

UFO POTPOURRI

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no. 390

JUNE 1995

ARE VIVID UFO MEMORIES REAL?

Individuals reporting their own personal UFO experiences usually seem to have vivid memories of the event. In their initial reports they are intense, animated and excited. Fear is often evident. And then years later they are still able to recount the events; citing time, place, feelings, and details. On the other hand, they may not be able to recount any of their non-encounter activities taking place days before or after the UFO event. Those memories are gone, but not the memories of the UFO account. How can this be?

Apparently, the answer is chemical. Studies show that intense events boost memory. *The Houston Chronicle*, November 7, 1994, described how the memory is affected. Excerpts from that article follow:

"Do you remember where you went on your first date? Or the most terrifying scene of the last movie that really frightened you? And what you were doing when you heard the news that the space shuttle Challenger had blown up?

"The fact that most people have detailed answers for such questions testifies to the power of emotion-arousing events to sear a lasting impression in memory.

"Scientists believe they have now identified the simple but cunning method that makes emotional moments register with such potency: It is the very same alerting system that primes the body to react to life-threatening emergencies by fighting or fleeing.

"The 'fight or flight' reaction has long been known to physiologists: The heart beats faster, the muscles are readied and the body is primed in the most primitive of survival instincts.

"These and other distinctive reactions are triggered by the release into the bloodstream of the hormones adrenaline and nor adrenaline.

"The same two hormones, it now appears, also primes the brain to take very special note in its memory banks of the circumstance that set off the fight-or-flight reaction.

"The discovery suggests that the brain has two memory systems, one for ordinary information and one for emotionally charged information. The emotional memory system may have evolved because it had great survival value, ensuring that animals would vividly remember the events and circumstances most threatening to them.

A UFO close encounter certainly evokes the fight or flight reaction in most people. It is no wonder

that people vividly remember the event.

CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET?

According to *The Houston Chronicle*, May 6, 1994, the U.S. government has a big job in keeping secrets. "Each day last year, the government declassified 18,051 pages of secrets, but cranked out 17,558 others, according to a report released Thursday by the Information Security Oversight Office, which is charged with keeping an eye on the handling of all those secrets. The government created more than 6.4 million secrets in fiscal 1993." Think of this situation the next time someone tells you that the government couldn't keep UFO information secret. It will be good for a chuckle.

MULTIPLE SIGHTINGS AT GULF BREEZE

From: *Islander*, Pensacola Beach, FL., January 25, 1995:

"Four times on the evening of January 19, between 7 and 8:30 pm, the sky watchers at Shoreline Park observed UFO activity over Pensacola Beach.

"The first event began at 7:05 pm, when a UFO blinked in over the Yacht Club. It was an amber light UFO and appeared to have an elongated shape. It was observed for 3 1/2 minutes as it went west. The light faded down at several points and brightened again before disappearing.

"The next UFO was sighted about 7:20 pm in the sky near the Dunes Hotel. This one appeared to be spinning and flashing on and off at irregular intervals. When it flashed it was red. The sighting lasted about a minute.

"The next sighting was at 8:00 pm and this one was also going west. At one point it almost came to a stop. It appeared to dim and brighten as it progressed along.

"The last event of the evening began in the sky above the Holiday Inn at 8:35 pm. It was observed for 7 minutes as it flashed off and on as it went west. After being off for 3 minutes it came back on and started its westward journey again. It finally disappeared altogether at 8:50 pm. There seemed to be no forward movement when it was off.

"The weather was cold and there was a strong west, northwest wind.

WATER IS FOUND IN OUTER SPACE

One of the chief arguments against the idea that life is common throughout the universe is that it is believed by many that the Earth is the only body in

space to have water - a key ingredient for life to exist. The truth is that astronomers have found all sorts of molecules existing in space. And according to the *London Times*, June 3, 1994, water has also been found.

"Astronomers have detected water at the most distant point from Earth so far, a discovery that adds to the growing belief this essential ingredient of life may be present throughout the universe. The water was found 200 million light years away by radio telescope in Markarian 1, a galaxy emitting so much energy from its center that it is believed to contain a black hole, according to James Braatz, an astronomer at the University of Maryland, College Park. Appropriately, Markarian1 is located in the constellation Pisces - or fish. The discovery was announced at the American Astronomical Society's national meeting. Jack Welch, director of radio astronomy at the University of California, Berkeley, called it 'very exciting' and said it adds to the idea that water may be found everywhere, possibly nurturing life.

"The discovery means there is a good chance that there are living beings elsewhere," Mr. Welch said. "The presence of water makes for the likelihood of life emerging in a number of places." Mr. Welch was a member of the team that first found interstellar water in the Milky Way in 1969.

----- UFO BUZZED AIRLINER

Some of the very best observers of what goes on in the skies overhead are the military and commercial airline pilots of the world. Pilots are recognized as being skilled at flying their complex machines, and making sure those machines avoid other flying machines - manmade and otherwise. One such account was recorded in the pages of several British newspapers in January of this year. According to the *Manchester Evening News*, *London Daily Express*, *London Times*, and *London Sun*, a British Airways jet was on an evening flight from Milan, Italy to Manchester Ringway airport on January 6, when it encountered a UFO over the Pennines. The following newspaper quotations illustrate the seriousness of the incident:

"The two terrified BA pilots, fearing a disaster, ducked in the cockpit of the Boeing 737 with 60 people on board, which at the time was at 13,000 feet above the Pennines approaching Manchester.

"Captain Roger Wills, who was in command of the flight from Milan, and first officer Mark Stuart, have made reports to the Civil Aviation Authority, who

promised a top-level investigation. The pilots said in their reports that they saw a "triangular-shaped flying object" in front of their plane.

"They immediately checked with air traffic control at Ringway, and were told there was nothing showing on the radar other than their own aircraft. The pilots then saw the UFO travel at great speed down the right hand side of their own airliner.

"Highly experienced Captain Wills and first officer Stuart did not initially report what they had seen, as they feared being ridiculed by their colleagues. But BA management was informed, and following set procedures, reports with sketches have been sent to the Joint Air Miss Working Group, which is a part of the CAA.

"Despite the drama, which the passengers knew nothing about, the plane landed safely at Ringway at 7 pm.

----- PENTAGON REVEALS SAUCER

From: *The Houston Chronicle*, June 3, 1995, dateline Palmdale, CA (AP):

"The Pentagon unveiled a \$10 million **saucer-shaped reconnaissance plane** that it said will be able to detect a basketball on the ground from 45,000 feet high, even in poor weather.

"The pilotless plane, dubbed **Darkstar**, was shown Thursday at the Lockheed-Martin Skunk works plant where it was built. The craft has yet to be flight-tested, but Air Force officials hailed it as the wave of the future.

"In the next century, we will definitely rely more on pilotless aircraft to place people out of harm's way," said Major General Kenneth Israel. "We need to know what's on the battlefield before we get on the battle field."

"The 15-foot plane has a wingspan of 69 feet and stands 5 feet high. It cruises at 180 mph. It is designed to launch and land automatically, with a range of 500 miles and the ability to stay aloft for more than eight hours.

----- KIDNAPPED BY ALIENS

From: *British Express & Star*, Nov. 23, 1994

Two Birmingham cleaners say they were kidnapped by aliens on their way to work. Carol Thomas and her daughter Helen have suffered from headaches and a burning curiosity ever since their early morning encounter in 1988. They decided to get to the bottom of it and went under hypnotic regression. To the women's horror they recalled being lifted into an alien spaceship, being probed by aliens and having eggs extracted.