

Earth

**Aliens On Earth.com***Resources for those who are stranded here*

Earth



[UFOs](#) | [Paranormal](#) | [Area 51](#)
[People](#) | [Places](#) | [Random](#)
[Top 100](#) | [What's New](#)
[Catalog](#) | [New Books](#)

Search... for keyword(s)

in Page Titles

Our Bookstore
 is **[OPEN](#)**

[Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1996](#) -> [Dec](#) -> Here

UFO UpDates Mailing List

AUFORA - Doubt cast on Martian life theory

From: **AUFORA News Update** <dwatanab@acs.ucalgary.ca>
 Date: Mon, 23 Dec 1996 00:11:56 -0700
 Fwd Date: Tue, 24 Dec 1996 23:59:36 -0500
 Subject: AUFORA - Doubt cast on Martian life theory

AUFORA News Update
 Sunday, December 22nd, 1996 <www.helios.org>

DOUBT CAST ON MARTIAN LIFE THEORY
 from CNN

NEW YORK (CNN) -- Independent tests have cast doubt over earlier studies that detected possible signs of past life on a Martian meteorite, according to an article in Sunday's New York Times.

Results of one study appeared to invalidate three of four lines of evidence scientists said in August were signs of microorganisms, and another study raised doubts about the fourth line of evidence.

Dr. David McKay and Dr. Everett Gibson Jr. of the Johnson Space Center in Houston reported on studies they led that concluded a meteorite, found in Antarctica and believed to come from Mars, contained evidence of nanobacteria.

Their studies, they said, found evidence of carbonate globules that may indicate water, deposits of minerals that have in some cases been produced by bacteria, structures that resemble bacterial fossils on Earth, and rock compounds that often have biological origins.

Scientists who worked on the latest studies were almost apologetic about their findings, and stressed that their findings did not conclusively rule out the possibility of life on Mars.

The new studies indicated that some of the signs taken to indicate possible life could have come from contaminants on the Antarctic ice.

"There is nothing else in this rock that looks like nanofossils, and the things that look like nanofossils aren't," said Dr. Harry McSween Jr. of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

McKay said that his team disagreed with the new interpretation.

"We're basically not worried by all this," he said. "For one reason, we don't think they're looking at the same places in the meteorite."

McKay added that his team was preparing reports on further examination of the rock and would be presenting the findings in two to three months.

When the findings were originally reported, the scientists stressed that none of the four lines of evidence proved the existence of past life, but that all four taken together make a compelling case for microbial life on Mars.

The report of the new studies -- by McSween, Dr. Ralph Harvey of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and Dr. John Bradley, a geochemist and executive director of MVA Inc., a company in Norcross, Georgia, that specializes in the

microscopic analysis of materials -- appeared in Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, an international journal of geochemistry.

AUFORA News Update
News, Information, Facts from the world of UFOlogy

To subscribe send e-mail to: dwatanab@acs.ucalgary.ca

AUFORA Web: <http://www.aufora.org/>
AUFORA News: <http://www.aufora.org/news/>

Helios Science News: <http://www.helios.org/>

Search for other documents to/from: [dwatanab](#)

[[Next Message](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [This Day's Messages](#)]
[[This Month's Index](#) | [UFO UpDates Main Index](#) | [MUFON Ontario](#)]

UFO UpDates - Toronto - updates@globalserve.net
Operated by Errol Bruce-Knapp - ++ 416-696-0304

A Hand-Operated E-Mail Subscription Service for the Study of UFO Related Phenomena.
To subscribe please send your first and last name to updates@globalserve.net
Message submissions should be sent to the same address.

[[UFO Topics](#) | [People](#) | [Ufomind What's New](#) | [Ufomind Top Level](#)]

To find this message again in the future...
Link it to the appropriate [Ufologist](#) or [UFO Topic](#) page.

Archived as a public service by [Area 51 Research Center](#) which is not responsible for content.
Software by Glenn Campbell. Technical contact: webmaster@ufomind.com

Financial support for this web server is provided by the [Research Center Catalog](#).