

UFO POTPOURRI

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AMI - CHILD OF THE STARS

In August 1985, following the appearance of some UFOs, Enrique Barrios conceived the story of a child who comes from the stars. Ami expresses the fundamental concepts of the Aquarian message, but in addition perhaps answers questions about the term "extraterrestrial life." Barrios' imagination is fertile and he communicates this through the eyes of a child.

"AMI, CHILD OF THE STARS, a bestseller in South America, is now translated into English for the first time. Written for children of all ages, this small but powerful book carries such a vital message for humankind that the Vatican has given the author Enrique Barrios an apostolic blessing. From the first page to the last, the story places the reader in a world of wonder, a world which could, one day, be our own."

AMI, CHILD OF THE STARS was published in 1989 by Lotus Press, P.O. Box 6265, Santa Fe, New Mexico 85702.

German journalist recounts sighting of mysterious lights

Thirty-eight year old German journalist, Gerd J. Geitz, came to Gulf Breeze Friday, May 24th, to meet the local Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) group, and to investigate the Gulf Breeze area UFO sightings.

While here he also visited with Ed and Frances Walters, showing them the German edition of *The Gulf Breeze Sightings* which has become a best-seller in Germany.

Geitz, reporting for the German *Stern*, spent a three-week holiday in Miami before driving up to the panhandle. While taking a rest stop at Perry, Florida, he had what he called "an interesting appearance."

"It was 2 a.m. when I saw a very intense white light 500 feet from me on Highway 27, about 10 miles from Perry," Geitz reported to the *Sentinel*. "The light was on the ground between the forest which lined the highway on both sides. When I got out of my car to get closer, the light disappeared suddenly."

Geitz went on to say that after he drove further down the

highway he could see the light again, brighter than before, and in the same place. Geitz said he was impressed by the intensity of the light. "I used to work in TV studios in Europe, and even the most intensive spotlight does not come close to what I saw," assured Geitz.

After talking with MUFON personnel in Gulf Breeze, Geitz went out Saturday, May 25th, to Pensacola Beach to the campgrounds near Fort Pickens - again at 2 a.m. "I didn't expect to see something again," Geitz admitted, "But, if you've read Ed Walters' book, you try it."

"I sat in my car while a rain-shower beat gusts of water against the front windshield. After an hour I decided to go back to my hotel, and again a white light appeared...It was up in the sky, bright and white, and its position was right above the bay between Pensacola and

Gulf Breeze," Geitz remembered. "I could see, in spite of the rain, the lights of Pensacola and Gulf Breeze, and the object right over it."

Two more sightings, together with the MUFON group, on Sunday, May 26th, at the Bay Bridge in Gulf Breeze, made Geitz pensive.

"I am a journalist, a reporter with all my heart...I believe what I see, and I saw much more than I expected to see. I am sure I didn't see any aircraft or helicopter; they used to appear much different. I know that because I am a private pilot myself."

Geitz's report concluded with, "I think the people of Gulf Breeze and Pensacola should be aware that something is happening in their area. Whatever it is, it pays to continue searching."

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Scientists lay plans to fend off asteroids

Calamity allegedly could kill millions

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, Calif. (AP) — Scientists gathered Sunday to plan how to find and divert killer asteroids before they hit Earth with the force of thousands of atom bombs, a calamity that would doom much life on the planet.

While the chances of a major asteroid striking the Earth are extremely small, so many people would be killed that any individual's chances of dying this way are mathematically greater than perishing in an airline crash, researchers say.

"One of these objects could be a real threat to our long-term existence on Earth," said planetary scientist Eleanor Helin of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. "It only takes one event to wipe us out."

"We're talking about almost unbelievable widespread death and destruction," with half Earth's people starving after the planet's climate and farming are disrupted by the impact of a mile-wide asteroid, said David Morrison, space science chief at NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View.

Helin and Morrison were among more than 160 planetary scientists, astronomers and engineers who registered for the International Conference on Near-Earth Asteroids, which ends Wednesday.

The meeting is sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and The Planetary Society, a non-profit group with 120,000 members worldwide.

The scientists want more money to build telescopes to search for and track "near-Earth asteroids" — big rocks that cross Earth's orbit and are leftovers from the formation of the solar system.

"Earth exists in a cosmic shooting gallery," Morrison said. "Our first objective is to search for any asteroids that might be on a collision course with Earth."

Scientists also are planning ways to prevent catastrophic collisions, such as placing huge rockets on asteroids or exploding nuclear bombs to nudge them out of Earth's path.

"We do have the technology

'One of these objects could be a real threat to our long-term existence on Earth.'

Scientist Eleanor Helin

needed to detect, track and, if necessary, change the orbit of such an asteroid," the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics said in a 1990 report.

Several asteroids passed within 10 million miles of Earth this year alone. The closest call came Jan. 18, when 30-foot-wide asteroid 1991BA swept within 106,000 miles of Earth — less than half the distance between the moon and Earth. Helin said such relatively small asteroids hit land about every 100 years.

Asteroid 1989FC, about one-fifth to one-half mile wide, crossed Earth's orbit at a distance of 400,000 miles on March 23, 1989, missing a collision by six hours, the aeronautics institute said.

If it had hit the Northeast, Los Angeles or Tokyo, "millions of people would have died" in a blast equal to 77,000 to 192,000 bombs of the size of the atomic weapon that destroyed Hiroshima at the end of World War II, the institute's report said.

"The impact of even a rather small object would have a devastating effect on humanity," it said. "We would be derelict if we did nothing."

Growing evidence suggests a 6-mile-wide asteroid whacked Earth 65 million years ago, killing two-thirds of all species, including the dinosaurs. Scientists believe such a collision happens every 50 million to 100 million years.

Somewhat smaller "doomsday rocks" — asteroids wider than 1 mile — strike the planet once every 300,000 to 1 million years, Morrison said.

That frequency means any individual's risk of dying in a big impact is one-in-6,000 to one-in-20,000 during the next 50 years, Morrison said.