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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Tonnies: Cydonian Imperative: Where We Stand

From: **Mac Tonnies** <[macbot@yahoo.com](mailto:macbot@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Sat, 24 Jun 2000 22:55:30 -0700 (PDT)  
Fwd Date: Sun, 25 Jun 2000 07:52:34 -0400  
Subject: Tonnies: Cydonian Imperative: Where We Stand

The following is the most recent installment from my website, accessible at:

<http://www.geocities.com/macbot/imperative6.html>.

--Mac

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6-25-00

Mars Missions and Extraterrestrial Artifacts: Where We Stand

by Mac Tonnies

NASA's news that probable liquid water periodically flows in the depths of Vallis Marineris has launched a flurry of excitement in the science news media. This is, of course, exactly what NASA's timed release was supposed to do. Still reeling from the loss of two Mars-bound probes, NASA's "revelation" that liquid water--and quite possibly extant life--exists on the Red Planet has redeemed the space agency somewhat (i.e. "Well, at least they're doing something right!") and, more to the point, provided added justification for missions in the near future, among them the costly and difficult Sample Return Mission.

Water on Mars is hardly "news" in the sense that NASA is treating it. Of the agency's admission, the indirect evidence the water announcement was based on came from images acquired by the Mars Global Surveyor satellite in 1998. But evidence of flowing water on Mars is far older, dating to Vincent DiPietro's discovery of an apparent waterspout on Mars twenty years ago. Why, one wonders, isn't NASA enthusiastically pointing to DiPietro's discovery as collaboration for their "new" findings?

The answer seems to be that DiPietro is associated with that most unsavory crowd that has dared to entertain the possibility that certain features on Mars might be artificial. In fact, his name provides the "D" in the now-famous "D&M Pyramid", a perplexing five-sided structure located provocatively close to the even more well-known "Face".

NASA has ignored other highly significant evidence provided by planetary SETI researchers, despite the fact that doing so would raise the evidential urgency of the Vallis Marineris find. In 1998, after photographing a portion of Cydonia including the "Main City Pyramid", SPSR geologists quickly pointed out that at least one crater in the region appeared to have a flat, reflective base consistent with the presence of ice. Even ultra-skeptical Malin Space Science Systems paid an unannounced

return visit to the Main City Pyramid later that year, taking a remarkable high-resolution photo that confirms the probable existence of ice in Cydonia.

It has been recently noted that the SPSR find, discussed elsewhere on this site is actually more compelling than NASA's hypothesized water flows in that it is much more accessible to surface missions. (Anyone familiar with the research of Robert Zubrin and his "Mars Direct" strategy will quickly understand why: ice can be cheaply separated into oxygen and hydrogen, both of which are key fuel elements for Mars-based exploration.)

While NASA appears characteristically reticent to give credit to independent researchers, the existence of ice and water on Mars, regardless of location, is a stirring discovery. Meanwhile, an additional discovery of a very different nature has been cause for excitement among proponents of the Artificiality Hypothesis (or "Cydonuts", in Internet lingo). Diligent sleuthing through MSSS's mass of catalogued Mars imagery has resulted in the following image of an unusual feature alternately known as "the airplane", "the anchor" and more properly, "the T-shaped formation".

[illustration]

[Caption: A lack of geological context prevents determining just how strange this linear, symmetrical feature is. But independent researchers are essentially unanimous that the T-shaped feature deserves closer study.]

From what can be seen, there appear to be no analogous features that would favor a geological explanation (such as the "Inca City" formation on the other side of the planet which, at first take, appears engagingly artificial). This feature, like other recent anomalies (see above), must await careful scrutiny.

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