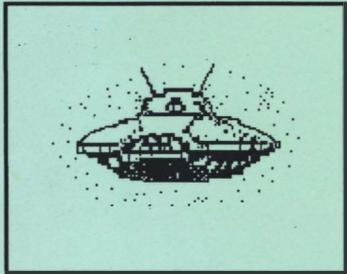
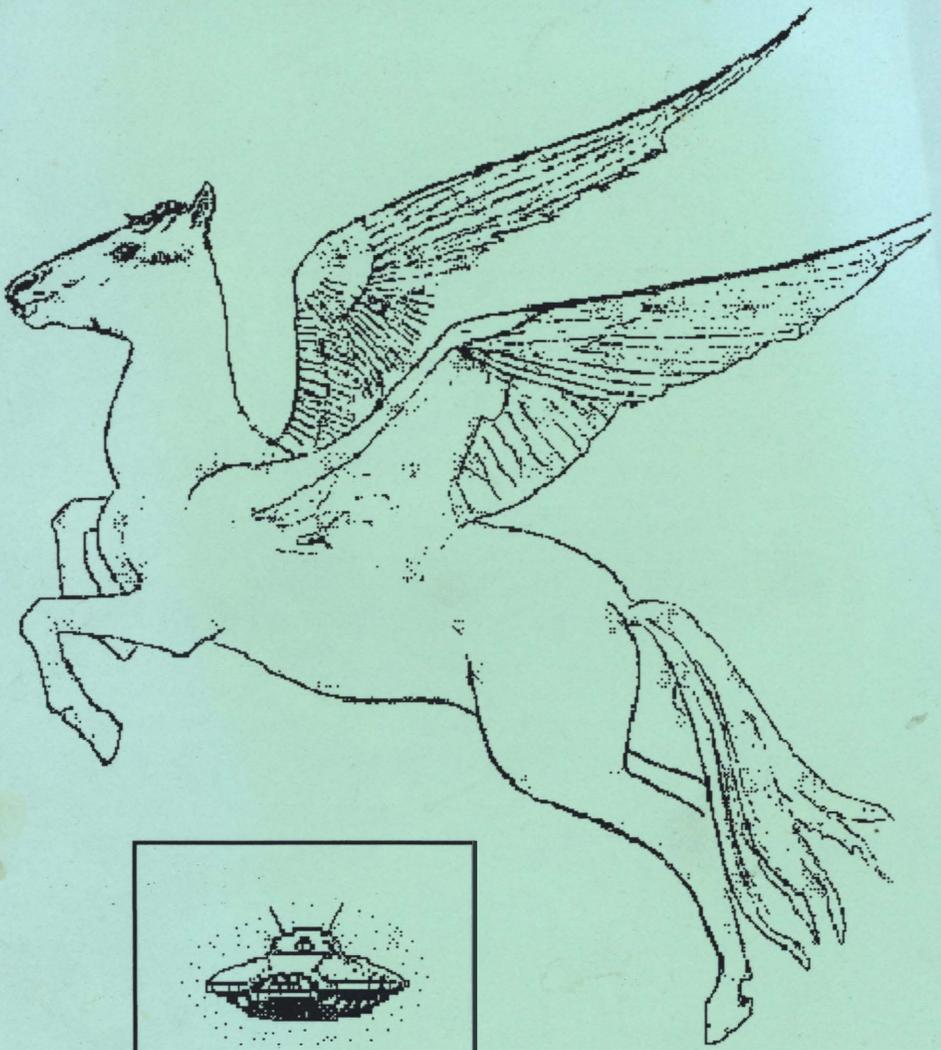


14/3

PEGASUS



Surrey Investigation Group into Aerial Phenomena

PEGASUS

Volume 16, #3

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WHITHER SIGAP?

As members will be well aware, a few weeks ago ufology lost through natural causes the editors of two of its most esteemed journals, each of which had been valiantly struggling with a falling circulation due to the loss of public interest in what one of them always referred to as “our subject”, for people tend to assume that UFO events no longer occur when they hardly ever hear about them in the public media.

Indeed the almost ubiquitous failure to report anything about UFO phenomena which continue to occur all round the world, as the internet daily bears witness, is a remarkable phenomenon in itself. The power to define what is and is not news is an awesome responsibility, consistently abused by practitioners of the fashionable science of presentational spin. One wonders how this widespread consensus that defines UFO events as not newsworthy has come about - surely not through the machinations of a conspiracy of shape-shifting reptilians!

The present situation, though serious for ufology, is not unprecedented. In its thirty odd years of existence SIGAP has carried for the subject a flickering torch which often seemed on the verge of extinction, sustained only by the unwavering support of a small cadre of well-informed and independent-minded students of the Phenomenon. The present interregnum, however, shows no sign of resolving itself, and it is therefore desirable that we should ask ourselves whether there is anything we can do about it. Certainly on no large scale, but enough at least to ensure that SIGAP - although it is in no danger of demise - might, by increasing its membership, help to fill the gap which would arise if the journals mentioned were unable to continue publication.

We suggest, therefore, a simple operation: namely, that each member find a friend or acquaintance who would be interested to read their copy of *PEGASUS*, which in terms of quality can stand comparison with the contents of any journal in its field and which seeks not only to describe, but also to interpret, the matters with which it deals. Gordon Creighton found that by ostentatiously reading his copy of *FSR* on his railway journeys, he increased its readership by the enquiries it provoked - maybe SIGAP can do as much for *PEGASUS*?

G.M.

GENDER SPECIFIC PERCEPTION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF UFO SIGHTINGS

by GORDON MILLINGTON

Early UFO investigators loaded their reports with astronomical and meteorological data on the assumption that if you are uncertain what is significant then you record everything you can, in the hope that some of it will turn out to be useful. Nowadays, however, instead of concentrating on random but allegedly objective data in the belief that such facts are somehow more scientific, investigators are beginning to study also the effect of the encounter on the witnesses themselves.

It is of course essential in case studies that we always compare like with like, and fortunately I have been able to investigate three cases which are absolutely parallel in a number of important respects. All three were reported by couples of opposite sex, with a separate account from each partner. Each is a unique event, by which I mean that neither before nor since had any participant claimed another UFO encounter, and finally two of the three cases involve the projection of the “cone of silence”, when it is thought that witnesses somehow enter for a time the UFO reality, causing a temporary exclusion from consciousness of normal mundane events.

The third case may have been an IFO, but if so the psychological reactions are puzzling, to say the least.

The particularly interesting common features of these three encounters lie in the essentially similar attitudes to the sighting experience adopted by witnesses of the same sex, and the marked difference in the reactions of all three men from those of their respective female companions. These could be briefly characterised by saying that the typically male attitude to a UFO encounter is one of excitement, modified by a detached yet fascinated curiosity about the objective details of the UFO's behaviour, of which they have a good recall, and a total disregard, or possibly unawareness, of any personal danger. The typical female reaction, however, seems to be both subjective and emotional, coupled with a direct apprehension of a personal threat.

Though these differential reactions may to some extent contain elements of socially constructed role perceptions, they cannot really be attributed mainly to some postulated masculine need for self presentation in a macho mode and a corresponding feminine willingness to confess without shame to feeling afraid. Neither sex has a monopoly of courage, and it seems from the witness accounts much more likely that the women's experience and perception of the UFO encounter is simply different in kind from that of men, and that they become aware of elements in the pervasive UFO reality field by which men either remain unaffected or which they simply do not perceive.

The three encounters I wish to consider in this regard are the Pitch Hill UFO of 5 November 1988, reported by Karen and Philip; the Westcott UFO of 17 April 1982 seen by Christine and Peter, and the Twyford UFO (IFO?) of 16 July 1993 described by Colin and Maria. In each case we shall be considering only details relevant to the gender differential, our immediate concern. Interestingly, all three couples made their initial observations from cars.

In the case of the youngest pair, Karen's car was parked and Philip was in the passenger seat when the UFO was first seen. I asked why he got out of the car and Karen did not.

"Just to see better," he answered. "I was very excited by it, the whole thing was ... we both felt it was a strange atmosphere. When I got out of the car everything was quiet - there wasn't a sound! No animals, no wind, nothing at all, as there would have been normally.... I suppose I was very excited to start with, but when it went and the wind came back, I did feel a little bit insecure." A curious adjective in the context, perhaps, and the least macho of the male reactions, doubtless influenced by Karen's anxiety and her repeated requests to get back in the car so they could move away.

Peter's original account is totally factual and says nothing of his feelings when he "drove up the kerb with surprise" at the sight of the landed UFO close at hand and turned back, hoping to see it again. Interviewed by me ten years after the event, he spoke still of his extreme excitement, "with the adrenalin pumping", as concern to turn the car occupied his whole attention, ignoring his partner's frantic requests to drive on. He had no doubt that what he had seen was a UFO and said so at the time and ever since.

When Colin, journeying with Maria along the A4 towards Reading, saw from his parked car "an illuminated object of cylindrical shape, resembling a short, fat cigar ... possibly 500 feet above the ground and about 2 miles away", he rapidly concluded that he was seeing "an extra-terrestrial space craft" and described its movements in minute detail. When, at his wife's insistence, they broke off the encounter, he had "very much wanted to stay and actually attempt to get ... as close as possible to the object. I was feeling a sense of self-imposed loss, sorry to be leaving this thing behind," he wrote.

Certainly none of the three men described themselves as being in any way afraid of the possible consequences of their UFO encounters, but the opposite is true of their partners, all of whom expressed varying degrees of fear and apprehension.

Though Karen was able to give a good account of the UFO's movements, because in addition to feeling afraid she was also interested and curious about it, having always wanted to see a UFO, but at the moment of truth she urgently wanted only to get away. I asked her why she did not get out of the car at the same time as her boy friend.

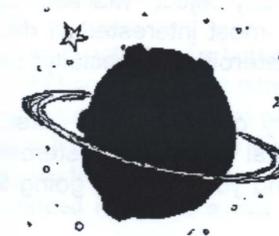
"There was a reason," she replied. "I was frightened because it was so very quiet and I had this odd feeling about the quietness. I didn't know what it was, and I was frightened ... I kept telling Phil to get back in the car, because I wanted to go!"

Christine's account gives an excellent example of the contrasting behaviours of each of the pair at the crucial moment of recognition, the time at which it can no longer be dismissed as a joke. "Peter wound down the window," she reported. "And said: 'Christ! It is a UFO!' Immediately my legs went to jelly - I felt absolutely petrified, my whole body just felt like a jelly. He was going berserk, right up on the kerb ... and I looked behind me and there were two bloomin' great orange jet burners and that made me feel even more scared. It was so eerie, it was horrible, unbelievable. It was an evil looking shape."

Maria's responses were the most complex and severe in their effects upon her. "My immediate reaction," she wrote, "was, 'No, this couldn't be anything so ridiculous as a flying saucer.' ... I convinced myself that it had to be a helicopter... Then something made me decide that it couldn't be a helicopter. .. I really became alarmed. I am a Roman Catholic and in my state of anxiety I reached for my rosary beads in my handbag and focussed my thoughts on God. I had a distinct feeling that the bright object knew that we had seen it ... I was transfixed much of the time in a state of fear at this bright object ... This experience has affected me deeply. During the last few days I have felt very anxious and threatened ... Even writing this report was a frightening experience."

From the foregoing it is undeniably clear that what would superficially appear to be a single shared identical experience, common to two people, is in fact perceived totally differently by each, according to his or her gender. None of these women was anything other than a competent, intelligent adult, totally within the parameters we choose to call normal. Why then should their experience of the phenomenon be so different from that of the men?

Well, of course we don't know, but we can perhaps speculate that they may enter unwittingly into some possibly subconscious form of communication with UFO entities, becoming aware of intentions which, though not necessarily overtly formulated, are none the less felt to be threatening, especially by females. When we look at the abduction literature - the stolen eggs, the manipulated wombs - we can readily see how this could be so, and if apprehension of sexual violation and exploitation is communicated even subliminally, it would certainly provide every justification for the fears described. Men don't feel so defensive about spermatozoa or regard them as potential babies, and they have millions of them to spare. Perhaps the psychological consequences of this basic differentiation of the germ plasm are the unacknowledged cause of the gender-specific reactions we have been considering?



ASTEROID GETS WITHIN 52,000 MILES OF EARTH

By MICHELLE RUSHLO, Associated Press Writer Tue Oct 14, 9:10 AM ET

PHOENIX - An asteroid discovered by Arizona astronomers last month passed within 52,000 miles of Earth — the closest documented approach of an asteroid that didn't collide with the atmosphere. Close encounters with asteroids of its size, about 3 to 6 metres in diameter, are not unusual, astronomers believe, but catching images and documenting orbits of those asteroids are difficult.

"The coup is to actually see one of them ... so we had a bit of luck," said Edward Bowell, director of Lowell Observatory's Near Earth Object Search program.

Images of SQ222, as it's been dubbed, were captured by Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff and documented by Fountain Hills-based non-profit Minor Planet Research.

Minor Planet Research was testing a computer and image system designed to allow students to look for asteroids and other space objects when a researcher spotted three small white lines, images of an object moving about twice the speed of the moon.

The discovery was relayed back to Lowell and the Minor Planet Center, a Cambridge (Massachusetts) based Smithsonian Institution program, which asked other astronomers for help spotting the asteroid.

Using data from other observers and another sighting at Lowell, astronomers have been able to project the orbit of SQ222 and calculate how close it passed to the Earth, said Brian Marsden, director of the Minor Planet Center.

"It has made the closest approach to the Earth of any known asteroid in space," he said.

SQ222 passed 52,000 miles from the Earth, less than a quarter of the distance to the moon, on Sept. 27. Before its discovery a day later, the closest documented pass was about 65,000 miles, Marsden said. That asteroid, spotted in 1994, was slightly bigger.

Based on observations of SQ222 and subsequent calculations, Bowell said it does not appear that the asteroid will pass close to Earth again for at least another decade.

Had it struck the Earth's atmosphere, it likely would have simply burned up. "It is a very tiny object," Marsden said.

Astronomers are most interested in discovering and documenting the orbits of large asteroids, especially ones with any potential to damage Earth.

But the discovery of even small asteroids can help researchers better calculate the total number of asteroids. "You never know what you're going to find, and you're never going to find anything unless you look," Bowell said.

Paul Johnson, executive director of Minor Planet Research, said the discovery of SQ222 helps illustrate the importance of the human element in searching for asteroids and other space objects.

To save money and time, most asteroid research is done using computers with set parameters designed to identify objects, but Minor Planet Research's asteroid discovery system adds the human eye to the equation, Johnson said.

The non-profit hopes to have the system installed at the Challenger Space Center, an education centre in Peoria (Illinois), near the beginning of the year so that students will have a chance to make their own discoveries.

MORE POSSIBLE ET ABDUCTIONS IN CANADA - NOSE BLEEDS, SCOOP MARKS AND VIVID DREAMS

From Brian Vike Director - HBCC UFO Research 9-30-3

Location: A "Days" Drive From Kelowna, British Columbia
The actual location I have not given in this report.

Date: September 3, 2003 Time: approx: 2:30 a.m.

Hi Brian

I wanted to thank you once again for the conversation last week. It is good to have someone listen to what you have to tell them and actually EMPATHISE. Thank you and BRAVO!! Anyway I promised you a small report that would include the dream I had, so here goes.

Wednesday night last week (3rd September, 2003) in the wee small hours, I think around 2.30 am, my 12 year old son woke my husband and myself telling us he had a nosebleed. He gets a night time nosebleed once a year or so, so we didn't think too much about it. The bleed was not a heavy bleed, but rather a persistent tickle. He then came into our bed with us and I went to sleep very rapidly (which is unusual for me) and went immediately into an extremely vivid, lucid dream.

In the dream my son and I were outside of a house and we ran to other side to see a UFO in the sky. The UFO was not lit, but rather a dark shadow in the night sky, huge (think 100-storey building) and in two parts that were connected. We 'knew' this was something to be afraid of (note that I have never had a fear of UFOs) and hid in the deep shadows of the house as the UFO came down with very little noise and transformed itself into a vast robot which started walking

across the countryside. Again we 'knew' this had something to do with power, as in electrical power, and that we would be forced to use some power we didn't want to use. In fact we 'knew' that if we used the power they were bringing it would be a trick ultimately used to imprison us. We ran inside the house and there the phone was ringing and we 'knew' it was the power company calling us to force us to use this new power.

For this reason we didn't answer the phone. There was a glassed-in room in the house which had a number of people seated in it. These people were important to me, although they are not people I know in my life, and I ran into the room to warn them of what we had seen. One of the people was a brown haired girl of about 20 whom I recognized as my daughter (I have a daughter in real life, but this was not her). She also recognized me as her mother. She was crying, although I am not sure why. What was remarkable about her was that she was half human and half 'robotic'. At one point I could see some of the skin on her back and you could see that the skin was living tissue stretched over a metallic frame. The skin was red and sore like burn scar-tissue.

She was also pregnant and made a comment to me about how she had been to 'animal control' (this is not the exact phrase she used, but I clearly recall it was like she had been to a vet rather than a human doctor) where she had been impregnated. The father of her child was also there, another predominantly robotic person who looked like a human face had been grafted on. He was a sympathetic figure and he understood what I was telling him. There were others in the room who were similar but I did not have a chance to speak to them. The dream goes blank for a bit and then we are in the same place but now I can see that there is a neighbourhood outside. There is a huge wind blowing up and I 'know' this is about Earth changes. but I 'know' even more than that. I 'know' that after the Earth changes the alien beings will come for us and it will be terrible. The power company had set up a steel building that looked like the only thing that could withstand the wind. Everyone crowded inside and I 'knew' that this was a trap.

A cage we couldn't get out of afterwards. I pointed out to the father of my daughter's baby that the heavy stainless steel doors only opened from the outside, and that if we let them go we would all be imprisoned. Between us we managed to keep the door from closing. The Earth changes were nowhere near as severe as everyone had expected and parts of the street were still standing. People were handling this very well because the collapse of society meant they were freed from economic slavery and they were beginning to share and create a barter community soon into the aftermath. But as I watched them I was filled with foreboding that the aliens would soon be here and that there would be carnage and slavery. This was a very bleak dream. I awoke because my own nose was bleeding. It was just before 6am and I had been dreaming this dream since I fell asleep. I have never, in all of my life, awoken to a nose bleed. I got

straight out of bed and discovered that I was sore all over, like I had been in a big fight for hours.

Stiff arms and legs and total physical exhaustion. My nose for the next 24 hours, on the side that was bleeding, was swollen and hot internally, consistent with some kind of trauma. For over three days I suffered with the same kind of pain as you would have from a root canal, except this pain was in my nose, going up into my brow bone. Even today, almost a week later, my nose and face are too sensitive to touch. The swelling went down after a day or so. On Saturday morning, (the morning of the 9th September, 2003), my 13 year old daughter awoke just before sun-up also with a nosebleed. She also has never woken up with a nosebleed in her life. You will recall I spoke to you on Friday so this had not yet happened. My son complained of similar pain in his brow, but I did not want to make a very big deal out of the event as he is very sensitive. My daughter was quite concerned about the nosebleeds as she found the pattern bizarre and very noticeable. I have ruled out any kind of influenza as we have all been quite healthy (touch wood). The air in our home is not dry as we had a brand new humidifier installed a couple of months back and the air is not yet cold enough here in (deleted by HBCC UFO) to become that dry.

Cheers and thanks again.

Update:

I just wanted to follow up on the report I sent you a few weeks back in which I recounted for you how both myself and my son woke up on the same night with nosebleeds, followed by my daughter the following night. I was just listening to an interesting UFO story on Jeff Rense when somebody mentioned scoop marks, which I assumed was a phenomenon I had no link to, when I SUDDENLY remembered that I have, for years had an odd indentation in the back of my left knee. Because of its position I have never really looked at it (it would take quite a contortion act), but it has bothered me on and off for years with mild soreness and occasional bouts of severe itchiness. So I did what I could to see the mark itself, and sure enough it is a perfectly circular scoop-shaped gouge almost a quarter of an inch across and about the same depth right in behind my knee. It is such a perfect circle that it certainly seems to be the result of some kind of tool or instrument, yet I have never had any surgery around my knees, nor have I had ANY doctor even examine them. This is very odd. I cannot recount when this originally occurred, but it is years and years.

I did just want to mention ANOTHER strange thing to you. It seems like I am just suddenly remembering things! This evening my husband called me into the bedroom to look at a couple of very large deep scratches he has. One on his right leg, the other on his left arm. He was trying to work out how on earth he got them. He says he noticed them quite some days ago but keeps forgetting to tell

me. Now these are deep scratches, but well on the way to healing, probably at least a week old. The one on the leg is about six inches long and the one on his forearm about four inches long. Because they are so deep it is remarkable that he has no memory of them occurring. They must have really hurt when they happened. He said he woke up one morning and they were just there and then he forgot about them.

While I was looking at these scratches I suddenly remembered that I had had some strange marks on my pyjama shirt from the night of my nosebleed. Now I don't know if I mentioned them to you on the phone or in my email. You know it is so strange, I just FORGOT. And yet they are really strange marks, and at the time, before I had a chance to forget, I had put the shirt in a safe place where it wouldn't accidentally get washed. So I checked it out and they are still there. The marks are about 3 and 4 inches long, one or two on the sleeves and one or two on the body of the shirt, one right up at the front of my shoulder, and they look like a straight edge or a needle with a watery bloody substance on it has rested there briefly. I tried to work out how such a mark might occur as it is perfectly straight and clean on one side and the reddish brown kind of seeping of on the other side in a watery manner. Now I realize this may not be anything.

Could be jelly stains for all I know. All I can tell you is that I have never seen these stains before the morning of the nosebleed incident (they are definitely not nosebleed marks). This is my favourite pair of white satin pyjamas so I am pretty sure I would have noticed them if they had been there before. Now I will try in the near future to get you a picture of both the scoop mark behind my knee and the strange marks on my pyjamas, but my digital camera cord has gone missing and because it is a SONY, I have to buy one from Sony, so it might take a bit of time to get one. I wanted to add that when I was looking at the scratch marks on my husband I also noticed a scar on the outside of his right ankle that I had never noticed before in our 15 years together. It is a completely healed almost perfectly round scar the size of a nickel. He has no idea where he got that either, although he is one who can usually give you a half hour running commentary on every scar on his body! Very odd.

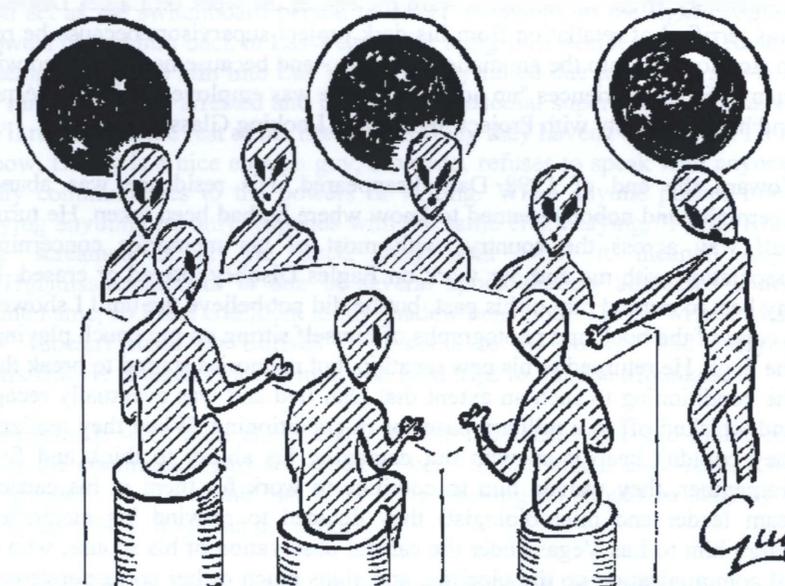
Something else odd. Almost four and half years ago my husband was diagnosed as a diabetic, bad enough for a number of daily medications and threatened regularly by the doctor with the need for insulin, which he has resisted. Last week he went for a blood test on Tuesday and on Thursday morning in the doctor's office the doctor says to him that looking at his new blood test he isn't diabetic anymore! The doctor was quite amazed and dramatically reduced his medications pending another test in a month or so. I don't know if this has anything to do with what we have experienced, but it is certainly strange and unexpected. And without explanation.

I am keeping in contact with this lady to see what if anything unusual comes up. I did speak with her on the telephone at length. She is a bright and very intelligent woman who seems to have a mystery on her hands.

I would like to thank her very much for allowing me to post her letters to me. She and I hope this will help in a small way to have others come forward to talk about their possible experiences.

I also should mention, I have been contacted by another woman who resides some miles away from the lady in this report. The interesting thing is that this new case has similar features in her story, the exception is that with her the event has been taking place for approx: 40 years.

Brian Vike, Director
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 Website: http://www3.telus.net/public/wilbur8/hbcc_ufo_research.htm



“So, it's agreed – we draw lots to see who creates hybrids with J-Lo...”

MYSTERY OF DR. DAN BURISCH

- BEGINNING TO END

From Bill Hamilton
skywatcher22@hotmail.com

I was just going through a massive amount of collected data on my friend Dr. Dan Burisch and found this introduction by B.J. Wolf. I will follow this with how it all ended.

Introduction

I came to know Dr. Dan Burisch (formerly Dan Crain, Ph.D.) many years ago in Las Vegas NV. He and his family became friends with my family and eventually I came to know his story well. He asked me, in 1997 to write a book about one of his research projects. That became Eagles Disobey: The Case for Inca City, Mars and was released to the public in 1998. During that work I came to know a great deal about Dan's involvement in dark projects that are covertly funded by our military and government bodies - including his work up at Area-51, or as it is known by those who work up there: Watertown Strip. Dan became afraid, desperately afraid for his life toward the end of the work on Eagles Disobey. He was terrified of retaliation from his dark project supervisors because he refused to stop looking into the anomalies on Mars - and because he had shared with me many of his experiences "up north" while he was employed in Project Aquarius, and had familiarity with Project Sigma, and Looking Glass.

Toward the end of 1998 Dan disappeared. His residence was abandoned overnight, and nobody seemed to know where he had been taken. He turned up half way across the country, with most of his memories concerning his association with me and our work on Eagles Disobey altered or erased. I tried my best to remind him of his past, but he did not believe me until I showed him a copy of the book and photographs of himself sitting on my couch playing with the dogs. He returned to his new location, but memories started to break through the conditioning to such an extent that Dan fled and was eventually recaptured and whisked off to a military base for re-conditioning. When they realized that they couldn't keep it up with out damaging his ability to think and function (remember, they wanted him to continue to work for them in his capacity as team leader and microbiologist) they decided to re-wind his memories and return him to Las Vegas under the careful observation of his spouse, who relays all communication up the pipeline, and signs much of her correspondence with her title/designation PsiOpSec.

I was permitted very limited contact with him during that time, mostly because he made life unbearable until they honoured his demand to talk to me. But he

was eventually moved again and housed at the Papoose Lab facility where he could conduct critical biological studies on a captive entity they had housed in their lab, on Level-5. Contact was intermittent, but then, in early 2001 I got a strange email that caught my attention. It was from mj01@missilemail.com. Since I knew that Dan was involved with Majestic and MJ12, I was immediately on alert. It turned out to be from a person inside the project Dan was working on, who was so upset with the situation that he felt compelled to seek my help. He was aware of my identity and long-standing friendship with Dan because it was contained in the briefings he got prior to accepting his assignment, and figured I might be willing to assist. My contact is now dead. He was discovered communicating with me, and was involuntarily "retired". His letters read as follows, and give a troubling glimpse into the prison-like world that was created to maintain control of Dr. Dan Burisch and force him to comply with the wishes of the 'powers that be' as he eventually came to call them.

Copy of email:

I have control of "her" ISP account. Free internet, via one of the biggest bitches you ever met! Oops! I hope you're not a big friend!? I am not supposed to be doing this, but I also have control over all of the referred material coming from him, going through her to the powers that are. I am one of the biologist-computer-geeks that has been put in place to watch over his research progress and act as the switchboard person to direct his efforts to the right people. The powers placed him back in Las Vegas after a big-time accident at the Ranch. An attempt to replace him into Las Vegas society failed due to alleged surveillance of him, so he was arrested and placed into custodial supervision. That is where he'll remain for the rest of his life I guess. Why they haven't erased him I'll never know. Danny is a nice enough guy, a weirdo, refuses to speak with anyone and only communicates to the powers in writing. When anyone pushes him into saying anything he only responds with the same crazy saying, "Nicky Knows!" He screamed it at me once. Any idea what it means? Anyhow, MJ1@missilemail.com is one of several spook-shadow addresses under the same name, so I feel confident in my shadow behaviour. Danny writes, Mrs. "B- ---" (doesn't stand for Burisch :) passes it to the powers, and everyone is satisfied. He is taken twice monthly on field trips to Sunrise Mountain.

He conducts work there and is taken back to his house. As I said I have control over the communications so - want a "cc."? From what I have read, it'll be a wild ride! ... I also think that what he is working on should be seen by other folks somehow, it's about the origins.

B.J. Wolf spent years trying to penetrate the wall of secrecy and partially succeeded and tried to publish her findings to the world, but the "Powers that be" caught up with her and now she is with "them".

Her last message to me...

Sep 14, 2003

Bill,

Things are not good. I didn't realize that whoever grabbed up all Dodie's things got a copy of the tape from June! Why the hell didn't Ron think! And now, my email is dead in the water? I wondered why I wasn't getting any new mail. Every time I checked, it just said no new messages. I tried to get some help but the stupid tech-support kid on the phone didn't know what was wrong - he just said make another email account. But that doesn't explain why BJWolf007 is fried! Or how it happened! Or what it means??? Was it a deliberate attack? Does it have anything to do with all those people I have seen watching me? I can't go to the store, or walk the dog without feeling eyes on the back of my neck. And they're so damned smug about it. When I turn and catch them looking at me, they don't drop their eyes, or look away. No! They just look right back at me, not quite smiling.

And they know there's not a damned thing they are doing that I could call for help or complain about. There's no law against looking at somebody. And it's rarely the same person more than twice. Damn it -Bill they're everywhere I go! They're always there! It's just too much. I feel like a net is closing around me - a net of people watching everything I do - every move I make. I am scared. If I could move tomorrow I would, and just fall out of sight for a while.

And now - the last straw! Eaglesdisobey.com is gone. It's completely gone. What the hell is going on?

WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING?

Then I started receiving messages in the mail from our inside contacts. The messages were accompanied by printed photos of B.J. This was not good. I wish I could answer her last question, but for now the lines of communication are down and the world is split between shadow and light.

Someone wants to move all this back into the SHADOWS where it came from.

Sincerely,

Bill Hamilton
Executive Director
Skywatch International, Inc.
<http://www.skywatch-research.org>
Fiat Lux et Veritas

Preserving Human Sovereignty and Independence In Responding to Extraterrestrial Intervention

By Michael E. Salla, PhD

Introduction

In a highly symbolic speech aboard the US aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln on May 2, President George Bush declared that large scale military hostilities in Iraq were over. Using the inherent symbolism of his historic predecessor who used military force to bring liberty to America's slave population, Bush was signalling that US military intervention had similarly brought liberty to Iraq's oppressed population. Contrary to widespread predictions of regional upheaval, the US had succeeded in its bold military intervention against the former regime of Saddam Hussein. Aside from the continuing moral and political questions raised by US military intervention in Iraq without broad global consensus, a key question is what relevance such intervention has from the perspective of the presence of extraterrestrial (ET) races on Earth. If there is a universal law of 'reciprocity' governing the use of military force that parallels Isaac Newton's 'third law of motion' where all force has an equal and opposite reaction, could ET intervention be more likely in human affairs now that US has taken such action? Could intervention by ET races on Earth occur for similar reasons given to justify US intervention in Iraq? What would be the implications for human sovereignty and independence were such intervention to take place?

There are many challenges that global humanity must face in responding to the possible intervention of ETs in human affairs if humanity is to maintain its sovereignty and independence. Foremost among these is identifying the difference between ET races which directly intervene in human affairs without explicit authorization or permission from humans on an individual and/or collective basis, and those races which adopt a non-interventionary role when such permission is not forthcoming. While ascribing moral categories solely on the interventionary policy of ET races is a not a sufficient condition for understanding the various agenda of ETs, it does serve as a necessary condition for helping distinguish between ET races who have a long term goal of promoting human sovereignty and independence, and those ETs whose goal is undermining these fundamental principles. As a general rule, ET races that directly intervene in human affairs, without explicit permission to do so from individuals and governments, do not serve humanity's best interests in terms of human sovereignty and independence. Conversely, a second rule is that those races that only intervene in human affairs when explicit permission has been given, behave in a way that is

consistent with humanity's best interest in terms of human sovereignty and independence.

Keeping the above general rules in mind, it is possible to now understand the primary dangers that confront humanity in maintaining its sovereignty and independence in responding to the intervention of technologically advanced ET races. The first 'danger' is the perception fostered by those that believe that humanity's best hope in maintaining sovereignty and independence is through a rapid technological revolution in the military sector. The second 'danger' is the belief that ETs that intervene during a possible global environmental, economic and/or political disaster are the saviours of humanity and play a role that can be explained in Christian religious terminology as the 'Second Coming'. The crux of both of these dangers is that global humanity on an individual and collective basis 'gives its sovereignty and independence' away to those that control military technology used as the prime instrument of individual or collective defence; or to 'benevolent' ETs who intervene in time to save global humanity from some impending global crisis engineered by corrupt or militaristic human/ET groups.

The Danger Posed by a Military Response to ET Intervention

The first danger arises from the strength of the military industrial complex in countries such as the US and the effect on the psychological disposition of Americans to accept the use of military force in resolving political problems. President Dwight Eisenhower, who presided during the formation of many clandestine US government organizations that were set up to respond to increasing incidents of ET intervention in human affairs, became alarmed at the growing power of these organizations and the symbiotic relationship between large US corporations and the military. In his famous departing speech of 1961, he directly mentioned the power of the military industrial complex and the need to be wary of the intertwined relationships between corporations and the military in producing advanced military technology. The underlying idea here is that such organizations foster a militarized response to the ET presence and incidents of ET intervention through producing advanced weaponry based on 'captured' or 'traded' ET technology that can respond to the ET presence in a way that preserves humanity's sovereignty and independence.

Leading policy makers in the various organizations that support a military response to ET intervention wish to avoid a repeat of the calamity that befell the indigenous civilizations of the Americas which were destroyed by the technologically more advanced, though numerically small, Spanish invasion. Those supporting a military response to the ET presence generally and ET intervention in particular, have in mind a

policy similar to the Meiji restoration of Japan where in a short few decades Japan responded to the presence of more technologically advanced European nations by rapidly industrializing its military, technological and political sectors to the extent that it transformed itself from a weak feudal state characterized by competing warlords to a centralized dynastic kingdom under the Meiji Emperors. The Meiji Restoration led to the most remarkable industrialization effort ever witnessed and was so rapid and far reaching in scope that Japan was in a few short decades able to defeat a major European power, Russia, during the 1905 Russo-Japanese war. More stupendous was Japan's military performance during the Second World War, where it came very close to defeating the US and its allied forces in the Pacific. What distinguished the Meiji Restoration as an example of a less developed civilization responding to the presence and intervention of a more 'advanced' civilization was the ability of the Japanese to quickly unify in response to the threat posed by colonial Europe and the US, as opposed to the disunity that characterized the indigenous kingdoms of the Americas that were easily picked off one at a time by the cunning Spanish Conquistadores.

The military industrial complex and the clandestine organizations in the US and Europe responding to the US presence clearly have the Japanese model in mind as evidenced by the whistleblower testimonies of Colonel Corso and others who participated in clandestine reverse engineering programs not disclosed to the general public and elected public officials. Clandestine government organizations are going to great efforts to 'modernize' their weapons systems through trade, treaties and even military confrontation with ET races in the hope that global humanity through its strongest nations will be able to deal with the ET presence through a position of strength. At the global political level, there are efforts to centralize the use of military force through global multilateral institutions such as the UN (Iraq 1991) or NATO (Kosovo 1999); or a multilateral action led the US with the support of a 'coalition of the willing' (Iraq 2003).

At first sight, a global policy based on the Meiji restoration is very understandable and even praiseworthy in the means by which it sets out to preserve humanity's sovereignty and independence by a rapid program of military modernization and global political unity. There are nevertheless dangers in following the Meiji model of transformation in responding to the interventionary activities of more technologically advanced ET races. One is the lesson provided by history itself where Japan was defeated in the Second World War as a result of an overconfidence possessed by its still immature political leaders, who were captivated by the success of militarism in transforming Japan.

Militarists grew in power and asserted Japanese power in a way that broke the tacit diplomatic boundaries essential for preserving regional peace. This is currently being evidenced in the US where recent military successes in Afghanistan and Iraq have elevated the influence of political leaders who espouse a doctrine of military intervention as a means of resolving US foreign policy problems that is not that dissimilar to Japanese militarism early in the twentieth century. There is a likelihood that the clandestine government organizations representing global humanity - still relatively immature in dealing with interplanetary affairs between ET species - may similarly overstep tacit boundaries that exist which prevent an overt and large scale extraterrestrial intervention in human affairs.

The danger of clandestine government organizations taking global humanity down a path of militarism in responding to the ET presence is very real, since non-disclosure of the ET presence to the general public and elected political leaders means that only a select few are privy to knowledge of all aspects of the ET presence and interventions, and only this privileged minority participate in the policy-making process. There is the testimony of former participants in clandestine government activities such as Preston Nichols, Stewart Swerdlow, Al Bielek, Peter Moon, Stephen Schwartz and others, that secret interplanetary wars are already being conducted by Earth-based clandestine organizations using advanced military technology. This suggests that the policy-making process concerning how to respond to the ET intervention and the use of ET technology is dominated by those in the military-intelligence sector of national governments who have a predisposition toward the utility of a military-technological response. The restricted policy-making process that takes place in organizations embedded in military and security organizations in the US such as the National Security Council, different military branches and intelligence units in the US military and CIA primarily excludes seasoned diplomats from the Department of State who would be more cautious in their optimism over the utility of military technology in negotiating with and responding to advanced ET races.

In summary, the continued non-disclosure of the ET presence, and the focus on an increasing militarized response to ET interventions, reflected in part by increased militarism in international affairs, as evidenced most recently by US intervention in Iraq, constitutes a great danger to human sovereignty and independence since it may lead to a kind of interplanetary war where defeat would erase humanity's sovereignty and independence. As Japan might testify in response to its own loss of sovereignty and independence after rapid advances in military technology led to the growth of Japanese militarism and a disastrous

confrontation with the US, a militarized response to a technologically advanced civilization carries many inherent perils.

The Danger Posed by a Faked Second Coming

The second danger is the pervasive belief by hundreds of millions, if not billions, of people around the planet that these are the 'End Times' where there will be a 'Second Coming' involving the return of a spiritually advanced being such as Christ for Christians, Messiah for Jews, Isa for Muslims; Kalki for the Hindus; Maitreya for Buddhists, etc. Such a being would presumably save humanity from an impending global catastrophe engineered by corrupt individuals/institutions, or a disastrous military conflict with hostile ET races, and usher in a golden age of peace and harmony. The belief in a 'Second Coming' is so deeply embedded in the collective psyche of humanity that it could be well described as an archetype of the 'collective unconscious'. It can be predicted that such an archetype would be exploited by ET races wishing to remove humanity's sovereignty and independence in a much more covert way than overt ET intervention. This indeed would parallel the Spanish Conquest of the Americas where conquistadores such as Hernando Cortes exploited the religious belief system of the Native Americans and persuaded them that the Spaniards were the 'returning gods'.

A number of controversial book authors such as Al Bielek, Preston Nichols, Stewart Swerdlow, Peter Moon and others claim to have been part of a clandestine military project dubbed the 'Montauk Project' which used advanced technology such as genetic cloning, holographic projection and time-travel. Such technology was said to have been given to clandestine government organizations by various ET races. If such reports are accurate, then it would be possible and even likely that the pervasive belief in a 'Second Coming' could be exploited by ET groups that freely intervene in human affairs and who typically enter into agreements with clandestine government organizations. Using time-travel technology, such ET races could use DNA samples from the 'historic Jesus' or religious relics such as the Shroud of Turin, to clone a hybrid ET/human being that could be passed off as the returning Christ. Using holographic projection around key areas of the globe, such a figure could appear in the miraculous manner expected by religious adherents. As the result of DNA testing and a host of miracles manufactured either by ET holographic technology or by the ET/human hybrid himself, such a being and his supporters could persuade a sufficient number of believers from the different religious traditions that he was the returning Christ/Messiah/Isa/Kalki/Maitreya.

It could be expected that such a being could bring about peace in perennial conflicts such as Israel/Palestine, Kashmir, and elsewhere, by

the force of his charismatic personality, miraculous deeds, and overt support by ET groups. If such a 'Second Coming' were to happen, this new 'Christ' would gain enormous global authority. The religious authority of such a hybrid being and the associated ET races supporting such a 'returned Christ' would pose a direct threat to the sovereignty and independence of global humanity.

Traditional religious institutions such as the Catholic Church would receive a huge boost in authority and relevance as they would predictably form a close relationship with this returned 'Christ' and the ET races supporting him. There is evidence already that the Catholic Church is undergoing a significant doctrinal change where senior clerics including the Pope himself now support the 'possible benevolence' of ET races and their abilities to faithfully express the message of Christ. The final result would be a new religious dispensation where humanity is indoctrinated with the authority of a new global religion that integrates the 'Second Coming' with overt ET intervention. The release to the general public of advanced ET technology that resolves global environmental problems, and the co-opting of amenable religious authorities would be powerful markers of the 'new dispensation'.

The 'opponents' of this new religious dispensation and the global authority of an ET-manufactured Christ/Messiah would be those that deny the authority of such a being and the global institutions and processes that are created in the wake of his authority and charisma. There would be many from traditional religious belief systems that would deny such a new dispensation as has been historically the pattern when widespread religious reform has occurred. Historically, however, such opposition weakens as religious adherents slowly convert to the new dispensation. The strongest opposition to a staged Second Coming heralding a new religious dispensation would be those in the 'New Age' and 'New Thought' movements who typically champion more autonomous or sovereign individual decision making without appeal to external religious authority. Popular New Age channels/leaders such as Lee Carroll, Geoffrey Hope, Drunvalo Melchizedek, Jasmuheen, Barbara Marciniak and leaders in the New Thought movements found in churches such as Unity, Universal Unitarian, Christian Science, and others, all focus on the sovereignty and independence of each individual as they are able to give full expression to their own inner divinity and authority. Adherents of these New Age and New Thought ideals are very dismissive of universal claims of religious authority, and while a staged Second Coming may hold some initial appeal with its connection to various ET races and the historic Jesus, the religious dimension associated with it would be eventually opposed.

A growing religious/spiritual conflict between the believers in the 'Returned Christ,' and 'unbelievers' in the 'New Age' and 'New Thought' movements and dissenting religious groups would therefore emerge. A wave of political repression could be launched in democratic nations where adherents in the New Dispensation confront and violate the rights of those opposed. Adherents of New Age/New Thought would be either repressed or marginalized ensuring the rapid spread of a new ET inspired global religion which places at the pinnacle of global authority an ET hybrid claiming to be the 'returned Christ' whose DNA would match the historical Jesus.

Conclusion: Preserving Human Sovereignty and Independence

Global humanity has a rapid learning curve ahead of it if it is to navigate the challenges posed by ET intervention to human sovereignty and independence. Thankfully, there are genuinely benevolent ET races assisting humanity in its evolution into a race of sovereign and independent beings capable of stewardship of planet Earth and her rich resources. These ET races, however, follow a policy of non-intervention in human affairs which distinguishes them from less spiritually evolved ET races who have other priorities than the evolution of global humanity. The key for global humanity navigating these present and future dangers is to be alert to belief systems that allow the possibility of interventionist ET's subverting human sovereignty and independence. Put in its simplest terms, the prescription for responding adequately to ET intervention in human affairs is that individuals should not give their power away to others claiming to hold the means to save humanity either through technological means or a new religious belief system proclaiming a new saviour.

Each individual needs to develop, in a fashion suitable to their own temperament and religious sensibility, a set of practices that leads to a reconnection to a part of themselves, their 'higher self', 'soul', 'spirit', etc., which is the ultimate basis of all authority. Given the present focus of much of global humanity in dealing with the challenging material conditions that confront individuals in terms of shrinking labor markets, erosion of state welfare, and threats posed by global terrorism, this will be a great challenge to many who have little experience in reconnecting with a part of themselves that operates outside of the realm of thought and action. Thankfully, many pioneering teachers have presented practices that focus on sacred geometric structures and sounds existing in the 'bio-energy fields' of each individual which provide the means for them making the connection to their 'higher self'. The preservation of human sovereignty and independence lies in recognizing the ultimate

authority and best protection against technologically advanced ET races is a strong and healthy connection to one's 'higher self'.

Placing faith in military technology as a response to ET intervention, and/or a new religious authority/dispensation will play into the hands of ET races which desire to undermine human sovereignty and independence. ET intervention in human affairs has been occurring for at least the last 50 years according to numerous testimonies from former government/military officials in various clandestine organizations. There is evidence from archaeological, historical and religious sources that cycles from overt to covert ET intervention have occurred for many thousands of years. What distinguishes our modern era is that ET intervention has largely been covert as a result of clandestine government suppression of the ET presence. However, it is very likely that this will soon change in a dramatic fashion either in the form of an overt conflict with ET's by militarized clandestine government organizations who unwittingly overstep tacit boundaries that limit overt ET intervention, and/or an engineered 'Second Coming'. These likely events require some forethought into how individuals and global humanity can best respond to such events/announcements while preserving human sovereignty and independence. While the idea of military defence and/or a strong leader/saviour appeals to many, a strong and healthy connection to one's 'higher self' is the narrow passage through which individuals and global humanity can navigate the Scylla and Charybdis of impending ET intervention in human affairs.

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LEONID METEORS RETURN!

Three separate showers due in November

Skywatchers around the world will anxiously look up during much of mid-November to see what this year's version of the Leonid meteor shower will bring. In recent years the Leonids have produced some truly spectacular displays whose accompanying hype is still fresh in the minds of many.

Expert predictions suggest that at peak times this year, a meteor could streak across the sky every minute or two.

That means no meteor storms -- defined as more than 1,000 shooting stars per hour -- as in past years. A better bet, the forecasters say, is a Leonid performance equalling or possibly rivalling two other annually recurring meteor showers, the August Perseids and December Geminids.

In the early morning hours on days between the showers, a handful of extra meteors will grace the sky every hour.

Each shower will be visible from different locations. Only the side of the Earth facing the oncoming meteors -- as Earth scoops up space debris at the peak of a particular opportunity -- will get the best view. During a given burst, observers at other longitudes will see a very ordinary Leonid shower -- likely less than 10 shooting stars per hour -- by the time the rotating Earth turns them the right way.

Meteor showers are typically best viewed between midnight and dawn, when the side of the planet you stand on is heading into the debris stream. It's the same effect that puts more bugs on your car's front bumper than on the rear.

Meteoric minefields

The Leonids are so named because the shower's radiant point, from where the meteors seem to fan out, is located within the constellation of Leo, the Lion.

The vaporizing bits streak all across the sky, though.

Leonids are caused by the comet Tempel-Tuttle, which sweeps through the inner solar system every 33 years. Each time the comet passes closest to the Sun it leaves a river of rubble in its wake, a dense trail of dusty debris. Most of the debris is smaller than sand grains, with some reaching the size of a pea or marble.

The debris disintegrates in fiery flashes as it enters Earth's atmosphere.

A meteor storm becomes possible if the Earth scores a direct hit on a fresh dust trail ejected by the comet over the past couple of centuries.

"A minefield is a good analogy," says Bill Cooke of the Space Environments Team at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. "Sometimes we get lucky and hit a dust trail, but more often than not we don't."

The dust trails spread out over time, however, as each particle continues to orbit the Sun on a trajectory similar to the path of the parent comet. So minor showers can result when Earth gets relatively near a trail's centre.

Cooke recently issued his 2003 Leonid outlook, using data from several independent researchers. His assessment: "This year we're going to brush past two dust trails. No direct hit is expected, but we still might see some nice displays."

The Leonids show will play out in three acts.

Act 1: Early opportunity

The first encounter -- unusually early for the annual Leonids -- is forecast to occur on Nov. 13 at 12:17 p.m. EST (17:17 GMT). Earth will pass within about 243,000 miles (393,000 kilometres) of a dust trail shed by Tempel-Tuttle in the year 1499.

Skywatchers across western Asia, Indonesia and Australia are favoured. Because of their proximity to the International Date Line, the shower will peak before sunrise on the morning of Nov. 14.

Under a dark, clear sky, a single observer in that part of the world might see 100 or more Leonids per hour, but unfortunately a gibbous Moon will also be shining brightly in the predawn sky and will interfere significantly, likely outshining many faint Leonid streaks.

Hourly rates are calculated based on 15-minute intervals. Peak activity does not necessarily last a full hour.

Act 2: Busy but faint

The second encounter is expected almost a full week later at 2:28 a.m. EST (7:28 GMT) on Nov. 19, when Earth will sweep to within about 33,000 miles (53,000 kilometres) of a trail of comet dust ejected in 1533.

Skywatchers across much of North America as well as northern and western portions of South America will be in the best position to see this display.

Meteor scientist Esko Lyytinen of Finland predicts a rate of 30 Leonids per hour during this second peak, while a forecast issued by Jeremie Vaubaillon of the Institut de Mecanique Celeste et de Calcul des Ephemerides in France suggests perhaps 100 or more per hour.

There is good news and bad news during Act 2.

The good news: The Moon will not be much of a hindrance, being in a thin crescent phase, just below Leo, near Jupiter. The bad news: Both Lyytinen and Vaubaillon believe that the majority of particles with this dust trail might be very small and hence the associated meteors may be only barely visible or perhaps not detectable at all with the unaided eye.

Meteor watching is best done, however, without any optical aids because the streaks come and go to quickly to be captured in binoculars or telescopes.

Act 3: The fireball shower

Perhaps the best bet for many observers will be when Earth passes through what's called "the Filament" by Peter Jenniskens at NASA's Ames Research Center and Hans Betlem of the Dutch Meteor Society.

The Filament is a meteor stream consisting of the sum of many dust trails over many centuries, all having spread together so that individual trails are no longer recognizable.

The Filament could produce rates of about 50 per hour, or nearly one per minute, Jenniskens says, adding that the show will be "nearly like a Perseid shower, but more rich in bright meteors." In fact, Jenniskens is touting the Filament as "The Fireball Shower."

As with all predictions, these rates assume dark skies. City dwellers could see considerably reduced rates.

Act 3 could last about 24 hours -- very lengthy compared to Acts 1 and 2. The final production will be centred around 12:25 a.m. EST (5:25 GMT) on Nov. 19. This timing will highly favour western Africa and western Europe, though the northeastern United States and eastern Canada would also be rotating into a favourable position to see peak activity as well.

"My feeling is that the Filament should provide a pretty decent show," says Cooke. "We too [at NASA] will be watching. It's going to be an interesting year!"

By Joe Rao SPACE.com's Night Sky Columnist, posted: 07:00 am ET, 17 October 2003



NEWS IN BRIEF/ SIGHTINGS ROUNDUP

Avebury's UFO Hoax Exposed On Film 20th October 2003

A television documentary shown on Channel 4 last week documented an attempt to fool people in Avebury with a man-made flying saucer.

TV company Chrysalis commissioned a team of specialist model makers to build a 25 feet diameter space ship to see if people could be fooled into thinking they really had seen a UFO. Members of the special effects team were usually employed on blockbuster movie sets.

Interviews at the end of the one-hour documentary made it look like some people were taken in by the vision of a silver flying saucer skimming over the stone circles.

However villagers and customers at Avebury's only pub, the Red Lion, who were later interviewed by the press, said they realised it was a hoax.

The programme on October 7 showed how the special effects team, led by Robbie Scott, set out to see if British people could be fooled into thinking they had seen a flying saucer.

The programme makers set out to see if sightings of their flying saucer would take Britain by storm like the Roswell incident in New Mexico in 1947, when what appeared to be alien remains were found in a crashed 'spaceship'.

A Very British Hoax showed how the team spent eight months designing and building of the silver space ship.

It was built around a high-tech carbon fibre hoop with an inflatable envelope of silver material specially commissioned from the world famous Bristol hot air balloon makers, Cameron.

Eight tiny German-made fan motors gave the £50,000 device its lift, but initial plans to power them with an on-board generator had to be abandoned because of its weight. Instead the UFO was powered by torch batteries.

Eight skilled model flyers were employed to radio-control the UFO as it buzzed along its three-mile route from the Ridgeway and over Avebury.

Some of the public in the village interviewed on camera gave the obvious reaction that they "had never seen anything like it before". But no one actually said they believed it was a genuine alien visitation.

One Avebury visitor, retired driving instructor Pat Reidy from Watford, said he was not taken in for a moment.

Mr Reidy said he had once seen what he believed to be a genuine UFO in the early Sixties near his home and said the TV flying machine lacked the sinister appearance of that.

Richard Bounds, landlord of the Red Lion, said he immediately realised the UFO was a hoax.

He said: "I thought it was a microlight aircraft or something. It was a very good spoof."

He said he expected a lot of new customers in the wake of the programme.

http://www.thisiswiltshire.co.uk/wiltshire/devizes/news/DEVIZES_NEWS_KENNET0.html



"So, Mr Smith, what makes you think you're paranoid?"

STAR '37 GEM' CALLED MOST LIKELY HOME TO ALIENS

TUCSON - Last week, we discussed that there is an estimated 100 billion planets in our galaxy the Milky Way alone. There are millions of galaxies. This week New Scientist Magazine reports that, "If life does exist elsewhere, it's likely to be near a middle-aged star in the constellation of Gemini, according to astrobiologist Maggie Turnbull, of the University of Arizona. She has compiled a shortlist of 30 possibly habitable planets and stars. She states, "A star called 37 Gem is her top choice, because it is a stable, middle-aged star that is just a bit hotter and brighter than our sun. And if alien life is anywhere, it's likely to be there." Turnbull made the list for NASA'S Terrestrial Planet Finder (TPF), a space telescope project that will search for habitable planets after it is launched in about ten years. The amount of heavy metal present when the star is formed and its age were important criteria for Turnbull, according to the magazine. However, Gem 37, the 37th brightest star in the constellation of Gemini, came out on top because it looks most like our sun. "The

closer we look, the more we realize that most other stars are different from the sun," Turnbull said. Star catalogues indicate there are about 750 stars that may have habitable planets within a 100 light-years of Earth. The recent discoveries that life can exist in harsh conditions such as in the Antarctic suggest that there are planets outside the solar system that may have extraterrestrial life.

Source: Filer's Files, <http://www.georgefiler.com>

AT LEAST 100 BILLION PLANETS IN MILKY WAY

About 5 percent of relatively nearby Sun-like stars are known to harbour planets. But researchers typically find more extrasolar worlds the longer and harder they examine a star. So most astronomers assume the number is higher. A new set of calculations estimates that at least 25 percent of all Sun-like stars in our galaxy have planets around them. "We are not saying that 25 percent of stars have planets -- we are saying that at least 25 percent of Sun-like stars have planets," says Charles Lineweaver of the University of New South Wales in Sydney. "It could be the case that close to 100 percent of stars have planets. This means that there are at least 100 billion stars with planets in our galaxy."

And with roughly 400 billion stars thought to populate the Milky Way, the number of planets could be higher, he said. Lineweaver and colleague Daniel Grether took into account how lengthy monitoring and improved techniques have found planets around the handful of stars that are monitored. They also considered that stars with highly active surfaces can make planet detection more difficult, and the fact that any smaller planets, akin to the rocky worlds in our solar system, are not yet detectable at all. "If the Sun were one of the stars being monitored, we still would not have detected any planets around it," Lineweaver points out. Previous similar estimates have put the figure as high as 15 percent. A paper on the new calculations will be published in December in the *Astrophysical Journal*. In previous work, Lineweaver estimated there might be 30 billion Earth-sized planets in the galaxy.

<http://www.space.com/astronotes/astronotes.html>

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