

# SPACE

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S. P. A. C. E. (Saucer Phenomena and Celestial Enigma)

The Air Force says that it has no **PHYSICAL EVIDENCE** (physical meaning 'something you can touch') that such things even exist. In the words of Capt. Edward J. Ruppelt, retired, who served three years at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, as Chief Investigator for Project Bluebook **WHAT CONSTITUTES PROOF??** — Does a UFO have to land at the River Entrance to the Pentagon, near the Joint Chiefs of Staff offices? Or is it proof enough when a ground Radar Station detects a UFO, sends a Jet up to intercept it, the pilot sees it, and locks on with his Radar, only to have the UFO streak away at a phenomenal rate of speed? Which is **PROOF?**

November 1960

Bulletin No. 47

## THE TEMPO INCREASES

The month of October saw an ever increasing number of UFO reports coming in from subscribers, and from contemporary UFO publications as well. Newspapers, at least some of them, seem to be carrying more and more of the local reports.

However, the wire services seem to carry just enough to keep interest alive with the general public, but not to let the situation get out of control.

Many newspapers are taking an aggressive stand regarding the official policy. The following story in the San Fernando, Calif. SUN, early in the current cycle seems to be indicative of this undercurrent of disagreement.

### DON'T BE ALARMED IF ONE FALLS ON YOUR HEAD ---- IT DOESN'T EXIST

by Bob Tangeman

Now some people in the Valley have added their reports to the mounting stack of evidence for the existence of "flying saucers", or as officially designated, "unidentified flying objects."

And I imagine the Air Force, as usual, will come up with an official explanation which says nothing and explains less.

The Air Force policy regarding UFO's has changed weekly, but the general attitude seems to remain the same, which is, what the people don't know won't hurt them.

I submit that this is an unacceptable pose for the Government of the United States to assume before its people, people who are not as stupid as the policy makers seem to believe.

It would require volumes to present the case for the existence of flying saucers. These volumes exist and are available to those interested enough to seek them out. And the evidence heavily supports the notion

that these objects are interplanetary vehicles.

Such possibilities do not concern everybody. Some have made up their minds about the universe and they don't want to be bothered by facts.

The facts are that professional and technical people in practically every field have testified to the reality of "things" in the heavens which can't be explained away by calling them weather balloons, the planet Venus, hoaxes, Russian secret weapons, or mass delusions.

Added to their testimony are the thousands of sightings reported by Just People, but people who know what they see and have the courage to tell about it.

For example:

Mrs. Jerry Coffelt of Sun Valley and four members of her family observed two red and green objects maneuvering in the sky over Hansen Dam one night last week.

"I've always been a skeptic when it comes to things like this," she told me, "but now I don't know what to think."

She added with a sigh, "I'm just grateful that other people saw them too."

The objects at first looked like stars, but then they came closer speeding up and down and around each other for 45 fantastic minutes before streaking over the Sylmar mountains.

"I don't know what they were," said Mrs. Coffelt, "but whatever they were, they were up there and they were real, and they were doing things no airplane ever did."

You can be sure of one thing: If the Air Force bothers to investigate this case, its official explanation will be an insult not only to the Coffelt family, but to the intelligence of Americans everywhere. Which means you, dear reader. (San Fernando, Calif. SUN, Aug. 7, 1960, credit Gloria Lee, Cosmon

Research Foundation, Box 55, Palos Verdes Estates, California).

\* \* \* \* \*

#### EVIDENCE OF SAUCER LANDING IN ENGLAND

A farmer named Bill Edwards was walking through his pasture fields one day early last June, when he came across imprints in the ground which formed two concentric circles, the outer one approximately 23 feet in diameter, and the inner one 16 feet across.

The width of the imprints was 4 inches, and the grass at the edge of them showed indications of having been burned. The depth of the imprints was about one inch, leading to the almost inescapable conclusion that they were caused by some heavy circular object which had landed recently in the field. The ground was very hard, as there had been no rain recently, and this fact added to the evidence that the object which landed must have been very heavy indeed. The field in question is about a half mile from the nearest road, and no vehicle could have reached the spot without there being some sign of its approach through other fields -- but there were no such signs.

Edwards had been to the same spot only two days previously, and according to him there were definitely no circles visible then. The day previous to the discovery of the mysterious circles, Edwards and some helpers were working in a nearby field. They noticed nothing unusual that day, nor did any other local resident report anything unusual.

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#### NEAR-LANDING IN FRANCE

One of the closest sightings in a long time occurred last August 5th between the towns of Moulee and Lille in France. A man named Daniel Huot and his wife, were driving home from a visit with relatives, when a bright round object suddenly blocked the highway in front of them.

It was the color "of the setting sun" and was only about 10 feet above the ground when first seen. The UFO then moved to one side of the highway and let the car pass, but it continued to follow Huot and his frightened wife for half a mile, at a distance of about 100 feet from the car. The object made no noise and gave off no smoke. It was about 15 feet high and 10 feet wide, and brightly lighted on the bottom, whereas the upper part

was darker and somewhat indistinct.

Mrs. Huot claimed to have seen a human form within the strange machine, but she was unable to give details. The incident occurred late at night, and there were no other witnesses.

(Ed. Note -- this is reminiscent of the cases where UFO's chased cars on lonely roads in the interior of Brazil, several years ago)

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#### CLOSE SIGHTING IN A COLORADO CANYON

On August 12th a Boulder, Colorado truck driver named Ray Hawks reported a strange experience he had had on the previous afternoon.

While operating a tractor alone in a canyon a few miles from Boulder, he heard what sounded like an explosion in the air.

A UFO then dropped out of a cloud, to a point about 400 or 500 feet from the ground and 600 yards from him.

It hovered in one place for 15 minutes. Hawks said that the craft was 45 to 50 feet in diameter and 10 to 15 feet thick. It had no markings. There was a sort of velvety appearance to it, with a silver sheen, yet it did not shine like aluminum.

About two feet from the outer edge, were five observable metal plates, one of which was sending out bluish smoke of some kind. There was an all-pervading noise, like the thrumming of a generator out of phase. While the craft was hovering nearby, the starter and other electrical equipment on the tractor would not work. After the UFO finally rose and disappeared into the clouds, the tractor again operated as usual. (Credit JIM MOSELY, SAUCER NEWS, P. O. Box 163, Ft. Lee, N. J.)

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#### ✓ EIGHT SIGHT FLYING DISK OVER MARIN

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. Sept. 21, 1960-- Eight persons -- six of them youngsters -- declared they saw a mysterious flying disk dart across the skies above Marin County yesterday.

A group of five Greenbrae boys, described by one of the parents as serious-minded and not inclined to flights of fancy, said they saw the object whip through the sky as they watched the partial eclipse of the sun shortly after 4 p.m.

Ross Murphy, 10, of 75 Eliseo Drive, described the object as gleaming silver and

oval-shaped on top. He said it sped from over San Rafael toward Mount Tamalpais and disappeared in about 20 seconds. The object seemed to emit rays, Ross said. The sighting was confirmed by his four companions.

Three hours later, at 7:45 p.m. a San Anselmo family saw a bright round object zig-zagging across the sky from NW to SE.

Julius Galliani and his son Lowell, were watering their lawn at 80 Lincoln Avenue when they observed the disk weaving through the sky. Mrs. Claire Galliani was called from the house.

"It was bigger and brighter than Echo I satellite", Mrs. Galliani said. "It took almost a minute to cross the sky."

They said it didn't fly in a straight line like other satellites, but instead bounced from side to side. (San Rafael, Calif. INDEPENDENT JOURNAL--Credit Gloria Lee, Cosmon Research Found., Box 55, Palos Verdes Estates, California.)

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#### MYSTERY SUB NOW HUNTED OFF HAWAII

HONOLULU (AP) -- A mysterious underwater object which the Pacific Anti-Submarine Force Commander said "is a long way from known submarine bases" drew a swift search Saturday by a U.S. aircraft carrier and four destroyers between Hawaii and the mainland.

The 40,000-ton attack carrier Kearsarge, carrying three squadrons of anti-submarine warfare planes, rushed into the search on such a sudden emergency basis from Long Beach Friday that it left some crewmen in port.

Vice Adm. J. S. Thach, Pacific Anti-Submarine Force commander, said the object "is a long way from known submarine bases and is in an area under my command, and I want to know what it is."

The Navy maintained a considerable hush-hush atmosphere.

Thach said the Navy may not announce if and when the Kearsarge makes contact. He indicated there might not be any further information on the operation.

Thach said the reported location, "does not particularly indicate the object has nuclear capabilities." (Los Angeles EXAMINER, Oct. 16, 1960 -- credit Lela B. Johnson, Torrance, California.)

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NOTE: For those new subscribers to S.P.A.C.E., who may wonder why we use this type of an item, a word of explanation. From reports crossing this desk, over the years, we have come to the conclusion that many of

the mystery underwater objects are not submarines at all.

You will remember the fiasco over the two "unknowns" that were so thoroughly bottled up in the Golfo Nuevo off the coast of Argentina last year. How the Argentinian Navy made the bold announcement that the "subs" were trapped and it was impossible for them to escape, yet had a red face days later, when there was no trace at all of the unknowns, who had somehow or other eluded the ever watchful eye of the radar over the one and only narrow escape route.

UFO's have been seen in the past to enter the ocean waters and disappear, and have also been reported leaving the ocean waters and disappearing up into space.

We come to the only conclusion that seems to fit all the parts of the puzzle, on the Golfo Nuevo case, and that is that the unknowns did escape, under cover of darkness, while the battlewagons were guarding the only exit (water exit that is). They disappeared silently--under cover of darkness--and they disappeared "UP".

\* \* \* \* \*

#### MYSTERY WITH STRING ATTACHED -- JET ON A BALLOON DOGGIE

CHICAGO, Oct. 18, 1960 (UPI)-- Passengers aboard a New York-to-Chicago jet flight got a good look at an unidentified flying object (UFO) as they flew over Ohio near Toledo yesterday.

Capt. Lorne V. Petrie, commander of the 707 Superjet, maneuvered his craft so passengers could watch the UFO which was reported at an altitude of about 11,000 feet.

Petrie even took pictures of the object. On landing at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, the film was rushed to the Air National Guard, which developed the negatives and confirmed the sighting of an object.

The craft, authorities said, was a weather balloon, believed released in the Detroit area. (Detroit NEWS, Oct. 19, 1960 -- Credit Mrs. Violet Berger, Taylor, Michigan).

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NOTE: We might add here that we know and have interviewed for this bulletin and for radio usage, many airline pilots. And we do not feel that any of them would take photographs of a weather balloon that was near enough to show up on the film of any ordinary camera, maneuver his 707 so that the passengers would get a better view, rush the film to the Air National Guard for processing-- if it were only an ordinary weather balloon. But of course we cannot expect the

authorities to call it anything else, can we????

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UFO SURVEILLANCE LINK WITH SPACE

The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force has made two important admissions about UFO's, in a private "policy letter" to all AF commanders.

1. The AF maintains a "continuous surveillance of the atmosphere near Earth for UFO's."
2. The AF's interest in space surveillance is related to this constant alert for UFO's.

The policy letter from Secretary Dudley Sharp's office, dated Aug. 15, 1960, was signed by Major Gen. Arno Luehman.

As in the UFO surveillance, the space watch is on a round-the-clock basis, the policy letter stated. Tracking of both known and unidentified space objects is carried out by the National Space Surveillance Control Center, aided by "a selected scientific group under the supervision of the Air Force."

NOTE: The above Air Force "policy letter" was revealed in the October, 1960, NICAP Bulletin. (1536 Connecticut Ave., W.D.C.-Major Keyhoe, Director & Editor).

Old time UFO fans in the Miami area, will remember the above General Arno Luehman, as the man who was vacationing about three years ago on Miami Beach.

He was interviewed by a Miami Daily NEWS reporter at that time. One of the inevitable questions he was asked was about the existence of "FLYING SAUCERS". He made a big joke of it, and inferred that these were only figments of the imagination.

At that time your Editor wrote him a letter challenging his remarks, challenging him to a public debate on the UFO subject, via TV, Radio, or in a public hall of his own choosing. Copies of the letter were sent to both local newspapers. The Miami Daily NEWS printed the letter and the challenge.

However, the General, as was to be expected remained silent, failed to acknowledge the letter, and did not answer the newspaper followup with any of his own. HO--HUM!!!!

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LITTLE MEN IN MOZAMBIQUE

The Portuge & News Agency "Lusitania"

published a report on the 7th of April, which told of the explosion of a saucer near Baira.

As the story goes, residents of Baira on the beach of Mozambique, saw a round orange object emitting a glow as it flew across the sky.

The mysterious craft landed, and seconds later four little men emerged and ran into the woods. Then the craft exploded with a large concussion. No further information was forthcoming except that the object, while in flight, made a loud whistling noise, and the whole incident was observed by hundreds of residents. (Credit A.P.R.O., Coral Lorenzen, 4407 E. Linden, Tucson, Arizona).

NOTE: One can only let the imagination roam after reading a report such as this one. As you well know, any Irishman from the "Old Sod" will swear by all the holy saints, that the stories of the Leprechaun are not just folklore.

Suppose back in earlier days some of the exploring "wee people" had been stranded here due to a mishap with their spacecraft.

Or suppose worse still---they had been deliberately exiled here as some form of punishment imposed upon them by their society. Could they then, not have continued to carry on the race in the forests of Ireland, hiding from the GIANTS, with whom they occasionally came into contact. Endowed with perhaps an abundance of the ESP factor, they may have only allowed those to approach near enough to observe them, of the GIANTS who were more kindly than their fellow countrymen. Better stop here, the imagination seems to be working overtime!

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FLYING SAUCERS HUSHED UP

MANCHESTER, England---Peter Lawless, 31 year old travelling salesman told the Aetherius Society in London yesterday that the Air Ministry has admitted unofficially the existence of flying saucers from other planets.

He said that after seeing many saucers he called on the Ministry with the society's chairman, Mr. George King.

A senior official told them the Ministry knew about the flying saucers. Aircraft had tailed some, but lost them owing to their fantastic speed.

The Ministry wanted to release their information, but had been stopped by the politicians, the official added.

A Ministry spokesman said: "I cannot confirm this rather surprising story." (Credit

Mrs. Jack Leigh of England, via Mrs. John A. Stocker, St. Petersburg, Fla. Clipping from a Manchester, England newspaper.)

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#### DINOSAUR TRACKS REPORTED BY REDS

MOSCOW, Oct. 22 (AP) -- Soviet scientists have discovered footprints belonging to the giant dinosaurs which roamed the earth 200,000,000 years ago, Tass reported today.

The footprints, described as the only such tracks in the world, were located in sandstone on the upper reaches of the Zeravshan River in Soviet Asia.

The Soviet news agency said scientists believe it will now be possible to find the burial place of these prehistoric monsters. (New York MIRROR, Oct. 23, 1960 - Credit Gladys Fusaro, Huntington, New York.)

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#### UFO'S ARE REPORTED IN DEL NORTE

✓ CRESCENT CITY, Del Norte Co., Calif.--(AP)-- Six unidentified flying objects, three of them traveling in the same direction, were reported seen here Sunday night by 13 persons, including a federal aviation agency employee. First spotted by a 16 year old boy, the objects were described by FAA employee Fred Goulden as being "faster, lower and brighter" than Echo, America's communications satellite.

Goulden said three were flying southeast and two of them southwest. The sixth he said, moved erratically across the sky.

Sightings of the objects was reported to the Air Defense Command, Washington, D. C. (Sacramento BEE, Nov. 1, 1960---Credit Ken Hedberg, Florin, California.)

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From West Hollywood, Florida we have been receiving a series of reports of a lone UFO seen by Fletcher King of that city. Seems whatever this object is, it seems to be more interested in the Everglades area than it does in the Gold Coast. We quote from Mr. King's letter:

"Though I usually see this UFO in the middle or latter part of the evening, or even early morning, this last sighting was at 6:30 p.m. It was observed off and on until 7:30, when its light faded out and was seen no more.

"Contrary to many reports of people seeing UFOs with a very bright light from them, this one had only moderate brightness, sometimes only a dull red, rather than the white light usually seen.

"Whenever the light is a dull red or orange color, the light pattern seems to be ellipsoidal, rather than in rays like a star.

"I think now the pilot of the craft is getting a little bolder than he had previously been, coming closer to us here, still he was not near enough to get any idea of the size of his craft, or even its general shape. It is definitely not a star."

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#### UFO'S ACTIVE AGAIN OVER CARACAS SKIES

CARACAS, Venezuela--Nov. 3, 1960--Once again numerous citizens of Caracas have reported the presence in the skies over the city of unidentified luminous objects which execute "Weird maneuvers" in the area over the eastern sector of the city some nights ago.

Some time last month, a strange luminous cigar shaped artifact was seen flying over almost all of the states of Venezuela, and hundreds of Caracas residents had the opportunity of witnessing its passage over the city. All witnesses were in agreement that the object seen by them was not a plane, not a rocket, not an astronomical body, not a meteorological balloon, and definitely not any mirage, hallucination, falling ice crystals, luminous clouds, luminous bugs, or migratory birds. Yet they all agreed that it was some sort of manufactured apparatus, either luminous in itself, or emitting a strange bluish light, and was evidently under intelligent control.

All during the month of May, 1960, the neighboring Republic of Brazil was seething with reports of "luminous aerial craft" of unknown origin that were seen night after night and day after day over one particular region of that country.

The luminous craft were described as being "cigar-shaped" or disk-like, emitting a peculiar luminosity and maneuvered freely over numerous towns and villages in the states of Ceara, Rio Grande do Norte, Pernambuco, Paraiba, Bahia, Piaui, and Maranhao. Yet no information of these sightings were carried by the International News Wires.

In the same month of May, various astronomers of the Palma Majorca Observatory reported seeing a "mysterious triangular shaped object" maneuvering over the region. The astronomers said that the object appeared to be spinning around its own axis without deviating from its path and had the apparent size of the full moon.

In July, a luminous disk-like device was seen hovering close to the ground over a slag dump near Leefe, Wyoming, USA. In the same month, a luminous "globe" was seen crossing the skies over Los Angeles leaving

a greenish trail in its wake.

Similar unidentified "luminous aerial devices" were seen either hovering or maneuvering in the skies over St. Louis, Mo., Montesano, Tennessee, Auckland, Ohio and Kanakee, between June and July of this year. The Portuguese press carried a report to the effect that, after a glowing disk-like object had "exploded" in the air, an orange, lighted device was seen to land near Baira, Mozambique, and four small creatures emerged from the craft and entered the woods. (See report earlier in this issue -- Ed Note.)

This was witnessed by hundreds of people but no information was released as to results of any investigations made.

A few months ago, quite a number of workers and residents of the new urban development of "Paraiso del Tuy" in Venezuela reported that for two consecutive days, and at the same hour (10:30 a.m.) they had seen three luminous disks flying over some nearby hills, and four Italian engineers saw where one of the luminous disks actually descended to either land or hover close to the ground over some gamelote grass just within a few hundred meters distance from where they were working on a construction project.

After the disk ascended and disappeared in the distance the engineers were surprised to see that the tall gamelote grass was sort of ironed out flat in a circular area of some 90 feet in diameter and the writer of this report saw, and examined for himself the strange track left in the gamelote grass by the UFO.

Due to the nature of these recent reports and others sent us by many reliable witnesses in the interior of the Venezuelan Republic there can be no doubt that something strange has been going on in our midst for some time now. It also becomes evident that the whole matter of these UFO's can no longer be ignored, but must be accorded the intelligent attention it merits. (Venezuelan DAILY JOURNAL, Nov. 3rd, 1960, Credit G.W.W.Kalis, Willemstad, CURACAO, Netherlands Antilles.)

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Isn't it encouraging to see a large Daily Newspaper in Venezuela carry such a well documented story of the visitation of alien craft to our planet. Many Editors in this country could take a lesson, and awaken their sleepy gray-matter, and go and do likewise.

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Readers in the Miami area -- patronize these business places for your Christmas

shopping. They keep alive, the free flow of UFO and other allied information over SPACE STATION, WMIE, 1140 kc., Sat. nights from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

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Coral Gables, Florida

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FISHERMAN SEES UFO OVER ATLANTIC

MIAMI, Sunday morning, Oct. 23, 1960, 2:00 a.m.

Elton Hodges of Miami, was out night fishing in the Gulf Stream, off Miami Beach, when he saw a bright glowing object out over the Atlantic, moving at an extremely fast rate of speed - traveling from SW to NE, just the opposite direction it would have been traveling, had it been a guided missile.

It looked as if it had a very bright exhaust behind it. Suddenly the exhaust went out, and the bright object in front continued on. Then from the bright object there appeared two great curved arcs of light, coming out behind the light, which looked just like the graceful sweep of the tail of a tropical fish.

This type of phenomena has been reported a number of times in the Miami area, but has never been properly explained.

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Ed. Note---From time to time we carry articles on Space Theology, written by

various religions and schools of thought. The reason for this is that we feel that this problem of the extra-terrestrial is and should be, just as much the concern of the religions and the religious leaders of the world as it should be of the Political leaders.

Another such article has come to our attention, and we are going to quote excerpts from it here. It was carried in the October issue of COLUMBIA, the official publication of the Knights of Columbus.

I have been able to obtain 50 copies of this publication, and for those who want this issue with the article complete, send me your request---along with some stamps for postage, and I will send them out as long as they last, on a first come, first served basis. And here are the excerpts from the article:

#### THE THEOLOGY OF OUTER SPACE

by John P. Kleinz

An ancient question is being asked with more urgency now. Do the stars and planets we are now exploring sustain intelligent beings? And what are our chances of communicating with them in the Space Age that opens before us?

Scientists--and theologians--are having some sober second thoughts about these questions, which they once tended to dismiss quickly from their minds. The scientists are serious now in their search for evidence of intelligent beings beyond the earth. Theologians are grappling again, with new interest, with the problems such beings would raise about their relation to such Catholic doctrines as Incarnation and Redemption and Original Sin.

Only a dozen years ago, most American scientists were inclined to belittle, in the "flying saucer" days, the implication that there were intelligent creatures who might be directing them toward our earth. Now, they listen in dead earnest to the new speculations about life on other planets. And, in Green Bank, West Virginia, radio astronomers have begun a long range effort to determine whether there is some rational pattern produced by intelligent creatures within the disorder of noises which come to us from the neighborhood of certain nearby stars. Scientists in a dozen different fields, using new electronic tools, are now engaged in a systematic search for other life, including intelligent life, in outer space.

The most complete theological treatise defending the possibility, and, indeed, the

actual existence, of rational beings beyond the earth was first published, in 1884, by Father Joseph Pohle, a well known German scholar. His book, "The Galaxies and Their Inhabitants" went rapidly through several editions. Father Pohle's thought moved from a statement of the possibility of such creatures to an opinion that it was appropriate that God should have created them, and concluded at the end that they must exist.

His reasons were summarized in a recent article by Father Angelo Perego, S.J. "The universe had to be populated beyond the earth in order to bear witness to the glorious works of God, to demonstrate that God's creativity is not restricted to a single composition of soul and matter, and to counter-balance the failure of the human race."

Father Pohle may be correct in his opinion but it is still only an opinion. There is nothing in the sources of Catholic Faith, Scripture and the tradition of the Church, to force Catholics to believe that the other worlds are inhabited by intelligent beings. We do know that angels exist, but the discussion does not concern them. Until man can land an interplanetary rocket on Mars, the existence of extra-terrestrial beings will remain God's secret.

The professor of theology at the University of Munich, Dr. Michael Schmaus, holds that there is nothing in Catholic teachings to deny the possibility. If they do exist, Christ would be their head (St. Paul said He was head of the universe) but not necessarily their Redeemer. If they needed a Redeemer after their "original sin", it could be that Redemption through Christ "could be preached to them by some messenger of the faith without Christ making any visible appearance among them. But it is also possible that God did not give these creatures any supernatural goal..."

These remarks were reported in TIME magazine after a flurry of speculation through Europe, in 1955, caused by some "sightings" of flying saucers. The question was asked at that time whether the Church should be preparing to send missionaries to outer space. A professor of theology at a Catholic academy in Paderborn, Germany, thought not: "In principle we must say that the Christian order of redemption was realized by God for this world...Only we who are descended from Adam are born in original sin, and God became man to redeem us...His church and His sacraments are not valid for other planets."

The dean of American Catholic theologians,

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Father Francis Connell, C.S.S.R., recently retired from Catholic University, saw no difficulty in admitting the possibility of rational life in outer space. After one of the many alleged sightings of "unidentified flying objects," he told the newspaper reporters: "Revelation, the common teaching of the Fathers, tradition, the solemn pronouncements of the Popes -- none of these say there cannot be life other than on earth." Father Connell said that theologians could imagine a variety of states in which such beings could exist, natural or supernatural, fallen in sin or not, redeemed or not.

In February, 1960, NEWSWEEK interviewed Father Domenico Grasso, S.J., professor of pastoral theology at the great Jesuit Gregorian University in Rome. He agreed with most modern theologians who have discussed the subject that, if races exist beyond our own, they must be created by God, but that, since no astronauts have contacted them, we must assume that they live on a different plane of Providence and that therefore they are outside "the ordained area of the Church".

Although Father Grasso agrees with his Jesuit colleague, Father Antonio Messineo, contributing editor of CIVILTA CATOLICA, that we should adopt a "wait and see" attitude on the question of our eventual missionary activities in outer space, he is sure that there will be Catholic priests in space.

And so the discussion goes on---and the theologians try to penetrate more deeply into the mysteries of God. By the very nature of their science, they are forced to continue their search. Now that the experts predict manned flights to Mars in the future

the speculation will increase.

In our present uncertain state of knowledge about these highly speculative matters the best summary for today would seem to be that which Father Angelo Perego put at the end of an article in 1958:

"Hence, while not requiring men in outer space, theology admits the possibility and would admire the reality. Indeed, it finds appropriate reasons why there should be untold billions of them flung across the whole universe in various states of nature."

Inevitably, the theologian who searches into space will require the poet's creative imagination. It will be best, therefore, to let the poets have the last word. It was Agnes Meynell who voiced the secret hopes of today's theologians in some lines of her CHRIST IN THE UNIVERSE:

...in the eternities  
Doubtless we shall compare together, hear  
A million alien gospels, in what guise  
He trod the Pleiades, the Lyre, the Bear.

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