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Extraterrestrial Strategy for Earth Are We Under An Embargo?

Recently, I came across a fascinating paper by Dr. James W. Deardorff, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331. The paper was published by the Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society, (1986) 27, 94-101. The paper was titled: Possible Extraterrestrial Strategy for Earth. Although controversial, Dr. Deardorff clearly states what a lot of people are considering to be the case as we approach the end of the century.

He establishes the case for the universe to be teeming with life by citing numerous studies suggesting that life out there is the rule, not the exception. He arrives at the conclusion that "the extraterrestrials would presumably be advanced over us technologically by anywhere from just a few thousand years to hundreds of million years."

Because no extraterrestrial presence has been detected through radio-telescope searchers, some individuals have come to the conclusion that mankind is unique within the Galaxy, as a thinking being capable of pondering its own existence and technologically able to explore space.

Rather than considering that extraterrestrial might not exist, Deardorff suggests a couple of reasons why we may find them to be benevolent. First, there may be "universal impediments against cosmic imperialism," and there may even be a code of behavior used to educate the younger societies on how to behave. An alternative reason might relate to a "biogalactic law" that naturally exists wherein intelligent life forms which are destructively aggressive tend to wipe themselves out in the solar system of their birth and do not go on to colonize a galaxy. He concluded "that the reason we have not noticed any advanced civilization in the Galaxy may be that the selection process places an embargo on direct contact with any civilization still planet-bound. The embargo would be such that civilizations must not be encouraged or aided to quit their planets prematurely. They must prove their fitness to mingle with alien creatures, and there is no better way of demonstrating unfitness than self-destruction."

We may find there is a wide range of extraterrestrial benevolence because of the huge number of advanced civilizations thought to exist, the differences in their forms and cultures and the problems of policing the actions of so many life forms. Some benevolent civilizations may keep the more hostile civilizations under control because *homo sapiens* closely resemble their own life form.

In the event that an extraterrestrial signal or broadcast was discovered, would we be told? The normal operation of governments is to "quickly classify new information of this type in hopes of gaining some military or economic advantage" as a result. Even "if the detection of the incoming communications by a non-government group were

announced over the news media, the government could easily disclaim it as an erroneous report or a hoax the next day, and immediately clamp a tight security cloak over the operation." In fact, we have seen several announcements during the past two or three years about signals from space, that were quickly debunked in this manner. Is it no wonder people are becoming suspicious of such answers? Maybe this scenario has already been played out.

Deardorff suggests that "one is led to the likelihood that any extraterrestrial communications with Earth would progress over a very long time period, such as two or three generations, and in a manner designed to reach people whose value systems can accept the message they are likely to deliver. At the same time the communications would have to be delivered in a manner that would ensure that governments not find out about it, or not take repressive action. This would seem to require that scientists as a whole would also not learn about the communications; otherwise governments would take notice."

Further, Deardorff suggests there is a plan for extraterrestrial communication that is compatible with the embargo of Earth. He states: "the extraterrestrial communications could be emplaced in a manner easily accessible to the general public, but in a form not acceptable or believable to scientists. Government agencies, upon advice from scientists, would then take no actions, and the embargo would more or less remain intact."

"Awareness of what was taking place would then proceed very gradually – no faster than humankind in general was inherently prepared to accept the extraterrestrial messages. In this way the extraterrestrial intelligence need make no hasty decision on precisely when or if humankind was prepared to receive their communications, or whether governments could be trusted to forward the communications faithfully to the people in general."

"A scenario for this type of extraterrestrial strategy might involve their communicating with just one or a very few recipients scattered about over the globe. A recipient would be supplied with a comprehensive message over an extended time period, so that he or she could fully understand it, and would also be allowed to gather extensive evidence on the reality of the events so as to be able to gain some measure of public acceptance of the messages. However, in order that scientists in general should not be alerted, only the recipient would be allowed to partake in the communication sessions and to witness the extraterrestrials themselves. The messages might, moreover, contain vague descriptions of extraterrestrial technological achievements that would read like magic or science fiction. They might even contain a few absurdities purposely added; these, along with the absence of any detailed instructions on how to effect any technological breakthroughs, would help ensure that any scientists who happened to learn about the communications would regard them as hoaxes or fiction. The evidence would also be rejected by scientists because... the reality of an event requires that it either be reproducible or repeatable at will... Meantime, the messages would get published, translated into various languages, and distributed throughout the world... A large number of publishing companies already handle similar literature.

The embargo against Earth would thus be a leaky one, designed to hold against scientists and governments in general while very gradually giving way to the general public.