

# SEARCHING FOR FACTS

*ANCIENT MYSTERIES* by Peter Haining (Hutchinson, \$9.95).

**Beautifully illustrated, Peter Haining's review of major mysteries is fascinating reading for those who like to wonder about such topics.**

**Haining decided to give a general survey of the many theories and facts surrounding such issues, concentrating on those "belonging" to English-speaking people.**

**Is there a hole in the North Pole? There is a photo taken by an US space satellite in 1968 to "prove" it.**

**The stories about the hollow Earth, from Jules Verne to Plato, theories so ripe still 100 years ago, are all recalled.**

**Hitler for instance ordered a research for the super beings below the Earth. He actually sent**

**Earth. He actually sent expeditions into German, Swiss and Italian mines to try to find them.**

**Lost worlds have always occupied the minds of men and women. How much of them are based on facts?**

**Haining well documents it all, without obviously trying to influence his readers to make up their minds about them.**

**What is the explanation of the 600 giant stone heads on Easter Island? Haining offers none.**

**Nor does he give a clear explanation to the extraordinary finds in Australia.**

**Did a race of men once live here, who were contemporaries for the aborigines? Haining only lists the speculations - why solve the few remaining**

**solve the few remaining mysteries?**

**There is little doubt about the discovery of America, one would think - but there are many interesting side issues: the land bridge between Asia and America, the arrival of Chinese on the new continent in the Fifth Century, AD, or the voyage of the Irish saint, Brendan, in the Sixth Century, not to mention the visit by the Vikings, Welsh explorers and extra terrestrial guests.**

**America must have been a busy place before it was discovered...**

**The story of the standing stones across the British Isles (and similar in Egypt,**

---

**Japan and South America) are supposed to be part of complex astronomical instruments.**

**Atlantis was not the only version of the mystery of submerged continents. but**

**submerged continents, but the most popular one.**

Its theory has been around since Plato and even earlier.

There were others like Mu, in the Central Pacific area, or Lyonesse, off the English coast.

Is there a race of "little people", like the leprechauns or the abominable snowman and half-men-half-beasts?

The deep and the creatures inhabiting it have untold fascination for mankind.

They are more than fantasies; The Loch Ness Investigation Bureau has such important figures on its committee as Sir Peter Scott or Jacques Cousteau.

---

And, of course, the biggest mystery of all times, the visitors from outer space are also part of the book. but - as it happens

the book, but - as it happens with such popular subjects - they are only superficially treated.

What is noteworthy is the book's reference to early sightings of unidentified flying objects as far back as the 14th Century.

There are so many things we understand these days, which have been mysteries not so long ago, we cannot discount the possibilities of finding the answers to the remaining ones.

There are many scientists and interested people, searching for the answers, yet one cannot completely disregard the comment by Oscar Wilde, who said that "nowadays we have so few mysteries left to us, that we cannot afford to part with any of them."