

THE SPACE PEOPLE

By: Gray Barker

Author of BOOK OF SAUCERS and THEY KNEW TOO
MUCH ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS

Readers of SEARCHLIGHT have probably read a lot of my material down through the years. So they know that although I am very liberal in my approach to the UFOs I'm also not likely to accept anything simply because I'm given some wild eye story. In my years of UFO research I've run across just about everything in the book and some that can't be printed! Just off hand I can recall the time that a lengthy letter arrived from a Washington, D.C. correspondent offering to appoint both Ray Palmer and myself as Angels, if we would fulfill certain conditions. The writer of the strange letter has been an angel for many years. When he and his wife go walking downtown, they carry a special staff through which they receive communications from other higher angels. Often when they try to cross against a light, or some traffic danger is imminent, the angels shake the staff violently, to warn them. This staff contains a special crystal-like knob on the top, through which higher angels can look out through the world. In other words, the device is something like a television transmitter. What we liked particularly about this correspondent, however, is not so much his angelic position, but because he is so kind and liberal-minded that he often permits the Devils, also, to look through his staff, because they get so much pleasure out of it!

Yet despite these far out stories we must admit that some of the more conservative contactees - such as Adamski and Menger - seem to be telling what they believe to be the truth. We've been into the various other possibilities before in this publication so no need to reinforce them here and now.

As publisher of a good two dozen saucer and new age books over the past ten years a lot of water has gone under the dam. Contactees have come and gone leaving their mark upon the pages of UFOlogical history. Many attracted thousands of devoted followers while others were more or less dismissed. Today most occupancy reports are no longer ridiculed as they were five or even two years ago. The Barney and Betty Hill story as well as various South American incidents have led to a more or less generally accepted belief in their existence even among the most hardened researchers of NICAP and APRC.

Going back to 1958 and 1959 two young sisters -- Helen and Betty Mitchell -- came into the saucer picture briefly with a most unusual, yet believable story. Their saucery experiences began when the two young ladies stopped in a St. Louis, Mo. coffee shop and started discussing telepathy which they had a mild interest in. After awhile they noticed that two young men at the next counter kept staring at them, but ignored them until one walked over to their table and began a conversation.

The sisters, apparently accustomed to wolfish attention, were ready to give the fellow the brush-off when they noticed that close up he looked rather odd, although they couldn't decide just what it was -- except, perhaps his very dark complexion.

Then he threw them the punch line: "I am Velas from the planet Mars -- and my friend is Elen from Venus."

With this the other man stepped over to their table. The sisters noticed they were dressed alike, but in quite ordinary fashion. Both wore gray business suits, white shirts, ties and the usual accessories.

The two men were very serious in their attitude and told the sisters about themselves and their home planets, but still Helen and Betty took it as a joke, unable to believe such a story.

"We'll be seeing you in one week," they told the sisters as they departed, and the girls left the coffee shop, still feeling they were victims of a hoax.

It so happened that in a week business matters again took them to St. Louis and they decided to drop into the same coffee shop, laughingly wondering if the "space men" would be there -- only by this time they weren't so certain the two men had been joking. Their apparent knowledge of space and the planets, though it could have been contrived, and above all, their obvious seriousness, had impressed the sisters.

Sure enough, there were their two friends, sitting at the same table. This time they handed them a diagram of what appeared to be a quite simple electronic device. The two men told the sisters that they could build the device easily and could use it to communicate with them; although they warned the sisters not to reveal the device or the plans to others (shades of Albert K. Bender?).

"The device works on the principle of magnetic lines," Betty Mitchell told me in a long distance phone call back in 1959.

Climax of the many contacts, however, was an invitation to go with the two men out of the city. We assume that Helen was alone at the time because only one of them accompanied the men. She got into a car and

was driven by one of the spacemen through East St. Louis and finally out of the city, into Illinois. They then drove to a wooded area where Helen saw a large barn. They opened the door of the barn, she got out of the car, and they drove the car inside, then shut the door.

The "spacemen" pointed to a nearby clearing. Helen gasped, for there sat a flying saucer. It was bell-shaped, but without the familiar portholes of the Adamski-type craft.

She entered the ship and they took her for a 15-minute ride, going over Chicago, Boston and the North Pole. Then, through a lens affair in the floor of the craft, she saw the Earth speeding away from her. They told Helen they were taking her for a short trip out into space.

The Earth had a reddish tint, and was, to her surprise, flattened at the poles, which, if Helen wasn't already familiar with the fact that geographers say the Earth IS flattened there, should bear out her story.

Then they took her to a huge mother craft where she spent a number of hours discussing philosophy with the people from Venus and Mars. Then Helen was flown back to earth, to the same spot from where they had departed.

The key point to this contact was that our solar system is moving into a higher vibrational plane. If that were true, could it not account for many of the strange things man has been witnessing in such great numbers since 1947?

There is much more to the Mitchell Sisters story but those who are interested can find these details in a new booklet by the sisters entitled WE MET THE SPACE PEOPLE.

Another problem we have in discussing space people and space ships is that some of these saucers just don't seem to be genuine material crafts. Some of them are obviously amorphous, appear as strange masses which can change shape and even vanish before our very eyes.

Maybe Meade Layne, late Director of the Borderland Sciences Research Associates, was not talking through his hat, after all, when he spoke of saucers from other dimensions. Trevor James in his best selling book THEY LIVE IN THE SKY (once again in print) also believes that UFO's exist on other dimensional planes (along with, of course, some very solid saucers).

Trevor's story is quite an interesting one. It all began when he, like a lot of other people, attended one of George Van Tassel's early Giant Rock meetings, long before the Spacecraft Conventions were begun, where he slipped down under the huge rock into the hollowed-out room and listened to Van Tassel's voice suddenly halt, then begin speaking in another voice distinctly NOT his own:

"Salutations, I am Lax, 9400th projection 604th wave, realms of Schare. I am instructed to inform you that your material-minded mortals shall be convinced. Discontinue."

James had been relaxing there in the darkness, but he suddenly started to become confused. What was going on?

Then a new voice, a completely different one: "Salutations. I am identified as Lata, fleet commander, 40th projection, 7th wave, realms of Schare. Our fleet is standing by to complete this contact. Discontinue."

James looked around. He couldn't believe his own ears, but the others seemed convinced. Someone could be throwing his voice, but he doubted it. Van Tassel himself was thoroughly convinced; in fact he had the temerity to ARGUE with the space people: "Now who am I talking to? Well, somebody keeps butting in! Confound it, you keep switching around on me! Let's settle on who is to do the talking tonight!"

After the evening's contact was completed James stumbled out into the moonlight and began to think. A little more than 50 years ago people didn't know about wireless, before Marconi invented it. If they had heard someone talking through thin air they probably would have believed it was supernatural. But if there were other planets and people on them, why shouldn't they be able to communicate with us? Perhaps through telepathy?

Shortly thereafter Trevor James himself began to receive telepathic messages from the space people. Trevor's contacts claimed that they were etheric and not material in the sense that we know the word.

Through these contacts James soon learned that there were other types of saucers and crafts flying about. Some piloted by evil beings from "downstairs," obviously referring to Shaver's Dero. Others who pilot space ships come from the Moon. Yet another type is not really a ship but is an etheric space animal. Using various photo techniques Trevor James claims to have taken

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many photos of these hideous creatures and presents them in his book THEY LIVE IN THE SKY.

After reading the various mentioned books I can't claim to have solved the entire UFO mystery to my own personal satisfaction yet I somehow believe that a composite of the various volumes published to date will lead us along the path to truth.

EDITORIAL

NEW YORK'S 1ST U.F.O. CONVENTION

Step right up folks it's the greatest show on earth. And it's happening at the Hotel Commodore from June 22nd through the 25th. What is it? Why it's the 4th annual Congress of Scientific UFOlogists presided over by James W. Moseley, the esteem editor and publisher of the world's oldest and largest selling saucer magazine SAUCER NEWS.

Yes it's right around the corner, and as Allen Greenfield amply put it "not soon enough for our money" as we too wish it were tomorrow.

The purpose of this year's congress is to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of Kenneth Arnold's famous Flying Saucer sighting, near Mt. Rainier, Washington, on June 24th, 1947. Or in other words the beginning of the "modern" era of UFOs.

To celebrate this historic occasion famous researchers from all over the United States, and several foreign countries, will be travelling to New York to address an estimated 8,000 people. Among those who will speak before the public sessions are:

Gray Barker, author of THEY KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS and president of Saucerian Publications which supplies UFOlogists all over the world with the latest in small circulation UFO volumes which otherwise would never be published because of their limited appeal to the mass book markets.

Rev. Frank E. Stranges, noted West Coast saucer contactee, lecturer and author of such works as FLYING SAUCERAMA and DANGER FROM THE STARS. Rev. Stranges will show, for the first time on the east coast, his full-length color documentary film about UFOs entitled "Phenomena 7.7".

Howard Menger, author of FROM OUTER SPACE TO YOU and well known to readers of SEARCHLIGHT for his startling accounts of visitations with UFO pilots.

Ray Palmer, editor of FLYING SAUCERS and founder of FATE magazine. Ray is an old "pro" in this field, and unlike this editor, has a real artistic way of putting his opinions into writings. No matter what he writes on a controversy is certain to follow.

Ivan T. Sanderson, the world-famous naturalist, radio and TV personality. No more need to be said about this figure since he is known world-wide for his careful and dedicated investigation of UFOs, the Abominable Snowman and other topics which the more conservative elements of the scientific world refuse to give credence to.

James Randi, magician, escape artist, radio and television star and most important of all a dedicated UFO buff who for two years had a 5 hour nightly radio show on WOR in New York where the topic of discussion was often turned to the visitation of unidentified aerial objects.

Art Ford, famous New York TV personality who will show his exclusive \$50,000 motion picture about the six Navy planes which disappeared mysteriously off the coast of Florida in 1945.

The list of others present is endless but includes Long John Nebel, Gordon Evans, Allen Greenfield, Rick Hilberg, John J. Robinson, John Keel, Kenneth Larson, Ronald Calais, etc.

Closed sessions to be attended by the heads of saucer groups will open the convention on the evening of June 22nd. The first open session for the public will be held the following evening in the Grand Ballroom seating over 2300 people. Other public sessions will be held through Sunday.

The Hotel Commodore, for those who are not familiar with New York City's plush hotels, is located right in the heart of the City only a few steps away from train and bus accommodations at Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street. Since all Convention sessions will be held at the hotel out of town guests will find it very convenient to make the Commodore their home while visiting New York.

The staff of SEARCHLIGHT cannot impress upon all our readers enough the importance of this event. All the major news mediums will be covering the convention; special displays will be put up in time for out of town visitors to see before the convention. Displays will include actual samples of angel hair, plaster casts of the tracks made by an Abominable Snowman, a device found in New Jersey which the holder claims is constantly sending back signals to the pilots of the saucer from which it came, etc. Plenty to see and plenty to do for everyone. Who hope you'll be there. As for us were going to be the first in line. (Write Convention Box 163, Fort Lee, N.J. for more information).