"In the year 1999 and seven months, from the sky will come the great King of Terror. (The Messiah - the Second Coming?*) He will bring back to life the great King of the Mongols**. Before and after War (destruction) reigns happily." Century X, No.72.

* For those people who have lead anti-Christian lives, He will be a "King of Terror."

**Generally thought to be the 3rd (Asian) antichrist, but perhaps the great world teacher of the Asian world - Buddha - instead.

(Please note that the above should be read with an open mind).

Original prophecies taken from "The Prophecies of Nostradamus"
by Erika Cheetham (Corgi Books).

Daniel J. Goring,
EDITOR.
