

Art 94

PEGASUS



Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena

S I G A P
Autumn 1994

Chairman:
Gordon Millington

Vice-Chairman:
Paul Whitehead

126 Grange Road, Guildford, Surrey. GU2 6QP
Tel/Fax: 0483 - 576914

=====

THE RED PLANET

For a long time one planet above all has fascinated the human imagination whenever it has entertained ideas of extra - terrestrial contact, and that planet is Mars. Enshrined perhaps in folk memory or the collective subconscious, the idea has persisted that it is by way of the red planet that voyagers from beyond our earth will initiate, or even perhaps resume, contact with humanity. When the USA and the USSR had sufficiently developed their techniques of space exploration in the lunar environment, it was Mars on which their next efforts were concentrated, but from the very beginning their unmanned space vehicles seemed to suffer from an unexpectedly high number of misfortunes.

The radios on Mars 1 (1962) and Zond 2 (1964) failed as soon as they neared the planet, as did the Mars 2 lander (1971). The lander from Mars 6 (1973) sent no signals and that from Mars 7 the same year was diverted from its course into outer space; orbiters Mars 4 and 5 both were disabled. The Mars 3 lander two years previously had its capsule picture inexplicably switched off after only 20 seconds of operation, and in 1969 Mariner 7's battery had unaccountably exploded. On January 28th 1976 a NASA report from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena stated that eight Soviet and American probes had been severely damaged on approaching Mars, their radio circuitry having been either burnt out or switched off. There were some in the JPL and its Soviet equivalent beginning to wonder whether these continuing mishaps could reasonably be attributed wholly to accident or coincidence. Could there be something or someone in the vicinity of the red planet seeking to prevent or hinder its exploration by the peoples of Earth?

Orbital photography had produced pictures of objects such as huge pyramids, heat-emitting areas in patterns suggesting underground installations and an enormous structure strongly resembling a human face looking upwards and outwards into space. As might be expected, controversy raged between those who suspected these might be artefacts and those who believed they must have natural origins.

On July 12th 1988 the Soviet Union launched two space probes, Phobos 1 and Phobos 2, which might well have provided decisive answers to all these questions. Soviet scientists had long suspected that Phobos, the larger of the two Martian moonlets, was hollow and that its nearly perfect

circular orbit could be evidence that it had been placed so artificially. Although launched by the USSR, the Phobos mission represented a hitherto unprecedented international effort, with more than thirteen European countries participating officially through scientific institutions and various British and American space scientists also taking part with official sponsorship from their respective governments.

Phobos 1 never reached Mars - it was lost, allegedly because of one of those radio command errors by which spacecraft observation of the planet had been dogged from its earliest days. Phobos 2, however, entered a Martian orbit in January 1989, eventually to take up one which would allow it to fly alongside the moonlet, observing it with sophisticated equipment and depositing two packages of instruments on its surface. The orbital manoeuvre was successfully accomplished and Phobos 2 was correctly aligned with the moonlet when, on 28th March 1989, Tass news agency reported that Phobos 2 had failed to communicate with Earth as scheduled. The next day Nikolai A. Simyonov of the Soviet space agency Glavkosmos said: "Phobos 2 is 99% lost for good."

Three months later the Soviet authorities released tapes of the final transmissions from Phobos 2 - except for the last frames. Even so, those released showed beyond dispute an object, either craft or missile, approaching the orbiter from the Martian surface. It was recorded by both the optical and the infra-red systems aboard Phobos 2. The pictures show beyond reasonable doubt that the orbiter was destroyed deliberately by action initiated on the planetary surface. A full description of the event, together with reproduced photographs, is given by Zecharia Sitchin in the twelfth chapter of his book "Genesis Revisited" (1990). "What the secret frames hide," he concludes, "is evidence that the loss of Phobos 2 was not an accident but an incident ... the shooting down by aliens from another planet of a spacecraft from Earth intruding on their Martian base."

In August 1993 the world heard from NASA that its latest state of the art space probe MARS OBSERVER had fallen inexplicably silent, just three days prior to its anticipated entry into Martian orbit. In January 1994 NASA presented its final report on the matter, produced by an investigation board headed by the Director of Research at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington D.C., which we publish here in full.

We cannot, however, avoid asking ourselves whether, in the light of past history, there is not a further possibility the board seems to have overlooked. Or perhaps they are in fact very well aware of it, but feel that for reasons best known to themselves, it should not be mentioned?

=====

Additionally, this high spin rate precluded proper orientation of the solar arrays, resulting in discharge of the batteries. However, the spin effect may be academic, because the released MMH would likely attack and damage critical electrical circuits within the spacecraft.

The board's study concluded that the propulsion system failure most probably was caused by the inadvertent mixing and the reaction of nitrogen tetroxide (NTO) and MMH within titanium pressurization tubing, during the helium pressurization of the fuel tanks. This reaction caused the tubing to rupture, resulting in helium and MMH being released from the tubing, thus forcing the spacecraft into a catastrophic spin and also damaging critical electrical circuits.

Based on tests performed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Pasadena, Calif., the board concludes that an energetically significant amount of NTO had gradually leaked through check valves and accumulated in the tubing during the spacecraft's 11-month flight to Mars.

In addition, the report listed other possible causes of the loss of the spacecraft as:

- * failure of the electrical power system, due to a regulated power bus short circuit;
- * NTO tank over-pressurization and rupture due to pressurization regulator failure;
- * the accidental high-speed ejection of a NASA standard initiator from a pyro valve into the MMH tank or other spacecraft system.

Other concerns noted by the board included:

- * a need to establish a policy to provide adequate telemetry data of all mission-critical events;
- * the lack of post-assembly procedures for verifying the cleanliness and proper functioning of the propellant pressurization system;
- * a current lack of understanding of the differences between the characteristics of European Space Agency and NASA pyro-initiators;
- * the potential for power bus short circuits, due to single component or insulation failure;
- * the potential for command and data handling control systems to be disabled by single-part failure;
- * the lack of fault protection external to the redundant crystal oscillator (RXO) should one of its two outputs fail;
- * the absence of information, in the telemetry, on the actual state of the RXO's backup oscillator;

* deficiencies in systems engineering/flight rules;

* too much reliance placed on the heritage of spacecraft hardware, software and procedures for near-Earth missions, which were fundamentally different from the interplanetary Mars Observer mission; and

* the use of a firm fixed-price contract restricted the cost-effective and timely development of the unique and highly specialized Mars Observer Spacecraft.

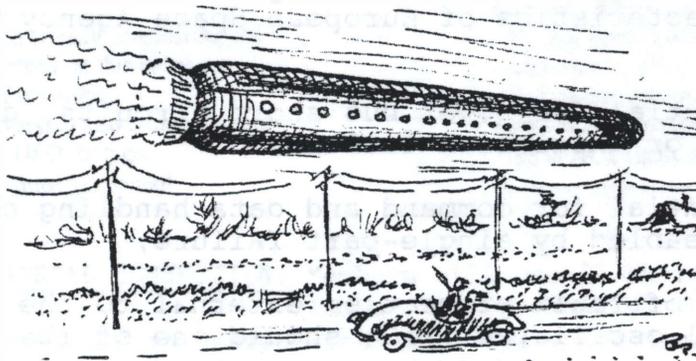
Dr. Coffey notes, 'We were challenged to conduct an extraordinarily complex investigation in which we had no hard evidence to examine nor communications with the spacecraft. However, after an extensive analysis covering every facet of the mission, operations and hardware, I believe that we are justified in arriving at the conclusions we have. If our findings will help to ensure that future missions won't suffer a similar fate, we feel we will have achieved our purpose.'

Dr. Coffey also expressed his appreciation for the support provided to the investigation board by the six technical teams, other NRL and Air Force Phillips Laboratory contributors, NASA representatives, the JPL Project Team and Investigation Board, and the Martin Marietta Astro Space technical teams.

'I commend Dr. Coffey and his team for the thoughtful and thorough research into the tragic loss of the Mars Observer,' said Dr. Wesley Huntress, Jr., Associate Administrator for NASA's Office of Space Science, Washington, D.C. 'Their work will help and guide us in formulating a corrective action plan to help ensure future success as we plan for recovering our Mars science exploration objectives.'

- end -

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Mars Observer Investigation Board Report is available to news media representatives by calling the NASA Headquarters Newsroom at 202/358-1600



WOT D'YOU MEAN? - ITS YOUR MOTHER'S SHIP?

LAZAR ON THE GREYS

Excerpt from interview with George Knapp on KLAS-TV, Las Vegas, Nevada: 9 December 1989, 1900 - 1930 hours.



KNAPP: ... You saw an anti-matter reactor. You saw gravity - propulsion systems in flying disks, flying saucers. You saw this Element 115. You also read a series of reports that had other stunning information. Can you give an overview of the kind of things that were in those reports?

LAZAR: The reason I didn't do that before was, first of all, they were just reports. Everything else I had hands on experience with. Now there was LOTS of strange information in the reports, but there again it's just printed material and it could be disinformation. I don't know. But certainly the information I did read in the reports about 115, the disks, the grav - I mean that all had material that related to that. The reports went into aliens and even went along the lines of religious ...

KNAPP: ... But you did see reports - whether they're true or not - Government reports about aliens.

LAZAR: Yeah.

KNAPP: What were the reports?

LAZAR: There were photographs of aliens. There were autopsy reports. There was really a wealth of information,

KNAPP: What did they look like?

LAZAR: The typical grey. I hate to say that, like anyone knows what a typical grey is. It's a creature, probably three and a half to four feet tall, a large hairless head, black, slanted eyes, long arms, very thin looking. I don't know how else I would describe them.

KNAPP: What does an autopsy report look like? What's included in an autopsy report that you said you read?

LAZAR: The reason I call it an autopsy report is I saw the carcass - it was obviously a dead alien carcass cut up, and it was all dark inside like it had an iron base. The reason I say iron is because it was very dark blood or whatever. I'm not a doctor, but it seemed to be one large organ in the body as opposed to identifiable heart and lungs and that sort of thing, but just one gooey mess in it.

KNAPP: What did the report say? It had pictures - it had to have some words: "Here's Exhibit A, an alien"?

LAZAR: Essentially so! They had weights and densities of the organs, said there were no conclusions drawn, but it was just a basic description of what the person who was cutting open the body saw.

KNAPP: Say where they came from?

LAZAR: Yeah, in one of the reports it said they came from Reticulum 4,

KNAPP: Where is that? Any idea?

LAZAR: (laughs) Well, I'm told it's a star system in Zeta Reticuli. Reticulum is the constellation, and by Reticulum 4 they meant the fourth planet out from that sun. In the same reports we were identified - instead of saying Earth, we were identified as "Sol 3", meaning the third planet from our sun.

KNAPP: Now you've read a lot of UFO material. Do you find yourself mixing what you've read and what you learned from up there?

LAZAR: No, that's why I stay away from the UFO researchers and things like that. I really don't want to be associated with that. I don't research the stuff. It's interesting to read, but no, I'm not mixing anything I've read into this stuff ...

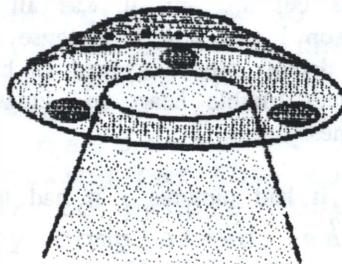
=====

KNAPP ON KLAS-TV, 25 DECEMBER 1989

"His name is Bob Lazar. He is a former scientist who worked at Los Alamos National Labs, he is a physicist ... we did a lot of checking on him and found interestingly that his life was disappearing around him. In other words, we called Los Alamos Labs and they said they never heard of him. We called MIT where he says he went to school and they had never heard of him. We called for his birth records and they had disappeared ... as if someone was trying to make him a non - person. We did however confirm some of the information that he had given us ... we found newspaper articles from Los Alamos indicating that he had indeed worked there ... we found an old telephone book from the lab with his name in it, which gave him a certain amount of credibility in our eyes. The story he tells is an incredible one ..."

=====

(NOTE: The fullest account of Lazar's allegations is given by Timothy Good in his book "ALIEN LIAISON". [Century 1991])



ZECHARIA AND THE ANCIENT ASTRONAUTS

by Gordon Millington

Zecharia Sitchin is a remarkable scholar. A Russian emigrant to Israel, where he was educated, he now lives in the USA and has devoted his life to the ancient languages and archaeology of the Near East. By refusing to take for granted traditional readings of historical documents, interpretations developed in pre-technical times when references to such artefacts as flying machines were assumed to be either fanciful or metaphors, and by working backwards in time to the sources beyond the Hebrew versions of the book of Genesis, Sitchin has painstakingly assembled from these earliest accounts a novel and convincing version of the origins of the solar system, of our own Earth and of humankind.

The quest which ended only with the publication of his magnum opus, the four books collectively known as The Earth Chronicles, began when Zecharia, as a schoolboy studying the sixth chapter of Genesis, refused to accept his teacher's instruction that the word "nefilim" should be translated as "giants". Sitchin objected that the root meaning of the word was: "those who from Heaven to Earth came down", and spent the rest of his life justifying that assertion. How far he succeeded in his self-imposed task can readily be assessed by anyone who shares his knowledge of the culture and writings of the Sumerians, Egyptians, Babylonians and Assyrians, but those of us whose scholarship is deficient in these areas must adopt more indirect and subjective methods of evaluation. Studying the mass of evidence he assembles and sets out with such clarity and logic, we have to decide for ourselves whether the narrative he develops provides a credible interpretation of the great issues with which it deals and whether, if we reject his version of events, we can provide an alternative that carries equal conviction. Personally, I cannot.

To attempt even a complete list of the matter contained in The Earth Chronicles would exceed both my scope and my intention here, which is simply to set out without even the minimum of justification those aspects of Sitchin's narrative relating to my present theme of man's encounters with the UFO occupants whose aims and activities we have been tentatively seeking to encompass. So let us begin with Sitchin's final answer to the question with which his long search began.

Those Nefilim who came down to Earth 445,000 years ago were 600 natives of the planet Nibiru, the tenth planet in our own solar system, which has an atypical comet-like orbit which it requires 3,600 earth years to complete. Anu, the king or ruler of the advanced Nibiruan culture, had dispatched a party of 900 individuals, 600 of whom, under the command of their leader Enki, established an initial base in what is now southern Mesopotamia. The remaining 300 did not come down, but operated the space links with their home planet from a space station in Earth orbit and a planetary base on Mars. The purpose of the expedition was to obtain gold, which was urgently needed on the home planet to maintain the ecology of Nibiru, whose inhabitants enjoyed a life span so long that we should consider them virtually immortal. During the next 45,000 years, as the ice age gave way to an interglacial period, the Nefilim extracted gold from the sea water, built cities and a spaceport, and established gold mining operations in Southern Africa. Enki's half-brother Enlil was then sent to take over the administrative side of the operation, allowing Enki, the master scientist and engineer, to concentrate on his specialisms. There was rivalry and bad feeling between Enki, the first-born son of Anu, and Enlil, for it was the latter who would be Anu's heir, having been born to his father's half-sister. 300,000 years ago, there was a mutiny at the gold mines, so serious that Anu himself came down from Nibiru to settle the matter. The Nefilim working the mines had decided that 100,000 years of manual labour was enough. Enlil was furious and wished to take a hard line with the rebels but Anu was wiser and listened sympathetically to their complaint. Enki, however, found the answer. He undertook to create primitive slaves to do the work, by taking the eggs of female hominids, fertilising them in vitro with sperm from the Nefilim and bringing the embryos to term in the wombs of Nefilim females. The creatures thus produced were known generically as "The Adam", sterile mules whose function was to work for the Nefilim and accept them as gods. This method by which the Adam was produced in quantity was of necessity slow and probably unpopular with the female Nefilim, so Enki, the great geneticist, gave a further twist to the DNA chain which finally led to the production of fertile men and women, creating mankind as the self-perpetuating species it has been ever since.

In a mere 50,000 years homo sapiens had populated several continents and many of the male Nefilim, finding the human girls attractive, had helped in the process, to the disgust of Enlil, who was beginning to think the creation of man in the image of the "gods" had been a bad mistake, especially as Enki had gained all the credit for it. Thirteen thousand years ago, when it became clear to the Nefilim that a great deluge was imminent on Earth, calculated to destroy all life there, Enlil was content to see this happen and persuaded the council of the "gods" and his father Anu to agree. The biblical story of Noah is well-known, but it is perhaps not generally realised that this is a corrupt version deriving from Akkadian and Sumerian accounts and altered to conform with the monotheistic preoccupations of the editors of Genesis, who treated the god-word as singular while leaving the plural verb forms unchanged. The Hebrew word "Elohim" is plural and corresponds to the Nefilim, the "gods" who gave the Sumerian scribes the original story.

In the Assyrian version, Noah is called Utnapishtim, whose story is simply a re-telling of the Sumerian account of their King Ziusudra, known personally to Enki and forewarned by him of the coming flood. The Nefilim did not create the flood nor could they prevent it; it arose as a consequence of the increasingly unstable Antarctic ice cap slipping into the sea under the gravitic influence of the approaching Nibiru at its perigee in the asteroid belt.

The Nefilim planned to save themselves by taking off into Earth orbit until the waters subsided, but they were not going to tell mankind of the approaching doom. Enki was supposed to keep this secret, but instead he decided to save his faithful servant King Ziusudra and gave him instructions to build a giant submersible craft, which he and the trusted members of his court, his workmen and their families too, were all to board when they saw the rocket ships of the Nefilim taking off from the spaceport. Enki also provided him with a navigator, who was to direct the ark to Mount Ararat when the floods began to subside. From their orbiting craft the Nefilim watched the overwhelming of the world they had built and many of them were sad and wept, regretting the loss.

Eventually, when Enki had landed on Mount Ararat to meet his faithful servant Ziusudra, they learned that mankind was not altogether destroyed and even Enlil was finally persuaded that the world must be rebuilt. The "gods" used all their knowledge and technology to re-establish humanity as the floods gradually receded, promoting agriculture and animal husbandry. Human civilisation spread out from the Middle East to cover the globe, actively assisted by the "gods" in their airships. Enki, known in ancient Egypt as "Ptah", personally ordered the development of the Nile valley culture, where some of the great engineering works of the "gods" still remain to impress us, just as does the base of their post-diluvian spaceport at Baalbec in the Lebanon.

Sitchin continues his story, filling in the biblical background in depth and detail, until in a further book, Genesis Revisited (1990), he tells the story which suggests that the final chapter in the dealings of the Nefilim with humanity yet remains to be written, that the bug-eyed, Strieber type ufonauts with whom some believe the US government has done a deal are in fact the android creations of the Nefilim, still operating from the old Martian base they set up so long ago. The story he tells, with photographic evidence in support, is that of the USSR unmanned space probe Phobos 2, launched in July 1988 to explore the planet Mars and more especially its unusual moonlet.

Phobos 1, launched at the same time, was lost two months later, allegedly by an error in the commands sent to it by radio, but its twin arrived safely into Martian orbit in January 1989. Although officially a Soviet craft, Phobos 2 represented a collaborative international effort with more than thirteen European countries involved, and the participation with government approval of leading British and American space scientists. Briefings from mission control in Moscow indicated that it carried equipment to locate more precisely the heat-emitting areas on Mars, scanning both the planet and the satellite with infra-red and gamma-ray equipment. Phobos was to receive special attention, perhaps in view of Soviet suggestions that it could be a captured asteroid deliberately placed long ago in its almost perfect circular orbit as a hollow space station. The moonlet was to be probed by radar as well as by the other scanners, and photographed by three television cameras. Two landers were to be dropped on its surface, one stationary and one mobile, and it was planned that eventually the probe would hover a mere 150 feet above the surface, recording features as small as six inches in length. It certainly seems that the expedition's planners expected significant results from the operation "but", asks Sitchin, "was there someone there, at Mars, who did not welcome this intrusion?" For on March 28 1989 Soviet mission control announced that contact with Phobos 2 had been lost. Gradually the details of what had occurred were released. The final television transmissions from the spacecraft, recorded by both colour and infra-red cameras, showed an object, either a craft or a missile, heading from the Martian surface towards Phobos. These pictures were released only three months later by the Soviet authorities, but the very last frames, taken just before the transmission was ended by the destruction of the orbiter, have never been released to the public media. In the penultimate chapter of Genesis Revisited, after a detailed discussion of all the evidence, Sitchin concludes as follows: "What the secret frames hide is evidence that the loss of Phobos 2 was not an accident but an incident, perhaps the first incident in a Star Wars - the shooting down by Aliens from another planet of a spacecraft from Earth intruding on their Martian base." It seems, however, most improbable that any of the ancient astronauts from Nibiru would have condemned themselves to millennia of pointless exile in bases beneath the sands of Mars. If, as Sitchin suggests, such bases still exist and are manned, then a maintenance crew of androids and robots seems much more likely. If Phobos is indeed part of their installations, then they would certainly have been programmed to defend it from intrusion. Whether their instructions have also included keeping a watch on our own planet, particularly since the time of our first atomic explosions when the UFO phenomenon went public, we do not know, nor can we be sure that their findings are not relayed back to planet Nibiru, now being searched for by astronomers in Earth's southern hemisphere as it flies through space on its return journey towards our sun.

PROJECT MOON DUST

by BARRY GREENWOOD
(Citizens Against UFO Secrecy)

From CUFON Computer UFO Network, SEATTLE, Wa.

=====

Many project code names turn up from time to time in released government documents. Few of these are ever identified in more than brief detail. However, Project Moon Dust, as named in recently released DIA files, is an exception. We have several documents which do seem to link UFOs with this colourfully named project.

We have heard of stories, or more accurately rumours, of crashed UFOs and alien bodies recovered. Dozens of them are presently on file. Often in these accounts military personnel respond quickly to a developing situation, enact a carefully-planned set of procedures (like photography, mapping, interviews etc.); then, usually, the evidence is carted away to an unknown location for further study. That's what the rumours tell us.

You must have thought at times, while digesting these rumours, that such step-by-step action must have been scripted, that there must have been guidelines to follow for everything to have been done so thoroughly and properly that not a stick of residue was left. We now have been pointed in the right direction to verify whether or not these procedures are on record, for throughout some recent document releases, mainly from the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and State Department, are references to "Project Moon Dust". The fact that it repeatedly turned up in documents dealing with UFOs told us that it was worth checking. As a result of enquiries by Robert Todd, a well known CAUS researcher, the Air Force released a letter on August 20 1979. It was identified as AFCIN-1E-0, dated 3 November 1961. The letter was partly deleted, but enough was left to open the door on Moon Dust.

The letter immediately indicates that MOON DUST, BLUE FLY and UFO are among AF Intelligence's quick reaction projects. It is probable that UFO here refers to Blue Book.. The prefix word "blue" has often been used in connection with high altitude vehicles and it appears in several factual and also rumoured UFO projects. Here we see it again in BLUE FLY, which provided for transportation of Moon Dust material, involving things acquired from the recovery and/or field exploitation of UFOs! Note that UFOs are set apart from Soviet bloc aerospace vehicles.

Moon Dust and "other items of great technical intelligence interest" were sent to the Foreign Technology Division of Wright - Patterson AFB in Ohio, under project Blue Fly. FTD was the parent group for Project Blue Book. Coincidence? Compelling evidence for the Moon Dust/crash retrieval link and its early origins appears in Donald Keyhoe's 1955 book THE FLYING SAUCER CONSPIRACY, pages 214-215.

The Air Force's Moon Dust activity, as well as Blue Fly, is now said to be "no longer active". Perhaps the projects no longer go by these names, but surely the procedures have not become obsolete. There is still a need to react to unknown vehicles landing on our soil. At the very least, national defence is served by such a reaction.

=====

CSICOP - THE SCEPTICAL VIEWPOINT

PEGASUS would welcome for publication letters from readers offering reasoned criticism of the views expressed by the sceptical extracts below. Where necessary for reasons of brevity such letters may be edited.

UFOs and Flying Saucers -----

3.1 What are UFOs? -----

UFOs are, simply, Unidentified Flying Objects, no more, no less. This means that if you are out one night and see a light moving in the sky and cannot immediately identify it as a certain star, planet or other object, then it is by definition a UFO. THIS DOES NOT MEAN YOU HAVE SEEN AN ALIEN SPACESHIP.

A better question would be:

3.1.1 Are UFOs alien spacecraft? -----

Probably not. The vast majority of UFO reports, when investigated by competent researchers (and that is a problem all by itself), can be easily explained as natural or manmade objects misidentified for one reason or another. The actual percentage is around 95%. A very few reports are provable hoaxes. The remaining few percent (some skeptics argue that there are no remaining reports) are not explained at this time. Again, this does not mean that they are observations of alien spacecrafts. All we can say is that, given the information presently available, some cases don't appear to be stars, balloons, airplanes, aurorae, etc. Given a great deal more time and effort, many more could likely be identified. It's possible that the witness(es) were in error, or are very good liars. And the remaining few cases? Well, the best we can say, as true skeptics, is that we don't know what they were, but there is NO proof that they were alien spacecraft.

3.1.2 Are UFOs natural phenomena? -----

Possibly. A number of theories have been proposed, suggesting that some UFOs are 'plasma's or variations of ball lightning or earthquake lights. Unfortunately, the theories seem to change to fit observed data, rather than predict the observations. Also, studies designed to support the theories have used newspaper articles and raw, unsifted UFO case lists for data, and therefore the studies do not appear to be completely unbiased. Perhaps time will tell. Until then it is safe to say that SOME UFOs are probably ball lightning or other rare natural phenomena.

3.1.3 But isn't it possible that aliens are visiting Earth? -----

Yes. But it is also possible that there is an invisible snorg reading this over your shoulder right now.

Basically, some astronomers (e.g. Carl Sagan) are convinced that there are other habitable planets in our galaxy, and that there may be some form of life on them. Assuming that parallel evolution occurred on these other planets, there MIGHT be intelligent life forms there. It is possible that some of these life forms could have an advanced civilization, and perhaps have achieved space travel. BUT - there is no proof that this is so. SETI programs such as the High Resolution Microwave Search now being conducted by NASA under the direction of Jill Tartar are 'listening' to other stars in the hope of detecting radio signals that might indicate intelligent life - kind of listening for the equivalent of 'Watson, come here. I need you!', or 'I love Lucy' in the infancy of our early communications. Such searches have been fruitless, so far.

If there are aliens on distant planets, then it is possible that they might have found a way to travel between stars in their lifetimes. According to our present understanding of physics, this is not likely, given the vast distances between stars. Even travelling at the speed of light (which cannot be done), a round trip to the nearest star would take about ten years. This does not rule out interstellar ships, but it does make it seem unlikely that we are being visited.

If ~~even one~~ civilization has found a way to travel between stars in the entire history of the Milky Way Galaxy (about ten billion years), it ought to fill the entire Galaxy in only a hundred million years or so. The question, then, is why don't we observe evidence of alien civilization everywhere? This question is known as the Fermi Paradox, and there is no really satisfactory answer. If, however, we postulate alien visits to Earth, we must also accept a Galaxy-wide civilization and ask why we see no evidence of it.

3.2: Is it true that the US government has a crashed flying saucer (MJ-12)? -----

The MJ-12 documents purportedly established that the U.S. government had established a secret organization of 12 people called MJ-12 or Majestic-12 to deal with UFOs. These 12 people were all conveniently dead at the time the documents were discovered. Klass proved that the documents are fakes.

The Roswell Incident refers to an alleged UFO crash in Roswell, NM. This is also known as the 'Roswell Incident'. Philip Klass has also investigated this one and shown the reports to be bogus. One of the more notable items of 'evidence' was a document 'signed by the president'. Klass showed that this signature was a photocopy of an existing presidential signature. See SI 14:2 (Winter 1990) pp

3.7: Are crop circles made by flying saucers? -----

There is no convincing evidence that crop circles or any other kind of UGM (Unusual Ground Markings) were made by aliens. There are some reports of lights being seen in and around crop circle sites, and a few videos showing objects flitting over fields. The lights are hardly proof, and the objects in the videos seem to be pieces of foil or paper being tossed about by the wind.

In a deliberate attempt to test crop circle 'experts', a crop circle was faked under the watchful eyes of the media. When cerealists were called in, they proclaimed it genuine.

3.7.1: Are crop circles made by 'vortices'? -----

Probably not. There are a number of meteorologists who believe that crop circle formations are created by rare natural forces such as 'ionised plasma vortices'. Basically, winds blowing across rolling hills sometimes form eddies, which in some circumstances (that have never been quantified) become strong, downward spiralling drafts that lay down the crop. Cerealists claim to have over two dozen witnesses to such events. Unfortunately, many more have said they have seen flying saucers do the same thing.

Scientific articles arguing for the reality of these vortices have appeared regularly in the Journal of Meteorology. But its editor is the leading proponent of the theory, Dr. Terence Meaden.

Winds can lay down crop in patches known as lodging. But geometric patterns in fields can hardly be attributable to natural phenomena. Meaden has changed his theory to first accommodate complex circles, ovals and even triangles (!), but now admits that most circles are hoaxes and the theory can only explain simpler patterns.

3.7.2: Are crop circles made by hoaxers? -----

Of course. Although most people have heard only of two, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley of England, many others have been caught, not only in Britain but in other countries such as Canada. Their methods range from inscribed circles with a pole and a length of rope to more complex systems involving chains, rollers, planks and measuring devices.

And as a further note: just because you can't prove a crop circle was made by a hoaxer, you should not assume aliens were involved. Remember Occam's Razor (Section 1.6).

3.7.3: Are crop circles radioactive? -----

This is a claim that has received wide circulation in UFO/cerealogy circles (pardon the pun). It is also untrue. Examination of the data from spectral analyses of soil taken from crop circles has shown that there were no readings above the normal background levels. The proponents of this claim are debating this, however.

3.7.4: What about cellular changes in plants within crop circles? -----

Yes, what about the changes? Although this is another claim that is widely circulated among ufologists and cerealists, the evidence is simply not very good. A few photographs of alleged changes in the 'crystalline structure' of wheat stems were published in some magazines and UFO publications. The method used was spagyrical analysis. This is a technique involving crystallization of the residue of organic material after harsh processing, invented three centuries ago and popularized by Sir Kenneth Digby. Digby is known for other wonderful inventions like condensation of sunlight and the development of sword salve (which you had to put on the weapon rather than on the wound, in order to cure the wound). The fact that this technique was tried at all casts serious doubts on the 'researchers'

3.10: What is the face on Mars? -----

One of the Mars orbiters took a photograph of a part of Mars (Cydonia) when the sun was very low on the horizon. The picture shows a 'face' and some nearby pyramids. Both these structures are seen more by their shadows than their actual shape. The pyramid shadows appear regular because their size is close to the limit of resolution of the camera, and the 'face' is just a chance arrangement of shadow over a couple of hills. The human brain is very good at picking out familiar patterns in random noise, so it is not surprising that a couple of Martian surface features (out of thousands photographed) vaguely resemble a face when seen in the right light.

Many people find the 'face' more reminiscent of a monkey than a human being.

Richard Hoagland has championed the idea that the Face is artificial, intended to resemble a human, and erected by an extraterrestrial civilization. Most other analysts concede that the resemblance is most likely accidental. Other Viking images show a smiley-faced crater and a lava flow resembling Kermit the Frog elsewhere on Mars. There exists a Mars Anomalies Research Society (sorry, don't know the address) to study the Face and related features.

The Mars Observer spacecraft had (and for all we know it still has) a camera that could give 1.5m per pixel resolution. Unfortunately NASA scientists lost contact with the spacecraft just before it arrived at Mars.

REVELATIONS OF COSMIC AWARENESS

Cosmic Awareness Communications, PO Box 119 Olympus, Washington 83507, circulate allegedly channelled information on UFO matters via interpreters who read "the energies as they see them in trance levels, and are not personally responsible for what is said". Whatever the actual source of the information, some of what is conveyed is of intrinsic interest at the level of hypothesis. "Cosmic Awareness tells us not to believe anything, but to question, explore, doubt and discover for yourself, through your own channel, what is the truth", they say: in which spirit the following revelations from Olympus are offered.

ALIEN ABDUCTIONS

The aliens select people whom they are to abduct from vibrations in their brainwave patterns; they seek one matching their particular interest or needs. The least likely person an alien would seek would be one whose brainwave pattern indicates a socially strong, individualistic entity, without much fear and not easily swayed or influenced. Also aliens do not like the effects of chocolate, coffee, cigarettes, sugar or other addictive foods or drugs in the system.

It is important to avoid any contact with UFO entities unless you are absolutely sure that they are Pleiadians or from Sirius, who will often give you ways by which you can be absolutely sure, for they will make themselves gradually known over a period of time before contacting anyone in a close encounter. They tend to set up appointments telepathically, letting you know that they will be there at a certain time, and where to look to expect them. Anything other than this kind of appointment should be thought typical of the more malevolent types of aliens.

Aliens have the ability, when wearing certain types of packs on their backs, to move through walls or through rooftops, to come right into your home, even into your bedroom while you sleep, to give an implant. In most cases such implants have been given to people working in and around government or alien operated bases, to gain control over these people. Thus the city of Dulce, New Mexico, is one in which many of the local people have been implanted and abducted.

The alien's back pack creates a field which makes matter lose its density. Matter is created by atoms in molecular structure, held together by a spatial force. Under high magnification you would see that matter has more space than substance, yet there is a force binding the particles together, holding them in place even though they are scattered, with a great space between them. It is the force that resides in the space that holds matter together and the alien's pack is able to overcome that force so that the atoms of the body and the atoms of the wall actually pass though each other when there is no force between the atoms. This is done through the use of vibrations high enough to cancel the operating frequency of the binding force.

AN UNDERGROUND ALIEN BASE

The following material comes from people who know the underground base at Dulce, New Mexico, exists. They are people who worked in the labs,

abductees taken to the base; people who assisted in the construction; intelligence personnel (CIA, NSA etc.) and UFO and Inner-Earth researchers. The U.S. government in 1933 agreed with aliens to trade animals and humans in exchange for High Tech knowledge and to allow them to use undisturbed underground bases in the Western U.S.A. A special group was formed to deal with the alien beings. In the 1940s alien life forms began shifting their focus of operations from central and south America to the U.S.A. The Dulce complex is a joint U.S. government/Alien base. Others are in Colorado, Arizona etc. The September 1983 issue of OMNI magazine (page 80) has a colour drawing of THE SUBTERRENE, the Los Alamos nuclear powered tunnel machine that burrows through the rock deep underground, by heating whatever stone it encounters into molten rock (magma), which cools after the Subterrene has moved on, leaving a tunnel with a smooth, glazed lining. It reduces the magma of these melted rocks so that there is little or no residue which needs to be carried out of the tunnel.

These underground tubes are used by electro-magnetically powered shuttle vehicles which can travel at great speeds, linking underground cities complete with streets, sidewalks, lakes, apartments, offices and shopping malls. The Dulce Facility is a multi-levelled complex. There are over 3,000 security cameras at various exits and laboratories, and over 100 secret exits near and around Dulce. There are caves used by aliens throughout the U.S.A., Canada and South America, as well as in Europe. In most cases the bases are connected by underground tunnels, which extend into the Aleutian Islands, Russia and Northern Europe, also Australia and New Zealand. There are older bases in South America, in Brazil, in Central America and in Chile, Venezuela and Peru. The bases have ten levels, and are manned by both humans and aliens.



DO WE GET AN INTERFLIGHT MEAL, YOUNG MAN?

WHO'S THAT ON OUR MOON?

Both Neil Armstrong and Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin saw UFOs shortly after their historic moon landing in Apollo 11 on July 21 1969, it is reported. One of the astronauts referred to a light in or on a crater during a televised transmission, followed by an unanswered request from mission control for further information. According to former NASA employee Otto Binder, radio hams with their own VHF receivers that bypassed NASA's broadcasting outlets picked up the following exchange, after the lunar landing:

MISSION CONTROL: What's there? Mission Control calling Apollo 11.

APOLLO: These babies are huge, sir ... enormous ...Oh, God, you wouldn't believe it! I'm telling you there are other spacecraft out there, lined up on the far side of the crater edge ... they're on the moon watching us

...

Extract from a classified interview between an anonymous professor and Neil Armstrong, referring to the above event.

PROFESSOR: What really happened out there with Apollo 11?

ARMSTRONG: It was incredible... Of course, we had always known there was a possibility ... the fact is, we were warned off. There never was any question then of a space station or moon city.

PROFESSOR: How do you mean, "warned off"?

ARMSTRONG: I can't go into details, except to say that their ships were far superior to ours both in size and technology. Boy, were they big! And menacing! No, there is no question of a space station.

PROFESSOR: But NASA had other missions after Apollo 11?

ARMSTRONG: Naturally - NASA was committed at that time, and couldn't risk a panic on earth. But it really was a quick scoop and back again.

(The above information, claimed to originate from secret documents, was posted for public consumption on a computer bulletin board by Sidney Csoke on 5 January 1992.)

ALIEN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CAMPAIGN (AAC)

On 29 January 1994 a SIGAP delegation attended by invitation the AAC meeting at Oxford Town Hall. About 50 people were present and the chair was taken by AAC Convener John Holman, who demanded that groups affiliating to the campaign must express an unequivocal belief that Earth is being visited by Aliens. Apart from the belief that the UFO Phenomenon exists and is deserving of study and research, SIGAP expresses no collective views, thus remaining open to consider all possible hypotheses. It was therefore decided that SIGAP would not support AAC, though individual members may of course do so if they wish.

MEPs get to grips with close encounters of the third kind

2 - DEC 1993

John Corvel in Brussels

AN official report was put before MEPs yesterday saying that people should not rule out the theory "that aliens have established a base in the asteroid belt".

Europeans were advised by the report, however, to treat with circumspection the sightings of triangular shaped UFOs which appear to have showed up around Liège, moving at high speed on the radar screens of the Belgian air force.

The European Parliament, more often associated with building white elephants than seeing pink ones, is treating seriously the report on unidentified flying objects prepared by Tullio Regge, an Italian socialist MEP and eminent physicist.

He wants the Commission to set up a European UFO Observation Centre to collect information about sightings by the public, the military and scientific institutions throughout the EU.

Mr Regge is scathing about fraudsters who alarm people by perpetrating hoaxes, using airships with sophisticated electronics "capable of reflecting radar waves with a displacement of frequency that simulates the Doppler effect".

He does not believe the claims of a Professor Silanov that the Russians used telepathy to communicate with

10ft aliens who emerged from a banana-shaped flying saucer in a park in Voronezh, eastern Russia, in 1988.

But Mr Regge is impressed by the findings of the state-funded Service for Assessment of Atmospheric Re-entry Phenomena in Toulouse, France. It cannot establish a scientific explanation for 40 per cent of the cases it investigates.

"The lack, perhaps temporary or accidental, of an explanation in no way allows us to regard a sighting as certain proof or even an indication that aliens exist, with technological capabilities vastly superior to our own.

"However, scientists still have a duty to continue researching into these events," he says in the report commissioned by the parliament's energy, research and technology committee.

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993



Dr Story Musgrave, who made his first shuttle space walk ten years ago, dreams of a space ride with unknown beings

Doctor in space waits for call from alien visitor

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE Dr Story Musgrave was replacing the wide-field planetary camera, half an eye was cocked on the horizon in case a disc-shaped craft hove into view. The veteran astronaut firmly believes in aliens and tries to contact them on each mission.

"I've got nothing to lose. While I'm circling around out there I try whatever ways I can to get them to come down here and get me," said Dr Musgrave, 58, a surgeon who lists his hobbies as parachuting, scuba diving and literary criticism.

"You know, I'm a realist. The probabilities are incredibly slim. But the greatest thing that I could do is to have something come down from out there and go take a space ride with them," said Dr Musgrave, who dropped out of school in 1953 to join the Marines.

The astronaut, who joined NASA in 1967 and made his first shuttle space walk ten years ago, admitted to being

terrified during the 17,000 mph lift-off into orbit. "You don't get a nice sound in there when it's 137 decibels. You shake, rattle and roll and I'm scared to death," he said during a recent trip to British Aerospace in Bristol to study the Hubble replacement solar arrays.

To distract him, Dr Musgrave wears a little mirror on his wrist which, he admitted, breaks NASA rules. It allows him to look out of the shuttle's back window and see the flames pouring from the craft's booster rockets. "It's incredible. You pick up the whole perimeter of the launch pad... and it's like a huge flashbulb going off," Dr Musgrave said.

He has flown on more shuttle missions than anyone else, but said that the pressures of the Hubble repair have been huge. Nevertheless, Dr Musgrave believed his surgical training had prepared him for the delicate manoeuvres.

Peking: Planes and ships are forbidden from travelling directly between China and Taiwan, but experts say 6,000 unidentified flying objects have made the trip, the Xinhua news agency said. The first China-Taiwan UFO symposium finished in Peking

with researchers concluding that UFO sightings deserved more scientific study. Xinhua said the latest sighting was on August 7, when two bat-like objects were reportedly seen over Taipei airport for 15 minutes. (Reuters)

THE DEVIANT UFONAUTS

by Gordon Millington

Most records of close encounters speak either of tall, fair, blue-eyed UFO occupants or of the small, bug-eyed abductors famous for staring chillingly out from the dust jacket of Whitley Strieber's best-sellers, but there also exists a set of often puzzling minority reports of yet other alien entities. Whether we explain this variety of beings as visitors from other planets in the far reaches of the universe, as infiltrators from parallel realities co-existent with terrestrial space or as paranormally induced vagaries in human perception, they are reliably reported and require consideration.

One of the most bizarre, and yet carrying in some strange way its own peculiar credibility, is the Kelly-Hopkinsville sighting of 21/22 August 1955, of which Allen Hynek, who studied it closely, remarked that "it seems clearly preposterous, even to offend common sense", but he also added drily that the latter "has not proved a sure guide in the past history of science." (Hynek 1972)

The case is a classic and fully documented, but there are a few details worthy of particular note. First, that the UFO connection is clearly established, though playing little part in subsequent events, as the trigger, though only on the report of a single member of the Sutton family. Second, the characteristics of these hardy dwellers in remote Kentucky are important: they had no telephone, radio, television or books, and certainly therefore no preconceived ideas about UFOs or their occupants. Their reaction to the approach of a small "glowing" man with very large eyes and his arms extended over his head was quite typical of the isolated rural farmer - they shot him, or at least they tried to shoot him and did indeed score a hit from twenty feet. There was a sound, described as "just like I'd shot into a bucket", the visitor did a quick flip over and ran back into the darkness. If the entity had intended his 'hands up' posture as a sign of non-aggression, that was not how the Suttons interpreted it. As representatives of our species in the encounter, this must be one test the Suttons failed. More creatures then appeared and also demonstrated their invulnerability to flying Kentucky lead, to the dismay of the family. They locked themselves in their farmhouse and watched the little people peeking in at them through the windows. After three hours of besieged bewilderment, all eleven family members piled into two cars and made a dash for town, returning with a police escort. No ufonauts could then be found, but they returned when the police left.

These events were very carefully investigated by Bud Ledwith, a technician and former employee of Hynek, who obtained sketches independently from all the witnesses. They stuck stubbornly to their story, despite the inevitable ridicule which local publicity soon evoked. About a year later they also confirmed it to Isabel L. Davis of New York, described by Hynek as "one of the most sincere and dedicated UFO investigators I have met." Seven adults and four children gave totally compatible accounts of the strange visitation. Though we can only speculate what reason these creatures might have had for appearing thus to this group of

sturdy but unimaginative agriculturalists, it is quite incredible that they either would or could have fabricated such a fantastic story.

Though the Suttons might be judged guilty of an unprovoked attack on the entities, at least they could claim to be defending their homestead against an unknown threat. Humans have sometimes demonstrated aggressive responses to appearances by ufonauts, but there have been plenty of cases where unprovoked violence was shown by the entities too. A rather nasty little fellow achieved the distinction of an artist's impression of him in action on the front cover of Flying Saucer Review after his attack on two Finnish skiers at Imjarvi on 7 January 1970. (FSR Vol.16, No.5) It was sunset and very cold when Heinonen and Vilno, healthy men in their thirties, halted for a brief rest in a forest glade, only to hear a buzzing sound from a luminous cloud which was fast approaching and inside which they could see the circular, metallic form of a saucer-type UFO. Heinonen was so close that he could have touched it with his ski stick and consequently suffered most afterwards. Suddenly a brilliant beam was emitted from the underside of the UFO, making an illuminated circle about a yard across on the snow, in which stood a little creature about ninety centimetres in height.

It was hook-nosed and waxen faced, with small ears and thin limbs, wearing a green overall and knee-high boots also of green, the fairy colour. Though, as we all surely recall from our nursery days, there are bad fairies as well as good ones, and this one turned out to be quite a notable nasty. It had on a conical metal hat and was holding a box from which it directed a pulsating yellow ray at the unfortunate skiers, after surrounding them with a red mist and shooting coloured sparks at them before finally disappearing. They were both afterwards very ill, suffering partial paralysis and other symptoms akin to radiation poisoning.

In another very different abduction case at Pascagoula, Mississippi on 11 October 1973, the unique feature was the description given by two fishermen, Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker, of the ufonauts. The men were levitated aboard a UFO by three five feet tall beings with no necks, exceptionally long arms ending in crab claws, and round feet. Hickson had total recall of a physical examination by a floating object like a huge eye, but Parker fainted from fear. After about twenty minutes both were deposited unharmed on the river bank. To the best of my knowledge, these entities have not returned to Earth since.

Much less frightening were the three little creatures like winged Strieber types who flew into the sitting room of Jean, a Midlands housewife on 4 January 1979. They inspected the Christmas decorations and probed her mind telepathically, telling her they came from the sky. "We come down here to talk to people, but they don't seem to be interested," they complained, each accepting a mince pie Jean offered, but they fled back to their UFO, parked in the garden, when she showed them how to light a cigarette. These aerial creatures do sometimes seem to have a strong fear of fire. They took with them their mince pies, however, and the local paper reported the incident with the amusing headline "TAKE ME TO YOUR LARDER". (Randles 1988)

In February 1974 a Belgian blacksmith cycling to work at Hirson had precisely the opposite experience, for he was

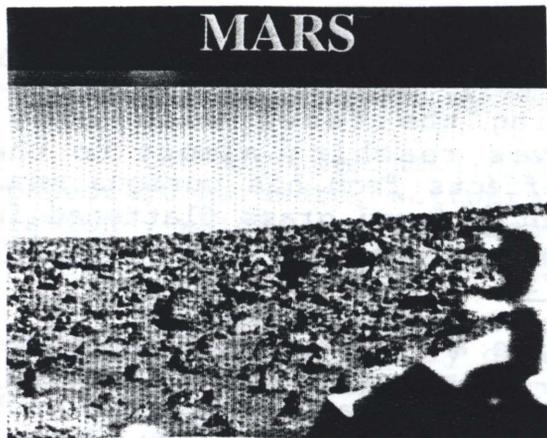
forcibly fed with a substance like chocolate by two burly ufonauts five and a half feet tall, wearing dark one-piece overalls and helmets covering the face, with long, five-fingered gauntlet gloves reaching almost to the shoulder. He suffered no ill-effects from his curious meal and the investigators subsequently found grass flattened in a circular area where he had seen their landed UFO. (Flying Saucer Review Vol.21, No.6, 1975)

It is difficult to envisage a single planet inhabited by such a variety of creatures as we have been considering, all with the independent capacity for space travel and each desirous of visiting our little corner of the galaxy. Even a series of planets, one for each type of visitor, seems highly unlikely. In the case of exceptional or unique appearances by unusual entities it seems more probable that they have somehow arrived accidentally in our space-time continuum, slipping inadvertently through some temporal crevice and perhaps unable to find their way back at once. There may well exist within our own physical space an infinity of universes with differing temporal co-ordinates wherein creatures even stranger than any we have yet encountered could exist, but the appearances of deviant ufonauts seem entirely random, purposeless and seldom if ever recurring. If behind the more regular manifestations of UFO activity there exists a directing intelligence, we are unlikely to find any clues to its nature in the case histories of the deviants.



ADAM - The First Test-tube baby! Sumerian cylinder seal, showing a Nefilim goddess beside the tree of life in Enki's laboratory.

(From "The Twelfth Planet" by Zecharia Sitchin. Avon Books 1976)



MARS

VIDEOS

HOAGLAND'S MARS: Vol. II
The U.N. Briefing - The Terrestrial
Connection (Extended Version)
 Produced by B.C. Video Inc., New York
 City, USA, 1993
 RRP: \$29.95; 115 minutes, VHS
 Available: Adventures Unlimited, PO
 Box 22, Stelle, IL 60919-9989 (price
 includes postage).

This is truly a fascinating and well-produced video.

It is based on the briefing given to delegates and staff at the United Nations on February 27, 1992, and makes a powerful scientific case, using NASA data, that the Earth and the solar system have been visited by intelligent life-forms.

This video gives the viewer an inside look at information that NASA, the White House, US Congress, and other governments have already viewed in private briefings.

In non-technical language, using NASA photos, stunning computer graphics and other video images, Richard C. Hoagland, as head of an independent Mars investigation team, makes a case showing the geometric links between the mysterious monument structures on Mars, and Earth's own ancient mystery sites such as the Great Sphinx of Egypt.

Many people are already considering the information presented on this video as proof that we are not alone.

This extended version also includes some dynamite NASA UFO footage.

This is another 'must get' video!



Zecharia Sitchin

BOOKS

WHEN TIME BEGAN - The First New Age
 by Zecharia Sitchin
 Published by Avon Books, New York,
 USA, 1993
 ISBN 0 380 77071 7

RRP: \$5.95; 410 pages, soft cover
 Available: good bookstores.

This, the fifth book of Zecharia Sitchin's *Earth Chronicles* series, is yet another absorbing, startling work that attempts to explain where we've come from and where we may be going.

In *When Time Began*, Sitchin draws on evidence of texts and depictions from Sumerian and Babylonian clay tablets, Egyptian hieroglyphics and the Bible to support his thesis.

Given that our most ancient civilisations were seeded by 'gods from the heavens', Sitchin postulates that Celestial Time was as important as Earthly Time. Stonehenge, for instance, appears to have been constructed primarily as an astronomical computer to help determine the arrival of new astronomical ages—e.g., the zodiacal shift from Taurus to Aries around 2,100 BC—and, thus, who would rule the Earth.

He also speculates that migrating Sumerian exiles were involved in building and/or repairing Stonehenge and other stone monuments in disparate parts of the globe.

All in all, a highly recommended book!

THE TERRESTRIAL CONNECTION: Members will recall David Percy's SIGAP lecture in December 93 when he described his theory of the connection between Avebury and Martian Cydonia.

HISTORY OF UFOs DURING WORLD WAR II

(CUFON UFO Information Service)

During world war II the accumulation of sightings of mysterious celestial objects finally started to worry the military authorities. In both camps, high ranking officials of the intelligence services started to study these strange objects and investigation committees composed of military and scientific personnel were set up in various countries. They had a double purpose: first of all, to determine the nature of these flying objects and then to see if they constituted a threat to the security of the nation. The Allies, just like the Germans, noticed the presence of these enigmatic flying objects above their secret bases. The first reaction of each side was obviously to suspect espionage on the part of their enemy.

In 1943 the English were the first to set up a special group to enquire into the nature of these objects. They set up a small organisation to collect evidence. It was headed by Lieutenant General Massey and was inspired by reports from a spy who was, in fact, a double agent operating under the orders of the mayor of Cologne. He had confirmed that the "Foo fighters" were not German devices, and that the Germans thought they were Allied weapons. The British, of course, knew that this was not so.

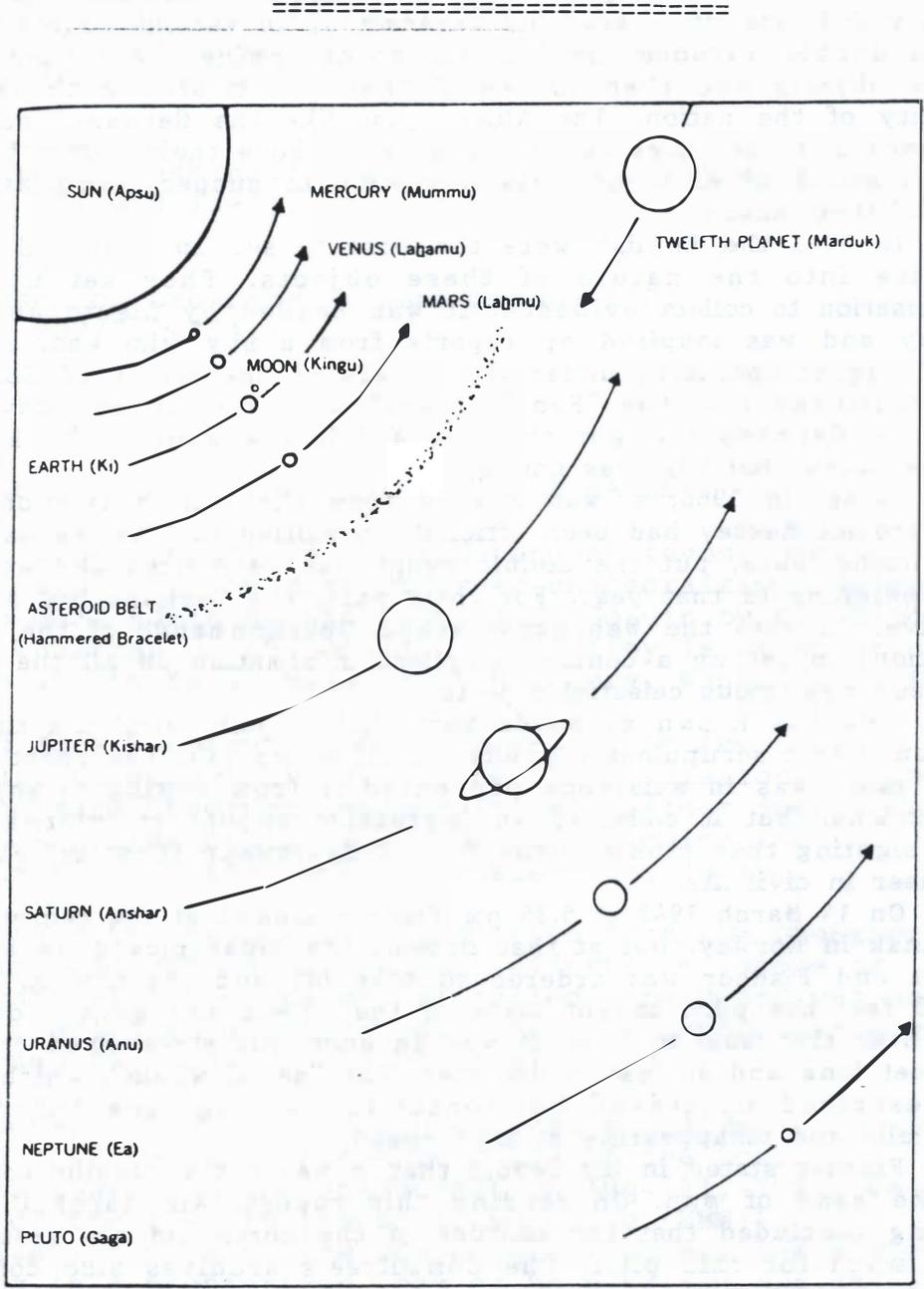
Later, in 1966, it was learned from the British aviation minister that project Massey had been officially classified in 1944. Perhaps it was pure coincidence, but the double agent was denounced and executed at the beginning of that year. For their part, the Germans did not remain inactive. In 1944 the Wehrmacht asked Oberkommando of the Luftwaffe (aviation) to set up a centre to collect information on all the sightings of these mysterious celestial objects.

This was known as Sonderburo No.13 which, until the time of the German defeat scrupulously applied itself to its job. The short time this commission was in existence prevented it from coming to any definite conclusions, but it collected an impressive amount of information. The first sighting they studied came from a Hauptmann (Captain) Fischer, an engineer in civil life.

On 14 March 1942 at 5.35 pm Fischer landed at the secret air base at Banak in Norway, but at that moment the radar picked up a luminous object and Fischer was ordered to take off and identify it. At about 10,000 feet the pilot caught sight of the object and gave a description of it over the radio to base. It was an enormous streamlined craft about 300 feet long and 50 feet in diameter. The "aerial whale", which was how he described it, stayed horizontal for a long time before rising vertically and disappearing at high speed.

Fischer stated in his report that it was not a machine constructed by the hand of man. On reading this report, Air Marshall Hermann Goering concluded that the solitude of the north did not seem to have done much for this pilot. The Committee's archives also contain the report of the launching of an experimental rocket on February 12 1944 at the Kummersdorf test centre, in the presence of both Goebbels and Himmler, the SS leader. The launch was filmed, and the projection of the film revealed a spherical object following the rocket and circling round it. Allied espionage was at first suspected, until an agent told Himmler that the British were having the same problem and thought it was due to a new type of German aircraft.

The most convincing case in the files of the Sonderbuero occurred on 29 September 1944 at 10.45 am. A test pilot flying the new Messerschmitt jet, the ME262 Schwalbe, saw two luminous points to starboard. He shot towards them at full speed and found there a cylindrical object over 300 feet long with openings in its side and long antennae. As he approached to within 1500 feet of the unknown craft, he was amazed to see its speed was over 1200 miles per hour.



THE SOLAR SYSTEM, as recorded on an Akkadian cylinder seal from the third millennium B.C., now in the Vorderasiatische Abteilung of the State Museum in East Berlin, catalogued as VA/243.

DID TRICKY DICKY SEE PICKLED UFONAUTS?

The catchword "To the Moon, Alice!" frequently delivered on the USA "Honeymooners" show by the late great comedian Jackie Gleason may have been inspired in part by his long standing fascination with outer space, declares the MUFON Journal (No.238).

Gleason was a firm believer in the reality of UFOs and, according to his ex-wife Beverly McKittrick, through his friendship with Richard Nixon he even got to see some of their deceased occupants. In her unpublished biography of the husband whose four year marriage to her ended in 1974, she describes a trip Jackie took with the then President in 1973 to Homestead AFB in Florida to see what she says were the bodies of four dead space aliens recovered by the USAF. They were supposedly embalmed, displayed on operating tables and classified top secret. Security, says Beverly, was extremely tight. Mike Luckman, director of the UFO research centre in New York, commented: "The four bodies that Gleason saw were probably the same ones the army recovered in 1947 at Roswell, New Mexico."

UFOs? WHITEHALL HAS A FORM FOR EVERYTHING

"I'LL JUST put you through to the chap upstairs who deals with UFOs," said the friendly telephonist at the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall.

I had expected a more officious and intimidating response to my quest for information about a cluster of UFO sightings, and was disarmed to be put through in the style of a department store telephonist, writes Carol Davies.

Nick Pope's desk is where all reports of Unidentified Flying Objects end up. Last year there were 150 reports - a fairly average number said Mr Pope - with a major blip (750) on the chart recorded in 1978, the year after the sci-fi blockbuster *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* was released.

"We don't get many multiple sightings. Mostly they are single reports and often they are made quite a while after the actual sighting," said Nick.

"People don't really know where to report such things - that's half the problem. They are also worried about being labelled a crank.

"We can find explanations for around 95 per cent of them. Lasers reflected off clouds can appear to look like a solid object, for instance.

"You'd be surprised at some of the reports, though. People living near Heathrow reporting red and green flashing lights in the sky, stuff like that.

"But then there is a hardcore of sightings which we simply cannot explain. In those cases we point people in the direction of UFO spotting societies.

"If we get enough people coming forward to

alert us to a possible cluster of sightings we can do some investigating, using radar tapes etc.

"But we have to admit defeat with some of them, although we always keep an open mind."

Most people who see an unidentified flying object keep it to themselves.

Those who report such an event to the police in Kent will be advised to contact RAF Manston, or the London Air Traffic Control Centre at West Drayton, said Inspector Peter Jones at Canterbury Police.

But a call to West Drayton revealed that anyone reporting a sighting would be advised to ring RAF Manston.

Assistant Supervisor Craig Marshall at West Drayton said that they would refer anyone with a sighting back to RAF Manston because taking all the details was very time

consuming, and it was considered more a matter for the military.

If the report is taken seriously - and most are - the caller will be asked to answer questions contained in an official form headed Report of an Unidentified Flying Object.

Questions include: date, time and duration of sighting; shape, size, colour and brightness; angle of sight; weather conditions; nearby landmarks, such as lakes, telephone poles, electricity pylons, TV masts etc; and whether you have contacted the police or any other local authority, or the press.

These forms end up in a Ministry of Defence department at Whitehall, which also deals with complaints about low flying, aircraft noise etc.

Reports can be sent direct to Sec. (AS) 2A, Room 8245, Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB.

The majority of such sightings can be cleared up as satellites, balloons, aircraft, meteorological phenomena such as mock suns and moons, and celestial objects like the bright planet Venus.

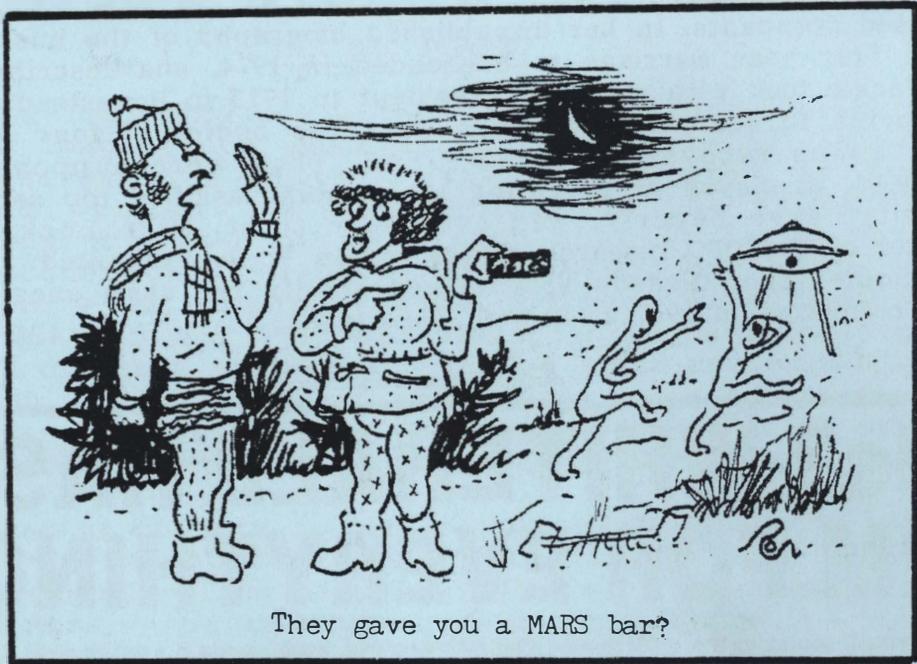
But a niggling 10 per cent are never explained, and remain a mystery.



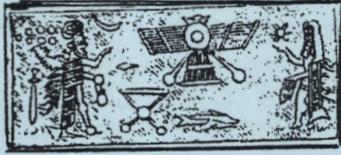
THEN BILL (THE DUKE) GREETs TEMS UFO RESEARCHERS FROM SURREY.

Latin mark 1/10

RESEARCH BY LIONEL BEER, TEMS.



They gave you a MARS bar?



Mars

Did We See Something?