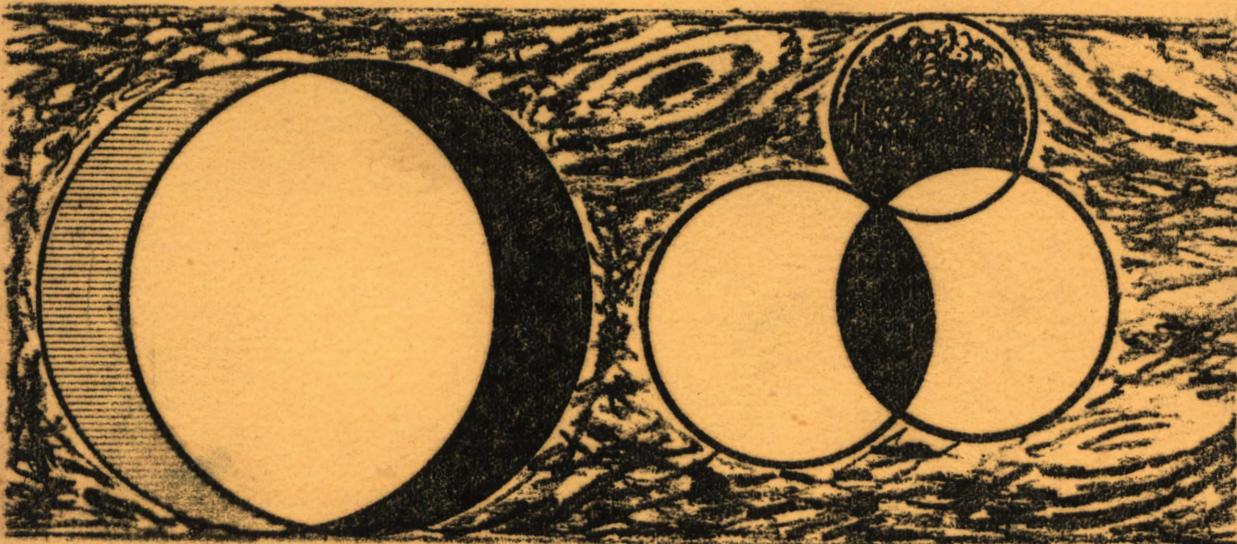
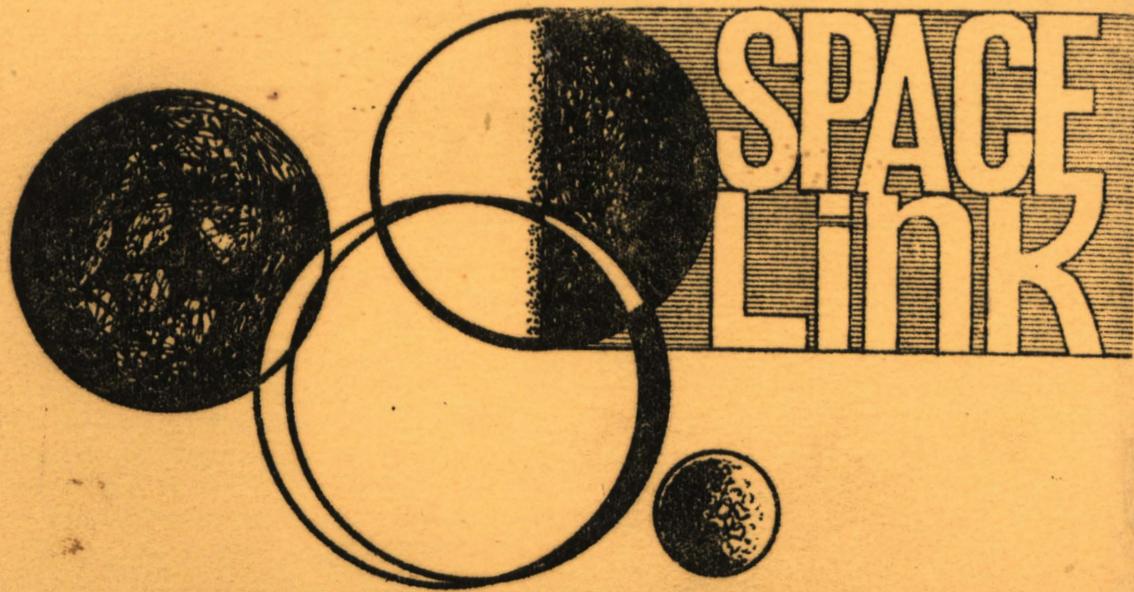


1. W. U. 0.1 S MASTER COPY

NOT TO BE SOLD



JOURNAL OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT INVESTIGATION SOCIETY

43 LINES DEPTH

MAX NO OF CHARACTERS PER LINE

TYPE TO .60 width (3 over permissible for long words etc).

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2

MAR/APR. 1964

SPACELINK

THE JOURNAL OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT
INVESTIGATION SOCIETY

Volume 1, No.2.

Mar/Apr. 1964

Contents

Editorial:	2
"Mystery" hole on Island farm - F.W. Smith	3
Another "hole" investigation by S.A.P.I.G.	5
Air Ministry challenged by Channel Islands Man!	7
UFOs in Prehistory - Part 2 - N. Spanner	9
Unobvious ways in which the concept of UFO phenomena is disseminated - J.D. Llewelyn, S.A.U.F.O.G.	11
An argument against "CONTACT" - M. Lloyd	15
"It is Highly Dangerous for the inexperienced to Dabble in such matters"	18
It is written	19
News	20
Through a mirror darkly - K.J. Ball.	21
Ultra-cold - The key to many technological advances	24
What is UFOLOG? - F.W. Smith.	26
National Skywatch dates	28

IWUFOIS is a non-sectarian, non-political, non-profit making society dedicated to the unbiased investigation of all UFO phenomena. The views expressed in its journal, SPACELINK, are not necessarily those of the society or the Editor.

Information about IWUFOIS and its membership may be obtained from:

F.W. Smith (Hon.Sec), 4, Connaught Rd,
East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

SPACELINK enquiries, subscriptions and articles should also be sent to the above address.

Printing by Wight Secretarial Service, East Cowes, I.O.W.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: 12/- p.a. in U.K. (Post free)
 Single copies at 2/- post free.
 Back numbers are always available
 at the standard price.
 Overseas subscribers must add 50% of the cost of magazine
 postage to their country.

BOOK YOUR COPY NOW!

Notice should be taken of the fact that SPACELINK subs. should
 now go to Mrs P. Smith, 4, Connaught Rd,
 East Cowes, Isle of Wight,
 who is now Circulation Manager.

E D I T O R I A L

It is with extreme reluctance that, after only two issues of SPACELINK, I must relinquish my editorship. As a few of you know, circumstance has led me a few hundred miles North of the Isle of Wight where I had hoped to continue editing this journal. However, lack of proper liaison with the group has made this remote-controlled compilation almost impossible; publication deadlines are difficult to meet when postal delay and absence of direct conversation and discussions are against one.

As for UFOlogy in general, however, there is still a vast amount of important research to be done and I, for one, will not be leaving it. I hope, eventually, to form a UFO group to cover the North Wales sector which seems not to have been covered adequately in the past. Should anyone be interested in swelling the group's present membership of three (!), then I would be delighted to hear from them at the following address: WUFORO, "Glanislwyn", Beach Bank, Criccieth, Caernarvonshire, North Wales.

It is with confidence that I hand this editorship over to someone whose infectious enthusiasm made IWUFOIS, SPACELINK and UFOlog+ possible, i.e.,

Mr. F.W. Smith, 4, Connaught Rd,
 East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

Before I go, I would like to thank all those concerned whose continued support and help contributed greatly to the success of this journal, SPACELINK.

Yours very sincerely,
 M. Whitford-Walders.

+see Page 26

E D I T O R I A L contd

Personally I am very sorry that Michael had to depart to N. Wales and hoped against rather formidable odds I must admit that long distance Editorship would work. However I can only trust that the decision to concentrate "Spacelink" control on the Island will enable me to be fortunate in my efforts to maintain the very high standard set by Michael. I know he will maintain his links with IWUFOIS and I will look forward to seeing him in print in Spacelink in due course. Michael's very rare kind of enthusiasm for UFOs and their significance will be of great help in the formation of WUFORO and we in IWUFOIS wish him every success in all his ventures in the future.

My first Editorial duty is to apologise for the lateness of this second issue due to the previously mentioned liaison difficulties plus pressure of work on our printer and the Easter holidays.

Every endeavour will be made in future to get "Spacelink" out by the middle of the first month of each bi-monthly period i.e., the next issue will be published in mid-May. I shall always be pleased to receive articles, news, on UFO subjects for possible publication.

SPACELINK - 1st issue was featured on BBC TV South at Six news magazine on January 23rd, when our Chairman Mr. Len Cramp gave a very worthy interview and many favourable comments were made.

F.W. Smith, Editor.

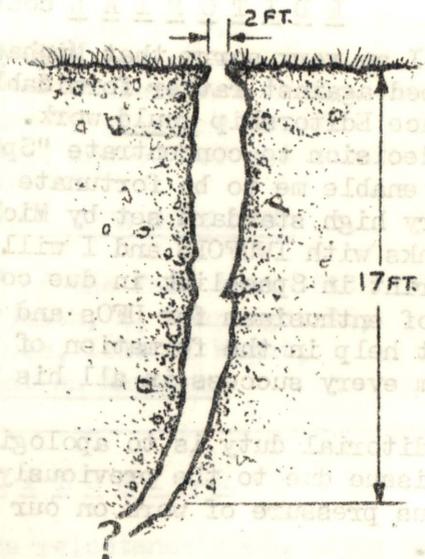
"MYSTERY" HOLE ON ISLAND FARM.

by F.W. Smith, Hon.Sec., IWUFOIS.

IWUFOIS carried out their first group investigation of a mysterious hole, that appeared suddenly on the land of Mr. Ray Peach, Puckwell Farm, Niton, on the night of 16th Jan.

Mr. Peach said that he had to stopploughing his 13 acre field, Ridges, when the hole appeared. The hole was approx. 2 feet across and 12 inches wide. It widened out under the surface to about 3 feet across and went almost straight down for about 12 feet, narrowing slightly, then turning and disappearing round a bend. The sides were slightly irregular and a large stone or flint jutted out of the wall about 6-7 feet down.

A geiger counter test proved negative on the surface,



Cross-section, Niton hole in the
ISLE OF WIGHT

compasses were unaffected and no unusual marks were found in the area immediately surrounding the hole. Photographs were taken.

A Bomb Disposal squad from H.M.S. Vernon, Portsmouth, came over and made a preliminary investigation without committing themselves as to the cause of the hole. A further more ambitious investigation by an Army Bomb Disposal Unit was then made. The group started digging only to give up with no firm conclusion after producing a hole 10 feet square by some 20 feet deep. A report that we have been unable to confirm was, however, made; a piece of metal resembling a bomb splinter was found.

The area was well peppered with bombs during the war, as both radar and radio stations were quite close. Also, Mr. Peach told a Portsmouth Evening News reported that he once found a "thunderbolt" in the same field, but that it was very much smaller than whatever caused the present hole.

Members of IWUFOIS who ventured out on the night of 16th January wish to express thanks to the local constable, P.C. W.J. Donovan, for turning out on a bitterly cold evening, on his night off, to direct us to the site of the mystery.

Conclusion:

The Bomb Disposal Squad decided, according to an I.W. County Press report, that it could have been caused by a natural movement of the ground and again possibly caused by an unexploded bomb. The fissure did widen out as they dug deeper, but it is now obvious that a decision not to dig further was made.

IWUFOIS cannot add anything to this, but are glad of the opportunity it afforded for a group effort.

(Photograph by J. Feakins, IWUFOIS UFOlog recorder.-Ed).



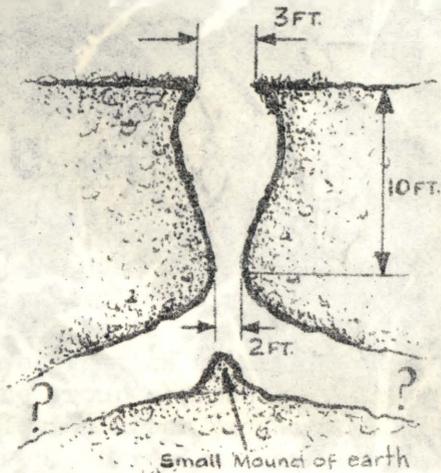
ANOTHER 'HOLE' INVESTIGATION, by the Southampton Aerial Phenomena Investigation Group.

Two men almost fell down yet another mysterious hole which suddenly appeared at Slackstead, on Hursley Estate, Nr. Winchester, on February 12th. The newly formed Southampton

Group, SAPIG, investigated it promptly and the accompanying photograph and sketch give some idea of what they found.

In addition, they were told that the hole had actually been found in December last year and that it was a "clay" hole dug out by the ancient (?) Britons; that, they thought, was that! However, a report in the 'Southern Evening Echo', on February 15th, revived interest by stating that the Bomb Disposal Unit said an "old bomb" had caused it. So SAPIG members again visited the site, this time making a more detailed examination. Samples of soil were taken, but the result of subsequent tests on these are not available to date. No magnetic influence on a compass was noted.

Certain resemblances will be noted between both Niton and Slackstead holes; although nothing more conclusive.



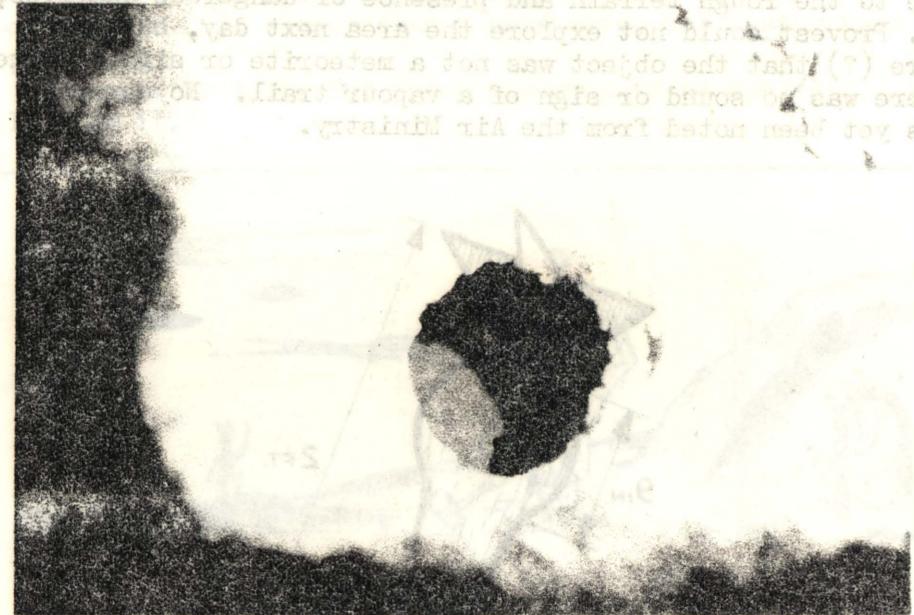
Cross-section Slackstead hole at
HURSLEY, HANTS.

Comment by IWUFOIS Secretary, F.W. Smith.

SAPIG, like IWUFOIS, were quick off the mark in these investigations and, although perhaps not having any actual

UFO connection, valuable hints were gained. Thus, should anything really sensational happen regarding UFOs in this area, it is to be hoped that the I.O.W. and Hampshire UFOlogers will not be found wanting!

October 7th, 1963; report in "Hastings Evening Argus" - 20 feet-deep hole found in a barley field at Filleworth, West Sussex. Bomb Disposal experts found....nothing!! - Any more ?? (Credit, F.S. Review).

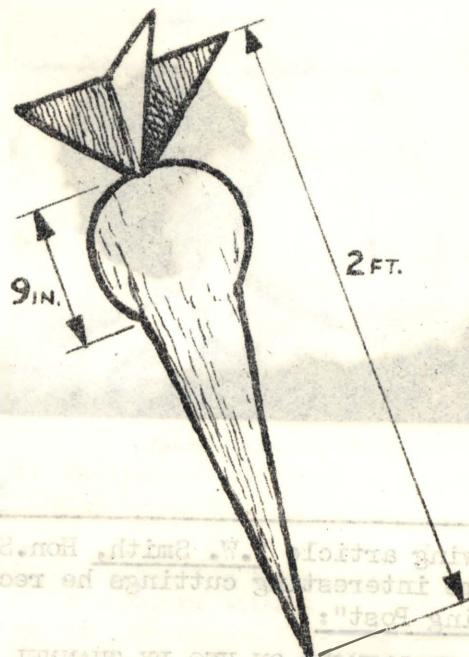


In the following article F.W. Smith, Hon. Sec., IWUFOIS, writes on some interesting cuttings he received from the "Jersey Evening Post":

AIR MINISTRY CHALLENGED ON UFO BY CHANNEL ISLANDS MAN!

Mr Colin Provest issued a challenge to the Air Ministry and promises to pay £5 to any charity they choose to name if they can prove that the UFO he saw on the night of 28th December last was a weather balloon!

Mr. Provest, of Valongis, Alderney, was taking his dog for a walk when he saw a strange object slowly descending at an angle of 45 degrees. It was about 40 yards away and about 50 feet off the ground. In the light of a full moon, Mr. Provest estimated it to be about 2 feet long. It appeared to have a red sphere 9" diameter behind which was a solid yellowish-white tail $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet long narrowing to a point. On the front of the red sphere was an attachment similar to a reversed four-fin bomb flight. The sketch below is taken from a photograph in the "Jersey Evening Post". Due to the rough terrain and presence of dangerous quarries, Mr. Provest could not explore the area next day, but he is sure (?) that the object was not a meteorite or signal rocket. There was no sound or sign of a vapour trail. No comment has yet been noted from the Air Ministry.



sketch of model of U.F.O.
made by Mr. Provest.
ALDERNEY C. I.

On the same night (28.12.63) a resident of Mont Millais, Jersey, claims that he and his wife saw a similar object in the sky at about 11.15.

'Because of its brightness, we were unable to estimate its size or height. It did appear, however, to be going very fast, was a brilliant red in colour and disappeared towards the airport where we fully expected to hear an explosion or a crash.'

A UFO was seen by two men in Colomberie, Jersey, also on Saturday, December 28th at approximately 11 o'clock.

Described as a red object slightly smaller than the moon in size (?). slower than a meteorite, but faster than a plane (?)

'We saw no tail, but there appeared to be sparks following it.'



UFOs in Prehistory - Part Two concludes this series
by N.L.B.S. of IWUFOIS.

The seeming attraction of the UFOs to these neolithic sites could be for a completely different reason. As I have already said, these sites had, of necessity, to be near the source of the stone they needed for their particular type of economy. From the scattered nature of their sites in Britain, it can be seen that these sources are comparatively rare on the surface of the Earth. In fact, about one-quarter of the land surface of Earth is composed of the necessary silicaceous rocks, compared with 80% of the underlying mantle. Silicon

is the second most common element; although it is a long way behind carbon. Like carbon, it has the ability to form side chains and build up new materials. It has been suggested, by so orthodox and eminent scientist as the Astronomer Royal, that other worlds possibly exist whose organic chemistry is based, not on carbon, but on silicon! Recently, chemists and physicists have discovered (or rediscovered?) many uses for silicon - as transistors, in computers and in lasers.

Silica has another interesting property; it is the most readily available natural source of pure oxygen. Whereas only one part in three of water is oxygen, and about one part in five of air at sea level, siliceous rocks contain more than 50% of pure oxygen. This oxygen can be made available by heating silica to a temperature of 1500 to 1700 degrees in the presence of magnesium; oxygen is released and the silica residue is reduced to a gel.

The most convenient and easily portable form of silica is flint, available on or just below the surface, usually not forming part of vast rocks and generally in easily movable soils such as chalk and clay. It was in the areas of flint-bearing earths that the camp sites were usually found. Flint would be the ideal silicate to use for the purpose of extracting oxygen in a space vehicle. If this sounds too much like science fantasy, I might add that forty years ago, in the heyday of the dirigibles, a process for producing hydrogen for refilling the envelope of an airship in flight was developed. Supplies of a rock, hydolith, were carried in the gondola and this, when heated, would give off the required hydrogen. This only failed to become general practice because the non-inflammable gas, helium, later replaced hydrogen in the envelope.

The process I have outlined could explain many UFO phenomena; holes in the ground could be a gathering of supplies, the brilliant magnesium flashes often described could be the result of chemical changes taking place and the silica gel, ejected as exhaust, would float down in a form very similar to the mysterious 'Angel Hair'.

I am not prepared to be dogmatic about possible uses of the oxygen thus obtained by the spaceships. It could be needed to replenish air requiring more than the 20% of oxygen available in our atmosphere or it could be needed as fuel. The most interesting possibility that has occurred to me is that the oxygen could be cooled to the liquid state and ejected from the hull. Liquid oxygen is paramagnetic, i.e.,

it has the property of producing a greater concentration of lines of magnetic force within itself than in the surrounding magnetic field when it is placed in such a field. This would then be the anti-gravitational device which has been suggested as the secret of the UFOs. In passing through the extreme cold of the outer atmosphere, the oxygen might be cooled further to the solid state; it would then lose this special quality and once more be affected by gravity; it could then fall to earth as the large blocks of 'pale blue ice' that have been reported as falling from the sky. For instance large blocks as smaller pieces would heat up on passing through the atmosphere, liquefy then evaporate.

Another possibility is the distillation of argon from the liquid oxygen. Just under 1% of this gas is present in our atmosphere. As it is an inert gas, there is no possibility of its forming chemical compounds as oxygen would; although this would seem the only advantage it would have over the more usual element.

To summarise: I think it can be shown that many areas in all parts of the world with the highest frequency of sightings have certain geological and archaeological features in common. It is quite certain that the archaeological areas are there as a result of the geological features, but there also seems to be some connection with the resultant geographical features and, through these, with Michel's Orthoteny.

If a world map of Orthoteny is being prepared, an analysis of each sighting point in terms of geology, geography and archaeology might show some significant correlations.

ooOoo

(In connection with this article, I should like to draw the reader's attention to the report on U.S. cryogenic developments on page 24 - Ed.)

The following article, written by J.D. Llewelyn, Chairman of SAUFOG (Stratford upon Avon UFO Group) formed the substance of his startling talk given at the 1963 BUFOA National Convention, Birmingham.

Unobvious ways in which the concept of UFO phenomena is disseminated. by J.D. Llewelyn.

Members of groups and societies receiving UFO magazines regularly and obtaining UFO books as soon as

possible are enabled to be kept up to date on all aspects of the subject.

They very often deplore the situation that developments are not brought, to the same degree, to the notice of the Public generally. But do we realise the different ways, not always obvious and as urgent as we would sometimes like, that the New Age knowledge is being disseminated? Presented as it is, it must be assimilated slowly in the same way that other new and unorthodox ideas have come to the consciousness of man.

There has been a great deal of discussion and comment on the failure of our national press to contribute to the spread of the new knowledge of these times in the way that it could, but do we realise just what is being done in this direction?

The comic strips, for instance: A regular reader of "Jeff Hawke", Daily Express, knows that the hero's creator, Sidney Jordan, is with it! In the past, his strips have covered alien spaceships capable of safely "consuming" two cars and occupants at the switch of an anti-gravitational field. Where have we heard of this before?! A later adventure includes 'Shaverian' underground caves with entrances materialising on remote mountain tops. Inside are fabulous machines and a remote-controlled time capsule. Jeff Hawke emerges as the New Age man and is told by the 'Galactic Council'; '...Your planet Earth is a tiny culture far out on the rim of the Galaxy - there are thousands like it - a carefully tended incubator designed for the nature of man - man evolving from his environment is a cunning illusion, rather his environment was evolved for him - your planet is a machine for converting sun-energy into food, light and air - man is not on Earth by accident - every five thousand years a great survey ship passes by to see that all is well, to measure man's progress'.

Those of us with young children know that space travel is taken for granted with them and is stimulated by comics, toys, cartoons, etc. How about Flying Saucers? One of the best examples of this preparation for higher realms of thought is televisions 'Supercar'. Have you ever listened to the words of the title tune? They fit the descriptions of Saucers recorded in many reports:

'Supercar... travels in the air... under the sea... lighter than air... swift as can be... travels in space...

roams the skies... IT'S THE MARVEL OF THE AGE'.

Supercar's pilot, Mike Mercury, has had an 'Angelucci Type' saucer visit and contact with someone from 'Mercurius'. He was given a present of a belt which by Earth standards had 'magical' properties, etc.

A B.B.C. 'Bleep and Booster' cartoon shows Scoutships with journeys in the Universe.

Then there is 'Fireball XL5'. This tells of spaceships roaming the Solar System on 'peace patrols' having crews composed of Earthmen, Venusians and Martians.

An I.T.V. beer advertisement shows, in the words of the blurb, the chasing of no, not a Flying Saucer, but a beer bottle!

Old Moore, in the 1963 Almanack, predicted that we were to hear of space probes resulting in evidence that highly intelligent and amazingly evolved life exists on planets other than our own. Those who accept the contacts and contactees realise that this prediction may have already come true. Talking about future weather prospects, he goes on to say that unknown factors such as the effect of 'yet undiscovered planets' may create other trends to modify conditions.

'Far and Wide', a new magazine for young (at heart) people, contains two articles on 'Flying Saucers' and 'Life in the Universe'.

'Spaceflight', published by the British Interplanetary Society, is a first class magazine presenting the realities of the future in a popular manner. Since its inception, it has published many articles on the possibility of extra-terrestrial existence with a good deal of specific detail. In the July 1962 issue an article entitled 'Alone in the Universe', by John W. Macvey, gives a table showing the probable life-forms which exist, and could exist, under the known and speculative physical conditions on the surfaces of various planets, e.g.,

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>SURFACE CONDITIONS</u>	<u>EXPECTED LIFE FORMS</u>
Mars:	Light gravity - Thin atmosphere	Tall and fragile - large nostrils and chest cavities.
Jupiter:	Strong gravity - Heavy, corrosive atmosphere.	Squat - Thick skinned or scaled.

Venus: Steamy or water covered. Fish like or amphibious - Large, bouyant bodies.

According to the many reports on record of saucer occupants, have we not had such visitations of these types before?

In the same issue of 'Spaceflight', E. Conrad Miller proposes some desirable ethics that should apply in the cause of interplanetary relations. He points out how we have seen on Earth how disease, debasement and strife can so easily follow in the steps of 'civilised' man... new religions are seldom easily assimilated (shades of Adamski!) ...economic incentives destroyed...peoples often left in a moral, social and political vacuum.

He puts forward the first ethic thus:

1. No contact should be made with a planet having intelligent life until the intelligences of that planet have themselves achieved spaceflight.
2. No belligerent or sectarian views or acts may be promulgated by any interplanetary voyagers until a common understanding between planetary intelligences has been achieved.
3. No artifact, or written material, or biological specimen shall be passed between the voyagers unless it is within the technical competence of both parties.

This last ethic could explain the lack of any such artifact in the contact stories we are all familiar with and which have caused so much controversy.

Such enlightenment in our time is put forward more by our local newspapers and, for instance, the magazine 'Today'. There have been a few quite well balanced T.V. programmes; an I.T.V. presentation at the end of 1963 included an official Air Ministry statement.

Do we of the groups give these the support and encouragement that we should? At the same time that we tend to decry lack of publicity, do we do enough ourselves to contact Editors and provide material both interesting and factual on the existence of Flying Saucers?

With the examples mentioned it can be seen that the dissemination of new thoughts does go on in many ways - to bring about the eventual realisation of man's true place in the greater scheme of things.

Is your belief in extraterrestrials based on mere faith?

How easily convinced are you? In the following article our tame sceptic attempts, through a proof based on suppositions, to eliminate the 'THEM' aspect of UFOlogy: An Argument Against 'CONTACT'

by M. Lloyd.

In the previous issue of SPACELINK, I argued that theories concerning the possibility of the existence of, and contact with, other rational beings in the Universe did not constitute evidence for the existence of 'Flying Saucers': However, the converse does hold and, if it is possible to show that the probability of contact with beings from other worlds is very low, then the case for explaining all UFO phenomena by natural hypotheses is enhanced. That a very low probability of 'contact' exists, I shall attempt to prove in this article.

I will begin with a few facts and figures concerning the Universe:

The observable Universe has an estimated diameter of approximately 2000 million light years and contains some 500 million galaxies. Our own galaxy, The Milky Way, has a diameter of 100,000 light years and contains some 100,000 million stars; one of which is our own Sun. As matter, the Universe has probably existed for 10,000 million years, the Milky Way for 6000 million years, the solar system for 5000 million years and our planet, Earth, for 4000 million years. Our nearest stellar neighbour is 4.3 light years away and we are 25,000 light years away from the centre of our galaxy. The distance between the Milky Way and its nearest galactic neighbour, Andromeda, is some 2,000,000 light years.

Now for a closer examination of our planet's history, beginning after the globule of gas has condensed to a lump of rock and is orbiting around the young Sun. The rock has no atmosphere as yet, truly a 'waste land', but as the years proceed, the crust cools and contracts, internal pressures increase, temperatures rise and the surface of the Earth is covered with volcanoes from which ooze the atmosphere and, later still, the oceans. A thousand million years pass and then, in pools all around the Earth, the inorganic becomes organic; 3000 million years ago - the fossils have been located in our time.

Our time; a mere half-million years ago, the man-apes

became recognisable as Peking Man. 250,000 years later Neanderthal Man and possibly the first representatives of Homo Sapiens made their appearance. Neanderthal Man disappeared some 75,000 years ago at the peak of the last Great Ice Age and from then on, all the records are of Homo Sapiens only. From then until the beginnings of history, about 5000 years ago, all is sketchy and there is much to be learnt. Since the beginnings of history, many civilisations have come and gone. Our own civilisation has been in existence for only 1500 years; not long in the history of man, a brief episode in the history of life, even shorter in the history of the Earth, and infinitesimal in solar, galactic or Universal times.

Is there intelligent life on any of the planets in our solar system? Let us see:

1. Mercury - very small, very close to Sun, captured rotation, no atmosphere - No possible chance of organic life.
2. Mars - small, further than Earth from Sun, thin atmosphere containing almost no oxygen, no surface water - Possibility of organic life having once existed, but very long ago and not now.
3. Venus - Same size as Earth, dense and humid atmosphere containing large amounts of water vapour and carbon dioxide, no oxygen, entire surface covered with water - No life as yet, not even simple vegetation.
4. Other planets - Too far from Sun for water to exist except in frozen state - No possibility of life.

Is there intelligent life in our galaxy? Assuming all the 100,000 million stars in the Milky Way have planets, which is reasonable in the light of current theory, let us say that 1 in 1000 has roughly the same mass, shape, etc. I suggest 1 in 1000 because this is a reasonable statistical average to expect (Statisticians please confirm). This leaves 100 million stars. The next condition to be imposed is that the temperature range should be 0-70 degrees C and should be maintained for something like 3000 million years. Let us again assume that 1 in 1000 will fulfil this requirement. This leaves 100,000 stars. The final condition has a greater tolerance and is the presence of the correct amount of surface water and an atmosphere similar to that of the Earth.

Let us assume that perhaps 1 in 100 will fulfil this demand.

We are therefore left with the strong probability that life exists on about 1000 planets in the Milky Way; not many - only 1 for every 100 million stars. But we are not yet finished.

Look back and check how brief a period in the history of organic life on Earth is occupied with the reign of Homo Sapiens. We must once more reduce the probability of life existing elsewhere in our galaxy to accommodate the fact that, although life must have existed in the past on some of the thousand planets and will exist in the future on others, it is unlikely that the lifetime of Homo Sapiens on Earth will coincide with the lifetime of a similar species on any other planet. Again, assuming a 1 in 1000 reduction, we are left with the probability of life on only one planet in the Milky Way! We have indeed come down to Earth.

But there are 500 million galaxies which, if we take the whole of the observable Universe as our domain, means a total of 500 million planets on which rational beings now exist. Yet the inhabitants of these planets will never see one another. If we take ourselves as an example, then our nearest neighbour lies somewhere in Andromeda, some 2,000,000 light years away. Assuming a maximum spaceship speed of 10% of the speed of light, a round trip to pay a neighbourly call would take just 40,000,000 years which is only 160 times the entire life-span of Homo Sapiens and nearly 30,000 times the age of our present civilisation. The impossibility of such travel must be apparent to all. If you feel that one tenth of the speed of light is a low speed, just reflect on the fact that travelling at that speed it would take only 15 seconds to travel from Earth to the moon.

There is a school of thought that subscribes to the theory that the pilots of 'Flying Saucers' are members of ancient civilisations which have previously existed on Earth, but of which we have no record: i.e., unless one considers deliberately 'loaded' interpretations of vague myths, legends and religious literature as records. To have achieved space-travel the people involved would have to have evolved a sophisticated mathematical system, one with a well developed symbology, together with an advanced science. The space-travellers would also have to have developed intricate and complex metal tools, but there is no evidence of such a

civilisation and its inconceivable that any could have existed without leaving any traces of their culture, science technology or fossilised remains of their members. The theory can call on no supporting evidence and must therefore fall.

Faced with the tremendous difference between the biological and astronomical time-scales I feel compelled to discard the possibility of contact with other rational beings who may exist elsewhere in the Universe.

Indeed, we are now perhaps even more alone than when the predominant theory was that of a geocentric Universe; then, at least, we were important. Yet even in our loneliness there is a poetic splendour, there is pathos and tragedy; we are a product of that force which opposes the main tendency of the Universe to run down; we shall not remain for ever and the Earth will still turn without us. Long, long before the Sun has its moment of majesty and becomes a red giant, Homo Sapiens will have disappeared from the face of this planet and have passed into the mists of Universal antiquity. Elsewhere, the fight may continue, on unknown planets in unknown galaxies, towards an unknown end.

In conclusion, I would say that in the light of our present and foreseeable knowledge, the probability of contact with rational beings other than ourselves is so low as to be not worthy of consideration. For explanation of UFOs and their behaviour, we must look to naturalistic hypotheses.

IT IS HIGHLY DANGEROUS FOR THE INEXPERIENCED TO DABBLE IN SUCH MATTERS.

This sounds very mystical, but I'm afraid it refers to our 'WHAT IS IT' article in the last issue.

Apparently, the object was no more than an experimental explosive device built by party or parties both juvenile and unknown.

A subsequent letter from its finder, Mr A. Rumsey, states that the object was 'much smaller' than described and that the grass still refuses to grow over the affected area.

Our file on the matter has now been closed until fresh information comes to hand (It had better be good!)

M. Whitford-Walders,
for IWUFOIS.

It is written...

'...And as they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.'

2 Kings; 2, 11.

'...and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness; and the night passed without one coming near the other all night.'

Exodus; 14, 19.

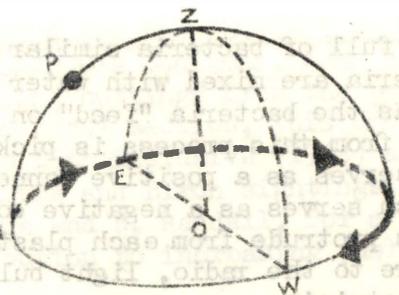
'...And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down upon the host of the Egyptians, and discomfited the host of the Egyptians, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily...'

Exodus; 14, 24.

Officers of IWUFOIS for 1963 - 1964

- President: Mr. Peter Haigh.
- Chairman: Mr. L.G. Cramp, A.R.Ae.S., M.S.I.A.
- Hon. Sec: Mr. F.W. Smith.
- Acting Asst. Mr. K. Ball, B.Sc., F.R.A.S., F.B.I.S.
- Hon. Sec: Mr. S.A. Richards.
- Treasurer: Mr. S.A. Richards.
- Committee: Mr. J. Feakins - 'UFOLOG' Information Officer.
- Mr. N. Stewart.
- Mr. A. Goodburn.
- 'SPACELINK' staff:
 - Editor: Mr. F.W. Smith.
 - Circulation: Mrs P.N. Smith.
 - Manager: Miss A. Spanner.
 - Material Liaison: Mr. L.G. Cramp.
 - Mr. D. Smith.

Librarian →



In the sketch above, Z is the zenith, O represents the observer, and P is the point where the axis of rotation of the earth (extended northwards) would meet the sphere.

The point P is called the NORTH CELESTIAL POLE and, in the northern sky, is closely marked by a bright star named Polaris. There is no corresponding star in the southern hemisphere.

2. Geographic and Geocentric Coordinates.

The angle between the direction of the plumb-line and the plane of the earth's equator is called the ASTRONOMICAL LATITUDE. The GEOGRAPHICAL LATITUDE of the observer is the astronomical latitude corrected for STATION ERRORS, which are irregular variations in the direction of gravity due to variations of density and form in the earth's crust. The GEOGRAPHICAL LONGITUDE is the angular distance measured along the terrestrial equator from the intersection of a fixed meridian to the intersection of a meridian through the position of the observer. The fixed meridian is usually taken through Greenwich; longitude is positive if measured westwards from Greenwich, negative if measured eastwards. GEOCENTRIC LATITUDE is the angle subtended at the centre of the earth between the plane of the equator and a line joining the centre of the earth with the observer's position. GEOCENTRIC LONGITUDE is the same as geographical longitude.

3. Motions of the Earth.

The principal motions of the earth are its rotation about its axis (from West to East) and its revolution about the sun. The earth makes one complete circuit of its orbit in space about the sun in approximately $365\frac{1}{4}$ days. This orbit is an ellipse with the sun at one focus and, as we are observing from the earth, the orbital movement appears to be

a motion of the sun among the stars. The apparent great-circle path of the sun on the celestial sphere during the course of a year is called the ECLIPTIC and the plane of the earth's motion is the PLANE OF THE ECLIPTIC.

The point where the sun crosses the equator from south to north, about March 21st each year, is known as the VERNAL EQUINOX. The opposite point in the sky is called the AUTUMNAL EQUINOX and is reached at about September 22nd each year. The SUMMER SOLSTICE (about June 21st), for a northern observer, is the point where the sun attains its greatest northerly departure from the equator. The opposite point on the celestial sphere is known as the WINTER SOLSTICE and is reached about December 21st each year.

Because of the attractions of the sun and moon on the equatorial bulge of the earth, the vernal equinox moves westwards along the ecliptic at the rate of some $50\frac{1}{4}''$ per year. This is known as the PRECESSION OF THE EQUINOX. Superimposed on this steady precession is an approximately periodic motion due to the variable way in which the sun and moon pull on the earth's equatorial bulge during the course of a month. This effect is called NUTATION.

4. Time.

The basic unit for the measurement of time is provided by the rotation of the earth on its axis. The SIDEREAL DAY (=24 sidereal hours) is defined as the interval of time between two successive passages of the vernal equinox across a given observer's meridian. The APPARENT SOLAR DAY is the interval of time between two successive transits of the sun's centre over the lower meridian of the observer. A MEAN SOLAR DAY is the interval of time between two successive lower transits of the mean sun.

5. Declination and Right Ascension.

The apparent position of celestial bodies are measured in terms of declination and right ascension.

DECLINATION is expressed as angular distance north or south of the CELESTIAL EQUATOR which is the projection of the earth's equator onto the celestial sphere. This declination may be likened to "sky latitude". Stars on the equator have declination 0 degrees, whilst the north celestial pole has declination +90 degrees (or 90 degrees north).

Unlike declination, right ascension is generally rated in units of time. A star is said to CULMINATE when it reaches its highest point above the observer's horizon and

is in his meridian; the first point of Aries (which is where the equator and the ecliptic cross), which is not marked by any conspicuous star and therefore culminates once a day.

The RIGHT ASCENSION is the time difference between the culmination of the First Point of Aries and that of the star concerned. For instance, the star Rigel (in Orion) culminates 5 hours 12 minutes after the First Point does so; this makes the right ascension of Rigel 5 hours 12 minutes. Due to the effects of precession, a small annual movement in position of the celestial pole is experienced. This means that the right ascension and declination of stars change slightly from year to year, while these values for the sun, moon and planets change considerably, even over a period of a few hours.

6. Some General Terms.

When an elliptic orbit, with the earth at one of the foci, is considered, the PERIGEE is that point on the orbit which is closest to earth, whilst the APOGEE is the point on the orbit furthest from the earth. If, however, an orbit with the sun at the focus is being considered, then the terms PERIHELION and APHELION should be substituted for perigee and apogee respectively.

The ALBEDO of a planet is the ratio of the total amount of radiant energy reflected by the planet in all directions to the amount it receives from the sun, e.g., the earth's albedo is about 0.39 whilst that of Venus is 0.76.

The distance between the sun and the earth is 93 million miles and this distance is sometimes referred to as the ASTRONOMICAL UNIT of length.

Light travels at a velocity of 186,000 miles per second so that, in one year, light is capable of travelling a total distance of 5.88 million, million miles. This distance is known as one LIGHT YEAR.

'ULTRA-COLD - The key to many technological advances.

'For most of the half-century since it came into being, cryogenics - the study of ultra-cold - has been confined to laboratories where it was subjected to immense curiosity and experimentation by research scientists. In the last 10 years, however, some amazing and valuable applications have been made in medicine, biology and industry.

But aside from the scientists involved, few persons

today are aware that cryogenics may hold the key to some of the most significant technological advances of the second half of the twentieth century.

In the United States one of the newest and most promising possibilities is a seemingly paradoxical one - an attempt to use ultra-cold to generate electricity from superheat. Such a source of power could profoundly affect the economic development of many regions.

'A look into the realm of cryogenics is an adventure into the wonderland of modern science. In normal living, humans rarely encounter temperatures much below the freezing point of water or above its boiling point. This is a narrow spectrum compared to the temperature extremes in the universe. They range from hundreds of millions of degrees in the centre of stars to the vicinity of "Absolute Zero", which is minus 459 degrees F (273 degrees C) in certain parts of space. At the approach to this ultimate low on the temperature scale, the normal laws of nature appear to become rescinded and a new order takes over.

'Steel becomes so brittle that it will shatter to powder at a slight blow. Gases, such as oxygen, hydrogen, neon and helium, become fluids, flowing like water. Most metals and many alloys lose all resistance to electricity.

'If shaped in the form of a ring under "ultra-cold" conditions, such metals will permit an electric current, once started, to flow indefinitely without losing its strength even after the source of the current has been turned off or disconnected. This strange property, called superconductivity, is the basis of some historic experiments. With modern equipment, super-low temperatures are relatively easy to attain.

'American scientists recently used a superconducting metal as a one-pound electric magnet. They energised it with a standard six-watt car battery, then disconnected the battery. The result was a lasting magnetic strength more than 100,000 times as powerful as the average of the earth's magnetic field.

'To equal such strength with a conventional electromagnet would require an iron core weighing many tons plus a generating plant supplying a continuous flow of 100 kilowatts of power plus an elaborate cooling system to dissipate the heat. In contrast, the cryogenic magnet required no additional power, but had to be sheathed in a doughnut-shaped container filled with liquid helium to maintain its temperature at minus 452

degrees F; only seven degrees above Absolute Zero.

'The scientists then forced a stream of white-hot gases at temperatures of about 4500 F through the centre duct of the doughnut-shaped contraption. Passage of such hot gases, called plasmas, through a strong magnetic field results in the generation of electricity. In this experiment, voltage was generated between a centre electrode and a wall electrode inside the duct.

'Still experimental, this system of generating power, which scientists call "magnetohydrodynamics", has potential uses on earth and in space and may become the most important of the growing list of applications of cryogenics.'

(This cutting offers much food for thought; perhaps the mystery of UFO power is not far from being solved. - Ed.)
Science Horizons, February, 1964.

WHAT IS "UFOLOG"?

by F.W. Smith IWUFOIS.

Mention of "UFolog" is made in the Editorial and as perhaps this has intrigued you, what follows is a brief outline of what it is all about, what it can do for UFO research and how IWUFOIS is involved.

The term "UFolog" was coined by a group of IWUFOIS members as an easily recognisable title for a national sighting and recording network.

In their initial thinking the IWUFOIS team bore very firmly in mind the inevitable limitations that minority groups face in terms of lack of time and money, especially so when dealing with such an elusive subject as UFOs.

The system should be cheap, easy to operate, and yet at the same time be capable of extracting the maximum amount of information on sightings and related incidents, and above all be capable of circulating such information quickly to where it is required.

Sighting reports are surely the lifeblood of UFology, and any group who have organised themselves to study UFOs, in whatever manner, cannot get very far without them, be they found in newspapers, books, magazines, from witnesses or whatever source is available to them.

Up to the present time such a nationally organised system has been ill supported, mainly perhaps, it is suggested, because groups have lost interest due to information they have

fed in being shelved somewhere, consequently the whole system did not do the job it was designed for.

IWUFOIS were anxious to give things a gentle "push" and knowing that groups are hard put to it for planning future activities, devised "UFolog" which has been circulated in its initial form to all known UFO groups in the U.K.

UFolog is basically a means of logging all the factual information about a sighting or incident, and circulating it quickly to interested groups.

The collected facts from whatever sources are laid out in such a form that it can be arranged into an alpha-numerical code, that is, letters and figures which correspond to certain facts i.e., time, place, witnesses, type, effects, and many others, which go with the story of a sighting or incident.

Each group would have a "sighting log" for its own use and in which each incident in its area would be recorded in an easy to read form, whilst at the same time all that particular Society's incidents would have been sent out in the UFolog code to all other groups participating and who, in turn, would circulate their collected information of sightings in their area.

The full details of an incident together with any photographs etc, are filed together with a record card and kept by the group. Thus in time all groups would have, if they have diligently followed the system an identical set of basic records.

The sighting log was thought to be required as it is a feature that makes the ordinary group member aware of what is going on and who perhaps would fight shy of anything too "card indexy".

There has been a tendency for many groups and researchers to isolate themselves in tight little knots pursuing their singular paths of research whilst at the same time fretting at the lack of "gen" of a worthwhile nature. UFolog would enable such people to have a basic framework of solid factual information which in time would cover any worthwhile sighting in British Isles, and later possibly internationally. Cross checking and co-relation are simplified by the standard layout - and it is interesting here to speculate how perhaps Aime Michel would have found UFolog invaluable if it had been in operation whilst he was doing the original donkey work on "The Straight Line Theory". Much of his single-handed work would have been greatly reduced and orthoteny and its

associated research surely accelerated.

Many points resulting from the received comments from groups and societies and also BUFORD are now being considered, and an amended and revised version is being prepared incorporating where practicable the best ideas.

Eventually if all groups pull their weight the finalized UFOlog network will considerably increase the amount of useful information available and enable both groups and individual researchers to get down to the real reason for their existence surely the hoped for unravelling of the mystery, enigma, phenomena, call it what you will, of the UFOs.

NATIONAL SKYWATCH DATES

The original "Skywatch" dates (June 11th and Sept 16th, 1964) announced in the 1st issue of "Spacelink" have now been altered to the following:-

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th, 1964 and FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 1964.

A weekend date would generally be more convenient, consequently the new dates are Fridays nearest the originals. Those to whom it is convenient can still of course use them. Why these particular dates ?

"Thursday June 11th 3 p.m." was authoritatively if furtively whispered in our ears at the last BUFOA conference. Our informant could give no reason other than it had been similarly whispered in his ear! IWUFOIS when considering Skywatch dates remembered this and thought it as good a date as any, after all UFOs can appear any time! So the Friday nearest the 11th was chosen, hence JUNE 12th.

Wed. Sept 16th 1 - 3.30 a.m.....Landings are magnetically (?) possible on the Marlborough Downs, Wiltshire. So my calculations tell me.....So quotes Dr Robert Randall in his Charlton "crater" report. He could have been referring to last year ('63), there is no definite clue here, but whatever was meant IWUFOIS have chosen for this year again the nearest Friday SEPT 18th.

"Books you must read" is held over to the next issue.

Correspondence is invited on Spacelink contents. Similarly, articles, cuttings and odd gen with a UFO slant will be considered for publication.