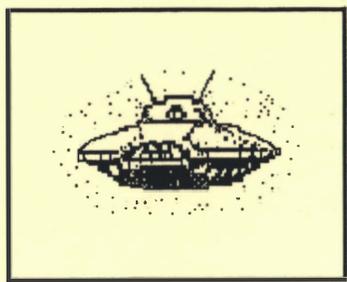
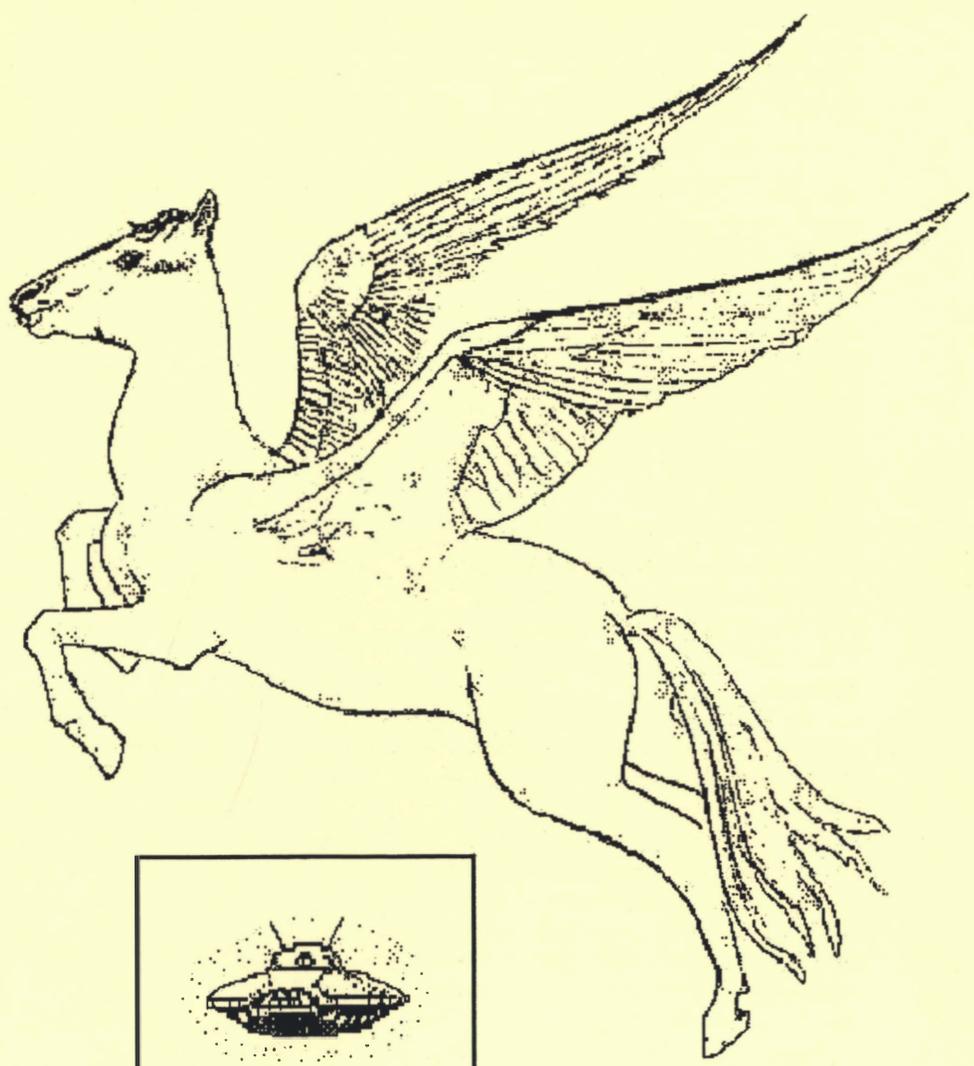


12/3

# PEGASUS



Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena

**PEGASUS**

Volume 12,#3

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**CONSPIRACY THEORY**

Ufologists who claim that reports of UFO activity are routinely suppressed or rubbished by media under establishment control find their views dismissed as "just conspiracy theory", as though the mere idea of the existence of such a conspiracy were inherently absurd. If, however, such a conspiracy does in fact exist, then of course conspiracy theory, far from being absurd, is in fact valid.

It has to be admitted that the conspiracy to deny conspiracy has hitherto been extremely effective, so much so that there are few cases where it can be shown beyond the possibility of doubt that information has been deliberately distorted or suppressed. It is only on consideration of the increasing number of dubious denials by authorities that the probability of conspiracy becomes reinforced to the point of complete credibility.

Even in this single issue of our journal the questions in parliament by Admiral Lord Hill-Norton and the disinformation activities of the USA Aviary give cause for concern, and PEGASUS will continue its policy of bringing to SIGAP members the information that governments the world over would prefer them not to have.

**G.M.****BREAKING : FACE ON MARS RE-IMAGED -CYDONIA 2001**

NASA has released seven new images of the Cydonia region on Mars, including a close-up of the Face. "This is the area where popular books, magazine articles, tabloids and other news/infotainment media have speculated that some of the hills and mesas were artificially-shaped by extraterrestrial intelligence into forms such as a pyramid, a cone, and, most publicised, a face," says Malin Space Science Systems (MSSS). Last April NASA released all images of the region that had been taken by the Mars Global Surveyor (MGS) until that time. The new set of images, released January 31, includes all images acquired since April 2000. According to MSSS, continuing public interest in the region prompted them to command the Mars Orbital Camera (MOC) to take a picture whenever the Global Surveyor spacecraft flew over the region. Michael Malin of MSSS designed and developed the MOC for JPL.

The new close-up of the Face captures a large portion of the western side of the famous Martian landform. The eastern side has never been adequately imaged by either MGS or Viking missions, having been either obscured from view or unresolved in deep shadow. The western side of the Face covers an area where the eye socket should be, if the mile-long mesa was indeed intentionally designed to look like a face.

The 'artificiality hypothesis' put forth by advocates of the Face predicts that more face-like features should appear as higher resolution images capture more detail. Enigmatically, the new image renders features that might be interpreted as an eyeball and pupil. Another anomaly known as the Cliff was also imaged in the past year. This feature can be described as a straight, wall-like landform, which rises inexplicably in the midst of the ejecta from a nearby crater. Mars anomaly researchers have asked how it was that the Cliff was not covered by the crater ejecta on impact, speculating that the anomaly may be an artificial structure constructed some time after the crater was formed. The new image of the Cliff is marred by data loss, but may provide researchers with enough information to resolve their questions. To help resolve the Martian enigmas, Mars researchers have been clamouring for new, high-resolution images of the Face on Mars and other Cydonia anomalies like the Cliff. They just got them. -

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*Here are some of the UFO sighting reports received from around the world since the last Pegasus. SIGAP founder Omar Fowler was no doubt pleased to hear of a flying triangle sighting near his home in Derbyshire, and although the skies of Surrey appear to remain bereft of sightings, a report is included of an anomalous object viewed in the skies above neighbouring Sussex.*

**AN FT OVER MATLOCK, UK**

The Matlock Mercury Online, Derbyshire - UK Friday  
January 19 2001

More UFOs seen in the Matlock skies. UFO spotters should start looking to the skies again following one of the

most spectacular sightings in the Dales yet. During the autumn months, around 15 Mercury readers contacted us after seeing coloured lights and flying saucers - one woman even caught her close encounter on video. Now the little green men are back! At 11.30pm on January 13, 69-year-old Anne Saunders of Matlock saw a spaceship hovering over Crich.

She said: "I looked through the bedroom window and saw a massive triangle in the sky. "I thought, 'Good God'! I am a sceptic, or at least, I was - I thought it was a reflection in my glasses!"

But it was no reflection. After further investigation, mum-of-two Mrs Saunders said she couldn't believe her eyes. The retired local government officer and her husband watched the craft for three minutes. The triangle was full of pulsating coloured lights with a dark centre. It made no noise. "Then the front end bit broke away," continued Mrs Saunders," and flew across the sky at tremendous speed towards the Masson hillside. "When it re-appeared, there was no uniformity. It was just a random shape of pulsating lights, clustered together. "I was absolutely gobsmacked. I was looking from one to the other and thinking I must be dreaming. "It was massive. This has certainly inspired me to be a believer."

Mrs Saunders now goes to bed at night armed with binoculars and a camera - just in case.

Have you seen anything strange in the skies over the Peaks or Dales? If so, telephone news editor Andy Darlington on (01629)582432

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#### LIVERPOOL FLYING TRIANGLE SIGHTING

LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND -- Bill Bimson reports from the Merseyside Anomalies Research Association (MARA) that on the 8th of February 2001, a witness observed an incredible sighting of unidentified craft:

"I live in Aigburth (Liverpool) in back of St Michael's and my flat faces towards Sefton Park where I had a clear daylight sighting nearly 3 years ago. Recently, at the time of the moon eclipse I saw small bright flashing lights which seemed to be hovering or moving swiftly in circular flight paths towards the park. Tonight was much more astounding. I saw a green flash of light outside my window around 7.45 PM so I went to look. It was another full moon evening, and the sky was quite light. Underneath the moon, I noticed a large extremely straight vapour trail, that looked most unlike the trails planes leave, being much wider and thicker. I then noticed there were lights hovering over the park again. I called my mother, and she said she could see the vapour trail, but nothing else. I went back to the window, and I saw many white lights and one red gathered together.

As it moved towards my house I realised it was a huge triangular shaped craft: The white lights ran along each side and there was a red line of light down the centre, the apex at the front as it moved right over my house, where I lost vision of it. Four minutes later another huge triangular shape came over the roof top and flew towards the park, but this one had many different coloured lights (orange, green, red, white as I recall) which alternated. This moved rapidly towards the lake-end of the park behind the trees where it hovered and then moved out of sight. The smaller lights and another larger cluster of lights were still moving around distantly in the same area over the park for 10 to 15 minutes. My mother was told her friend's son also saw a very large craft flying towards the park last night. Despite the enormous size/closeness of the two craft that went directly over my house, there was no engine noise. A jumbo jet of that size would be so close as to shake the house and be quite deafening!"

Any further reports of this sighting to be sent to Bill Bimson. (wbimson02@cableinet.co.uk MARA www.mara.org.uk)

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#### UFO SHUTS DOWN RUSSIAN AIRPORT Jan 27, 2001

(Agence France Presse) An airport in southern Siberia was shut down for an hour and a half on Friday when an unidentified flying object (UFO) was detected hovering above its runway, the Interfax news agency reported. The crew of an Il-76 cargo aircraft refused to take off, claiming they saw a luminescent object hovering above the runway of the Siberia's Barnaul airport, local aviation company director Ivan Komarov was quoted as saying. The crew of another cargo plane, refusing to use the runway for the same reason, landed their jet at another airport, Komarov said. The UFO took off and vanished from the airport 90 minutes later, according to the report.

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#### LANTERNS OR UFOs? A MALAYSIAN MYSTERY

"Flashes of bright orange light were sighted over Bandar Sunway, 16 kilometres (10 miles) from Petaling Jaua," in the Southeast Asian country of Malaysia "on Monday, February 5, 2001." "The spectacle lasted for ten minutes before the lights disappeared from the clear skies." "Witnesses said the lights resembled eight flaming balls which floated north in a straight row over the office buildings in the Plaza Mentari at about 8:10 p.m." "Scores of people who witnessed the incident were baffled over the sight and many called up the district police headquarters to ask for a clarification." "A witness, who declined to be named, said the objects appeared to be moving towards each other before disappearing into the night sky." "The (Malaysian) Department of Civil Aviation

in Subang, located 10 kilometres (6 miles) from the incident, said an aircraft was flying in the vicinity at that time." "The staff running the control room of the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) base near Kuala Lumpur, the national capital, said they had not received any reports about the sightings. They declined to comment further." A couple of days later, the Malaysian newspaper The Star reported that it had an answer to the UFO sightings in Petaling Jaya. "UFOs spotted hovering near a Malaysian city turned out to be 'good luck' lanterns." "Traffic came to a standstill in Petaling Jaya as people stared at the red, orange, pink and white lights." "But a newspaper reporter followed the UFOs and discovered they were 'good luck' lanterns released from a local temple." "Wani Mathiah of The Star said the paper lanterns were being released as part of the Chap Goh Meh celebration." (See The Star for February 6, 2001, "Flaming UFOs spotted," and for February 8, 2001, "UFOs were 'good luck' lanterns." Many thanks to Gerry Lovell, John M. Novak and Todd Lemire for these newspaper articles.) *(Editor's Comment: So the Malaysian UFOs were just floating paper lanterns, eh? Then what are we to make of the following report?)*

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#### FLIGHT OF ORANGE UFOs PASSES OVER THAILAND

On Friday, February 9, 2001, at 9:30 p.m., Elizabeth Wigg and her husband were walking along a street in Chang Mai, a city in northern Thailand when they spotted some unusual lights approaching from the south. "We saw approximately seven to ten glowing orange and pink balls in the sky above us," Elizabeth reported, "Very high up in the sky, moving at a very rapid speed, moving towards the north. They were not interacting with each other but moving independently. They were glowing orange and pink - almost a fire colour, and were completely round. " The UFOs' altitude "was hard to say but when in the sky, they covered about a quarter of our vision (field of view - J.T.) in about a minute, which was how long we watched them before they disappeared behind some office buildings." Chang Mai is about 375 kilometres (225 miles) north of Bangkok, the national capital. *(Editor's Comment: Interesting. Another sighting of UFOs in Southeast Asia four days after the event in Petaling Jaya. Were these the Malaysian 'good luck' lanterns travelling hundreds of miles to the northwest against the prevailing wind? Or a flight of UFOs heading back to their base in the Himalayas?)*

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#### YELLOW UFO HOVERS OVER ECCLES, SUSSEX, UK

On Wednesday, February 2, 2001, at 11:15 p.m., P.Y. was at his home in Eccles, Sussex, UK when he saw an unusually

bright light approaching from the southeast, over the ocean. "It was a yellow light, very bright, shining downwards, surrounded completely by smaller red lights. The whole thing appeared to be circular. It was stationary in the sky for about five minutes and disappeared instantly when car headlights coming up a hill approached it. I would place the height (altitude) at about 1,000 feet as it was visible just above some trees." He described the UFO as "a very bright yellow light, circular in shape, surrounded by six to eight smaller red lights which appeared to be joined to the main light." "There are no street lights of any kind in that direction as I live in the countryside and that direction is the sea approximately four miles (6 kilometres) away. I am a 57-year-old man and not given to fancies and certainly not tired or drunk. I do believe I have seen something unusual." (Email Form Report)

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#### SIGAP MEETING FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> 2001

An enjoyable evening was had by all who attended the last meeting in Guildford on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. We viewed extracts from the video *What Happened On The Moon* including a detailed investigation into some of the anomalies found with the photographs and film footage from the Apollo missions. We also viewed portions of the video discussing the radiation danger of leaving the relative protection of the earth's atmosphere, and the possible substitution of astro/cosmonauts during the final stages leading up to a mission lift-off. I think that all who attended left with many questions concerning man's 'conquest' of the moon. At the very least, it was apparent that Nasa has been involved in faking, and/or enhancing some of the images that were distributed to the public.

We then enjoyed a buffet meal (many thanks to Michaela for its preparation) and discussed some of the implications of the video. Members wishing to study this subject further are recommended to read David S. Percy & Mary Bennett's book *Dark Moon - Apollo Whistle Blowers*.

It is planned to hold a similar meeting some time later this spring.

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#### UK House of Lords Lord Hill-Norton's (full list) of Questions in the House of Lords regarding the Rendlesham Forest Incident:

Includes comments by Georgina Bruni

**23 Jan 2001:** Column WA7 Blundeston Prison and Hollesley Bay YCC: Possible Evacuation - Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether staff at Blundeston Prison or Hollesley Bay Youth Correction Centre received any instructions to prepare for a possible

evacuation at some time between 25 and 30 December 1980; and if so, why these instructions were issued. [HL319]

**23 Jan 2001** : Column WA8 The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Bassam of Brighton): We can find no record of any such instructions.

*[G.Bruni Comments: Lord Hill-Norton asked a similar Question a few years ago concerning Highpoint prison. The Answer was that the warden's log for that period was no longer available. The reason for these Questions was because a prison officer had claimed that Highpoint had been on alert for evacuation on 27 December 1980. Since then (see my book) I have learnt of two more local prisons that were said to be on alert (as above). I am not satisfied with the Answer and hope that Lord Hill-Norton will ask it again in more detail. We need to know why they can find no records. Have these logs gone missing too and, if so, why? ]*

**25 Jan 2001** : Column WA21 Rendlesham Forest Incident Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they are aware of any involvement by Special Branch personnel in the investigation of the 1980 Rendlesham Forest incident. [HL303]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: Special Branch officers may have been aware of the incident but would not have shown an interest unless there was evidence of a potential threat to national security. No such interest appears to have been shown.

*[G.Bruni Comments: According to the Deputy Base Commander of AFOSI RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge (at time of incident) Special Branch would have been alerted. My argument is that the incident was a threat to national security because these objects were intruding on British territory and could have been anything from Soviet craft to terrorists, therefore SB should have at least checked out the incident before passing it over to another agency. The commander actually offered the names of the SB officers that would have had this information. I did not publish their names for obvious reasons. If no interest was shown then we must question our security agencies]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether personnel from Porton Down visited Rendlesham Forest or the area surrounding RAF Walton in December 1980 or January 1981; and whether they are aware of any tests carried out in either of those two areas aimed at assessing any nuclear, biological or chemical hazard. [HL301]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: The staff at the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) Chemical and Biological Defence (CBD) laboratories at Porton Down have made a thorough search of their archives and have found no record of any such visits.

*[G.Bruni Comments: That should have been RAF "Watton" not Walton. According to my witness from RAF Watton, some agency, presumably*

*from Porton Down, did visit Watton and investigate the area on the perimeter of the base. Then the question is, if they were not from Porton Down, which is the place one would expect it to be, where was the unit from? I expect like the first Answer, any reference to this event has been carefully logged elsewhere.]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they are aware of any uncorrelated targets tracked on radar in November or December 1980; and whether they will give details of any such incidents. [HL302]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: Records dating from 1980 no longer exist. Paper records are retained for a period of three years before being destroyed. Recordings of radar data are retained for a period of thirty days prior to re-use of the recording medium.

*[G.Bruni Comments: It is a fact that radar tracking tapes are re-used but there should be paper records. If this is the case then why was researcher Nick Redfern able to get verbatim data (from the logs) in 1987.]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: What is the highest classification that has been applied to any Ministry of Defence document concerning Unidentified Flying Objects. [HL304]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: A limited search through available files has identified a number of documents graded Secret. The overall classification of the documents was not dictated by details of specific sightings of "UFOs".

*[G.Bruni Comments: I think that is very interesting and if the Rendlesham files are secret, as I would expect them to be, we may never see them]*

**30 Jan 2001** : Column WA49 Rendlesham Forest/RAF Bentwaters Incident

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they will detail the underground facilities at the former RAF Bentwaters installation; and what is the purpose of these facilities. [HL320]

The Minister of State, Ministry of Defence (Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean): There are no underground facilities at the former RAF Bentwaters.

*[G.Bruni Comments: Actually, there are underground facilities at Bentwaters but they are sealed. The security chief at the installation, who gave me a guard and permission to investigate the buildings, told me the underground facilities were sealed when the MOD put the base up for sale. He had written several times to the MOD requesting details of these but although they promised to look into the matter, he received nothing. I also discovered a door in the main command post that was clearly an entrance to an underground facility because it could not lead to anywhere above ground. The guard had no keys for this very important door that was covered in warning signs. According to the chief of security*

*there are still several parts of the installation that are sealed. So, the Answer is in essence is crafty because as the facilities are now sealed, one could surmise that there are none.]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they are aware of any involvement in the 1980 Rendlesham Forest incident by either Ministry of Defence Policy or personnel from the Suffolk Constabulary. [HL321]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: The Minister of Defence is not aware of any involvement by the Ministry of Defence Police in the alleged incident. The Ministry of Defence's knowledge of involvement by the Suffolk Police is limited to a letter dated 28 July 1999 from the Suffolk Constabulary to Georgina Bruni that is contained in the recent book.

*[G.Bruni Comments: According to the Deputy Base Commander of AFOSI RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge (at time of incident), a member of the ARRS and two other commanders, the MOD police would have been informed immediately. If the MOD have to resort to my book for information then we must question why this is so. Where are these records?]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they are aware of any investigation of the 1980 Rendlesham Forest incident carried out by the United States Air force, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations or any other United States agency. [HL322]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: The Ministry of Defence's knowledge of an investigation by the US authorities into the alleged incident in Rendlesham Forest in 1980 is limited to the information contained in the memorandum sent by Lt Col Halt USAF, Deputy Base Commander at RAF Woodbridge, to the RAF Liaison Officer at RAF Bentwaters on 13 January 1981.

*[G.Bruni Comments: Notice there is no mention of the covering note from Squadron Leader Donald Moreland which is titled "Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs)" Also no mention of the telephone calls he made concerning the incident, which really should have been logged considering they were from the British Liaison Officer. What has happened with this case is that the MOD has not left a paper trail.]*

**30 Jan 2001** : Column WA50 Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether, in the light of the new information contained in Georgina Bruni's book *You Can't Tell the People*, they will now launch an investigation into the Rendlesham Forest incident and the response to this incident by the United States Air Force and the Ministry of Defence. [HL352]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: No additional information has come to light over the last 20 years to call into question the original judgment

by the Ministry of Defence that nothing of defence significance occurred in the location of Rendlesham Forest in 1980. Accordingly there is no reason to hold an investigation now.

*[G.Bruni Comments: This is the Answer that really annoys me (it's the standard line) because I am aware (from a memo that had my name on it) and has since been stamped "restricted" that certain high officials have read my book. Therefore the MOD must have all the new information. If the officials in office at this time are not aware of anything else due to the cover-up, then the information in my book alone should be enough to open an investigation.]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they have made any approach to, or received any approach from, any United States government or military agency concerning Georgina Bruni's book *You Can't Tell the People*; and, if so, whether they will give details of any such approach. [HL353]

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: As a matter of courtesy, the Ministry of Defence informed Headquarters 3rd Air Force at RAF Mildenhall about the book. The US authorities have not subsequently approached the Ministry of Defence on the issue.

*[G.Bruni Comments: If there is no additional information then why would it be necessary to alert RAF Mildenhall about my book. After all, it's just a UFO story and according to the MOD it is of no defence interest...]*

Lord Hill-Norton asked Her Majesty's Government: Whether they now agree with the analysis of the basic facts of the Rendlesham Forest/RAF Bentwaters incident in the fourth paragraph of Lord Hill-Norton's letter to Lord Gilbert of 22 October 1997, reported on page 429 of Georgina Bruni's book *You Can't Tell the People*; or, if not, in what respect they disagree. [HL354]

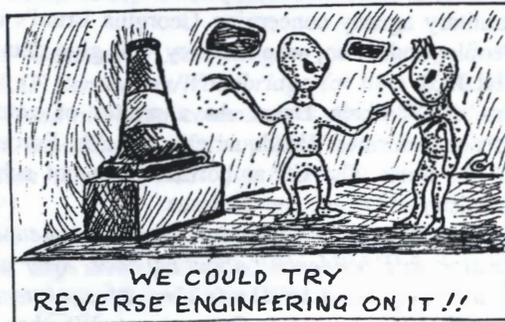
Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean: The Ministry of Defence's position regarding this alleged sighting remains as it did at the time of Lord Gilbert's reply to the noble Lord's letter of 22nd October 1997. From surviving departmental records, we remain satisfied that nothing of defence significance occurred on the nights in question.

*[G.Bruni Comments: That's a very interesting reply considering Lord Gilbert's reply suggested that they did not routinely contact witnesses who submit reports of UFOs. In this instance the witness was Lt Colonel Charles I Halt, Deputy Base Commander of a NATO installation in Britain that deployed nuclear weapons. Does this mean that anybody can hover over and land a craft on the perimeter of a British military base and scare the hell out of numerous military personnel and get away with it? If that is the case then it's amazing that Britain has not been invaded years ago. Lord Hill-Norton has had a passionate interest in this case for many years and has done a good job in trying to get answers and, I know*

*he is as annoyed as others that the MOD keep avoiding the issues. I stand by my case; this incident has to be of extreme defence significance. The problem is (and I quote our former Prime Minister who was in office at the time of the incident - Margaret Thatcher) "You can't tell the people".]*

"You Can't Tell The People" .The Definitive Account of the Rendlesham Forest UFO Mystery by Georgina Bruni. Published by Sidgwick & Jackson.

*SIGAP members wishing to read the above may be interested to know that the 'Sussex Stationers' chain of bookshops (Guildford High Street and elsewhere) are offering hardback copies for £9.99.*



R. Baskerville

## More Pre-1947 Cases

From: **Chris Aubeck** [caubeck@yahoo.com](mailto:caubeck@yahoo.com)

I was pleasantly surprised to hear from so many critical-minded researchers as a result of my last post enquiring about pre-1947 encounter cases. There is obviously a lot of interest in this topic, although little has been done to get to the bottom of many of the cases that are so enthusiastically added to databases and catalogues everywhere. This has prompted me to compile a list of "old" close encounter reports that need updating, reinvestigating or discarding.

Below is a list of 15 cases which I have been unable to research any further, and with which I require some help. (I will post 15 more another day.) Perhaps someone out there can throw some light on them

1) October 25th 1593 - Spanish soldier undergoes apparent abduction and is transported to Mexico. (The earliest mention of the story in English as far as I know is in M.K. Jessup's 'The Case for the UFO'. According to Jessup the incident was recorded by the monks of the Orders of San Agustín and Santo Domingo, and is mentioned by Luis González Obregón in 'Las Calles de México' and by Dr. Antonio de Morga in 'Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas'. De

Morga was an important high court judge in Nueva España (New Spain). Has anyone out there ever read the original text?)

2) November 1661 - Albert d'Orville, a Belgium Jesuit missionary, allegedly saw a UFO like a "Chinese double hat" in Tibet. (I know he existed but I haven't seen any proof that he really wrote about this. The only English reference I can find is Hartwig Hausdorff's book, 'The Chinese Roswell', where he quotes Von Däniken.)

3) December 8th 1733 - One of the earliest British sightings of a metallic disc-shaped object. James Cracker of Fleet in Dorset reported his daylight sighting of the object with these words:

"Something in the sky which appeared in the north but vanished from my sight, as it was intercepted by trees, from my vision. I was standing in a valley. The weather was warm, the sun shone brightly. On a sudden it re-appeared, darting in and out of my sight with an amazing coruscation. The colour of this phenomenon was like burnished, or new-washed silver. It shot with speed like a star falling in the night. But it had a body much larger and a train longer than any shooting star I have seen."

Cracker was not the only witness to the UFO:

"Next day Mr. Edgecombe informed me that he and another gentleman had seen this strange phenomenon at the same time as I had. It was about 15 miles from where I saw it, and steering a course from east to north."

The only other reference I have come across for this sighting comes from an internet site called 'The Universe of Life.' It contains an interesting page bearing the title 'News From Around The World', and here we find the following brief item:

"Local BBC radio news announced today (8th December) that in 1733 on the 8th December a large shield shape object was observed in the skies over Dorset. When I contacted the BBC to enquire where they obtained their information I was told that a report was discovered in the archives at the County Records Office. From the records it states, "A large shield, over a furlong in length, was seen with the sun shining on it as it travelled across the skies of Dorsetshire, it caused great alarm to the people of Dorsetshire." "The people of Dorsetshire saw it as a sign from God.""

(I have not been able to check this further.)

4) August 9, 1762 - a UFO was allegedly photographed 'for the first time in history' by Monsieur de Rostan, an astronomer and member of the Medicophysical (?) Society of Basel, Switzerland. The observation, which was with the aid of a telescope, was of a spindle-shaped object crossing and eclipsing the sun. This object could be observed daily for almost a month from Lausanne and also by a second astronomer in Sole, near Basel. Monsieur de Rostan traced its outline with a camera and sent the image to the Royal Academy of Sciences in Paris. (Let us not forget that we are not referring to a photograph as such but to a picture traced by hand using a primitive pinhole camera. This kind of image was invented by the Chinese in the fifth century BC and was used regularly until the 1850s when Sir David Brewster, a Scottish scientist, popularised actual pinhole photographs in the 1850s.)

5) This one bugs me almost as much as the Alençon hoax did. It is said that a Chinese man was abducted on May 8th 1880. The details of the story depend largely on which version one believes, but the basic idea is as follows: an inhabitant (sometimes a farmer named Ju Tan) of a small village called Songei in the Chinese province of Hubei observed a multicoloured luminous object far above him (or a glowing UFO in the bushes). He subsequently began to float up into the sky himself and promptly found that he was among the clouds. He then lost consciousness. He reappeared some time later in Guizhou, a thousand kilometres (or three hundred miles!) from his home. (Some sources say that this account was found in the county records of Sung-Xian.)

6) Again in 1880, in Eastern Venezuela, a 14-year-old boy observed a luminous sphere coming down from the sky. It moved towards him and he felt "drawn" to it. The frightened lad said he managed to get away from it before anything untoward could occur. (This is one of Vallee's. I keep reading that many of the Magonia cases proved to be false, but nobody ever specifies WHICH ONES!)

7) In 1897 something odd occurred in Williamston, Michigan. On April 17th, a dozen or so farmers witnessed an object move around the sky for an hour. It then landed, and a tall being emerged. He was naked but seemed to be suffering from the heat. "His talk, while musical, seemed to be a repetition of bellowings," said one of the witnesses later. One of the farmers approached the strange visitor "and received a blow that broke his hip." (Another Magonia case.)

8) In 1903, a Polish woodcutter, Petrovsky Ivanhu (or Petrovsky Ivanhu, depending on the version), who had gone out to fetch some water, disappeared in a strange luminous sphere in the presence of several neighbours in the village of Szuhapatak. He never reappeared. Other villagers gathered at the local church, believing the end of the world had arrived. (I have no more details about the incident, but the 'plot' certainly rings a bell.)

9) I have come across references to a strange event which allegedly occurred in the year 1900 but so little has been published about it that I am unable to comment either on its veracity or its relevance to my project. The story concerns three fishermen from the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides who set off for the Flannan Isles Light Beacon. When they reached the lighthouse they discovered that the lighthouse keepers whose posts they were to relieve had disappeared. Yet nothing seemed to be wrong, they found no signs of panic, the boats were in their place, and no fuel was missing. It is said that at the time of this event strange lights had been reported near the West Coast of the Isle of Lewis.

10) A shining cigar-shaped object landed in Hamburg, Germany, in June 1914. At 4:00am, Gustav Herwagen came out of his house and observed the craft and its four or five occupants. The beings wore light-coloured clothing.

When they realised they were being watched, they returned to the object and took off, rising vertically.

11) In August the same year, a spherical object came to land in the water at Georgia Bay in Canada. Two small men dressed in green and purple stood on one side of the deck, plunging a hose into the water. On the other side there were three 'people' wearing brown clothes and square, shoulder-length masks. Eight witnesses reported this sighting, as well as the fact that when the occupants of the craft noticed they had been discovered, they returned to their vehicle and flew off. (Any follow up available on these cases?)

12) In July 1919 at Webster City, Iowa, a little being was observed scooping water into a can. When he realised he had been seen, he rushed off to an object resting on the ground nearby. Another entity emerged to help him and the craft took off so hastily that it snapped branches off the treetops as it brushed past them. (???)

13) Lawrence Bradley, an Irish Republic Army man, wrote to the editor of *Watford and West-Herts Post* magazine (30/4/64) about a sighting he had had at some date in 1922. While fighting off a scattered rearguard, he said, mainly in the Donegal Mountains, he came across a cave. The vegetation at the mouth of the cave had been scorched, and inside there was a group of sick and wounded people who were unable to walk. Six able-bodied soldiers were looking after them. They told Bradley that they had been awakened just before dawn by a whirring noise outside the cave. Thinking it was an armoured car, they fired their rifles in the direction of the noise. However, the object retaliated by shooting jets of flame at them, nearly suffocating the soldiers. They staggered out to observe a glowing metal disc-shaped craft rising into the sky. (I haven't yet been able to check this one up but it sounds interesting.)

14) On June 12 1929 at around 11:00 at night, Luis Brosseau, aged 20, was riding home on his horse when a dark object with a yellow light appeared ahead of him. The horse became anxious. Four or five dwarfish beings were hurrying to and from a few metres away from the craft, speaking in high-pitched childlike voices. The object, which was some 15 metres wide and 5 metres tall, then took off with a machine-like sound and a rush of air. (Are there any more details anywhere?)

15) In 1930 it is said there was an abduction that took place in Wisconsin, USA. The beings were aggressive, large-headed and of short stature. But I don't have the original report. Any ideas?

I would be surprised if nobody could fill me in on some of these cases, although I have begun to realise that I'm working in an area that has been neglected for a very long time. If you have any leads for me, please let me know. Chris Aubeck

## DOGON

The year was 1947. The French anthropologist Marcel Griaule had been studying African culture for 19 years, and had been living among and studying the Dogon tribe of French West Africa for 16 of those years. The Dogon live in a place called Bandiagara, in what is today the nation of Mali, between the fabled city of Timbuktu and the city of Ougadougou. Bandiagara is quite isolated, although Timbuktu was once a mighty trading centre on the Trans-Saharan trade routes. By the beginning of the twentieth century, all of this area had become a French possession known as French West Africa.

### **Secret knowledge**

That year, Griaule was approached by some of the Dogon elders who said that they wished to tell him some of the secret knowledge of their tribe. Griaule had been among them for sixteen years and they had come to accept and respect him. The elders had decided that he could be trusted with their secret knowledge, the knowledge that even most of the Dogon people did not know. This knowledge had been passed down in the oral traditions of the Dogon for centuries. It is common for the peoples of Africa to transmit their tribal lore and their history from generation to generation by this method of oral transmission, as you might recall from *Roots*.

The Dogon elders proceeded to tell Griaule the story of how the universe was created according to their secret mythology. They told him how the *Nommo*, creatures that were half-human and half-fish, began civilisation on the Earth. Griaule was told of the *Sigui* ceremony which is held every sixty years and which represents the renewal of the universe. He was shown four hundred-year-old masks that were used in the *Sigui* rites.

Perhaps the most interesting thing that the elders told Griaule was their cosmology. They told him of their knowledge that the moon is dry and barren, that Saturn - *the star of limiting place* - has rings around it and that Jupiter - *dana tolo* - has four large moons. They knew that the Milky Way is a spiral galaxy of stars, and that the planets move in elliptical orbits around the Sun.

The Dogon have a special reverence for Sirius. The elders told Griaule that Sirius is not just one star, but three. The one we see, *sigi tolo* (Sirius A) is just the largest and brightest. It is orbited by a smaller star, *po tolo* (Sirius B) which is named after a tiny grain that is also called *Digitaria*. They believe that this tiny star is the heaviest thing in the universe and that it is made of a metal called *sagala*. This tiny star orbits *sigi tolo* every fifty years, in an elliptical orbit. The third star in the system is called *emme ya*, *the sun of women*. It is four times lighter in weight than *po tolo*, and it travels in the same direction around *sigi tolo*, but in a

larger orbit. It moves much more quickly through space, so that it takes the same amount of time to complete an orbit around *sigi tolo*. *Emme ya* has a satellite or planet of its own, called the *Goatherd* or *the star of women*. There are drawings on the four-hundred-year old *sigui* mask that represent this cosmology.

Griaule's paper on the Dogon, written with his colleague Germaine Dieterlen, was published in 1950. It was called *A Sudanese Sirius System*. Griaule died an untimely death from a heart attack in Paris in 1956 and the Dogon in far away Mali held a funeral ceremony for him that showed their high esteem for this man. In 1965 a book about the Dogon by Griaule and Dieterlen was published. It was called *Le Renard Pale*, or *The Pale Fox*.

### **Robert Temple and *The Sirius Mystery***

In 1966, Robert Temple, a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and the author of several books, happened to read some of the Griaule material on Dogon Cosmology, and in 1968 he obtained an English translation of *Le Renard Pale*. He became interested in the question of how the isolated Dogon could have known for hundreds of years that Sirius, one of the brightest stars in the sky, has an invisible companion, Sirius B. Sirius B, a type of star called a white dwarf, is so small that it cannot be seen without a telescope. It was completely unknown to astronomers until 1862, when the American astronomer Alvan Clark managed to see it for the first time. Sirius B, like all white dwarf stars, is composed of densely packed matter that, if it is not the heaviest matter in the universe, is very close to it. It was not discovered until around 1926 that white dwarves are so heavy that a cubic metre of one may weigh as much as 20,000 tons. It was also discovered that Sirius B orbits Sirius A in an elliptical orbit that takes 50 years to complete. Sirius B was finally photographed in 1970.

How did the Dogon know about Sirius B, when they had no telescopes? How, for that matter, did they know that Saturn has rings, that the moon is dry and barren, and that Jupiter has four large moons? These four moons of Jupiter are called Galilean, because Galileo was the first to see them when he pointed his telescope at Jupiter. The moons of Jupiter and Saturn's rings are only visible through a telescope.

As Temple read Griaule's material on the Dogon, he found that their mythology traced their origins back to the *Nommo*, the human-fish creatures from their creation myths. Temple related these creatures to Oannes of Sumerian mythology who was also a half-fish, half-human creature who brought civilisation to an ancient people. Further, Temple found links with Egyptian and Greek mythology. He wrote a book about his interpretation of the Dogon beliefs, called *The Sirius Mystery*, which was published in the 1970s. In the book, Temple contends that the

Nommo were extraterrestrials who came to Earth from a planet in the Sirius system. They visited the Dogon, the Babylonians, and possibly the Egyptians, and the astronomical knowledge of the Dogon came from this contact.

Finally, in 1995, French astronomers Daniel Benest and J.L. Duvent published a study in *Astronomy and Astrophysics* that proposed that certain perturbations seemed to exist in the Sirius system that could be explained by the existence of a third star in the system. They proposed that this third member is a small red dwarf star that would be Sirius C. If so, then this would verify yet another part of the Dogon beliefs, the belief in the third Sirian sun called *emme ya*.

### Skeptics

Inevitably, there are skeptics. Carl Sagan made an issue of what the Dogon don't know. He asks why extraterrestrials would tell them about only four of Jupiter's moons, and about Saturn's rings, but nothing about any of the planets beyond Saturn? He suggests that the reason is because these things, along with Sirius B, were what a European visitor would have told the Dogon in the years between 1925 to 1935. Therefore, Sagan and others say, the Dogon must have obtained their knowledge of astronomy from missionaries or traders or other visitors to the area in the years before Griaule was told of their cosmology. He says that the Dogon simply incorporated this new knowledge into their already existing beliefs about Sirius A. Reverence for Sirius A, the brightest star in the sky, was not uncommon among ancient peoples, because its appearance in the dawn sky signalled the nearness of summer, with implications for agriculture.

Were there missionaries among the Dogon before 1931? Robert Temple said in 1990 that he had written to the Father Superior of the White Fathers Mission in Mali, asking when the first missionaries had been sent to the Dogon region. He said that the Father Superior replied that the earliest missionaries had arrived there in 1949. Such things should be verifiable. Missionaries record their activities rather thoroughly and make regular reports to their churches. However, the presence of traders or other Europeans among the Dogon between 1925 and 1931 would be very difficult to verify.

Griaule's colleague and co-author, anthropologist Germaine Dieterlen, who had lived among the Dogon for most of her life, was asked by a reporter for BBC-TV's *Horizon* program whether the Dogon could have learned the Sirius information from other Europeans. She called the idea "absurd" and displayed a 400-year-old Dogon object that clearly indicated Sirius and its companion stars. Skeptics say that the object, a ceremonial mask, has never been carbon-dated.

In an article called *The Dogon Revisited*, Bernard R. Ortiz de Montellano flatly questions Griaule's work regarding Dogon cosmology:

*In fact, the entire Dogon question may be futile theorising, because Griaule's original data, on which this whole edifice is built, is very questionable. His methodology with its declared intent to redeem African thought, its formal interviews with a single informant through an interpreter, and the absence of texts in the Dogon language have been criticised for years.*

Other anthropologists, who have studied the Dogon in more recent years, have been unable to find evidence of the knowledge of the Sirius system that was related to Griaule. One of these, a Belgian anthropologist named Walter van Beek, is particularly critical of Griaule, according to de Montellano:

*Van Beek points out that Griaule's data was developed in long intense sessions with one primary informant, Ambara. In this process, Griaule probably reinterpreted statements from his informant in the light of his own knowledge about Sirius and its heavy companion, which had been much in the news at the time he began his field work. In turn, the Dogon, because Griaule was extremely respected and liked and because the Dogon culture places enormous importance on consensus and in avoiding contradictions, would have accepted his analysis as if it were theirs.*

Oddly, in Griaule's first paper on the subject, *Un Systeme Soudanais de Sirius*, he names his "informants", their tribes, and their languages. There are four of them, and none is named "Ambara." In another place Griaule names his Dogon instructor as Ogotemmel of Lower Ogol, who claimed authority from the Dogon priests of Sanga. In fact, one of Griaule's papers is called *Conversations with Ogotemmel*. One wonders whether the problem here is that the Dogon elders simply do not trust Van Beek and the later anthropologists such as Boujou and Lane as much as they trusted Griaule. One also wonders whether de Montellano's criticisms of Griaule aren't unnecessarily harsh.

Temple's *The Sirius Mystery* has been the object of much criticism as well. Nowhere in his book does he cite an assertion by Griaule that the Nommo were extraterrestrials who visited the Dogon. Rather, the Nommo are a part of the Dogon creation myth. Nor does Griaule directly state that the Dogon obtained their knowledge of the Sirius system from extraterrestrials. Yet Temple somehow manages to conclude these things from Griaule's data. Temple also takes Benest and Duvent's theory of a small red dwarf in the Sirius system (Sirius C), which is given as a possible explanation for a perturbation, and turns it into confirmation. That's a bit premature.

However one chooses to believe, the question of how the Dogon came by their knowledge of Sirius B and possibly of Sirius C is far from settled.

### Life Exists In Space – Strange Fungus Overruns Mir Space Station

By Gareth Cook, The Boston Globe (1-10-00)

The history books will never record it, but life in outer space was discovered about 12 years ago by a Russian cosmonaut as he was gazing out a window of the space station Mir.

Squinting to set his sights on the passing Earth below, this space explorer instead focused on a thick living mat that had made its way up the window's hard quartz surface, nearly obliterating any view.

A microbiologist, Natalia Novikova, eventually identified the growth as an aggressive space fungus. And since then, she's had her hands full examining the various forms of fungi found growing aboard the ship. The ageing Mir, it turns out, is nearly overrun with the stuff. Visitors have found numerous fungal patches with hues between green and black, feeding behind control panels, slowly digesting the ship's air conditioner, communications unit, and myriad other surfaces. Pull out an insulation panel on Mir, and you'll probably find fungus.

And in the heavy radiation of space, Novikova and others said, these fungi could mutate into more virulent forms, possibly harming future space travellers, or even be carried back to Earth to wreak havoc as they join the many earthbound varieties that relentlessly attack metal, plastic and glass surfaces.

Scientists are discovering that "biodegradation," the term used to describe microbial damage to materials, is a far greater problem than previously thought. Fungal infections could explain why electronics fail more often than expected, and microbes, along with acid rain, are assaulting famous landmarks from the Taj Mahal to the Acropolis to the cathedral in Cologne. Just last month, China hired a Belgian company that said it would launch a three-year program to rid the 40 varieties of mould eating away the famed 2,200-year-old army of terra cotta warriors. The mould has attacked 1,400 of the 8,000 life-sized statues of soldiers and horses that were found in the tomb of China's first emperor, Qin Shihuang, outside the city of Xian.

But there's no one to call to combat space mould, and NASA is suddenly treating the topic seriously. Decades of science fiction notwithstanding, it now seems the great threat to space exploration comes not from technologically advanced alien races, but from the same lowly fungi that attack dorm-room refrigerators. With the \$60 billion International Space Station under construction, and more

ambitious missions to the moon and Mars being considered, the Mir infection has shown that fungi are surprisingly destructive, giving off corrosive agents like acetic acid that damage equipment and release toxins into the environment.

Spacecraft "are closed systems, and there is very little room for error," said Ralph Mitchell, a professor of applied biology at Harvard who has helped NASA come to terms with the microbial threat. "Within days, all of the astronauts share all of the same microflora ... like children in kindergarten."

Viewed under a microscope, many fungi look harmless, beautiful even, with long threads weaving a living filigree. But, unchecked, they happily destroy the things we build.

Mitchell, in research for NASA, said that his team placed fungus on plastics the agency was considering for the International Space Station, and watched the effects. Over time, the plastics bubbled, released fumes, and broke off in thin strips. Placed on metals, he said, fungi can plunge through the surface, weakening it with pits and microscopic fissures.

On space missions, the potential problems multiply because of increased radiation that can cause the fungi to mutate into more dangerous forms. Francis Cucinotta, manager of the radiation health office at NASA's Johnson Space Center, said he published a scientific paper in 1995 that found that about one-tenth of 1 percent of bacterial spores would mutate after a year of the kind of radiation experienced on a mission to Mars.

The problem, he cautioned, was poorly understood, and nobody could say how many of the mutations would pose a threat.

But astronauts are also less able to fight off infections, doctors said, especially on long missions. The stresses placed on their bodies, including weightlessness, psychological pressure, and trouble sleeping, can all degrade the immune system.

"If the microflora is altered into some kind of superbug, and the astronaut's immune system is weakened, it could cause quite a problem," said William Shearer, a professor of paediatrics and immunology at the Baylor College of Medicine, and the team leader in charge of immunology for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute.

US astronaut Jerry Linenger said that when he was on Mir in 1997, he found "an overgrowth of fungus."

Linenger, who is a medical doctor and holds a doctorate in epidemiology, used a standard NASA test to determine fungal counts on surfaces. For the shuttle, he explained, the samples would be placed in a medium so their growth could be tracked over several days. But on Mir, he said, he couldn't do the count because the container was overgrown in half a day.

Linenger, author of "Off the Planet," a book about his experiences on Mir, said that he did not see any evidence that fungi or bacteria on the craft caused health problems. But he added that the station had "a strong smell of fungal contamination" - a smell he called "mushroomy" in his book - and that "there were areas you wouldn't want to stick your hand in."

According to Novikova, who heads the Microbial Protection Laboratory of the Russian government's Institute for Biomedical Problems, Mir's problems first came to light with the finding of fungus on the porthole in 1988, and have been an issue ever since.

The fungi that did the damage, Novikova said, included members of the genera *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*, and *Cladosporium* - all very common on Earth.

In July, a Web site called Space.com described some of Novikova's findings, but the results did not gain wide attention.

NASA officials said that wherever humans go, they bring a certain amount of fungus with them. They said they had not seen evidence of biodegradation on the International Space Station, but they have put into place an "aggressive" prevention program. On a visit to the station this summer, astronauts spent hours lifting out panels to search for evidence that colonies were causing damage.

"Because of this issue on Mir, it has led us to be more aware of the need to do these inspections more frequently," said Kyle Herring, a NASA spokesman.

There is no evidence that fungi have ever affected the health of the crew, or threatened the integrity of critical systems, said Jeffrey Manber, president of MirCorp, the Amsterdam-based company that has leased the rights to use Mir. He said that the situation hasn't threatened MirCorp's business ventures, which include sending the winner of a sequel to the television show "Survivor" to the station.

MirCorp has undertaken a \$5 million project to upgrade Mir's environmental control systems, Manber said.

When the space race began with the Russians' launch of Sputnik in 1957, it was seen as an engineering challenge. But as experience accumulates, scientists say they are coming to appreciate more and more that it is a serious biological challenge as well. NASA's Cucinotta said that there are a host of "basic questions that NASA must answer before it can go to Mars."

But for Linenger, who was almost killed by a fire during his stay on Mir, the lure of exploration will always outweigh dangers such as microbial infestation. Climbing into a rocket is like "climbing onto a pile of explosives," he explained. "There are just too many other things to worry about."

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## DIALOGUE IN BELLARIA - SITCHIN AND VATICAN THEOLOGIAN DISCUSS UFOS, EXTRATERRESTRIALS, ANGELS, CREATION OF MAN

Report by Zecharia Sitchin

In what must be a historic first, a high official of the Vatican and a Hebrew scholar discussed the issue of Extraterrestrials and the Creation of Man, and though different from each other in upbringing, background, religion and methodology, nevertheless arrived at common conclusions:

- ◆ Yes, Extraterrestrials can and do exist on other planets
- ◆ Yes, they can be more advanced than us
- ◆ Yes, materially, Man could have been fashioned from a pre-existing sentient being.

### The Participants

The high Vatican official was Monsignor Corrado Balducci, a Catholic theologian with impressive credentials: A member of the Curia of the Roman Catholic Church, a Prelate of the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples and the Propagation of the Faith, leading exorcist of the Archdiocese of Rome, a member of the Vatican's Beatification Committee, an expert on Demonology and the author of several books. Appointed in the Vatican to deal with the issue of UFOs and Extraterrestrials, he has made in recent years pronouncements indicating a tolerance of the subjects; but he has never before met and had a dialogue with a Hebrew scholar, and gone beyond prescribed formulations to include the touchy issue of the Creation of Man.

The Hebrew scholar was me - Zecharia Sitchin: A researcher of ancient civilisations, a biblical archaeologist, a descendant of Abraham...

The Monsignor and I almost met for such a dialogue last December, but it did not come about. This time we were scheduled to meet in Bellaria, Italy, at a conference whose theme was "The Mystery of Human Existence." I arrived there with my wife and a score of fans from the USA, on March 31st, scheduled to address the audience of over a thousand the next day. The Monsignor was nowhere in sight;

but he was there the next morning to hear my presentation. "I drove the whole night from Rome to hear you," he said.

#### Sitchin's Presentation

My talk, ably translated by my Italian editor Tuvia Fogel, included a slide presentation that added a pictorial dimension to the evidence from ancient times in support of Sumerian texts, on which my eight books based the following conclusions:

We are not alone -- not just in the vast universe, but in our own solar system; There is one more planet in our solar system, orbiting beyond Pluto but nearing Earth periodically; Advanced "Extraterrestrials" -- the Sumerians called them Anunnaki, the Bible Nefilim -- started to visit our planet some 450,000 years ago; And, some 300,000 years ago, they engaged in genetic engineering to upgrade Earth's hominids and fashion Homo sapiens, the Adam. In that, they acted as Emissaries for the Universal Creator -- God.

#### The Dialogue

"We have much to talk about," Msgr. Balducci said to me as he came forward to congratulate me on my presentation; "I have great esteem for your scholarship," he said.

We returned to the hotel for lunch. Our table was surrounded in a semi-circle by my American fans, intent on not missing a word of the forthcoming dialogue. In the hours-long session, Msgr. Balducci outlined the positions he was going to state, from a prepared text, in his talk the next day. While my approach was based on physical evidence, his was a purely Roman Catholic theological-philosophical one, seeking the spiritual aspects. Yet, our conclusions converged.

#### Msgr. Balducci's Positions: On UFOs.

"There must be something in it." The hundreds and thousands of eyewitness reports leave no room for denying that there is a measure of truth in them, even allowing for optical illusions, atmospheric phenomena and so on. As a Catholic theologian such witnessing cannot be dismissed. "Witnessing is one way of transmitting truth, and in the case of the Christian religion, we are talking about a Divine Revelation in which witnessing is crucial to the credibility of our faith."

On life on other planets: "That life may exist on other planets is certainly possible... The Bible does not rule out that possibility. On the basis of scripture and on the basis of our knowledge of God's omnipotence, His wisdom being limitless, we must affirm that life

on other planets is possible." Moreover, this is not only possible, but also credible and even probable. "Cardinal Nicolo Cusano (1401-1464) wrote that there is not a single star in the sky about which we can rule out the existence of life, even if different from ours."

On intelligent extraterrestrials: "When I talk about Extraterrestrials, we must think of beings who are like us -- more probably, beings more advanced than us, in that their nature is an association of a material part and a spiritual part, a body and a soul, although in different proportions than human beings on Earth." Angels are beings who are purely spiritual, devoid of bodies, while we are made up of spirit and matter but still at a low level. "It is entirely credible that in the enormous distance between Angels and humans, there could be found some middle stage, that is beings with a body like ours but more elevated spiritually. If such intelligent beings really exist on other planets, only science will be able to prove; but in spite of what some people think, we would be in a position to reconcile their existence with the Redemption that Christ has brought us."

#### The Anunnaki and the Creation of Man

Well then, I asked Msgr. Balducci, does it mean that my presentation was no great revelation to you? We appear to agree, I said, that more advanced extraterrestrials can exist, and I use science to evidence their coming to Earth ...I then quote the Sumerian texts that say that the Anunnaki ("Those who from heaven to Earth came") genetically improved an existing being on Earth to create the being that the Bible calls Adam.

My conclusion regarding your presentation, Msgr. Balducci answered, is that more than anything else your whole approach is based on physical evidence, it concerns itself with matter, not with spirit. This is an important distinction, "because if this distinction is made, I can bring up the view of the great theologian, Professor Father Marakoff, who is still alive and is greatly respected by the Church. He formulated the hypothesis that when God created Man and put the soul into him, perhaps what is meant is not that Man was created from mud or lime, but from something pre-existing, even from a sentient being capable of feeling and perception. So the idea of taking a pre-man or hominid and creating someone who is aware of himself is something that Christianity is coming around to... The key is the distinction between the material body and the soul granted by God."

#### From Anunnaki to God

Yes, I responded to the Vatican theologian, in my writings I deal with the physical evidence; but already in my first book (The 12th Planet), the very last sentence of the last paragraph raises the question: If the Extraterrestrials "created" us, who created them on their planet?

From this my own thinking and the contents of my subsequent books evolved toward the spiritual or "divine" aspects. The Anunnaki, I have explained, were just emissaries (and that is what the Hebrew word Malachim, translated Angels, means). They thought that it was their decision to come here for selfish reasons and to fashion us because they needed workers; but in truth they only carried out the Almighty God's wishes and plans.

If such Extraterrestrials were so involved, Msgr. Balducci said, even by your own interpretation they had to do with Man's physics, body and rationality: but God alone had to do with the Soul!

My second book, that deals with Man's aspiration to ascend the heavens, is titled The Stairway to Heaven, I told Msgr, Balducci, "it seems to me that we are ascending the same stairway to heaven, though from different steps," I said.

We ended the dialogue as friends, determined to stay in touch and continue.

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## The Aviary



*Some of these birds tell us that the "secret information" that they give us is "partly disinformation and partly true". Sheesh! If I gave them a wine glass and told them it was partly champagne and partly horse urine, would they take a sip?  
(Uncle Phaed's UFO Investigator's Handbook)*

One evening in October 1988, I happened to be channel hopping on the TV set when I came across a program called *UFO Coverup? Live!*, produced by Michael Seligman and orchestrated by William Moore. The high points of the show were interviews with two "government informants" calling themselves by the code-names *Falcon* and *Condor*. The "informants" were interviewed behind screens, and with their voices electronically disguised in order to prevent retaliation by the government. During the course of his interview, *Falcon* claimed that the MJ-12 group had its headquarters at the Naval Observatory in

Washington D.C. and that the U.S. Navy had "primary operational responsibilities of field activities relating to MJ-12 policies." *Falcon* also said that an extra-terrestrial was a guest of the U.S. government at the time, and that the aliens had a secret base at Area 51 in Nevada. *Condor* added that the aliens liked "Tibetan music" and strawberry ice cream. Moore would later say that the program contained a substantial amount of disinformation, although some of it was true.

### **Who were *Falcon* and *Condor*?**

Bill Moore claims that he was recruited to feed disinformation to Paul Bennewitz by an individual with the code-name *Falcon*, and that his "contact" was Richard C. Doty. He further claims that *Falcon* was someone highly placed in the intelligence community. He says that, over several years, he and Jaime Shandera developed many contacts within the intelligence community, many of whom were given bird code names by Moore and who are collectively known as *The Aviary*. Lately, this group of contacts has been given a status similar to the MJ-12 group by some sources, but in the beginning, they had no relationship except that they were all people known by Bill Moore. At least that's the impression I get from comparing the early mentions of the *Aviary* to the more recent information about them.

Timothy Good, Robert Hastings, and others share the opinion that *Condor* is Captain Robert M. Collins (ret.), a former AFOSI officer at Sandia National Laboratories, now a consulting engineer.

As for *Falcon*, the co-producer of *UFO Coverup? Live!* said he was Richard Doty. Linda Howe says that Doty told her he was *Falcon*. On the other hand, Michael Seligman, producer of *UFO Coverup? Live!* says it wasn't Doty, and Richard Doty and Bill Moore insist that *Falcon* is someone in the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington. They say that Doty's code name is *Sparrow*. Richard Boylan names Commander C. B. Scott Jones as *Falcon*. Other sources say that, although Jones is a member of the *Aviary*, his code name is *Chickadee*, not *Falcon*. Jones is a former officer with the Office of Naval Intelligence, he spent 30 years in the intelligence field overseas. He has been involved in government research and development projects for the Defense Nuclear Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, among others. He's also a former aide to Senator Claiborne Pell, who has had a long-standing interest in UFOs and the paranormal.

The only other member of the *Aviary* that we can find mentioned by Bill Moore is *Seagull*. Moore doesn't say so, but other sources say that *Seagull* is Dr. Bruce Maccabee, optical physicist at the U.S. Naval Surface Weapons Lab in Maryland and consultant to MUFON. Maccabee is well-known for his involvement in the Gulf Breeze UFO sightings case.

Many of the reputed *Aviary* members have been involved in paranormal research such as "remote-viewing".

Other supposed members of the *Aviary*:

- **Blue Jay:** Dr. Christopher Green, Chief of the Biomedical Sciences Department at General Motors and former head of the CIA's "weird desk" UFO files.
- **Pelican:** Ron Pandolfi, CIA Deputy Director for the Division of Science and Technology, and current head of the CIA "weird desk" UFO files.
- **Hawk:** Lt. Col. Ernie Kellerstrauss, retired. He worked at Wright-Patterson AFB and supposedly lived with an extraterrestrial for a while.
- **Penguin:** Lt. Col. John Alexander, director of the Non-Lethal Weapons Department at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and has reputedly been involved in remote-viewing, psychic warfare, and mind control experiments. He is said by some to be the "Colonel Harold E. Phillips" named as head of the "UFO Working Group" in Howard Blum's *Out There*.
- **Chicken Little:** Dan Smith, civilian UFOlogist. Smith is said to be a sort of liaison between the *Aviary* and various UFO interest groups in and out of government. He takes his UFOs with a strong dose of religion from what I have read.
- **Raven:** Dale Graff, did contract oversight for the Defense Intelligence Agency at Wright-Patterson AFB.
- **Owl:** Harold Puthoff, Stanford Research Institute, worked with Ingo Swann who supposedly trained PSI-TECH in remote viewing.
- **Morning Dove:** Jack Vorona, headed up "SLEEPING BEAUTY" psychotronic warfare project, apparently reported missing recently. Some sources say he is *Raven*.
- **Nightingale:** William Moore, the man himself, co-author of *The Roswell Incident* and *The Philadelphia Experiment*, disinformant against Paul Bennewitz, etc.

If the *Aviary* truly exists as a group, the only thing that they may have in common is an interest in UFOs. Whether the rest of the group is involved in the spreading of disinformation as (allegedly) are *Sparrow*, *Falcon*, *Condor*, and *Nightingale*, is unknown.

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