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EDITORIAL: YELL FIRE OR NOT?

How does one act when a recurrent AR phenomenon appears to be something of a threat to people you deal with? Does one warn these individuals that "dealing with me may endanger you", or do you just "let it ride" for lack of proof? What constitutes an actual "threat"?

It is a perplexing moral problem. For one thing, there might be an element of wolf crying about this. We don't know (at least I don't) for certain enough about the "AR" mystery to be able to say, categorically, what is going to happen. But, on the other hand, predictability seems to be a factor in the AR problem.

Take, for example, part of our situation here in Atlanta. Since May of last year there have been at least three cases of unusual happenings connected with the speakers for our local UFO group, the CSIA. The most recent of these is the case of the second appearance of James W. Moseley, Editor of Saucer News. This time the incidents were minor and (seemingly) innocuous. Nevertheless they continued the tradition of disruption. As this writer headed for the Atlanta Airport to meet Mr. Moseley, our taxi was stopped by a policeman for rather obscure reasons. The cabbie himself commented on the unusualness of the stop. Not for speeding or any other routine offense. Rather, the stoppage seemed due to a blinking of the light on top of the cab.

Maybe so, but when I got out of the cab some few minutes later, there didn't seem to be any blinking. And, if it was blinking, what of it? Perhaps the policeman thought it was some kind of distress signal (he appeared to eye me warily through the window; I, sitting there in my trench coat and hat).

Later I learned from Moseley that his pilot had been a Captain Chiles. Since the name is familiar and this was an Eastern flight, we wondered if it was the Captain Chiles. If so, here was an odd coincidence.

There you have it. Nothing vast, nothing harmful. But it does continue that pattern. Therefore, question: Should we inform future speakers that they should come at their own risks; based on the idea that only "Minor Mongers" of this type have been occurring?

It is a thorny problem. Certainly, if there were a real and specific danger, one would take the same precautions that one would in any situation where life or limb are threatened. But part of the inherent difficulty in this subject is that we deal with vague uncertainties. A series of "minor mongers" can be explained by such phrases as "sheer coincidence" or "looking for things". Then, too, I had my attention called recently to what is known as "Murphy's Law" by Jim Capots, Jr. It provides that anything that can interfere with the accomplishment of a goal will interfere. On the other hand, such problems might be of greater significance.

So, what do we do? Firstly, we know we are dealing with a potentially dangerous subject. We should therefore automatically maintain a sort of cautious attitude designed to prevent harm to ourselves and others. If a clear and present danger presents itself, we should act on that. If, on the other hand, we have only these minor mongers to go on, we must assume an attitude of "possible hostility and act appropriately. What "appropriately" would be is the question. I would suggest that people who might be directly involved should, in fairness to them, be briefed on the situation in realistic, non-alarmist terms.

The AR theory is, in one sense, a new name for an old concept. It is in another a restatement of old concepts from a fresh vantage point. In any case the proper articulation of this theory, and the proving (or disproving) of its tenets is our purpose. The following program could help in accomplishment of these goals.

(1) DISCUSSION: The AR theory, being "new" in its present form, requires discussion if it is to develop. It is proposed that those interested in AR get together either in person or by correspondence for the express purpose of discussing this theory. Under way at this time is a tape "round robin" circulating among our four interested persons. Other such round robins either on tape or via letter should be started. Regarding "in person" discussions, it is hoped that a tape will be made of such gatherings and forwarded to FPA Headquarters.

(2) CONTRIBUTIONS: No, we're not asking for money. The type of contributions we refer to are in the form of material that might be useful in AR Research. For example, any incident of an "ARish" type (see the editorial, this issue).

(3) INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY: In a recent discussion with a leading UFOlogist it came to our attention that there is a lack of an investigative unit operating in the specific area of AR problems. A small group of this sort should be formed, with the immediate aim of compiling information, investigating cases with an AR tie-in (UFO or otherwise), and studying investigative techniques in this specialized field. Any volunteers?

AHG

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SAUCER SIGHTINGS AND REALITY WARPS *by AHG*

"....it is not difficult to understand how persons or objects might be caught in some kind of reality warp and enter or leave a given state of reality. This would serve to explain many legends, and fortean phenomena as well...."

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Just what is a reality warp? To explain this integral part of the AR theory in brief terms, it is the concept of some sort of "door" between realities. Such a door might be natural or artificial; permanent or temporary, or semi-permanent.

Evidence for the existence of such warps is abundant and should be known to anyone who has done very much in depth research into fortean subjects. Cases such as the Lang disappearance point to temporary warps while persistent rumors of caves where no caves exist or "holes at the poles" point to more permanent warps. Whereas the former might be termed possibly artificial, the latter, because of its geographic location might be natural.

What are the mechanics of such warps? Hints might be found in the existence of flying saucers (mobile transfer warps?) and in studies on the alleged phenomenon of teleportation.

Are there places on the surface of our world where realities come into such close proximity to our own that aspects of them can be seen quite frequently? Also in

this connection, are there places where "warping" (i.e., the appearance and disappearance of saucers and related phenomena) can be seen quite often?

Thanks largely to the work of author John G. Fuller we have become aware of the considerable concentration of reports of UFOs in the area around Exeter, New Hampshire. What may not, however, be as widely known is that this activity apparently continues to be reported. It is also well known that such places as Mount Shasta in northern California have been or are locations for long term manifestations of various phenomena. Additionally, it has been speculated on that UFOs seem to fly along the (alleged) alignments between ancient monuments. We suggest (perhaps not with originality) that this could be because the ancient builders of these monuments built where strange manifestations had been seen to occur.

Of this latter suggestion, we can offer some personal evidence. In January of 1967 we became aware of a UFO incident at Cartersville, Georgia. It was a very routine report, but part of our reason for being attracted to it was that the incident took place at the Ettowa Indian Mounds located at Cartersville. The Indian Mounds are, as we understand it, comparable to the European dolmen or the Middle Eastern tel.

We later discovered that since January UFO sightings had been made on quite a frequent basis, around 7:00 P.M. each evening. We were among the witnesses one night in February to the appearance of one or two orange basketball-shaped UFO's.

Could it perhaps be true that UFOs have been seen on a regular basis in this area before? Could it perhaps be true that this is why the Mounds are where they are? Here is another case which we can personally attest to.

In the area around Brooksville, Florida UFOs are apparently seen quite frequently. The presumed origin for this was the John Reeves contact case. When we were in Brooksville early in March we again saw two UFOs of a rather spectacular nature. They were quite similar to the lights we had seen earlier in the year at Cartersville, Georgia, though the latter was considerably more vivid. We discovered on this trip (or perhaps re-discovered as we may have heard this previously) that there was, indeed, an Indian Mound..of all things...in the area where the Reeves case and other incidents of a lesser nature had taken place. The question again comes up: Is this a new phenomenon or does it date back to earlier times?

Background research in this area might begin with the discovery of two separate concepts: the so-called "leys", or lines between ancient monuments, and the orthoteny theory, or the concept of straight lines in UFO reports. British researcher, Jimmy Goodard, has done some impressive work in this area. To be sure, neither of these concepts are accepted as fact separately, much less being accepted as two aspects of the same thing. But the matter does lend itself to serious attention. On the other hand, it is perhaps true that UFOs are being seen in increasing numbers everywhere. I have seen UFOs from my own home looking like the Brooksville - Cartersville lights.

Whether either or both alignment theories are true, the association of UFO and other fortean reports with the sites of ancient monuments may have some validity. The "why" of it is not an easily answered mystery (assuming, for the moment, that a valid relationship exists), but the presence of a reality warp is at least as good as an explanation as any.

If such warps do exist and are artificial rather than natural we get around to the question of motive. In this context we are going to introduce a term with disturbing portent. That term, my friends, is "BEACHHEAD".

AR BOOKLIST & LIBRARY: The Tolkein Library

J.R.R. Tolkein has become, we hear, something of a campus hero with the publication of paperback editions of his trilogy THE LORD OF THE RINGS. Without question, Tolkein is a master of what is generally referred to as fantasy. What may be of special interest to AR fans is that Tolkein may be more of a "believer" in the subject he writes about than is generally supposed. Before some literary scholar pronounces me daft beyond recall, let me hasten to urge careful attention to Tolkein's essay "On Fairy-Stories" as published in THE TOLKEIN READER (see below)

Below we have suggested in all cases the Ballantine editions. At least in the case of the LORD trilogy, there is also an Ace edition of each. There has been some controversy over the fact that Ace published without authorization from Tolkein. Without getting into the controversy itself we suggest the Ballantine Editions. They certainly stand on firmer moral ground, and from our informal comparison the Ballantine seems superior in quality.

THE HOBBIT by J.R.R. Tolkein, Ballantine, U7039, 95¢. 287 pages. A prelude to the RING, trilogy, this work is sub-titled (if that's the word) "or There and Back Again". Despite what you may have heard, this doesn't impress us as a work primarily for the young, though any fantasy buff should enjoy it, regardless of age.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS, Part One, THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING by J.R.R. Tolkein, Ballantine, U7040, 95¢. 527 pages.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS, Part Two, THE TWO TOWERS by J.R.R. Tolkein, Ballantine, U7041, 95¢. 447 pages.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS, Part Three, THE RETURN OF THE KING by J.R.R. Tolkein, Ballantine, U7042, 95¢. 544 pages.

THE TOLKEIN READER by J.R.R. Tolkein, Ballantine, U7038, 95¢. This is a collection of Tolkein material including an enchanting section of poetry. The most significant part of this work, however, from an AR point of view is the essay mentioned above, "On Fairy Stories".

You will probably have noted the absence of comments on the RING trilogy proper. This is due to our lack of firsthand knowledge of the massive work at the time of our present writing. We do know quite enough, however from second-hand and what little first-hand knowledge we have to say that if you have the time and inclination to go through 1518 pages, here is a good place for you to devote your time from both an AR and a purely esthetic point of view. The other two works we can commend to you from first-hand knowledge. If you can't get them at a local newsstand, try contacting Ballantine directly at 101 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 101003.

The significance of the Tolkein library from an AR point of view may be or may not be obvious to you. The AR theory has as one of its basic concepts the idea that folklore and UFOlogy are part of the same basic fabric. Possibly the most obvious correlation are the persistent accounts of "little men" in both, I.E. "humanoids", "goblins", etc. Tolkein creates (I use this word guardedly) a world filled with such things. It is one thing to invent a myth...and another to believe in it. I understand the Baker Street Irregulars say (with how much humor I don't know) that Sherlock Holmes really lived. Perhaps the proponents of the AR theory are the Irregulars of folklore.

////Anyone having books, publications or other relevant material to suggest in connection with the AR theory should contact the Editor.

Please send as complete information as possible.////

THEN AND NOW: A COMPARISON

BY

Lucius Farish

As most UFOlogists are aware, the history of UFOs is almost as old as the history of Mankind. Throughout our recorded history, references to mysterious objects in the sky are found. One of the earliest such records is to be found in the ancient Egyptian papyrus scrolls of approximately 3500 years ago. The UFOs of that day are described as "circles of fire". Today, we would say they were luminous or fiery discs. Also, the Egyptians reported that a "foul odor" accompanied the discs. This is paralleled in our modern day reports of various odors (sulphur, ozone, "rotton eggs", etc.) in the vicinity of UFOs. Apparently the UFOnuts, or some of them, at any rate, believe in the adage, "Once you've found a good thing, stick with it.", for we note many similarities between historical sightings and more modern reports.

According to Frank Edwards' book, Stranger Than Science, Alexander the Great was plagued by two objects, described on page 213 of the Ace Edition of Edwards' work. They dived repeatedly at his army during an attempted river crossing. Although Edwards does not give his source of information, several books have been written dealing with Alexander's career and campaigns. Some of the stories and legends surrounding Alexander have doubtless been embellished with the passage of time, but one such tale might possibly have UFOlogical significance. It is recounted in The Alliterative Romance of Alexander, edited by G. Stevenson and published in 1849. Briefly, it tells of Alexander's trip to the bottom of the sea, in a glass globe, where an "angel" showed him dragons and "sea-monsters" one of which had a tail two hundred and fifty miles long. It took two or three days for the "tail" to pass Alexander. Today, we speak of "submarine" UFOs and possible undersea bases for our space visitors. Is there perhaps some connection or are we merely engaging in idle speculation?

UFOs, and Fortean Phenomena, were reported by many of the classical writers as has been brought to our attention most ably by such writers as W.R. Drake, both in his book Gods or Spacemen?, and in his excellent articles over the years in England's Flying Saucer Review. For example, Livy's History of Rome, Book 21, Chapter 62, tells us; "During this winter, at Rome, and in its vicinity, many prodigies either happened, or, as is not unusual when people's minds have once taken a turn towards superstition, many were reported and credulously admitted. Among others, it was said, ..that a light had appeared in the sky in the form of ships;....that, in the district of Amiternum, in many places, apparitions of men in white garments had been seen at a distance, but had not come close to anybody; that in Picenum, a shower of stones had fallen."

Many modern reports mention small discs, triangular-shaped objects, etc. being emitted from larger objects, usually stationary in the sky. In the first half-century after the birth of Christ, Pliny the elder wrote his monumental Natural History, a compilation of thirty-seven books which was looked upon as the encyclopedia of its day. According to Lempriere's Classical Dictionary, Pliny wrote of "the stars, the heavens, wind, rain, hail, minerals, trees, flowers and plants, besides an account of all living animals, birds, fishes and beasts; a geographical description of every place on the globe, and a history of every art and science of commerce and navigation, with their rise, progress and several improvements." Pliny's pronouncements on any subject were unlikely to be challenged. During the mediaeval era, and after, it was merely necessary for a writer to say "As Plinie saith" to insure the reader's acceptance of any statement. In Book 2, Chapter 35 of Natural History, we find the following report; "In the consulship of Gnaeus Octavius and Gaius Suetonius a spark was seen to

fall from a star and increase in size as it approached the earth and after becoming as large as the moon it diffused a sort of cloudy daylight and then returning to the sky changed into a torch. This is the only record of its occurrence. It was seen by the proconsul Silenus and his suite."

The Roman writer, Julius Obsequens, whom W. R. Drake termed, "that Charles Fort of Antiquity", recorded an incident in 163 B.C. which will surely sound familiar to UFOlogists and Fortean of today; "In the consulship of Tiberius Gracchus and Manius Juventus at Capua the sun was seen by night. At Formice two suns were seen by day. The sky was afire. In Cephallenia a trumpet seemed to sound from the sky. There was a rain of earth. A windstorm demolished houses and laid crops flat in the field. By night an apparent sun shone at Pisaurum."

Dion Cassius in his Roman History gave the following report from 193 A.D.; "Three men attempted to seize control of affairs, Severus, Niger and Albinus... these then were the three men portended by the three stars that suddenly came to view surrounding the sun, when Emperor Julianus in our presence was offering the Sacrifices of Entrance in front of the Senate House. These stars were so very distinct that the soldiers kept continually looking at them and pointing them out to one another declaring that some dreadful fate would befall the Emperor."

That modern "bone of contention", the contactee claim, is actually nothing new, as we will see in the following account from Robert Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy: "Cardan...relates of his father, Facius Cardan, that after the accustomed solemnities, A.N. 1491, 13 August, he conjured up seven devils, in Greek apparel, about forty years of age, some ruddy of complexion, and some pale, as he thought; he asked them many questions, and they made ready answer, that they were aerial devils, that they lived and died as men did, save that they were far longer lived (700 or 800 years); they did as much excel men in dignity as we do juments (beasts), and were as far excelled again of those that were above them." Although the beings described above were referred to as "aerial devils", whereas today our contactees would doubtless refer to them as "angels" or "space brothers", the information given is almost identical to that alledgedly received from our present-day UFO occupants.

Hopefully, this will be the first of a series of articles wherein we shall attempt to show that practically all phases of modern-day UFOlogy have their counterparts in times long past. To our way of thinking, the UFO is no "johnny-come-lately" but an integral part of man's experience throughout recorded history. Surely, such an old friend deserves to be fully recognized!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The above article was originally designated for the first in Mr. Farish's series. It is published here as second in the series, thus explaining the reference in the last paragraph. AHG)