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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Eye-coverings - man-made?

From: DRudiak@aol.com
Date: Sun, 16 Feb 1997 18:22:40 -0500 (EST)
Fwd Date: Mon, 17 Feb 1997 06:35:57 -0500
Subject: Re: Eye-coverings - man-made?

In a message dated 97-02-16 09:13:00 EST, you write:

>In Santilli's autopsy footage, the removal of the opaque eye lenses is
>quite convincing (they have the filmy quality I associate with the soft
>contact lenses I wear). If this is a fake, could it be possible that
>these lenses are a terrestrially manufactured product? Maybe optics
>companies like Bausch and Lomb manufacture similar "full-eye" lenses
>for use in industrial/laboratory conditions. I've never heard of such
>a thing, but it might be worth looking into.

>
>Also, did soft contact lenses even exist in 1947?

Contact lenses have a rather interesting history. As far as anyone knows, the idea was first suggested by Leonardo Da Vinci around 1508, who made some drawings. Rene Descartes also suggested the idea in 1636, and made a drawing of an elongated, fluid-filled tube resting on the cornea (not terribly practical). Thomas Young and Sir John Herschel also described the principle in 1801 and 1823.

The first actual contact lenses were credited to A. Eugen Fick, who wrote about them in a treatise called "A Contact Spectacle" in 1888. Fick apparently manufactured glass lenses that fit both on the cornea (corneal contacts) and the surrounding white sclera (scleral contact lenses). Fick also made subsequent devices, for trial on himself and others, using casts of human cadaver eyes.

In the same year, E. Kalt also described using glass corneal lenses for correcting refractive errors, but were also used as a treatment for eyes that were damaged by severe lid scarring. Plastic C.L.'s were first described in the 1930's, but didn't begin manufacture until 1947. More widespread use didn't begin until the 1950's. Most C.L.s made of glass before then were scleral types which fit over a large portion of the eye. These were better able to support the weight of the glass. Scleral lenses are still used in movies (for really gross or weird looking eyes as in monster or sci-fi films), by some athletes (like water poloists), and in certain pathological conditions of the eye in which ordinary corneal lenses won't work.

Soft lenses were first experimented with in the late 1950's in Czechoslovakia, but didn't reach this country until 1964. Results were initially disappointing. Modern soft C.L.'s didn't really begin to take off until the 1970s with the development of improved polymers and manufacturing techniques.

David Rudiak

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