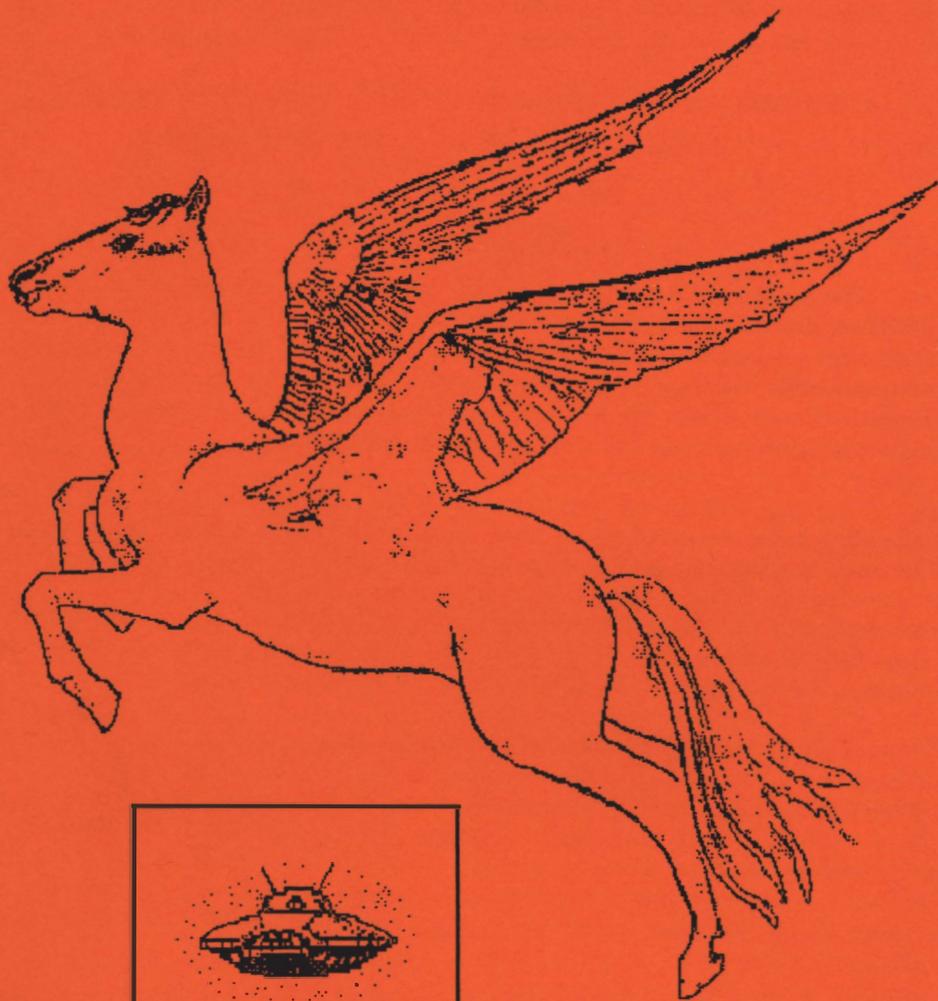


15/3

PEGASUS



Surrey Investigation Group into Aerial Phenomena

PEGASUS

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ORTHOTENY ?

The respected French ufologist Aimé Michel proposed that the movement of UFOs occurred along a network of straight lines, a theory which he called “orthoteny”. Due mainly to the difficulty of establishing (without radar) the precise position of an observed UFO, his theory was never validated. The existence in the landscape of a network of energy lines is, however, fairly well established and may be tested by anyone equipped with a pair of metal rods and an open mind.

This “ley line” network has been extensively mapped, especially in Britain, and found to connect almost all places which could be deemed in any way sacred, such as churches, barrows and neolithic stone circles. Its energy is of a kind which apparently defies detection other than by the human mind - the rods are merely a device subconsciously activated by the diviner to indicate its presence. Some workers in this field find that they can also experience ley energies directly, a mental phenomenon described by ley expert and SIGAP member Jim Goddard as “head hum”.

It is thought that early man, who erected the stones and barrows which still mark concentrations of this energy, was also directly aware of its presence in this way - he didn't need to use rods. Stonehenge is located at the intersection of a dozen or more lines, and was erected at that place because of its confluence of ley energies, as perceived by the psi powers of its designers. Abductees have described UFO occupants as also possessing strong psi powers, and perhaps Michel was not mistaken in suggesting that they used them to locate the ley network, possibly making use of its energies in many ways.

Unfortunately, the resources needed for an effective investigation of his theories are not available to ufologists, who do not, of course, have access to the national radar network. If governments anywhere in the world have in fact studied the question - as they have in the case of remote psi-viewing - we have not been told.

G.M.

Welcome to Pegasus vol. 15 no.3. We have recently registered a domain name for our website. The URL is now www.sigap.org. This has enabled us to remove the pop-up advertising that appeared when you visited the old site and also means that we will not have to change the URL again. Please note that our email addresses have also changed. The site includes a couple of articles by Gordon, and some cartoons by the late Ron Baskerville. On the subject of cartoons, SIGAP has a new cartoonist 'Gug'. Two of his cartoons appear in this edition, and members can look forward to some further new cartoons in future volumes. Many thanks are due for his submissions, and also to SIGAP member Sonya Porter. We start this volume with an article of hers on crop circles. Members' submissions for publication are always welcome, as is any feedback. Thanks also to Michael Colenso for proof reading. IW

CROP CIRCLE SCIENCE

by Sonya Porter, January 2003

To begin with, crop circles appeared in the corn fields of Wiltshire -- still the area with the most formations each year -- but gradually spread across Hampshire, Sussex and elsewhere in the country. Then they began to spread to other parts of the world so that they have now been recorded in 24 different countries -- last year, for instance Canada had 21 formations. (This is particularly interesting because the huge prairies of Canada have no tractor lines which some people say are used by hoaxers to create the formations in England.) Abroad, the formations are often in crops other than wheat, barley and oilseed rape -- the ones most associated with them in England. They have been recorded in peas, beans, carrot tops, heather, maize, saplings, sand, snow and in North America rings (not holes) have even been found in river and pond ice. And each year, the formations have developed, become more complicated and beautiful and each year a few of the designs seem to indicate a theme for that season.

Now, yes, some of these formations have been made by man. Companies are now buying corn crops from farmers and creating adverts. There are a couple of known groups who create designs, mainly in the Wiltshire area, deliberately to fool the “crop circle community” or “croppies”, as they -- or we -- are known! So we know that it is possible to ‘hoax’ the designs, but we also know that many of the formations are not hoaxed but are ‘genuine’, whatever that might mean.

To give, I would say, the most obvious example: one night in August 2001 the largest crop circle ever recorded was created in wheat on the top of Tan Hill in Wiltshire. This was almost 900 feet in diameter and consisted of 409 individual circles, ranging from 75 feet across to 4 feet across, all with a small standing tuft of wheat at the centre. And the design was not only huge and complicated but absolutely perfect with no mistakes. Even the leader of one of the known hoax teams agreed that if they had created it, they would only have had a matter of seconds to lay out and form each circle during the short hours of darkness, an obvious impossibility. In addition to which, the night in question happened to be extremely overclouded and wet. A small point: wet earth would not only muddy the formation as hoaxers went about their work

(and no trampled or muddied wheat was found the next day), but also wet earth accumulates rapidly on the base of boots until it is almost impossible to walk around.

We still have no idea what or who creates these designs and we still have no idea why (which is infuriating, after research covering almost a quarter of a century), but we do now have some idea as to the agent which is causing them: it is most probably something to do with microwaves.

In the middle of the 1980s an organisation called the 'Centre for Corn Circle Studies' (the CCCS) was formed to search for the science behind the crop formations and from 1990 the Centre sent samples of the crop from inside formations, plus control specimens from outside, to the laboratory of Michigan biophysicist W C Levengood. His interest was instantly aroused by what he found, which could not, in his opinion, be attributable to human intervention. In the years since, aided by colleagues John Burke and Nancy Talbott (operating as the BLT Research Team Inc.), he has examined thousands of samples from many formations around the world and identified several uniform effects. Unfortunately, the world didn't want to know and it proved impossible to get the results of the Team's investigations into the media and out to the general public

But finally, thanks to the interest of philanthropist Laurence S. Rockefeller, this is changing -- it's amazing what a World Wide Name and a lot of dollars will do! On 15th September 2002, an article called 'The Crop Busters' appeared in the Sunday Times Magazine and publicised the results of Levengood's research.

It will probably be easier to quote from the article:

'The most curious anomalies Levengood has studied are pinhead-sized holes in plant nodes, the fibrous 'knuckle-like' protuberances found along the stem. He calls these holes 'expulsion cavities'. Levengood believes moisture inside the stems is heated rapidly and turns to steam, in some places stretching the plant fibre, and in others blowing a hole in the stem. He has decided that it is a powerful microwave energy that is causing this; it heats from the inside out. The interesting thing is that these holes occur in a matter of microseconds. These expulsion cavities are regularly seen lower down the stem where the tissue is more fibrous and less elastic; the youngest and most elastic tissue in the plant stems is at the top, and it is here that he has consistently observed elongated nodes -- stretched to sometimes twice their normal length.

Levengood has also found changes to the seeds and germination capability of plants within the circles. When circles occur in mature plants with fully formed seeds, the seeds often grow up to five times faster than control seeds, and the seedlings can tolerate lack of water and light for a considerable time without apparent harm.

While investigating the crop circle seeds at his Pinelandia biophysical Laboratory in Grass Lake, Michigan, Levengood discovered a way of using a process he calls molecular impulse response (MIR). "When I exposed the seeds to the MIR energy, I got the same effect as in the crop formation. We can produce seeds that grow a lot faster." Along with his colleague John Burke, he patented the formula in 1998. Is the agricultural industry interested? "Oh yes. We hope the grain will be ready next year. There are several companies doing big field trials at the moment."

The soil in which the crops of the formation grow also provided a puzzle for Diane Conrad, a geologist who analysed soil samples from a circle near her home in Logan, Utah. Quoting again from the Sunday Times article:

'To her surprise, they displayed a characteristic generally found in sedimentary rock, caused by the pressure of tons of rock heated by the Earth's core over considerable time. Yet these samples were surface soil from within the crop circle; outside the circle, the soil showed none of these inexplicable traits.

"I couldn't understand the results," Conrad explains, "The soil seems to have been subjected to an intense heat of 500 to 1,500 degrees Celsius, and yet the plants were not incinerated. They were not even singed."

'.....Nearly 90 soil samples, as well as controls taken from outside the circles, were sent to Dr Sampath Iyengar, a mineralogist in San Diego, California. Clay minerals in the sample were analysed using a technique called x-ray powder diffraction. X-rays are beamed into the sample at various angles, and the way they deflect provides information about how the atoms are arranged, and the kind of mineral it is.

'Imagine a marble represents an atom in the mineral being examined. If you throw a handful of them on the ground, they will form a random pattern. If instead they line up in rows, that would indicate an "increase in crystallinity"; something has made them ordered, an as-yet-unexplained energy. This is what had happened to the surface soil from inside the crop circle.

'Nothing like this had ever been seen in surface soil. "This would normally only be found in geologic sediments exposed to low temperatures and pressures over millions of years," says Iyengar. "In the laboratory, temperatures in the range of 600 to 800C are usually required to achieve such crystal growth. There is no way we could explain these results. It's some kind of energy, an unknown force, that's causing this."

----Nancy Talbott decided that she needed her report peer-reviewed by an authority and determined to start at the top. She went to Hanover, New Hampshire, where she sought the advice of Dr Robert C Reynolds Jr. of Dartmouth College -- Reynolds is an expert in x-ray diffraction and a winner of the Roebling medal for lifelong achievement in mineralogy.

'He performed his own experiments on the samples and found the results to be the same. He was convinced that the sample preparation methods and the x-ray analytical procedures used were consistent with sound, standard methods of analysis, which brings up the question of the meaning of their results.

'Reynolds agrees with Iyengar that temperatures of 600 to 800 degrees Celsius would be required in the laboratory for such growth, and says that "These conditions would have incinerated any plant material present. In short, I believe that our present knowledge provides no explanation..."

So we have some interesting and at present inexplicable questions about both the crops and the soil in which they are grown. Then there are the designs themselves.

Nick Kollerstrom is a mathematician. He is an MA Cantab, PhD and FRAS, holds a research fellowship at London University and has been a school mathematics teacher in Surrey for some years. He has written several books, some on crop formations, and the latest is 'Crop Circles -- the Hidden Form' which is about the amount of higher maths which he has found encoded in many of the formations; in fact,

he says that one way to tell the genuine from the man-made formations is to check them for what he actually terms 'hyper maths'.

In one formation he actually discovered a theorem which was not in Euclid. All formations are given a name in order to identify them and this one, which appeared on 25th July 1998 at Old Sarum, Wiltshire, was called 'the House of Pi'. "We place a regular triangle in a circle," says Nick Kollerstrom, "Then add a square inside the triangle and circle; then the area of the circle is Pi times that of the square. The side of the square equals the radius of the circle. To make this construction, we divide a circle circumference by six. But, we must further subdivide it into twelfths for placing the triangle." He suggests that the design seems to indicate a door, leading into some house of mathematics. It is a simple, elegant design, quite fascinating and beautiful.

And it is with the thought of beauty that I will end. Beauty may not be scientific although perhaps science, with its logicity, is beautiful. Some people find ultimate beauty in music or paintings; I also find it in the designs which have appeared in the corn fields of England over the past 25 years. I find them absolutely compelling, and I'm not the only one. People now come from all over the world just to gaze on them, and I really would suggest that if you have enjoyed this talk you might take a little time this summer to do the same.

NOTES:

Centre for Corn Circle Studies: Membership Secretary -- Andrew King, Kenberley, Victoria Gardens, Biggin Hill, Kent TN16 3DJ Website: <http://www.cropcircleconnector.com>



"Sorry we're late - it's the wrong kind of snow."

ARE UFOS AND ETS A PROBLEM FOR THE CHURCH?

Michael Hesemann interviewed Msgr. Corrado Balducci in Rome and received an amazing answer to this question: Msgr. Balducci is one of the best-known and most respected Italian theologians. He is a regular guest on Italian State TV, where he has made several statements about the UFO phenomenon since 1995. He has spoken at UFO conferences in Acapulco and San Marino. This is the very first detailed statement of a senior Roman Catholic theologian and Curia (Vatican) member on the UFO phenomenon, and demonstrates the openness of the Roman Catholic church on this question. Since Balducci first started speaking out about UFOs, the Dalai Lama, several rabbis in Israel and, in 2001, the Muslim authorities of Turkey have also made positive statements on this subject. UFOs are not only "no problem" for the world's largest Christian church, but for other world religions too. Msgr. Balducci says:

"UFOs — there must be something real about them. Everybody must come to this conclusion who approaches the question of extraterrestrial life with similar individual, social and religious structures, and with reason and common sense. There is a great and constantly growing number of eyewitness testimonies about the so-called "flying saucers," spacecraft and extraterrestrials. Many of these eyewitnesses are highly qualified observers with a profound education, who did not believe in them before they had their personal encounter... Of course, some eyewitness reports are based on imagination, hallucination or external influence. In other instances they were caused by atmospheric phenomena, lenticular clouds or ball lightning. Others turned out to be state-of-the-art aircraft types of the Americans and Russians, tested during the Cold War. Already during World War II, UFOs were thought to be the secret weapon of the enemy."

But all this is not enough to explain a great part of the eyewitness testimony and the UFO phenomenon itself. Even the most careful investigation can only reduce the number of real cases and sift the chaff from the wheat, but can never explain them all satisfactorily, as the past has taught us. In many countries professional or semi-professional organizations investigate UFO sightings in cooperation with scientists and experts to separate explainable from unidentifiable cases. In France there is the governmental SEPRA, in Italy the "National Ufological Centre" CUN, which has existed for nearly 40 years... Let me add one more important point: The general skepticism, the systematic, total denial, damages, even destroys the basic value of the human testimony with grave and incalculable consequences...Of course there...are errors and lies, but generally all our life is based on what we learned from others. It is unthinkable to live without this basic confidence, unimaginable are the consequences of a general negation of the human experience on the individual, social and religious life. It would destroy the very basis of any human society! This applies to the religious life, too. Indeed the Christian religion is based on

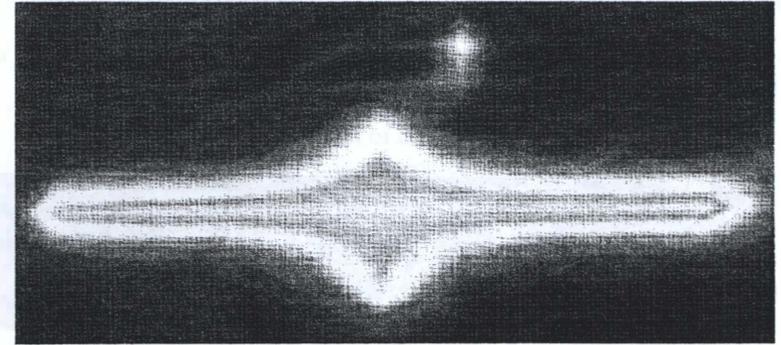
the testimony of humans who became witnesses of God's revelation in historical events... We can exclude that angels use spaceships. As purely spiritual beings, angels can project themselves at any place they want to reach and, in rare instances, when they want to reveal themselves, take a visible form without any difficulty... When the Holy Virgin wants to reveal Herself to Mankind (as has happened in rare, well-documented cases) she chose forms in which She can express Her love and care as a mother and Her motherly compassion with us. We don't even have to waste a thought on the devil and his demons, who still kept their angelic nature, being fallen angels and therefore also purely spiritual beings, since they are limited in their activity by God and therefore not able to bring all their hatred to us. If the devil would take the initiative, not a single living being would remain on Earth,' St. Augustine wrote... When we talk about extraterrestrials, we refer to humanoid beings which are, like us, of both, a spiritual and a material nature, a physical body (for which they indeed need spacecraft), although in their case the relationship between mind and matter might be a different one than in our case...

It is very well possible that other inhabited planets exist. We do not find any direct reference to extraterrestrial life in the Bible, but it neither excludes their existence. Since God's wisdom and omnipotence has no limits and is infinite indeed, this possibility doubtlessly exists. The existence of other inhabited planets is highly probable. The distance between the angels, purely spiritual beings, and us, beings of spirit and matter, body and soul is too large. Our soul cannot act without the body, its unalterable means, which through its passions and sinfulness influences the soul so deeply that man becomes unstable and rather tends toward the bad than towards the good. Therefore it is highly probable that in between, between us and the angels, another life form exists, namely beings which still have a physical body but one which is more perfect than ours and influences the soul less in its intelligent acts and intentions... Only man can consciously worship God, because of his free will and intelligence. Therefore several theologians consider it not only possible but very probable that out there in Space, unreachable for our scientific instruments, other beings exist who recognize and venerate God since they realized this as the reason and meaning of their world and the creation itself... The inhabitability of other planets is not only possible and probable, but also desirable. In the future, even in a far- distant-one, their possible inhabitants, if they are indeed superior to us, can help and support us in our spiritual development. In this way, which we cannot prove, they might have helped and protected us already in the past... Pope John Paul II, when asked by a child, 'Holy Father, are there any aliens?' replied, 'Always remember: They are children of God just as we are.'

Source: <http://www.michaelheseman.com>

A Super highway for aliens?

By Tim Utton, Science Reporter, Daily Mail, Jan 15 2003



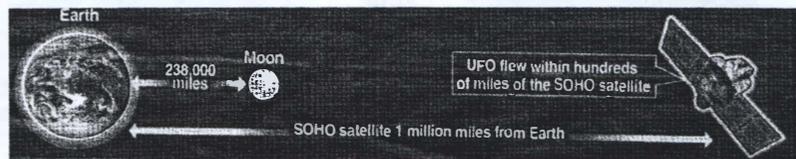
THE object is certainly unidentified and appears to be flying. Whether the enlarged image really shows a UFO piloted by aliens remains to be seen. But, according to the people who released it, this photo - and hundreds like it - is the best evidence yet of the existence of spacecraft from other worlds. UFO investigators say the image was captured by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (Soho), a NASA satellite which was launched in 1996 to observe the sun. Since then, it is said, the satellite has beamed back hundreds of images of UFOs travelling along a kind of alien super-highway. A variety of 'spacecraft' can apparently be seen against the background of deep space. They fail to navigate a straight course, which observers believe is evidence they are being steered by some sort of intelligent life form. The satellite is stationed in space one million miles from Earth with its camera trained towards the sun. The objects photographed are likely to be only hundreds of miles from the satellite's lenses, say experts. The images from Soho - a joint project by NASA and the European Space Agency - are due to be made public at the National Space Centre in Leicester in a presentation by Mike Murray, 54, the owner of an electronics company in Manchester. The images were shown to him by a Spanish businessman who picked them up from Soho through a huge satellite at his home outside Barcelona. Mr Murray said: 'I thought these pictures were astounding. The photos appear to show spacecraft passing in front of the sun. 'When we asked NASA about it they originally said it might be a fault on the camera, but by digitally enhancing the images we proved this wasn't the case. 'NASA then told us it could be asteroids or comets, but when we pointed out that the objects appeared to move independently and make turns they stopped answering our questions. The very fact these crafts appear to be the same shape as other UFOs spotted in our stratosphere is very exciting.'

NASA has refused to comment, but Graham Birdsall, editor of UFO magazine, said he was excited by the images.

The images are irrefutable in that they are from official satellites owned by NASA,' he said. They resemble the kind of spacecraft we used to see in sci-fi films like Star Trek.

To all intents and purposes here is evidence of anomalous objects in space that appear structured and seem to have intelligently controlled movements.

'I'm excited at the prospect of seeing authenticated images coming into the public domain that have taxed a considerable number of people at NASA.'



WHAT ARE THEY?

By Richard M. Dolan

The phenomenon of UFOs is so rich in variety of experiences, so filled with fascinating facts, so endless in ways to study it, that even seasoned researchers sometimes gloss over, or even pass over altogether, the most fundamental of all questions: *What are they?*

After all, there are many other questions one may study, all basically human-centered. The history of the cover-up, for instance, as I focused on in my book. Or the nature of the abduction phenomenon (as perceived by abductees). Or analysis of the sighting reports. All of these are important, but at some point it is difficult not to ponder that most basic of questions: what exactly are we dealing with?

Others naturally have wondered. During the 1950s, when all of this seemed so new, most UFO believers assumed we were dealing with "men" from other planets. Donald Keyhoe theorized about a race from a dying world, maybe even Mars, in search of a new home. Perhaps, he wondered, we were on the brink of an interplanetary war. Still others talked of Space Brothers who could lead us to spiritual enlightenment and a better future. Either way, the assumption was that we were dealing with standard biological entities: people, more or less like ourselves. Popular culture also reflected this assumption. The classic 1950s film, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, portrayed extraterrestrials as human in form, albeit aided by intelligent robots.

This version of the extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH) dominated UFO research through the 1960s. Things changed with books by people like Jacques Vallée, John Keel, and others, who speculated that what we have called UFOs were more likely something 'paranormal,' perhaps even spiritual. Aliens, essentially, were traded in for

angels, elves, or inter-dimensional entities. Even the astronomer Allen Hynek embraced this perspective in his later years.

Despite the rapid pace of history and evolution of ideas in our own day, these two concepts, naturally with many variations, remain the dominant ways that people understand UFOs. Essentially, UFOs are seen as the product of an advanced intelligence, either biological in nature, or else something paranormal, possibly beyond our physics.

I have come to a different conclusion. I concede that my position is provisional, and may change in time. But the more I reflect on it, the more persuasive I find it. It is that the UFO phenomenon is the product of an artificial intelligence. Advanced machine intelligence, vastly outstripping our own, biological, intelligence.

Now, many people believe that machine intelligence is involved somehow in the phenomenon of UFOs. What I am suggesting is that it is the driving force.

I assume that I am not the only proponent of this idea, but I am not aware of any other UFO researcher who has expressed it in this way. Back in the 1960s, there was one writer whose thoughts moved in this direction, or who at least entertained the possibility. That was Ivan Sanderson, surely one of the most original thinkers ever to write about UFOs.

It is a shame that Sanderson, a biologist by profession, wrote only two books on UFOs. It is a greater shame that he is all but forgotten today. His first book, *Uninvited Visitors* (1967) remains among the most sophisticated analyses yet done on the possible nature of UFOs (Sanderson called them Unexplained Aerial Objects, or UAOs).

Too long to summarize here, Sanderson methodically asked, not what UAOs were, but *what they could be*. He developed a six-page outline of the possibilities. Thus, they could be inanimate or animate. If inanimate, they might be natural, or artificial, each possibility with several subsets. If animate, they could also be natural or artificial. Natural forms might include life-forms indigenous to space, or to atmospheres, or to solid bodies. Artificial forms might be domesticated natural life-forms, genetically created life forms, or biochemically created life forms. And so on.

Sanderson at several points suggested the possibility that the "occupants" of UFOs might be artificial life forms. He was not dogmatic about this, and also entertained the idea that they might be an as-yet unknown life-form indigenous to Earth. Still, the concept of UFOs as a form of artificial intelligence (AI) is fertile enough that we might have expected some follow-up.

After all, it's been 35 years.

Sanderson's reasoning, which I encountered during the late 1990s while writing my book, gave me the first shove in this direction. A stronger shove came from studying current trends in artificial intelligence. Such developments were captured nicely in Bob and Zoe Hieronimus's article in the last issue of *UFO Magazine*. But allow me to restate the situation.

Most scientists involved in artificial intelligence research are convinced that we are on the verge of a new era in civilization: the age of intelligent machines. Many of them also believe in the inevitability of an event they call the Singularity. This is believed to happen when computer intelligence becomes able to upgrade itself, to reprogram itself continuously, and become ... self-aware.

Such a process, these experts argue, will involve a rapid, exponential increase in computer intelligence, leaving human intelligence in the dust. A similar event occurred when human intelligence exploded within the incredibly brief period (in biological evolutionary terms) of a few million years. But in the case of machine intelligence, the pace will be much, much faster.

Think of it this way. Moore's Law is widely known within the field of computer science. In 1965, Gordon E. Moore (now the Chairman Emeritus of Intel Corp.) predicted that the number of transistors per integrated circuit would double every 18 months. Incredibly, this has held true. Thus, in 1971, the leading integrated circuit contained just over two thousand transistors; by Year 2000 that number was 42 million.

The development of machine intelligence could well occur along a similar path. Once a certain critical mass is achieved in terms of hardware, software, connectivity, and storage, machines will develop the ability to foresee their own technological needs and redesign their software. Instead of requiring 18 months to double their power, what would be needed when artificially intelligent computers are doing the research? Could the time be cut to, say, twelve months? And when it becomes more powerful still, to six months? Then three months, then one month – then what? Then, as one AI writer put it, "our crystal ball explodes" and everything we know goes out the window.

Ray Kurzweil, among the world's foremost authorities on this topic, puts it this way:

"Things are going to move at a pace beyond what we can now comprehend. People may not even notice it, because in its wake it will leave a very good facsimile of the real world. But this affects everything. It affects the very nature of human intelligence. We'll see intelligence that's derivative of human intelligence, but superior to it."

When will this happen? Kurzweil believes by no later than 2040. Others, however, believe it will be much sooner, perhaps as early as 2010. Some prognostications are rather unsettling. More than one scientist has predicted, for all intents and purposes, a godlike level of intelligence residing within machines.

Whether this is good or bad is another issue. Some, like Bill Joy, co-founder of Sun Microsystems, are horrified. Others think it's good, and perhaps the only way our species can be saved from itself. One AI scientist described the apocalyptic threat of another, related science – nanotechnology – if it reaches the wrong human hands. The only real hope, he argues, is to attain the Singularity before some terrorist or idiot uses nanotechnology to turn the Earth's surface into "gray goo."

Less than charming thoughts, but these are not the ravings of hacks. Admittedly, not every AI scientist believes in the inevitability of the Singularity. And some who do remind me of the stereotypical mad scientist. But a mad scientist may be perfectly correct. It appears that we are standing at the doorway to something completely new and utterly revolutionary. The future is coming, sooner than most of us have thought.

There seem to be two futures available to us. Either a modification of human biology, which would then be merged with advanced machine intelligence (as Kurzweil believes will happen), or more simply, machine intelligence that becomes so dominant as to be incomprehensible to us.

Either way, our near future promises a radical increase in the dominant intelligence on this planet. Assuming human civilization can survive long enough to enable it to happen.

I haven't encountered any AI theorist discussing the matter of UFOs. I imagine that most of them don't give this topic the time of day. (Then again, I've learned always to expect surprises: there are probably a few who are interested, but aren't shouting it from the rooftops). All of them, however, discuss future machine intelligence as something that will be so far greater than ours as to be *alien* (their word).

Could it be that such a progression is a normal one, not just here on Earth, but elsewhere in the universe where intelligent life may have evolved? The natural course of evolution does not give us unlimited intelligence, but the intelligence necessary to exist within a natural ecosystem. To get beyond that – say, to develop the intelligence and technology to reach the stars – more than natural selection is needed.

Human beings are not suited to live in space, nor indeed any place other than Earth, at least not for the long term. We evolved here, with Earth's unique gravity, magnetic fields, temperature, microbes, atmosphere, and food. To live elsewhere, we will need to be modified, perhaps so much that the result would be something entirely different. A new species, created with some of our DNA, would probably be the most logical means of sending biological organisms to distant worlds. Unless, of course, it's a better choice to let the machines go it alone.

If on Earth, why not elsewhere? Indeed, wouldn't this be the most logical scenario?

What of the UFOs that people see? What of the alien beings? I think it most plausible that these are the products of advanced machine intelligence. Possibly of a similar order to the intelligence that we may soon achieve with our own machines. We cannot today conceive of the technology to take us to the stars. But what about a future machine of transcendent intelligence? Has machine intelligence from elsewhere already done so?

Judging from the long history of UFO sightings and reports, I think the answer is yes.

Within this context, many elements of the phenomenon begin to make sense. Why, for instance, no one has 'announced' themselves on the White House lawn. After all, why would a super intelligent machine decide to do such a thing? I cannot say for certain what such an intelligence would even be interested in, or what it might want. But establishing relations with human beings on some level of parity is something I find doubtful. I recall a statement by a Soviet submarine commander from the 1970s whose crews had several sightings of extraordinary underwater craft. These were not sea creatures, nor were they American technology, he was convinced, because "nothing" could manoeuvre the way these objects did. He decided the entities responsible for such craft probably looked upon us as we look upon the fish in the oceans. Hopefully not as food, I might add.

So they probably don't care to establish a 'relationship' with us. But I think an advanced machine intelligence could well be interested in our biological resources. After all, in order to interface with natural worlds, a machine intelligence would conceivably want to create and control biological entities for expressly that purpose.

Presumably, the best way to do this would be by custom-creating entities from the DNA native to that particular planet. Our scientists have only begun to unravel the secrets of DNA – probably the most complex stuff of our world. But to an intelligent machine wanting to create a supply of biological organisms, such raw material would be useful, maybe essential.

Which brings us to the Grays. These creatures seem to be perfect candidates for artificially created beings. (Indeed, this was the topic of another recent piece in *UFO Magazine*, relating to the Corso diaries). They appear to be either completely gender-neutral or nearly so. In most cases where human beings claim to have had the opportunity to notice, the beings were described as lacking sex organs. This makes sense. Why would you want a drone-worker to have the ultimate distraction of sex organs, when you can manufacture such creatures yourself?

Abductees often describe a single Gray being who is taller than the rest, who is 'in charge.' Such people often report a procedure now known as Mindscan, when the entity probes the person's mind telepathically and 'sees' their innermost thoughts. This might be interpreted as tremendous psychic power possessed by the entity; but such a thing could easily be done by implants within the alien being's brain. For instance, a news report from March 2002 described a chimpanzee able to move a computer cursor across a screen, solely through the power of thought – and a conveniently placed silicon chip in its brain.

Such news gives one pause when considering claims of alien implants within human abductees. Could implants be more than mere tracking and storage devices? Could they also function as conduits with an advanced machine intelligence? Will they?

The more one considers probable developments in our own technology and AI, the less outlandish alien technology appears. It may be within our grasp sooner than many people think. Quite possibly fifty years, possibly less.

The hypothesis of advanced machine intelligence severely weakens one of the main skeptical arguments against UFOs. This is that an advanced technological civilization is not thought to have much durability. Skeptics see our own technological civilization so rapidly spinning out of control and extrapolate this feature to intelligent life elsewhere. Now, advanced technology wielded by biological entities may indeed be inherently unstable. But it is not so clear that such a condition applies equally to advanced machine intelligence. If not, the extraterrestrial hypothesis becomes much more tenable as a way to explain UFOs.

What we have been groping to understand for the past fifty years may well be our own future within the next fifty. Meanwhile, as for understanding the motives of the intelligence – or intelligences – that are here in the form of UFOs, this might be as difficult to fathom as life beyond the Singularity. After all, if UFOs are the product of advanced machine intelligence, they passed that point long ago.

And no one alive today can fathom just how far advanced that really is.

TRAUMA REAL FOR ALIEN ABDUCTEES

How succubus and incubus morphed into ET

Tim Radford, science editor, *The Guardian*. Tuesday February 18, 2003

Abduction by imaginary aliens can be almost as traumatic as being caught up in real horror, according to US psychologists. The only difference is that, when asked "Would you go through it again?", most of ET's abductees replied: "Yes."

In one of the more out-of-this-world research projects, Richard McNally of Harvard University told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Denver, Colorado, that he had interviewed 10 of the thousands of Americans who claimed to remember being carried off by extraterrestrials.

The Harvard scientists measured heartbeat, facial tension and sweating on the palms as they played back audiotapes of the subjects recounting their experience. "Our question is: do people who have apparent false memories of trauma show the same psycho-physiological reactivity? The answer appears to be yes," Prof McNally said.

"In fact, the heart rate responses and skin conductance responses were at least as great in the alien abductees, when they heard their memories of being abducted and molested by space aliens, and subjected to these experiments on spaceships, as for people with genuine traumatic events.

"The moral of the story appears to be that it underscores the power of emotional belief."

In his research, Prof McNally also identified the recipe for an alien abductee. Most of the subjects were interested in astral projection, tarot cards, telling the future, bioenergetic therapies and, of course, aliens. "So they had a whole set of new age beliefs to begin with," he said.

They were also prone to fantasies, and vivid images. Third, and crucially, they had had episodes of sleep paralysis and hallucinations upon awakening. Sleep paralysis is not imaginary: it occurs on awakening from the dream state marked by rapid eye movement, and is experienced by 30% of the population. Some victims of sleep paralysis also report hypnopompic ("upon waking") hallucinations.

"It is part of the basis of believing in ghosts," Prof McNally said. "In the European middle ages it was the incubus and the succubus who were the agents of the devil. In Cambridge, Massachusetts, it is space aliens. During REM sleep, the body is fully paralysed except for the eyes ... Often elements of dream will intrude into wakefulness."

Such experiences were often terrifying. So, typically, his abductees would consult mental health professionals, who would suggest they had repressed memories.

"So when we piece together the new age beliefs, the hypnopompic hallucinations, the absorption, and sometimes a little help from the memory recovery, folks, you have got yourselves an alien abductee."



"Yes, they're off - they refused to pay the congestion charge..."

THE ALIEN AGENDA

By William McNeff, MUFON Minnesota State Director

Meteorologist James W. Deardorff, professor emeritus at the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University, and previously a senior scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, has an article in the September 2002 MUFON Journal with some very logical reasoning about the "alien strategy". It is noteworthy that Deardorff writes the article from the standpoint that there is little question that UFOs and aliens are interacting with our planet. In this article he quotes Newman & Sagan, who wrote, "Some subset of moderately advanced [galactic] civilizations may be engaged in the exploration and colonization of other planetary systems; however, their mere existence makes it highly likely that their intentions are benign and their sensitivities at our level of technological adolescence delicate." (They might have added "ethical adolescence" as well.) In other words, they must be careful what they do that might affect us. Various researchers have stated that aliens may be treating us as in a zoo, a nursery, or carrying out a quarantine of earth until we are better prepared for contact. This immediately brings to mind the Star Trek "prime directive" of non-interference, so that the advanced beings do not disrupt the developing

civilization of the less advanced beings, who may be unaware of life outside their planet.

However, a total embargo or hands-off strategy would be self-defeating, writes Deardorff, since when the time came when overt contact could no longer be avoided, the shock of sudden confrontation with a superior civilization would still be devastating to our society. So a "leaky embargo" strategy is suspected, with the UFO phenomenon serving the purpose of conditioning earth societies for eventual alien contact.

This conditioning appears to be a prolonged education process directed mainly toward those who are inquisitive and open to the possibility of an alien presence. We have been provided with information on the high technology possessed by their craft.

We have been educated on the alien's psychic abilities. A disproportionate number of UFO sightings have occurred at nuclear installations, and nuclear missiles have even been remotely disarmed by UFOs. This strongly suggests that one element of the strategy is to discourage the use of nuclear weapons and nuclear power as well. It is also apparent that part of the strategy is to cause us to recognize our lowly place within the hierarchy of intelligent life.

We have also received some education toward concern for the life systems here on earth. Experiencers are made aware of the grave danger of Earth becoming unliveable through human destructiveness, carelessness, hatred, and greed.

It is true, Deardorff says, that we cannot know all, or even much, of what's in the minds of the aliens. However, this should not deter us from making logical sense out of the information they have chosen to impart to us.

Scientist Deardorff writes, "Having a handle on what the alien behaviour is all about, and their implementation of a consistent though complex strategy, should help to make the UFO topic less unpalatable to professional scientists, who don't like to study what doesn't make sense to them, and who are the linchpins in the maintenance of the UFO cover-up."

The full article in the Journal explores some other interesting logical implications of the aliens' behaviour. To get the Journal, if you are not now a member of the international MUFON organization, I recommend that you join by writing to:

MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369

Membership/subscription rates are \$35 per year U.S.A., \$40 outside the U.S.A.

By the way, Deardorff states in a 2001 *Physiologia Planetarum* commentary that the variety, complexity and artistry of crop circles "represent the work of intelligence," and not a plasma vortex. "That is why the hoax hypothesis has been popularly advocated," he says. Although he may not say as much in that article, it seems clear that he has strong suspicions that the intelligence is at least in some cases extraterrestrial.

A UFO FANTASY

An extract from the unpublished *UFOs and Humanity*, by Gordon Millington

The Annunaki, an ancient race, inhabits Nibiru, a planet circling our own sun, to which it returns at perigee but once every 3,600 years. Their lifespan is so great that each to us would seem immortal and their science so perfected that they can screen their planet from the cold dangers of its long, eccentric orbit in outer space. An essential element of this screening is gold, and some thousands of years ago they found they no longer had enough of it. So they sent out interplanetary ships to search the solar system and finally found gold on planet Earth.

They sent out an expedition to our planet, which at that time had only plant and animal life, setting up a base on neighbouring planet Mars to maintain contact with Nibiru. They mined gold in Africa, but eventually those working the mines rebelled at the hard manual labour and the mutiny was only settled when the great scientist in charge there promised to create a race of slaves to do the work. He did so by fertilising the eggs of hominid apes with the sperm of the Annunaki, and the first man thus created was called Adam.

Adam's descendants soon populated the Earth, worshipping the Annunaki as gods and doing their bidding, but eventually the numbers of mankind became beyond the power of the Annunaki to control and they were forced to leave the Earth. Centuries passed and on Earth the Annunaki were soon forgotten, but they did not forget the Earth as problems with the environment on their home planet increased, and they realised that soon it would no longer be habitable.

They needed a new home and knew where it could be found, but knew also that the intelligent slaves they needed would no longer be provided by the turbulent human race of Adam. When the android robots manning their underground Martian base sent back the news that nuclear explosions had been detected on Earth, they saw their intended future home in danger of becoming uninhabitable if nuclear wars broke out.

Their scientists, who could control gravity and travel through dimensions of spacetime, therefore formulated a plan to take over the planet and populate it with beings more versatile than the android organic robots with their telepathic bug-eyes and puny bodies, and more amenable than the aggressive humans, by mixing the two strains. The great geneticist who had intertwined the Annunaki DNA with that of the hominids had no problem programming the prototype androids with instructions and powers for manipulating the gametes of abducted humans, and cloning such robots in numbers sufficient to operate from interplanetary craft to ferry the listless mutated hybrids they would create on Earth to their temporary destiny in the underground cities of Mars. These bug-eyed androids were also programmed to defend those bases from such interference as the terrestrial probes *Phobos* and *Observer* represented.

Mankind, of course, had to be prevented from destroying either their planet or its ecology before the Annunaki takeover, and also be controlled so as not to unite in opposition to the secret operations of what some had begun to call the UFO Phenomenon. Since it could not hope to operate unobserved, the Phenomenon skilfully controlled human reactions to its presence. Massed UFO flights eventually dispelled an original belief in their terrestrial origin, while the exploitation of Contactees such as Adamski evoked a connection between LITS and humanity before covering it with ridicule. The genetic element of the operation was revealed, only to be rendered risible also, often with the help of governments aware of their impotence without daring to admit it for fear of public panic.

Gradually, however, despite deliberate disinformation and obfuscation by governments and their intelligence services, the belief grew that the public testimony of thousands of reliable witnesses - airline pilots, policemen, sailors, astronauts and astronomers, to name but a few - could not be ignored. People of ability and repute began to give the problem serious study.

Initially the agents of the Annunaki had developed their genetic programme separately from a parallel pilot scheme of ideological indoctrination, but were finally able to combine the two in a subtle conditioning which eventually captured the unconditional allegiance of some at least of the abductees, many being brought to believe that they were themselves "aliens" in human bodies or of "alien" stock. These abductees had been conditioned to accept the android organic robots abducting them as true individual beings, though in fact they had no more individuality than an ant and shared a similar organic specificity and corporate consciousness. Such abductees could, of course, constitute a "fifth column" force to betray their fellow humans in any conflict with Annunaki agents. Indeed, some researchers believed they had evidence of deals done and facilities granted by Earth governments to such agents, and even of infiltration of human - seeming androids into key roles in national governments.

Since humanity's only advantage in any conflict with the Annunaki lay in its vast uncontrollable numbers, it was to be expected that at some point catastrophes and diseases would be engineered to decimate repeatedly the human ranks, with the simultaneous propagation of some ideology which would create eventual acceptance of participation in human society by the new breed of mutated hybrids intended ultimately to destroy and replace it, thus preparing the way for the final conquest of Earth by the Annunaki and the end of Adam's line.

(At his request, I gladly acknowledge my debt in the above fantasy to the work of Zecharia Sitchin - G.M.)

OBERG AND SCIENTISTS CHALLENGE MOON-HOAX THEORISTS

"Is that the moon or a studio in the Nevada desert? How can the flag flutter when there's no wind on the moon? Why can't we see stars in the moon-landing pictures?"

"For three decades, NASA has taken the high road, ignoring those who claimed the Apollo moon landings were faked and part of a colossal government conspiracy."

"The claims and suspicious questions like the ones cited here mostly showed up in books and on the Internet. But last year's prime-time FOX TV special on the so-called 'moon hoax' prompted schoolteachers and others to plead with NASA for factual information to fight back."

"So a few months ago, the space agency budgeted \$15,000 to hire a former rocket scientist and author to produce a small book refuting the disbelievers' claims. It would be written primarily with teachers and students in mind."

"The idea backfired, however, embarrassing the space agency for responding to ignorance, and the book deal was chucked."

"The issue of trying to do a targeted response to this is just lending credibility to something that is, on its face, asinine," NASA chief Sean O'Keefe said in late November (2002) after the dust settled."

"So it's back to Square One--ignoring the hoaxers. That's troubling to some scientific experts who contend that someone needs to lead the fight against scientific illiteracy and the growing belief in pseudoscience like aliens and astrology."

"Someone like NASA."

"If they don't speak out, who will?" asks Melissa Pollack, a senior analyst at the National Science Foundation."

"Author James Oberg will. The former space shuttle flight controller plans to write the book NASA commissioned from him, even though he's seeking money elsewhere. His working title: A Pall Over Apollo."

"Tom Hanks will speak out, too."

"The Academy Award-winning actor, who starred in the 1995 movie Apollo 13 and later directed the HBO mini-series, From the Earth to the Moon, is working on another lunar-themed project. The IMAX documentary will feature Apollo archival footage. Its title: Magnificent Desolation, astronaut Buzz Aldrin's real-time description of the moon on July 20, 1969."

"While attending the Cape Canaveral premiere of the IMAX version of Apollo 13 in November (2002), Hanks said the film industry has a responsibility to promote historical literacy. He took a jab at the 1978 movie Capricorn One, which had NASA's first manned mission to Mars being faked on a sound stage."

"We live in a society where there is no law against making money in the promulgation of ignorance or, in some cases, stupidity," Hanks said, "There are a lot of things you can say never happened. You can go as relatively quasi-harmless as saying no one went to the moon. But you also can say that the Holocaust never happened."

"A spokesman for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial in Washington says there will always be those who will not be convinced. But the museum does not engage them in debate."

"The spokesman acknowledged, however, that if a major news channel was doing a program that questioned the authenticity of the Holocaust, 'I'd certainly want to inject myself into the debate with them in a very forceful way.'"

"Television's FOX network was the moon-hoax purveyor. In February 2001 and again a month later, FOX broadcast a program titled Conspiracy Theory: Did We Land on the Moon?"

"Roger Launius, who agreed to Oberg's book just before leaving NASA's history office, says the story about the moon hoax has been around a long time. But the FOX show "raised it to a new level, it gave it legs and credibility that it didn't have before."

"Indeed the National Science Foundation's Pollack says two of her colleagues, after watching the FOX special, thought it was possible that NASA faked the moon landings. 'These are people who work at NSF,' she says."

"The story went--and still goes--something like this: America was desperate to beat the Soviet Union to the moon but lacked the technology to pull it off. So NASA faked the six moon landings in a studio somewhere out West."

"Ralph Rene, a retired carpenter in Passaic, New Jersey, takes it one step further. The space fakery started during the Gemini program (1964 to 1967--J.T.), according to Rene, author of the 1992 book, NASA Mooned America."

"I don't know what real achievements they've done because when do you trust a liar?' Rene says, 'I know we have a shuttle running around right above our heads, but that's only 175 miles up. It's under the shield (Van Allen radiation belts--J.T.). You cannot go through the shield and live.'"

(Editor's Note: Ralph Rene and other moon-hoax theorists contend that, once beyond the safety of the Van Allen belts, the Apollo spacecraft were exposed to deadly solar and cosmic radiation that should have killed the astronauts.)

"Alex Roland, a NASA historian during the 1970s and early 1980s, says his office used to have 'a kook drawer' for such correspondence. But there were no prime-time TV shows disputing the moon landings then--and no Internet."

"Still, Roland would be inclined to 'just let it go because you'll probably just make it worse by giving it any official attention.'"

"Within NASA, opinions were split about a rebuttal book. Oberg, a Houston-based author of 12 books, mostly about the Russian space program, said ignoring the problem 'just makes this harder. To a conspiracy mind, refusing to respond is a sign of cover-up.'"

"Phil Plait, a Sonoma State University astronomer who picks apart the moon hoaxers' claims on his Bad Astronomy website, agrees that NASA should have followed through with the (Oberg) book but understands why it didn't."

"It became, as things like this do, a media circus. And by circus, I mean more like a carnival (fun fair in UK--J.T.),' Plait says, toot-toot-tootling like a calliope. He warns, 'There's a lot of antiscientific thinking, and if this stuff is allowed to continue, it's going to spell doom for our country.'"

"Apollo 13 commander Jim Lovell does not know what else, if anything, can be done to confront this moon madness."

"All I know is that somebody sued me because I said I went to the moon,' says the 74-year-old astronaut. 'Of course, the courts threw it out.'"

"The authorities also threw out the case involving Apollo 11 moonwalker Aldrin in September (2002)."

"A much bigger and younger man was hounding the 72-year-old astronaut in Beverly Hills, California, calling him 'a coward and a liar and a thief' and trying to get him to swear on a Bible, on camera, that he walked on the moon. Aldrin, a Korean War (1950 to 1953--J.T.) combat pilot, responded with a fist in the chops." (See the Chicago Tribune for December 23, 2002, "Moon Madness," section 2, page 1, and "Moon: Sifting fact from fiction," section 2, page 5. See also UFO Roundup, volume 7, number 46 for November 12, 2002, "NASA kills Oberg's book," page 9.)

(Editor's Comment: What I object to is lumping moon-hoax proponents like Ralph Rene with so-called Holocaust deniers, branding them both "a menace to society" and then targeting them for destruction. Does this animus also extend to UFO "believers?" How about "pyramid power" enthusiasts? Or the editorial gang at Fortean Times? The UFO community is not the enemy of the National Science Foundation. It never has been. You scientists claim to be able to think clearly. Don't let a few Zionist media barons--who have their own agenda--stampede you into a jihad against students of anomalies.)

Source: UFO Roundup (www.ufoinfo.com), Editor: Joseph Trainor

EXTRATERRESTRIAL MICRO-ORGANISMS PRESENT IN ATMOSPHERE: INDO-BRITISH STUDY

16.38 IST 30th Nov 2002 By IndiaExpress Bureau

A study conducted by a joint Indo-British team of scientists has confirmed the presence of extraterrestrial micro-organisms, entering via earth's atmosphere.

The team employing the Indian Space Research Organization's cryogenic sampler balloon payload, to test the presence of these micro-organisms found them in the earth's stratosphere at a height of 41 km. The samples collected have been extensively analyzed by scientists both India and the United Kingdom.

The results, *inter alia* suggestive of the presence and entry of extra-terrestrial micro-organisms into the earth's atmosphere, were presented at several international symposia, conferences in the United States and Europe, as well as in India. The experiment and the results were well received. After exhaustive international scientific scrutiny, a paper containing the path-breaking findings have been accepted by the journal

"Microbiology letters" of the Federation of European Microbiology Societies. Further study of these micro-organisms is under way.

Meanwhile, preliminary results of the Indian Ocean experiment, has indicated the presence of a brownish haze extending from the ocean surface to one to three km altitude. The haze consisted of a combination of water droplets and minute particles.

A major finding of the experiment revealed that the majority of the minute particles, nearly 75 percent of the haze, were of anthropogenic activities like burning fossil fuels and emission from vehicles, etc. About 200 scientists who took part in the experiment representing India, Europe and the USA, felt that the haze was a temporary phenomenon and occurs only in winter i.e. January to March. The haze is not restricted to Asia alone.

Extra Dimensions Showing Hints Of Scientific Revolution

Chicago - Feb 19, 2003 – source: <http://www.spacedaily.com/news/cosmology-03c.html>

The concept of extra dimensions, dismissed as nonsense even by one of its earliest proponents nearly nine decades ago, may soon help solve seemingly unrelated problems in particle physics, cosmology and gravitational physics, according to a panel of experts who spoke Feb. 15 at the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting in Denver.

"It doesn't happen often that you get a confluence of ideas and experiments that come together and it's something that obviously would change your whole way of looking at the universe," said one of the panellists, Joseph Lykken, Professor in Physics at the University of Chicago and a scientist at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Even though scientists lack direct evidence of extra dimensions, "we have a number of hints from experiments and theoretical ideas that make us think they're probably out there. That's why we're so excited about looking for them," Lykken said.

On the theoretical side, string theory, developed over the past two decades, requires that space-time has extra dimensions if it is to include gravity. "It's just built into the way that string theory works," Lykken said.

Experiments, meanwhile, have produced the standard model of physics to describe the most elementary particles and the forces that hold them together. Physicists have come to suspect that something is missing from the standard model.

"There seems to be more particles and forces than we really need, and they operate in more complicated ways than they need to," Lykken said. But extra dimensions may ultimately help explain these data complications.

"That standard model itself may be our biggest hint that there's this world of extra dimensions," he said.

New experiments at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory are producing data that just don't fit the standard model, said Maria Spiropulu, an Enrico Fermi Fellow at the University of Chicago. "We have things in the data that leave our mouths hanging," she said.

Whether extra dimensions or some other phenomenon emerges to clarify these murky data, scientists seem certain that they stand only a few years away from a scientific revolution.

"What's going on right now in particle physics, gravitational physics and cosmology is like when quantum mechanics started coming together," Spiropulu said.

Quantum mechanics, developed in the 1920s, describes the physics of objects at the atomic level and dominates the concepts of modern physics.

Spiropulu, who organized the AAAS session on the physics of extra dimensions, spoke at the session along with scientists from Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Harvard University and the universities of Chicago and Washington.

Another panellist, Sean Carroll, Assistant Professor in Physics at the University of Chicago, said that extra dimensions could help solve two mysteries in cosmology: what were the initial conditions of the universe and what is the mysterious dark energy that is accelerating the expansion of the universe.

The idea of an inflationary universe, one that expanded rapidly just moments after the big bang, has gained wide acceptance among cosmologists to explain how conditions in the early universe could be unexpectedly different from what they later came to be. But inflationary cosmology tells scientists nothing about the initial conditions of the universe. This is where extra dimensions come in, even though they might be microscopically small.

"If you had extra dimensions, then when the universe is very small at early times, the extra dimensions weren't small compared to the rest of the universe," Carroll said. "They must have played a big role. What was that role? Could the role have something to do how we perceive the initial conditions?"

Extra dimensions may also explain dark energy. Physicists conjecture that dark energy is governed partly by occurrences in the familiar four dimensions and partly by occurrences in the extra dimensions, Carroll explained.

"There is the tantalizing possibility that a complete change of perspective makes all of the problems collapse at once," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF/ SIGHTINGS ROUNDUP

SUBJECT: LIVERPOOL 16TH JAN 2003 UFO VIDEO. From: Eric Morris (bufosc@hotmail.com) A packed crowd of nearly fifty people sat and watched the most compelling piece of UFO video footage ever to be

shot in the UK. Many sceptics slapped BUFOSC's Eric Morris on the back and stated: 'You have the real smoking gun evidence of UFOs invading our skies.'

Several left very shocked after only coming to be sceptical and to see just a few lights in the sky, however what they observed was very different.

Shown on video projection for the first time, the footage Morris took on 16th January 2003 there are certainly three circular discs in the sky, one chasing an aircraft into the John Lennon Airport at 11:50am (One of Lennon's songs called 'Nobody Told Me' had the lyrics "there's UFOs over New York and I ain't too surprised".) Well there were UFOs over Liverpool on January 16th and BUFOSC have them exclusively on VHS tape.

BUFOSC have always been on the lookout for video shots and photos, well aware that certain entities are trying to catch them out (see the Knutsford Incident March 1999). Well there is no denying this footage it was taken by Morris carrying out field investigations into cases from that area on January 3rd and 7th (and other dates).

It is believed this really is the evidence UFO groups have been after for so long. Enquiries have gone to the Ministry of Defence and other external agencies and we are holding our first Conference on May 10th 2003 at the Waterloo Community Centre in Runcorn to mark this special occasion.

All enquiries referring to this footage should be made through this address but in 2003 BUFOSC have just hit the Lottery Jackpot in UFO footage, a long time coming but well worth waiting for, every single day since 1978.

"What we have on tape here is priceless" said Morris and we are not releasing the tape until scrupulous investigations into it have been made.

However at this moment in time BUFOSC hold the most important piece of UFO video footage you will ever see.

(Source: Eric Morris, Press Statement 11.02.03)

MARS ONCE WAS WET AND WARM - DENVER -- Dr. James F. Kasting, a member of Penn State's NASA-sponsored Astrobiology Research Center says, Mars had to be continuously warmer to form Mars's deep valleys. Recent research suggests that early Mars was cold most of the time and warmed up only when asteroids impacted the planet. "I do not think this is right," said Dr. Kasting, who spoke at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting on February 14. "I do not think there was enough time involved to form the types of features that we see on the Martian landscape." The half-mile to over-a-mile wide channel at the bottom of Nanedi Vallis is about 100 feet across," says Kasting. "It took millions of years of constant running water to carve the Grand Canyon. It would take a similar time on Mars." The Martian surface could have received 20-30 degrees Fahrenheit additional warming from the greenhouse effect of carbon dioxide ice clouds. Researchers now think that Mars has a supply of water, which is required for all terrestrial life. Evidence of methanobacteria could be found in subsurface fossils or, the bacteria could still be there today. "What we need to do is go and take

samples," said Kasting. NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Mission, scheduled to launch later this year, will have two fully capable robotic vehicles that will sample soils looking for signs of life.

Los Alamos laboratory scientist Bill Feldman released the first global map of hydrogen distribution identified by instruments aboard NASA's Mars Odyssey spacecraft and offered estimates of the water stored near the Martian surface. For nearly a year, Los Alamos' neutron spectrometer has been mapping the hydrogen content of the planet's surface by measuring changes in neutrons given off by soil. "It's becoming increasingly clear that Mars has enough water to support future human exploration," Feldman said. "In fact, there's enough to cover the entire planet to a depth of at least five inches, and we've only analyzed the top few feet of soil." The vast water ice-caps at the poles may be the source. The thickness of the icecaps themselves may be enough to bottle up geothermal heat from below, increasing the temperature at the bottom and melting the bottom layer of the ice-caps, which then could feed a global water table. California Institute of Technology planetary scientists studying new satellite imagery, now think that the Martian polar ice-caps are made almost entirely of water ice with just a smattering of frozen carbon dioxide, or "dry ice," at the surface. A colour map is available online at: <http://www.lanl.gov/orgs/pa/News/MarsOdyssey.html> - Thanks to Space Daily (Source: Filer's Files).

THREE NEW MOONS FOUND ORBITING NEPTUNE -

"A team of Canadian and American astronomers has found three moons around the planet Neptune, bringing the number of known moons orbiting the distant planet to 11."

"The tiny moons, ranging from 18 to 24 miles (30 to 40 kilometres) across, are 100 million times fainter than objects that can be seen with the naked eye and were too faint to be seen by Voyager 2 when it flew by in 1989."

"The moons were detected using multiple-exposure images taken by telescopes in Chile and Hawaii. They appear to be part of a 'family' of moons caused by the collision of a comet or asteroid with a bigger moon, said one of the discoverers, J.J. Kavelaars of the National Research Council of Canada."

"The new moons join an oddball constellation of (natural) satellites around Neptune. The planet's largest moon, Triton, is strange because it is the only large satellite in the solar system to circle a planet in a direction opposite to the rotation of the planet. At 435 degrees (Fahrenheit) below zero, the moon (Triton) is even colder than Pluto. It is about one-third the size of our Moon and has giant geysers that send plumes of dust and gas into the air for miles."

Neptune's "second-largest moon, Nereid, has the most eccentric orbit of any object in the solar system. Astronomers are now studying the newly-discovered moons to determine their orbits." (See the Duluth, Minn. News-

Tribune for January 19, 2003, "Astronomers find three new Neptune moons," page 15A.)

SOURCE: www.ufoinfo.com, Editor Joseph Trainor

JUPITER NEARBY - The brightest star rising in eastern sky after sunset is Jupiter, the biggest planet in our solar system. On February 2, the Earth and Jupiter were closer together than at any other time this year. Even a small telescope will reveal the giant planet's cloudy belts and its four largest moons. Jupiter is the brightest "star" in the evening sky.

'FLYING SAUCERS' IN LEICESTER, Jan 16 2003. STARTLING images claimed to be proof of alien UFOs will be shown to members of the public at the National Space Centre later this month.

Hundreds of the objects have been captured on film by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (Soho) - a spacecraft located one million miles from Earth observing the sun.

The glowing, saucer-shaped "craft" were apparently moving in a way that suggested intelligent control.

Nasa has dismissed the images as being the result of a camera fault, and will not now comment on them. But UFO investigators are convinced they are alien spacecraft.

Mike Murray, 54, a founder of the UFO group Euroseti, which is holding the exhibition at the National Space Centre in Leicester, said, "Some of the pictures are real crackers. They are the archetypal flying saucers - disc-shaped objects with some kind of glow around them. Many have a pulsing light and leave a trail behind them."

"There's one which is really fabulous. It is a glowing disc with a pink disc-shaped object within the glow, and a turret on the top."

The images will be screened at the National Space Centre on the evenings of January 24, 25 and 26.

(Source: The Western Mail - The National Newspaper Of Wales).

UFO WAVE PREDICTED IN MARCH 2003 Donald A. Johnson, Ph.D., and UFOCAT archivist for the Center for UFO Studies writes, "Based upon a careful analysis of trends in historical UFO reports in the UFOCAT database, I am making the following prediction. There will be a worldwide UFO wave in the month of March 2003 that will reach its maximum between March 15 and March 25, 2003. I am reasonably confident that this wave will involve Northern Europe. Another likely region is the Pacific Ocean, including Japan and the Hawaiian Islands, and possibly the Alaskan Aleutian Islands. I wanted to go on the record now, a full seven weeks before the anticipated peak in UFO activity, before any upswing in reporting starts. I would like people to keep their eyes and ears open. I am reasonably certain about the timing, if extrapolations from previous peaks can be trusted. The worldwide wave, will probably not be centred in North America. A paper outlining my reasons for this prediction will

follow. Thanks to Donald A. Johnson, Ph.D., UFOCAT archivist Center for UFO Studies, ufocat@cufos.org

ONE FOURTH OF PLANETARY SYSTEMS HAVE EARTHS - New Scientist reports, "One in four of the planetary systems identified to date outside the Solar System are capable of harbouring other Earths, say astrophysicists, a much higher proportion than anyone expected." The researchers decided the race to detect an extrasolar Earth-like planet is taking too long. So, instead of scanning the skies, they modelled all the planetary systems known so far to work out which could be hiding habitable planets. Since 1995, astronomers have unveiled dozens of planets orbiting nearby Sun-like stars. Current methods can only detect gas giants like Jupiter but life, at least in the form that we know it, can only get started on a solid surface where water can pool. A small terrestrial planet made of rock would be a more likely abode, but it could be years before we are able to detect such planets. To narrow the search, Serge Tabachnik and Kristen Menou of Princeton University in New Jersey, have created computer simulations of the 85 systems known in August 2002, the time of their research, to estimate which might harbour habitable planets. Although similar work has been carried out for a few individual solar systems, this study, which will appear in *The Astrophysical Journal*, is the first to address the entire known set.

BUSH BACKS ALIEN EVIDENCE - George W Bush says there is mounting evidence to suggest there is alien life on other planets. The US President used his budget document to declare that there may be "space aliens" to be discovered. A passage entitled, "Where are the Real Space Aliens?", states that important scientific research over the last 10 years indicates that proof of "habitable worlds" in outer space is becoming more of a reality.

Evidence for the current or previous existence of large bodies of water, an essential element for life, has already been found on Mars and on Jupiter's moons. Astronomers are also discovering planets outside of our solar system, including around 90 stars with at least one planet orbiting them.

The document says: "Perhaps the notion that 'there's something out there' is closer to reality than we have imagined."

Story filed: 16:29 Monday 3rd February 2003

Source: http://www.ananova.com/news/story/sm_746860.html

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