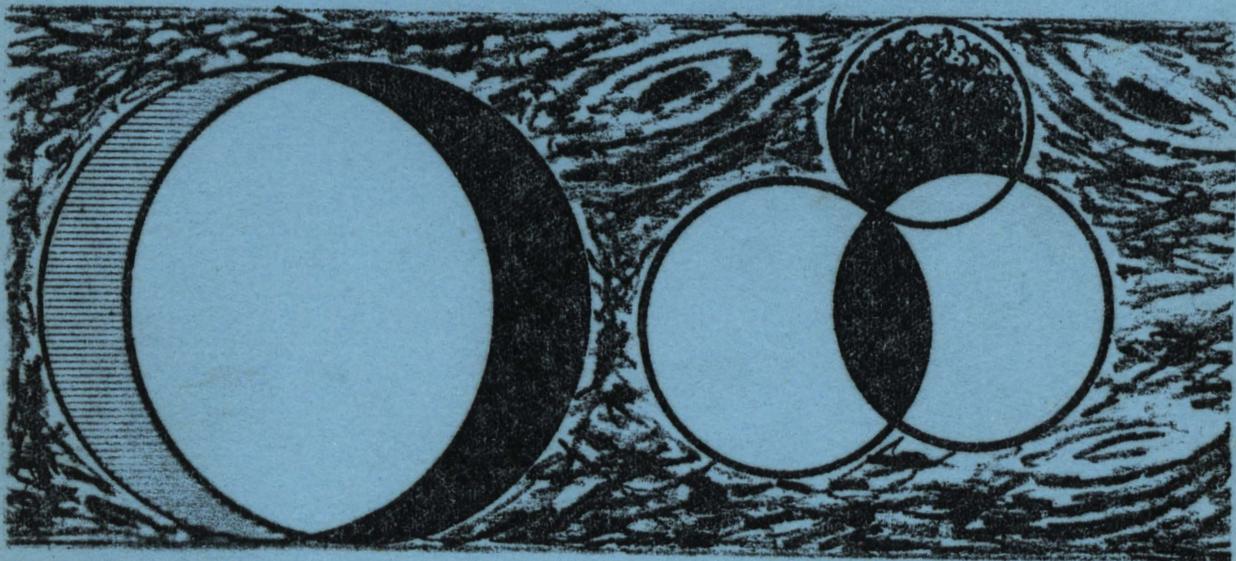
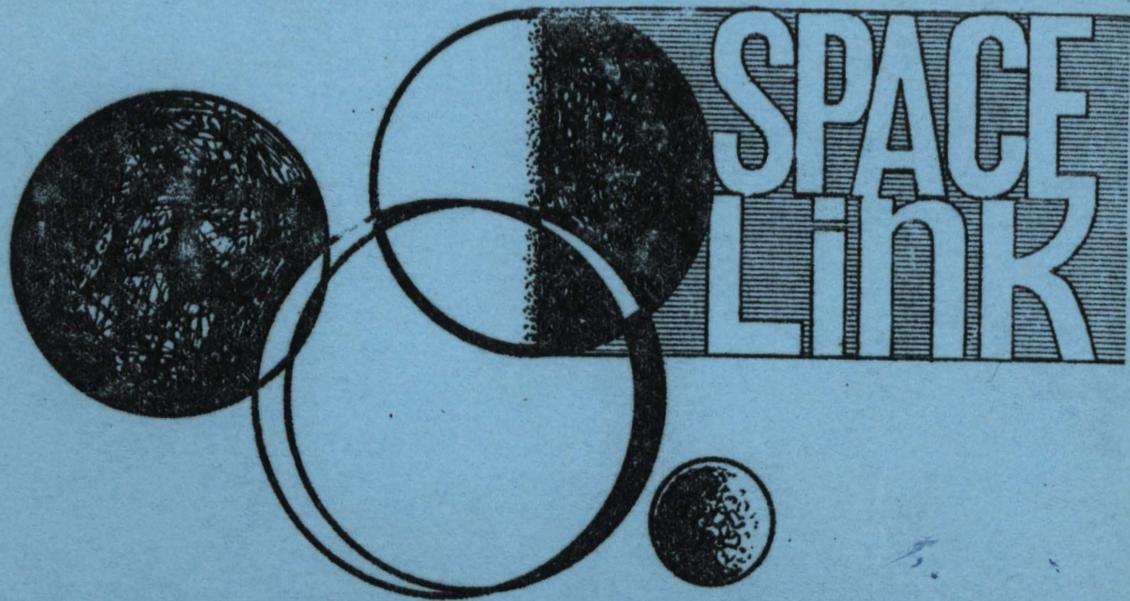


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JOURNAL OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT INVESTIGATION SOCIETY

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 3
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E D I T O R I A L

"It is flying saucer time again," so quotes a recent "Daily Express" from its American correspondent. Are the Martians about to arrive in time for the World's Fair? The U.S. Air Force thinks not. It sent a team to investigate a New Mexico policeman who claims to have seen two "creatures" in white overalls enter a silver object and disappear". It sent yet another team to check on a schoolgirl in Montana who saw "a glowing space ship", but failed to find even a discarded ray gun!

It then proceeded after no doubt a most exhaustive investigation to issue the well known and perhaps now a little threadbare official statement: "We have investigated since 1947 more than 8,000 reported sightings and we have yet to turn up any evidence that unidentified flying objects are alien interplanetary space vehicles under some form of intelligent control." But they do add very guardedly, "We are still interested in reports and will still go on investigating".

And so will we! Meanwhile the official attitude will continue to pacify and reassure the great lay public that everything is under control and the rather "cranky" little groups with their ardent, if a little misguided, insistence that UFO's are real, will not really be of anything more than a slightly laughable "fringe" activity.

Perhaps some chinks are showing in the armour of those whose job it is to guide "public opinion". For instance a BBC report on April 28th last, featured an interview with the Astronomer Royal for Scotland, who was attending the R.A.S. Conference in Edinburgh. His view concerning life on other galaxies was that it was indeed possible, but the

distances involved were such that we would remain ignorant for a long time about such life. But, and this is most significant, his answer concerning a question about life in our Solar System brought the quite candid statement that planets are likely to have humans, similar to ourselves, whom we shall meet soon! Even more remarkable, he followed this up by saying that it was very likely they are visiting us now!

This seems a far cry from the memorable statement, made a few years ago by another certain astronomically-inclined gentleman, that space travel was "utter bilge"!!! Among all the mass of conflicting reports, ridicule, and pronouncements by "experts", lies the truth, and we intend to seek for just that. How is one to know what is the truth? I can hear being voiced. Do we not hear the facts through the mass information media of our age, the newspapers, T.V. radio? I do not need to enlarge on the obvious shortcomings of mass media "facts". A comparative glance at newspapers of differing political colours when reporting the same political speech are quite enough to dispel any notion that the truth is actually being revealed.

"Spacelink" though small in size and circulation will continue to publish the news, comments, and viewpoints of the dwellers on both sides of "No Mans Land" mentioned in Mr. Cramps article in this issue. Humour too, will play its part, I am quite convinced that it is an integral part of the nature of intelligent life in the Universe.

Your comments on "Spacelink" contents are invited and once again your contributions for future issues are warmly welcomed. The support I have had so far in what for me, is a completely new field, has been both stimulating and encouraging.

F.W. Smith, Editor.

oo

NOTE: Will all intending "Spacelink" contributors please, if possible, type their articles, comments, etc. within a maximum width of 60 characters including spaces; 2 or 3 letters over is permissible for long words, etc. Thank you. - Editor.

oo

SPACELINK BACK NUMBERS 1st issue - none available.
2nd issue - a few copies at standard price (2/-).

NO MANS LAND

by L.G. Cramp. A.R.Ae.S., M.S.I.A.
Chairman IWUFOIS.

It can be a lonely place this land which ranges between simple faith and measured evaluation. This halfway house which alternately enjoys the sunshine of inner certainty and the coldness of applied analytical science.

For blessed indeed is the inhabitant whose simple unquestioning faith accepts facts as they are presented, for without the encumbrances of modern scientific thought, his task is a comparatively easy one.

Blessed indeed is the inhabitant whose simple analytical science rules out of court anything which appears inconsistent with his accepted 'basic laws', his task also is a comparatively easy one.

By contrast, to take a walk up to the summit of the no-mans-land between is a strenuous and often perilous exercise, but once there, the venturer can pause to enjoy the full view. Up here in the temperate zone the weather may alternately blow hot or cold from both valleys below, but the inhabitants of these two extremes can neither meet, nor indeed recognise each others existence.

Looking around from such a vantage point, the panoramic view of the spreading countryside can be seen on all sides, but even this fades into obscurity over the distant horizon. Some nearer aspects we see in great detail; the multi-coloured hues of a nearby wood....Over there in the valley, the blue of a trickling stream, each contributing independently to the picture as a whole.

Life is just like this, made up of many no-mans-lands, the path we ultimately tread is of our choosing, left or right, extremist or intermediary, we must decide.

Naturally if we are born into the environment of the valleys, then we are unfortunately limited in our horizons of understanding, but, there is nothing to prevent us from climbing the nearby peaks for a look around.

In the study of the flying objects now popularly called UFO's, there is the vantage point, the peak, the no-mans-land. In fact most followers of the subject have no doubt stood there sometime for a while. But there are others, who like the valley dwellers in the analogy, cannot perhaps, or will not, climb.

But, and mark this well, the inhabitants in the analogy

have one thing in common, for they can all examine the sky above. For the sky in the analogy we will substitute the phenomena men call UFO's, the evidence for which is available to all! It is in this light then that I ask you all to examine the situation, the journey to the top of the hill is indeed a difficult one, the breathtaking view at the top may not seem to solve the problem of flying saucers, in fact, as on the summit of all hills, it may leave you more than a little dizzy, but at least you will have a firmer wider basis on which to build your ultimate solution.

We will assume then for the moment that like the dwellers in the analogy, we have examined the evidence for the sky, and accept that it exists. In other words, as in the analogy, there is enough supporting evidence to indicate that 'something is going on' and UFO's have factual existence.

Now the issues at stake become clearer. (1) The lay valley dweller on the one hand who accepts the evidence of his sky (UFO's) and who blindly assumes their place of origin - must be one or several planets in the solar system. And (2) - the scientist valley dweller who has also examined the sky (UFO's) but whose science tells him that the solar system is an inhospitable place and interstellar-galactic flight untenable, therefore the sky in the analogy (UFO's) cannot exist.

Now standing as we are in no-mans-land, we can have more than a little sympathy for the scientist, for we can also see sufficient of his view to appreciate the fact that his instruments record certain data about the Universe and this cannot be denied. For let there be no mistake, only the uninitiated dwellers in the other valley will claim that the scientists instruments tell him falsely. In the no-mans-land of truth, we can be all too aware of the meticulous and painstaking efforts made by the scientist in trying to understand his immediate environment. While from our no-mans-land vantage point we are equally aware of the fact that some errors there must be. But a spectroscopic reading of the giant planet Jupiter may reveal a methane atmosphere and you can be pretty certain that this is not a false reading of oxygen. The well tried argument of the lay valley dweller, in the analogy, about interference of the Earth's atmosphere just doesn't hold. The Earth's atmosphere is not so dense as he may think bearing in mind that at 100 miles or so above the Earth there exists a vacuum of such an order as to be virtually

unobtainable in any laboratory. Errors there no doubt are, to a minute degree, but if the spectroscope of modern scientist's indicates methane - frozen methane, then until we can see a little further over the horizon in the analogy, it is pointless to assume further.

We have been waiting patiently for orbiting satellites (beyond the atmosphere) to show up some of these errors, but so far they have proved remarkably few.

Some lay valley dwellers will tell you that flying saucers come from the Sun, it being in reality a 'cold body'. They claim that it is the resistance the light rays from the Sun meet in penetrating the Earth's atmosphere which produces the heat we feel from the Sun.

On this basis we would expect Mercury to be a cold planet rather than a hot one, as it almost certainly has no atmosphere. While Venus should be extremely hot, not solely due to her proximity to the Sun as is currently accepted, but (the valley dwellers will tell you) due to her thick dense atmosphere.

Both the planets Saturn and Jupiter have dense atmospheres, but it is intense cold, not intense heat the thermocouple assures us.

Now if the accuracy of the spectroscope and thermocouple is questioned, we should at least be consistent with our questioning. Here we have two planets, both being examined from the planet Earth. We will take say, Venus and Jupiter. Venus on the one hand has a dense atmosphere and is some 61,000,000 miles from the Sun and comes within say 27,000,000 miles of the Earth. Jupiter on the other hand also has a dense atmosphere, but is 483,000,000 miles from the Sun and comes within say 390,000,000 miles of the Earth.

In both cases we measure the temperature of these planets with the aid of the thermocouple, therefore any interference due to the presence of the Earth's atmosphere must be equally assumed. Now if the lay valley dwellers theory about a cold Sun was correct, then we would expect to obtain a high temperature reading from both Jupiter and Venus, but this is not the case. The thermocouple shows readings which are consistent with the Sun being an extremely hot radiant body.

From our no-mans-land, there are many such excursions we might like to describe, but in all good humility, the one must suffice.

But what of our next door neighbour the scientific

valley dweller?, certainly his view also is inhibited.

He and many of his kind might be tempted to sift the evidence for the existence of flying saucers, but such evidence is ignored and even ridiculed simply because the solar system has been revealed as an inhospitable abode.

From our no-mans-land we offer our sympathy, for all too clearly the scientist cannot be blamed for his somewhat hasty and perhaps erroneous assessments. It's not out of conceit or wishful thinking that astronomers have arrived at their current conclusions, for anyone who knows anything at all about astronomy knows also that it is an exact science and to the best of their ability, astro-physicists are interpreting their instruments, if the results don't fit in with the idea of inter-planetary visitors, then no one is going to blame them for not 'bending the rules'.

So the solar system appears to be an inhospitable place, lets leave it at that for a while, there's still no reason to assume that millions of witnesses throughout the world are liars, hallucinated drunks, misguided cranks etc.,

What about the rest of the Universe?, here again the scientist valley dweller comes to our aid.

The possibility of life-supporting planets similar to our own in the Universe looks enormous, in fact the place must be teeming with life, perhaps just like our own. But due to the enormous distances involved, the time required makes such journey's unthinkable. Therefore again the idea of visiting interplanetary space ships is untenable and the public are mistaken, deluded etc., etc.,

Here then we have the extremes, the believers who are tempted to endorse their own often erroneous deductions against the advice of people who obviously know better, and the non-believers who will not even listen because an unknown phenomena does not fit in with current information. Poles apart, they have one thing in common, they are both restricted in their view point. The sun has already set for them, but from the hill top it still descends in all its magnificent glory. A bestreaked and colour laden sky stretches to the distant horizon, and although we cannot see thus far, the view is just a little further on up here in no-mans-land.

the false assumptions that ours is the only atmosphere that will support life and that we have adequate and correct knowledge of the composition of the atmosphere of other planets. I query, too, his figures on space-flight. While not admitting that space-flight beyond our own solar system is impossible, as I feel that some of the maths involved is very dubious, I think he is at fault in some of the figures he quotes. He postulates a speed one-tenth the speed of light for flights within the solar system and says at this speed the moon could be reached in 15 seconds. This is quite an unrealistic figure as by present means of propulsion this time is hardly sufficient for the necessary acceleration and deceleration. A system which could overcome this drawback should be able to tackle inter-stellar flight.

Turning to Mr. Lloyd's other theme and what he terms the 'loaded' interpretation of ancient traditions and myths. I must question his own interpretation of the history of man when he speaks of Peking Man as a man-ape. Peking Man was a cave-dweller who used fire and buried his dead - and lived a mere half-million years ago. Before this article was written, Dr. Leakey had announced his discovery of the remains of homo habilis and the dating of those bones to two million years ago - more recently, he has said that he expects to find the remains of true man five million years ago! Man may have been on Earth even longer than this and remains may still be found at an even greater depth, for archaeologists have so far only scraped the surface of the ground.

Mr. Lloyd, by the most conservative standard, cuts known history in half to start our present civilization 1500 years ago. I would like to know by what standard or from whose viewpoint he chose this date as the start of our civilization, for about that time Rome fell, the legions were withdrawn from all the provinces and all over the known world the uncivilized hordes from the East moved in and overran the centres of culture.

The earlier civilizations whose existence he queries and whose attainments he doubts, are acknowledged by the most orthodox of authorities. Furthermore, they admit that they do not know where these civilizations came from or how they vanished. Let Mr. Lloyd read Sir Leonard Woolley and his associates in the U.N.E.S.C.O. History of

the World. If he doubts the ability of early man in mathematics, let him read the article in 'New Scientist' of 26.2.64 wherein the former Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at Oxford shows that the stone circles found in Britain and all over Europe were constructed, 4,000 years ago, by a people using Pythagorean geometry, although it was 1,500 years before Pythagorus lived! Perhaps he will then accept that the builders of the Pyramids could have used mathematics in the same way. Perhaps he will think again about the way the Pyramids and other stone monuments were constructed (realising, of course, that the vast numbers of slaves, etc, often suggested, were not available). Perhaps he will reflect how many of the Bible stories and myths have been verified or explained by recent excavations.

If, in the face of all this, Mr. Lloyd still believes he is the only one in step and all the rest of us are pixilated, let him reply, in the next issue - and next time, Mr. Lloyd, name your authorities!

oo

BOEING PILOTS SEE SATELLITE RE-ENTRY?

March 20th issues of 'Daily Mirror' and 'Daily Sketch' reported an object apparently seen to explode 200 miles from Lands End by two Pan-American pilots in separate aircraft. The following is a copy of a letter from Pan-American.

"In all probability the object was a portion, or stage of an Earth satellite, possibly the booster rocket". Two pilots flying Pan-American jets observed the incident: E.D. Morrison of Colorado City, Colorado, Captain of P.A. flight 102 flying New York-London; and R.A. Botthof of Chicago, Captain of P.A. flight 72 flying to Frankfurt approximately half an hour in advance of P.A. 102.

I talked with Captain Morrison, who has been flying the North Atlantic since 1942 and in that time he has seen 'hundreds' of meteors enter the atmosphere and burn up. The object he observed was not a meteor he said, but in all probability an Earth satellite. He observed it at about 0630 on the 19th. His position then was about 53 degrees North and 20 degrees West, roughly 490 miles West of Shamon, and he was flying at 31,000 feet.

He observed the satellite/booster proceeding North to South 'with a curvature to it. It was about 80,000 to

10,000 feet up and travelling real fast. As it entered the atmosphere, it turned red with a blue flame running 50 ft. back. It left a smoke trail. 'Captain Morrison said the object then exploded - 'it woke up the sky'. The pilot suggested the explosion might have been caused by chemical fuels, etc. Still left in the booster stage.

The U.S.A. announced some days later that a satellite launched from Cape Kennedy on that day failed to go into orbit; this object observed by our Captains could well have been that one, but I have no definite information that this was the case.

Sincerely,

Maitland Zane,
Public Relations,
Pan-American Airlines. April 2nd, 1964.

Sent in by SAPIG, Southampton.

PILOT TELLS OF MYSTERY GLOW IN THE SKY.

'Evening News' Reporter.
PRETORIA, Friday.

A South African Airways Boeing commander, Captain R.B. Truter, has reported seeing an unidentified flying object between Las Palmas and Zurich.

'We were at 37,000 ft. when we spotted the object, which appeared to be half an inch in diameter, had a bluish-white glow and was perfectly circular', says Truter.

'The co-pilot, navigator and I watched it for ten minutes, during which time it did not appear to change its position in relation to stars which were visible in the vicinity, or in relation to the aircraft'.

Later the position and shape of the glow altered, and it disappeared just before the sun appeared above the horizon.

Credit - Evening News and Star.
10th April, 1964.

Satellites due to re-enter the Earth atmosphere during April/May include Explorer 9, Cosmos 19 and Cosmos 11. (Ed.)

THE ODD-SHAPED U.F.O'S.

Antoni W. Szachnowski.

Chairman Anglo-Polish UFO Research Club.

By this, I mean those U.F.O's which have shapes other than the 'classic' "saucer" or "cigar".

Almost from the outset of the 'U.F.O. question' a variety of different shaped airborne objects were seen and reported from time to time. Some of them have appeared with a certain continuity, thereby becoming classified by U.F.O. - researchers and forming part of the studied material.

The object seen by Mr. Colin Provest on the night of 28th December, 1963, and reported in the 2nd issue of your magazine - seems to fit between two already known shapes: conically shaped U.F.O's and triangular U.F.O's.

Mr. Provest's report interested me greatly. The object described by him bears a certain resemblance to a number of sightings in Central and Eastern Europe. Here is one of these reports, which was included in my lecture of March 1963 -

"Flying Saucers Over Central Europe". It formed part of the Chapter entitled "U.F.O's Over the Baltic Coast".

I would now like to quote:-
"The Baltic Coast and the district of the Mazurian Lakes, - is the second area of particular importance for research into U.F.O's over Poland.

"Szczecin, Kartuzy, Gdansk and Lysica, are localities from which have come numerous reports of sightings. But really strange incidents happened in the vicinity of Kolobrzeg, Koszalin, Leba. "Not just ordinary sightings of flights. The mystery sprung there from beneath the salty waves of the Baltic.

"It started with rumours about two strange objects that emerged from the depths, and flew up into the sky. This was said to have happened at the beginning of June 1957 - just opposite the bend of the coast, near Koszalin. (see map. page 16).

"Next came more detailed reports of happenings that took place near Kolobrzeg, shortly before Easter 1959.

"The attention of coastguards and civilians was drawn to a spot where the sea became suddenly agitated. Then the waves in that stretch of water swelled and above the surface shot a triangular object of 4 - 5 metres in size. It rose up and swiftly encircled the nearest locality. Then it flew higher, and finally rushed upwards disappearing into space. Army

units arrived to make an exhaustive search throughout the brushwood on the seashore. The next day a team of divers did the same in the water. What, if any, was the result we do not know.

"Let us move now about 125 kilometres eastwards - towards Leba. This is a fishing harbour and a seaside resort situated on the open sea with the coastal lakes in the vicinity. It was Sunday, 24th September, 1961.

"For Mr. Czeslaw K. Kawecki, a twenty-eight year old textile technician, it was also the final day of his summer holiday. Next morning, he was to board a train going to his home town - Lodz. In order to have a last good look at the sea, he decided to walk back to the hotel. He took his shoes and socks off, and, holding them on one hand, strolled slowly through the sandy dunes that separated Lake Lebsko from the sea.

"He stopped for a while on the seashore, gazing at the waters lit splendidly by the full moon. Noticing that his wristwatch showed 11.35 p.m., he turned to walk towards Leba, when...in his own words: "A sudden noise of rushing waters made me turn towards the sea again. And right in front of me, about 300 metres from the shore, the surface was rising in one spot. It looked like a round hill - pushed up from beneath. Then splashes of water gushed from the top, and like fountain-jets, fell around the 'hole' in the waves. From this opening in the water emerged an object which at first I thought to be an elongated triangle..." With a mixture of uneasiness and excitement, Mr. Kawecki watched further developments.

"The object rose a few metres, and hovered above this same spot. But there was now a whirlpool of water rushing inwards with a loud sucking and gurgling noise. The object itself was black and silent.

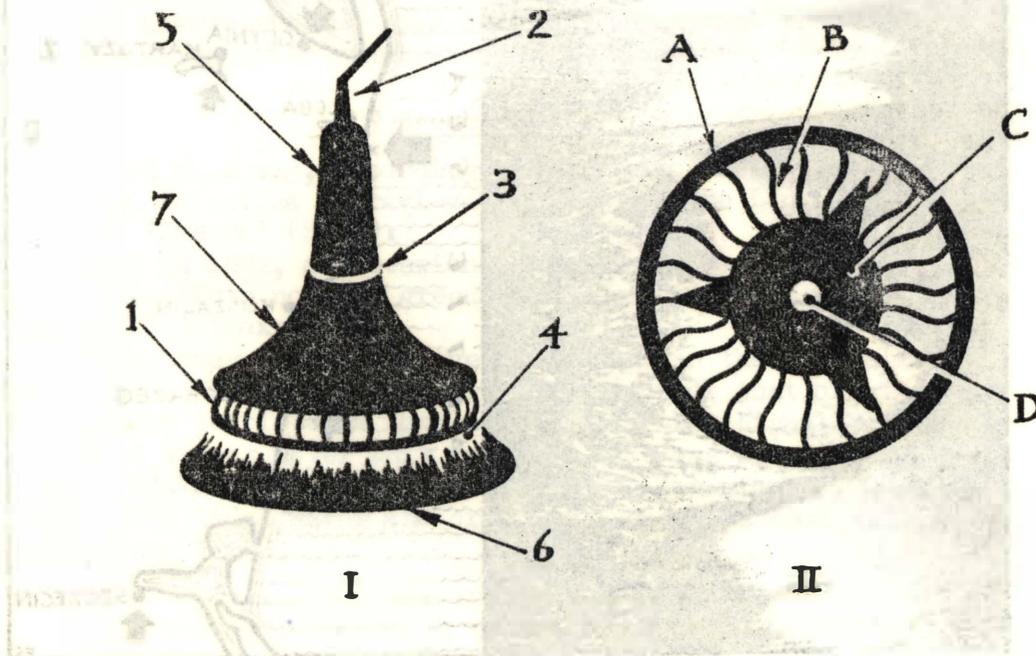
"Suddenly there appeared a belt of steady white light (1) segmented by a number of convex dark streaks. This light made glowing reflections (4) on the lower rim of the object. It also lighted considerably the upper rim (7) and all the rest.

"Now it became apparent that 'the thing' had the shape of a huge funnel with two rims, separated by a belt of segmented light. About half way up the upper part was a thin strip (3) of something whiter than the rest, of a rather dark body. The slim end of this 'funnel' had a rounded top, from which protruded a stump (2) thinning upwards, and bent in the middle on one side.

"The stillness of this object lasted about a minute, - then, there appeared the glow of a second light under the object.

Also, a white one, but much stronger and sharper than that emitted by the segmented belt - and almost immediately the 'funnel' tilted slowly Northwards - revealing the bottom. After remaining in this position for about half a minute without changing, it glided about 50 metres Eastwards, stopped - but soon glided back and stopped again. All the time the bottom of the object was visible to Mr. Kawecki, who noticed that it consisted of:-

- (A) Dark, circular perimeter - corresponding to the lower (and wider) rim of the 'funnel'.
- (B) Second - towards the centre - a wide ring of strong white light, with a number of dark, hook-shaped streaks upon it.
- (C) Next was a dark ring with three evenly spaced triangular spikes. These protruded over the half width of the lit, - streaky-ring.
- (D) Finally, a central disc - which looked as if it was made of highly polished silver or crystal. It reflected the light with great brilliance.

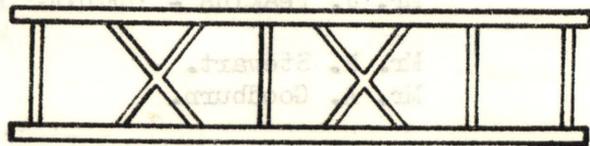


BOURNEMOUTH FLYING 'GIRDER' SIGHTING

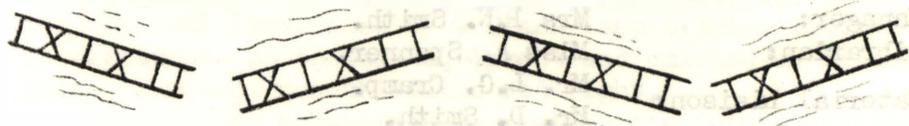
A most odd sighting has recently come to our notice, the witness, Mr. C. Barnes of 98 Saxonhurst Road, Ensbury Park, Bournemouth, had his memory jogged by a recent 'Daily Sketch' picture strip featuring 'Flying Saucers' and was put in touch with us by Mr. Neville Randall its author.

'About eighteen months ago I was cycling along the main Wimborne road from Winton towards Moordown and I glanced up in the sky and saw what I can best describe as a girder like object, aluminium in colour, about as big as a large airplane, and of lattice like construction. I could see no engines or cabin. It flew in a see-saw like motion in a large semi-circle about two miles in diameter. There were no clouds in the sky at the time and I had it in view for quite twenty minutes or perhaps a little longer. It went out of my sight over Christchurch. Having been in the Royal Air Force for six years I can recognise most aeroplanes but this was quite different from anything I have seen before!'

IWUFOIS sent Mr. Barnes a questionnaire from which further details came to light and surely the most remarkable feature of the sighting is the shape. (See sketch). 'Like a lattice



- from a sketch by Mr. Barnes -



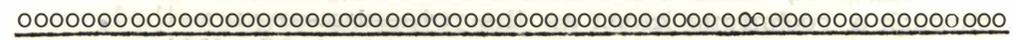
" FLEW IN A SEE-SAW MANNER "

girder, aluminium coloured, 75 ft. long and 15 ft. high, travelling with its broad front foremost at no more (?) than 100 m.p.h. and at a height of approx. 3,000 ft! (?)

Visibility apparently was excellent, clear blue sky, no clouds. No aircraft was seen in the vicinity. The object was noiseless.

The sighting occurred over a built up area and Mr. Barnes says as far as he knows he was the sole witness (?). The object travelled in 'a see-saw manner'.

IWUFOIS is intrigued but feel that many more details need to be dug out and other witnesses contacted, although the 2 year time lapse makes this difficult. Mr. Barnes cannot be more precise than a 6 week period (March 15th to May 1st 1962) in which it occurred. (See the article on 'Odd Shaped UFO's elsewhere in this issue. Ed.)



MATERIAL THAT FELL TO EARTH FROM THE MOON

A new method for determining the age of rocks has been developed in the United States.

A technique has already led to new geologic theories. Specifically, scientists now believe that somewhere on Earth there still are large undiscovered deposits of material that fell from the Moon on at least three separate occasions in the geologic past. Presumably, this material was blasted off the Moon's surface by the impact of giant meteorites.

Three U.S. physicists arrived at this theory by using the new technique to examine tektites and impactites. According to a widely-held theory, tektites are solidified droplets of lunar material melted and splashed into space when large meteorites crashed into the Moon. Impactites, by contrast, are thought to have been created on Earth by the impact of large extraterrestrial objects.

In the course of time, tiny amounts of uranium atoms, present in all rocks, split into fragments at a known rate in a natural process which leaves an atom sized trail of damage in the rock.

Dr. Robert L. Fleischer, D.P. Buford Price and Dr. Robert M. Walker of Schenectady, New York, physicists at the General Electric Research Laboratory, were able to 'develop' the damage

of mesons in the Earth's atmosphere.

For the crew of the spaceship, time will "shrink" as their vessel approaches the speed of light. The vessel will not reach the velocity of light ON THEIR RECKONING, although, from the standpoint of an observer on the Earth which they have left, it will greatly exceed that velocity.

Dr. Eugen Sanger, in lectures at Freudenstadt in 1956 and later at Rome, supplied some figures on the assumption of a spaceship travelling through the Universe, from the Earth, at a speed accelerating to .99 of the velocity of light, with a corresponding deceleration after the half-way point of the journey is reached.

- Earth to Moon 3.5 hours.
- " " Sun 2.3 days.
- " " Alpha Centauri 3.6 years.
- " " Milky Way Centre ..19.7 years.
- " " Andromeda Nebula ..25.9 years.
- Round the Universe41.9 years.

Fantastic ? Perhaps, only coming from a leading scientist and rocket expert of the status of Dr. Eugen Sanger, the figures cannot be ignored or shrugged-off.

There is, of course, a serious "snag" in the time-dilation idea, as presented by Dr. Sanger and others. For the times given are "rocket times". The crew of the rocket would return to Earth, after travelling right round the Universe of galaxies, 42 years older than when they set out. On Earth, however, 3,000 million years would have elapsed. It would be a question whether the crew would not be in the position of the wartime soldiers who wished to hang out their washing on the Siegfried Line "If the Siegfried Lines's still there!"

Not all scientists would agree with this aspect of the views of Dr. Sanger. For my part, I believe that, whereas the acceleration to .99 the velocity of light would carry rocket and crew progressively out of the terrestrial time-scale, the corresponding deceleration would return them gradually to it, so that their 42 years would after all correspond with 42 Earth years.*

If this picture of interstellar travel is accepted, a wealth of meaning is imported into the visits of the U.F.O's to our terrestrial environs. The astronomical Universe ceases to be an unthinkably vast, hostile and alien realm, in which our Earth is less than a grain of dust on the

seashore and Man an ephemeral microbe. Instead, we find ourselves, as the late Sir James Jeans observe, "...citizens of no mean City".

We feel ourselves dwarfed by the magnitude of the Cosmos because we are anchored to a small part of it. The Earth seemed very big to the old circumnavigators who took three years to sail round it. To an astronaut, circling the globe in 90 minutes, our planet probably seems little enough.

Astronomical and biological considerations suggest that life-nurseries like the Earth are comparatively rare in the Universe, as against the vast number of the stars. If so, it is easy to understand that, granting the feasibility of interstellar travel on the time-dilation premise, our planet may have been for long an "area of exploitation" for older races from elsewhere. Again, now that the lusty human infant is on the point of quitting his cradle, his doings may be assuming significance for communities further advanced.

Our future may depend on ourselves in a way not apparent without a realization of the U.F.O.-denizens' surveillance. If we persist in our present flouting of all spiritual and cultural values, we may find ourselves forcibly confined to this planet like Apaches to an Indian reservation. If we abandon our wars and our rat-race for material possessions and status, we may, in time, find ourselves admitted as junior members of a Cosmic Brotherhood of races.

Who knows?

* As, for example, the Unitary Theory of Jean Charon.

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"SKYWATCH" FRIDAY, JUNE 12th (and into morning of 13th).

All UFO groups as well as individuals will we hope be out on this night. For those who do venture out and who do see anything unusual please contact as soon as possible afterwards:

Mr. John Feakins (IWUFOIS) UFOLOG Information Officer,
1, Hilltop Cottages,
High Street,
Freshwater,
Isle of Wight.

LATE NEWS SPOT

BEWARE OF BUGS FROM SPACE

Earth could be invaded by alien forms of life from other planets, warns a bacteriologist at the National Institute for Medical Research.

They could be brought to Earth by a returning spaceship, says D.P. Sneath in the magazine "Discovery".

Spaceships could also contaminate other planets with bacteria from Earth, he says.

"The introduction of even a few living organisms on to another planet could have disastrous results, and ruin forever our chances of exploring that planet in its natural state."

"Even more alarming is the prospect that a spaceship returning to Earth might be contaminated by extra-terrestrial organisms - if they exist. All spaceships should be disinfected."

"Our experience on Earth should make us pause to think - there is a long list of organisms which have become pests when introduced to new continents".

DETECTOR IN ROCKET FINDS X-RAY STARS

By our Science Staff.

Evidence of the existence of a previously unknown kind of star has been collected by American astronomers. Using a detector mounted in an Aerobee rocket launched from White Sands, New Mexico, they found two distinct "X-Ray stars".

This discovery, and some of its implications, are reported in the scientific journal Nature. The finding of stars that emit X-Rays does a lot to confirm some of the latest theories about the life history of stars in general.

The astronomers suggest the X-ray sources could be neutron stars, the degenerate remains of supernovae. A supernova is a brilliantly exploding star which is believed to leave a very dense core of abnormal material after the explosion had died down.

'Daily Telegraph' March 31st, '64.

'GHOST' WAS 7 FT. TALL

SINGAPORE, Malaysia - People in a Singapore village called in a medicine man to get rid of what they described as a seven-foot tall poltergeist, which looked like a bald-headed gorilla but had the face of a man.

It appeared on two nights. Five men and one woman

claimed to have seen it, according to a local newspaper.

Each appearance was followed by showers of heavy chunks of concrete raining on the community's roofs. - Reuter.

(UFO denizen or Abominable Snowman?)

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SPACE MEN TRAIN ON EARTH

The American Boeing Company of Seattle have designed and built a "life support system" consisting of an installation in which five men recently spent 30 days completely isolated from their outside environment. This test for future space voyages included the testing of apparatus which reconstitutes water from body wastes, cabin condensation and sink drainings which is used again for drinking and washing. Oxygen is derived from Sodium Superoxide chemicals which also absorb carbon dioxide. The Earthbound chamber is equipped to maintain life for 150 man days.

The following extracts from the pen of the space visionary Arthur C. Clarke are reprinted by kind permission of The Readers Digest Association (British Edition) March 1962. They appeared in a most profound article "Mans Ultimate Destiny; Outer Space." "Spacelink" readers will do well to ponder on their implication.

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"We must prepare ourselves for painful shocks that will involve our philosophical and religious beliefs. We now take it for granted that our planet is a tiny world in a remote corner of an infinite Universe, and have forgotten how this discovery shattered the calm certainties of medieval faith. Space will present us with facts that are even more disconcerting. There can be little reasonable doubt that we will ultimately come into contact with races more intelligent than our own. That contact may be the most devastating event in the history of mankind. The rash assertion that "God made Man in His own image" is ticking like a time-bomb at the foundations of many faiths.

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And the final words of the article:

"The eyes of all the ages are upon us now, as we create the myths of the future at our Satellite-launching sites. No

