

F O R U M

Those UFOs Over Belgium: Message To Superpower?

By James R. Black

In its frankness after a huge wave of UFO overflights in Belgium began last year, the 1,990 Belgian Air Ministry distinguished itself as refreshingly atypical of most military forces in a face-off with the unknown. This and other reasons may have created an opening that didn't go unnoticed by UFO superpowers, who may have been, in their own way, acknowledging the site of an evident global power shift.

By now most UFO watchers have heard of the so-called Belgian Triangle—the mysterious flying wing which for the last year and a half has entertained thousands of witnesses over the city of Brussels, appeared on military and civilian radar screens, played tag with F-16s, and generally made a nuisance of itself to an admittedly baffled Belgian Air Force. The Belgian flap is not yet over, but it has already taken its place as one of the most consistent, well documented, long lasting, and downright brazen events in UFO history.

But in all the hubbub about the Brussels sightings, has anyone asked themselves why that particular city has been afforded such special attention? Statistically, the most puzzling UFO reports seem to congregate around important strategic targets: high-tech research labs, military proving grounds, nuclear test sites, weapon storage bunkers, and so forth. Cities that have had long-standing waves or especially spectacular incidents are often located near such facilities (e.g., Albuquerque and Gulf Breeze) or have great political importance in themselves (e.g., Washington, D.C., which suffered three aerial "invasions" in the summer of 1952).

So what's so special about Brussels?

Brussels, it turns out, is about the closest thing there is to the capital of Europe. First of all, it hosts the headquarters of NATO, which—with the recent collapse of the Warsaw Pact—has emerged as the only military organization of consequence in Europe. Brussels is also a major hub of the emerging European central banking system, and home to a large array of international organizations and multinational corporations.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Brussels houses the executive offices of the twelve-nation European Community (EC), including the Common Market and the European Atomic Energy Commission. This will assume even greater significance next year when the EC members remove most internal trade barriers, thereby creating the richest and most important economic entity on the planet. An integrated European currency and

unified armed forces are probably not far behind.

Whoever or whatever is behind the UFO phenomenon seems intent on making a big impression on this emerging European superpower. By dancing with impunity in the skies over Brussels, the Belgian Triangle is not just toying with the Belgian Air Force; it is putting the entire European power structure on notice. Apparently the lesson has not been lost on the Belgian military establishment, which—having considered and rejected the whole range of conventional explanations—has officially turned to local ufologists for help.

By the end of 1992, Brussels will be the centerpiece of the New Europe; shortly thereafter it may be recognized as, in some sense, the capital of the world. What better place to play "take me to your leader"?

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Global Stability Urged In Time of Transitions

By Michael Lindemann

As this article is written, the shooting war in the Persian Gulf is twelve days old. True to his word, President Bush wasted no time in launching the most massive air assault in history against Iraq, once the U.N. deadline of January 15 had passed. Contrary to early predictions, however, it now seems likely that the war will be neither easy nor brief. With Saddam hunkered down, willing to weather the bombing while lobbing Scud missiles and dumping catastrophic quantities of oil into the Gulf, forcing the Allies toward a savage ground war for which he seems well prepared, one must assume that the real costs of the President's decision will be staggeringly high.

Cool heads on all sides of the issue, including many U.S. elder statesmen and military experts, argued before the outbreak of war that economic sanctions alone could eventually turn Saddam back. The sanctions, they said, would need 12 to 18 months to succeed, and would cost us comparatively little to enforce. This advice was ignored by President Bush and his inner circle. Evidently, time was precisely what they felt we could not afford. Rather than time, they would sooner pay thousands of lives and billions of direct-cost dollars, and take on huge additional economic, political and environmental risks, to rid the world stage of Saddam now. This observation brings up a simple question. What's the hurry? Within the last six months, President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker have led a remarkably Orwellian campaign for public acceptance of an impending "new world order." As the Persian Gulf deadline approached, Bush used this phrase in his public speaking as if it were the proper name for what was at stake, as well as the comprehensive justification for a quick end to the stand-off, regardless of cost. Yet, who among the general public is asking what this "new world order" actually is? What does it portend for the future? Why is it suddenly the centerpiece of the President's geopolitical agenda? Though these questions are not being asked, and certainly no explanations have been volunteered, I believe the "new world order" is regarded by the President's men as an urgent necessity, and for a very particular reason. Before expanding on this supposition however, let us briefly consider some related points.

'Massive overt contact'

In my discussions with UFO researchers throughout the U.S. since mid-1989, I've noticed a steadily increasing degree of speculation on the possibility that the human population of the earth is fast approaching an unprecedented historical watershed, involving massive overt contact and perhaps conflict with one or more alien



Why is the 'new world order' suddenly the centerpiece of the President's geopolitical agenda?

groups. At first, I tended to regard such speculations as representing the "lunatic fringe" of ufology. Surely, I thought, the more legitimate and cautious UFO researchers, being sensitive to ufology's long-time struggle for balance and respectability, would not admit to such speculations. But I've been repeatedly surprised. There seems to be a growing consensus that something very big is on the horizon.

On one hand, there has been a marked increase in public awareness and acceptance of a possible UFO/alien presence on the planet during the past decade. This period has seen publication of numerous high-quality studies of the UFO phenomenon, along with several startling revelations from quasi-governmental sources, including the so-called MJ-12 documents and physicist Bob Lazar's claims concerning alien spacecraft under official study in Nevada. Voluminously documented animal mutilations, human abductions, "crop circles" and mega-sightings such as in Gulf Breeze and Belgium have awakened millions of citizens from their accustomed UFO denial. The mainstream media have seemingly broken their long-time code of silence on such matters. Alien images are showing up in numerous product advertisements; UFO-related programs are appearing on television in record numbers.

At the "fictional" level, the public is being fed alien images and scenarios of every description: good aliens

(‘ET,’ ‘Cocoon,’ ‘Starman’), bad aliens (‘War of the Worlds,’ ‘Aliens’), good-and-bad aliens (‘Alien Nation,’ ‘Star Wars,’ ‘Star Trek’), inscrutable aliens (‘Close Encounters of the Third Kind’), underwater aliens (‘Abyss’), even human-alien hybrids (‘Out of This World’), and so forth. Many researchers regard these developments as a sign that the official worldwide cover-up strategy is now laid, and perhaps always was, toward psychologically preparing the public for the truth.

On the other hand, recent trends in world political affairs are so unprecedented that one can easily imagine they might be driven by some secret factor or pending crisis known only to the world’s top leadership. The largely unexpected changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union during the past two years, coupled with the surprisingly sudden “end of the Cold War,” provide the most obvious examples.

But there are many others. Apartheid in South Africa is being rapidly dismantled in the evident hope of stemming uncontrollable social upheaval there. This too began in earnest within the past two years. Dramatic international steps are being taken to resolve the decades-long unrest in Cambodia and neighboring countries. Many nations of Latin America are lately progressing toward levels of stability not seen in that region since the end of the colonial era more than a century ago. Western Europe is moving rapidly toward economic confederation, even discussing a single currency, while the

reunification of Germany was complete as of last October.

U.N.’s leading role

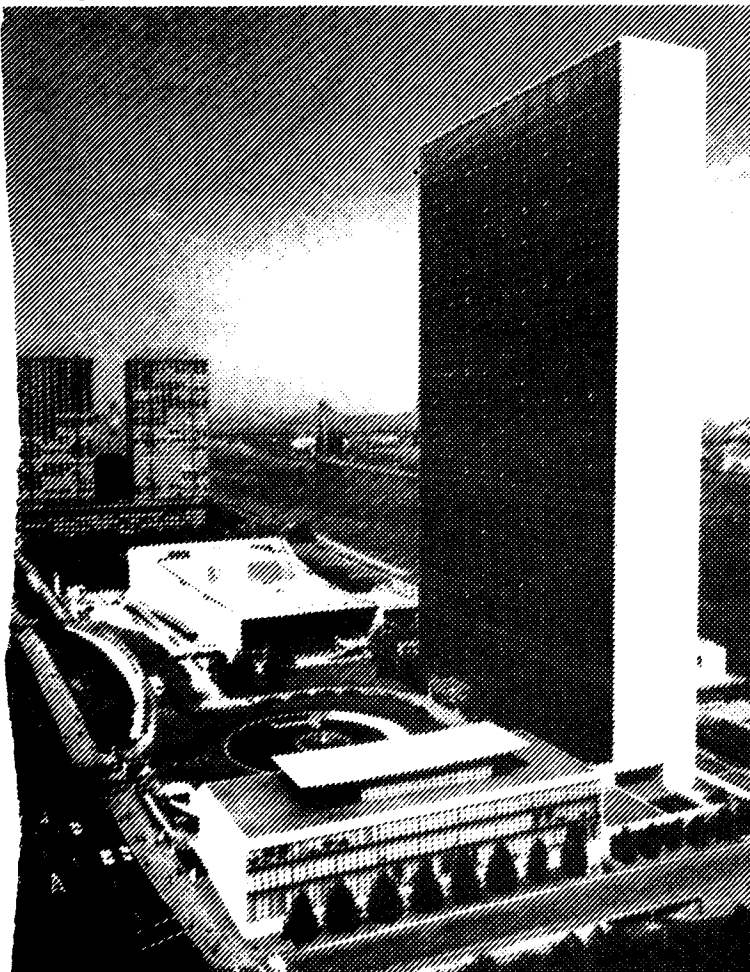
Alongside all this, the United Nations has suddenly transcended its longstanding image as a virtually useless organization and assumed a leading role in recent geopolitical affairs to a degree unimaginable just a few years ago. Any one of these events and trends is noteworthy. All of them together must seem astonishing to informed students of history. The overall degree of international cooperation, willingness to make concessions and intense efforts to resolve festering conflicts in every region of the world at this time seem wildly improbable, given conditions and national attitudes prevalent even as recently as five years ago. Something new has most likely come into play, and it appears to me that most of the major governments know it and are playing along. What is this new factor?

From my own perspective as an independent researcher, until less than one year ago I would have said that the new factor is the obvious and pressing need to avert planetary environmental collapse through international cooperative action. However, despite much official talk along this line, it now seems unlikely that this is the key to the changes. First of all, Cold War frictions suddenly began to subside as a result of bold and seemingly unilateral initiatives by Mikhail Gorbachev, starting less than one year after he came to power in March, 1985. Gorbachev was clearly interested in backing out of the arms race with the West, but not because of the environment. Rather, he publicly declared that the Soviet Union was near the brink of domestic economic ruin, preventing which would require redirection of vast amounts of

Trends in world political affairs are so unprecedented that one can imagine they might be driven by some secret factor ...

Soviet resources and leadership attention. In making his numerous concessions toward the first real breakthroughs in superpower diplomacy in more than a decade, Gorbachev took what appeared on the surface as stupefying risks; yet, I suspect he knew these risks to be less grave than they looked. Almost like clockwork, superpower rhetoric turned conciliatory, and public attention was quickly redirected toward the environment.

But warnings on the environment have been sounded for years by responsible researchers. Their strident alarms went unheeded both by national leaders and the general public so long as the threat of nuclear war remained strong. Only when that threat began to subside, particularly following the U.S.-Soviet INF Treaty of late 1987, did the general public begin to notice that the planetary environment is indeed in dire straits. But key government figures still have not rallied strongly to the environmental agenda. On the contrary, compared with the known or suspected magnitude of current environmental threats, the policy response of major governments to date is nothing short of deplorable. The United States in particular has repeatedly obstructed



MONOLITHIC—A hulking steel-and-glass giant, the United Nations building looms over New York City.

strong international action on the issues of global warming and population management, perhaps the world's two most pressing concerns after nuclear war. Equally odd is the fact that U.S. development of new, super-sophisticated weaponry continues as if the arms race were still at full throttle—and there is no sign that the Soviets are concerned.

Secret threat?

What has this to do with the “new world order”? Could it be that top leaders are preoccupied with some near-term “secret threat” more dire than, say, the near certainty of planetary over-population within a few decades? I suspect they are. It appears to me that near-term global economic and political stability is of top-most concern to all leaders apprised of this alleged secret threat, even at the cost of postponing needed action on obvious longer-term threats.

In this light, the Persian Gulf crisis is most instructive. Saddam Hussein has surprised nearly everyone with his mastery of brinkmanship, yet nothing in his plans or personal nightmares could have adequately prepared him for the historic unanimity of international reaction to his invasion of Kuwait in early August.

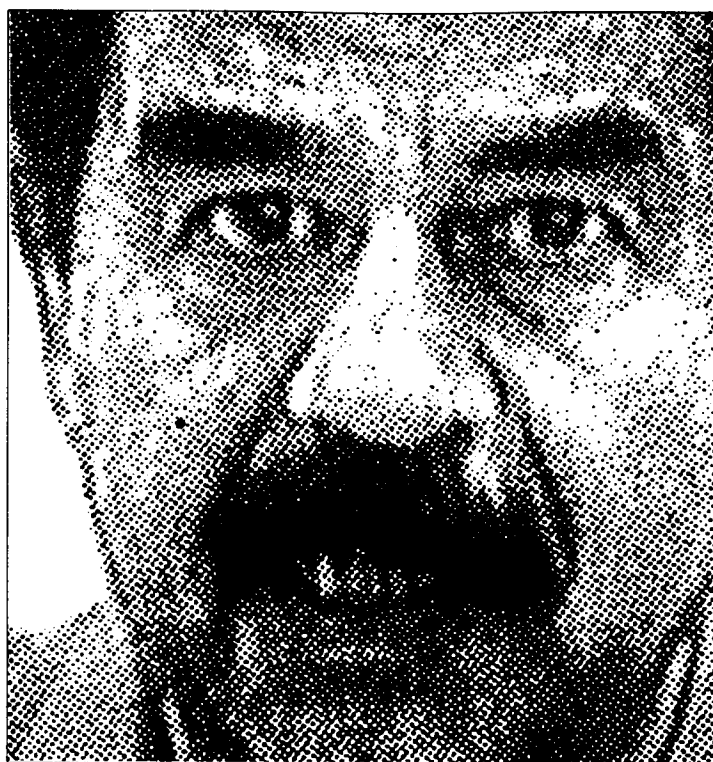
The force and speed of United Nations sanctions against him, coupled with the first-ever joint U.S.-Soviet

In all likelihood, Saddam sealed his eventual downfall the moment he ordered troops across the Kuwaiti border.

condemnation of a third-party state and the U.S.-led multi-national military response, represents an historic watershed in global consensus against an armed aggressor.

In all likelihood, Saddam sealed his eventual downfall the moment he ordered his troops across the Kuwaiti border. The reason, I believe, is this: Hussein's ultra-nationalistic and capriciously violent rule makes him an intolerable wild card in the emerging strategy for the “new world order.” It is very likely that he has never had access to the inner circle of world leaders privy to the alleged “secret threat;” nor can he fully appreciate his own profound ignorance of what has been going on at the highest levels of international intelligence. Had he confined his atrocities within his own borders, he might well have been ignored in the short term—indeed, his recent genocidal use of chemical weapons against Kurdish militants inside Iraq was largely ignored by the major powers. However, exposing his expansionist aims by invading Kuwait, thereby upsetting the delicate political balance in the region and threatening world oil supplies, made him a target for immediate and massive retaliation.

It can now be safely assumed that a primary objective of the U.S.-led Persian Gulf action is the permanent elimination of Saddam Hussein. In the “give sanctions time” scenario, he might eventually have been overthrown by his own people. This, however, left open the possibility that his successor might be as bad or worse.



All-out war, in which Iraq will surely be devastated, bequeaths upon the victorious allies a major say in reconstructing the “new Iraq.” Above all, the matter must be resolved in the shortest possible time.

‘Convert’ or ‘neutralize’

The strategy for managing the “secret threat” during this decade probably requires that loose cannons like Hussein either be “converted” or neutralized. I suggest that Panama's intractable Manuel Noriega met his fate for this reason; similarly, perhaps, the politically destabilizing kingpins of South America's cocaine cartels have been targeted for this reason. (Clearly, stopping cocaine traffic is not the point: managing the traffic as an orderly, low-profile business is economically desirable. Political mayhem is what must stop.) Let the world's remaining egomaniacs take heed, the message seems to be: destabilizing adventurism will not be tolerated. Awesome force will be used to put it down. It is interesting to note that one of the worst offenders in this regard, Libya's Moammar Kadafi, has perhaps gotten the message in time to save his own skin. In recent months, he has been uncharacteristically well-behaved.

To summarize the foregoing observations: Key world governments are suddenly functioning at unprecedented levels of cooperation and consensus. The U.N. has suddenly taken a lead role in world affairs. Resolution of chronic domestic instability has gained urgent priority in numerous strategically significant regions of the world, including South Africa, Southeast Asia and the Soviet Union. The Cold War is over, but military spending continues unchecked. Short-term economic stability has clear priority over handling longer-term, potentially devastating environmental crises. Political loose cannons such as Saddam Hussein and Manuel Noriega are being neutralized.

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These observations suggest to me that key world governments are jointly preparing to address a near-term "secret threat," premature revelation of which would undermine the very public stability required to meet this threat effectively. The secret threat, I suspect, is an anticipated public confrontation with aliens on planet earth. This threat could materialize within two to five years. It will not necessarily be characterized by hostility. It could simply involve the general revelation of an alien presence, instigated by one or more alien groups, that has the potential to throw much of the world's population into panic and social chaos. If this is the anticipated threat, then current efforts to stabilize the world politically and economically make perfect sense.

Again, assuming this is the anticipated threat and the secret factor behind current international events, certain further developments can also be predicted with fair confidence. For example:

- Over the next several years, real investment by major governments in economically risky pro-environmental policy will be kept to a minimum, though talk will continue at a high pitch.

- Heroic efforts will be exerted to preserve world economic stability. The threat to Middle East oil supplies is the biggest economic wild card, all the more reason to get the dirty work over soon. Barring unexpected disaster, the current U.S. recession will be relatively brief and mild.

- High levels of military investment and preparedness will continue, especially in the United States. Esoteric weapons development, including stealth and SDI-related technologies, will increasingly be funded from "black budget" allocations, beyond Congressional review. But the Gulf War also serves as the most impressive "air show" in history and will rekindle public respect for U.S. weapons worldwide. By whatever means necessary, the Middle East will be pacified within 12 to 18 months. Iran's position with the West may well improve; Iraq

will be humbled, then graciously rebuilt; Kuwait will be restored, probably in a more democratic form; a Palestinian settlement will become a top international priority; militant and moderate Arab states will forge stronger ties of cooperation and will jointly act to reduce tensions with Israel; OPEC moderation will help assure world stability. Overall, the sudden stabilization of this region will probably rival 1989's democratization of Eastern Europe in surprise-value.

- International assistance will play a major role in stabilizing Eastern Europe. In the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev will remain in power by force if necessary, discouraging domestic dissent but holding to his progressive foreign policy.

Bush re-election

- U.S. president George Bush, the ultimate insider among world leaders, will be re-elected in 1992 by a massive majority. The United Nations will take on the look and much of the authority of a world governing body, including possibly its own armed forces. The Security Council will assume major influence in world affairs.

- Evidence of UFO/alien activity will gain legitimacy in the mainstream press. Within two years, the fact of an alien presence on the planet will be all but obvious to most of the world's people. Short of a massive alien action, panic will be avoided.

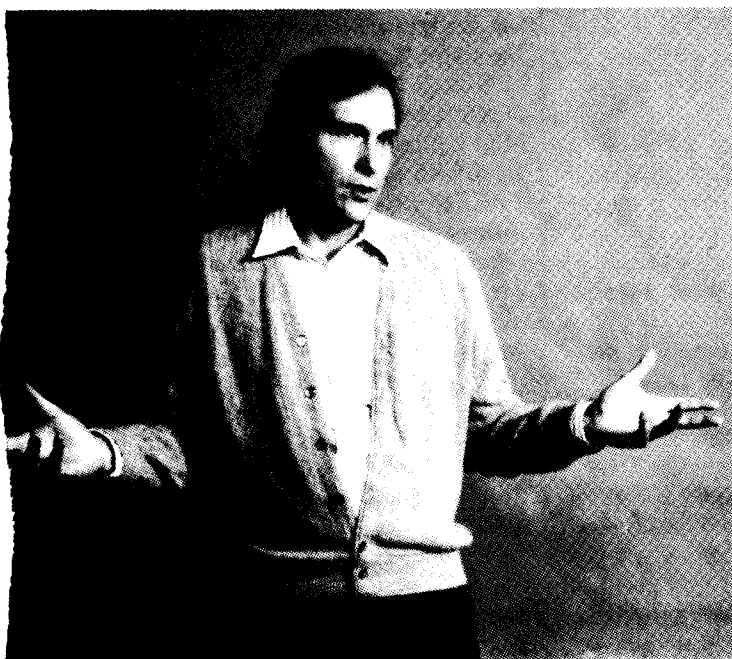
- Perhaps as soon as mid-1992, the major governments will begin official revelation of the alien presence. Their assumption by then will be that the groundwork has been accomplished, as far as possible, to allow such revelations to be made without precipitating social catastrophe. Whenever this action is taken, it will be politically risky. The final decisions will hinge on the best estimate of the aliens' own agenda.

How likely is this scenario? Short of getting inside the most guarded vaults of government secrecy, there is no way to know. I judge it likely enough to put on public display, knowing it must sound outlandish to many people. And, as mentioned earlier, I find my speculations shared in varying degrees by many other researchers.

Zecharia Sitchin is one. "You are correct," he told me recently, "and my latest book, *Genesis Revisited*, will show you why." I got a copy of his book that very day and discovered that the final chapter, titled "In Secret Anticipation," argues the thesis of this article in almost identical language.

Sitchin has made a case in several meticulously-crafted books that an alien race long associated with the earth has come neither from a distant star nor from some parallel dimension, but from a hidden planet in our own solar system. He may be right; certainly, his research deserves careful attention. In any case, he concludes that the major governments of the world now regard the revelation of an alien presence as inevitable and are preparing for it at breakneck speed.

As ever, the available evidence falls short of proof until history, in its own sweet time, reveals itself. Undoubtedly, though, we are living in fantastic times.



Michael Lindemann

Michael Lindemann is president of The 2020 Group, an educational organization with a focus on the future.

OFFICIAL CHANNELS

U.C.U



UFO 'Image' Must Improve

A Government Inquiry

By Richard Hall

In recent years, various groups and individuals have advocated mounting a campaign to call for Congressional hearings on UFOs. Not all these are credible organizations; among the groups are ones rife with what are, to most, crackpot notions about alien hierarchies and constant "messages" from moralistic "aliens" who babble on endlessly. Crackpots or religious fanatics are just one of the problems.

When asked, "What would you request Congress to investigate?"—even the more reputable advocates respond with blank stares and dead silence. Presumably it is "obvious" (to them) what the investigation would be about. To expect Congress to investigate the UFO subject in any general or comprehensive way is naive, but there may be some specific areas that would be of interest to one of the Congressional committees under certain circumstances, mainly when they could investigate a specific

incident or event without having to take a position on the larger UFO subject.

Former hearings

In the 40-odd years of UFO history in the United States, there have been exactly two open congressional hearings on UFOs, and I had a part (indirectly) in both of them. (According to rumors, there were other classified hearings on UFOs and I don't doubt it.) The first, on April 5, 1966, was by the House Armed Services Committee in response to pressure from NICAP, impressive new UFO sightings, and other influences. The second, on July 19, 1968, before the House Science and Astronautics Committee, was termed a "symposium" and primarily consisted of an exchange of views by scientists about UFOs. The latter hearing was strongly influenced by Dr. James E. McDonald, University

of Arizona atmospheric physicist, whose whirlwind investigation of the subject had stirred a fresh breeze in the scientific community.

Why did the hearings come about at all? For several years, NICAP had been bombarding Members of Congress with serious UFO reports from qualified observers, letters from constituents, and facts to counter Air Force debunking statements. (The Air Force then had the Government responsibility for UFO investigations and was NICAP's main target.) Helped considerably by having a number of prominent scientists and military men on the Board, we had access to the Washington Press Corps, including national media and representatives of nearly every major daily newspaper in the country. Our efforts had attracted some high-level interest, and resulted in a lot of individual support from Government scientists and others in Executive Department agencies who leaked in-

formation to us. But this alone was not sufficient to bring about hearings.

What finally brought about hearings was the lucky(?) coincidence of having the NICAP information followed by a new and extraordinarily prolonged wave of UFO sightings starting in 1964, and an outpouring of public sentiment, also reflected in newspaper editorials from all over the country, just as NICAP's 200,000-page documentary report The UFO Evidence was released.

public, and indirectly to the Congress: Alien kidnapping of humans. Secret alien underground bases in the Southwest jointly manned by aliens and humans. Alien cannibals. World conspiracies in which our leaders have sold out to alien forces and are plotting to enslave us.

Some members of Congress may be able to distinguish serious facts from lurid fiction, but to publicly take UFOs seriously is a great risk because of the way the subject is perceived by important opinion

public, and effectively "rigged" the hearing to be an Air Force showcase. Next day the Air Force announced that it would seek an outside scientific review of the project, and this led ultimately to the University of Colorado UFO project. It also took the Air Force off the hook.

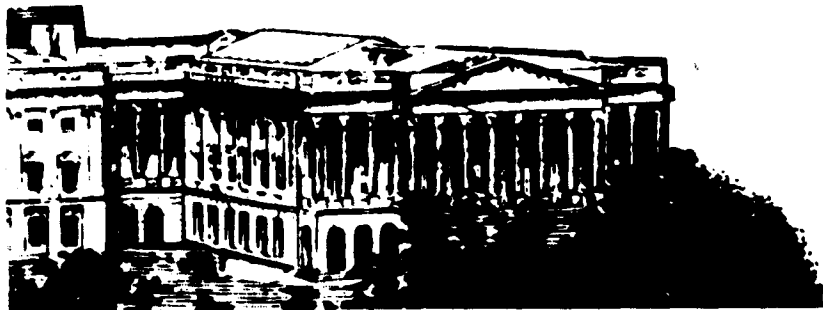
Although the 1968 hearing was presented as a "scientific symposium," it, too, centered around the adequacy of the Air Force study. Several of the scientists attempted to make the case that UFOs were something new, and a potentially important phenomenon of interest to science, but this was largely to offset the strongly ingrained notion purveyed by the Air Force that UFOs were a nonsense problem. In a sense, the two hearings provide some balance for the record, because the first was dominated by the Air Force and the second by Dr. James E. McDonald, who had been outspokenly critical of Project Blue Book.

After the Colorado Project issued its largely negative report (actually more equivocal except for Dr. Edward Condon's summary section, but given "negative spin" by the powers that be), the Air Force quickly opted out of the UFO business, disbanded Project Blue Book, and turned over the files to the National Archives—probably with a sigh of relief that echoed down Pentagon corridors. Since then there has been no Government focal point on UFOs, no single agency responsible that provided a convenient "target" for public criticism. Now our "enemy" is the entire Government octopus!

We do know, however, that the Government is not out of the UFO business. Thanks to some enterprising research and the Freedom of Information Act, documentary evidence shows that UFO reports continue to circulate through the intelligence community.

Congressional liaison project

For the past few years, a small group of serious UFO researchers around the country has been providing background information to Congressional officers as a matter of education and laying of groundwork. Pooled information has been compiled into scholarly briefing documents by a Washington area attorney, and



Congress responds to strong and clear, broadly based public opinion. We all support our troops in the Persian Gulf. We should not expect "courageous" actions based on principle, facts, logic, or anything else when it comes to UFOs. By the very size and nature of the Congress, representing the diverse views and concerns of hundreds of selfish and fickle constituencies, it should be clear that more fundamental matters of survival, health care and other basic and broad-based human concerns take precedence over such esoteric questions as the credibility of UFO reports (much less the notion that "aliens" are intervening directly in our lives).

The popular conception of UFOs in mass media (not just the tabloids, but also popular magazines, daily newspapers, and network TV news) is of a silly hodgepodge of wild stories unsupported by any solid data. Very simply, UFOs are treated as a joke. Serious researchers should, for their own education, back off a step and take a look at the steady diet of sensation that is fed to the

makers. It would take large numbers of concerned citizens actively contacting their Congressmen, endorsement by prominent scientists or other influential people, perhaps some current spectacular UFO events in the news, and a clear-cut, focused issue which lends itself to Congressional style. General investigation of phenomena is not something suitable for a Congressional investigation.

'Focused issue'

The 1960s' hearings also came about in part because there was a specific target, and a focused issue. NICAP and other critics claimed that the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book was grossly misleading the public and denying that UFOs were anything significant, despite scores of impressive reports from reliable witnesses. The hearings, then, centered entirely around the issue of whether the Project Blue Book investigation was adequate. House Armed Service Committee Chairman L. Mendel Rivers was adamant that the Air Force was not lying to the

face-to-face meetings have been held with Congressional staff members. Thus far, there has been some positive response forthcoming in regards to the Roswell, N.M., crash case. This could lead to an investigation and/or closed hearings—not all hearings are open to the public—but this congressional liaison project is still in preliminary stages.

Roswell fits the profile of something Congress conceivably might look into. If the crash really happened, then the Executive Branch deceived Congress and the public. Judging from past situations, prospects of that nature can get the Congressional juices flowing. The Roswell case is a specific incident that stands or falls on its own evidence and can be investigated independently of the broader UFO subject. It involves a large number of credible witnesses, including some surviving members of the military who allegedly participated in the retrieval of crash materials and alien bodies.

Thanks to research breakthroughs in the past few years, there is ample evidence for a Congressional inquiry. Realistically, though, the inquiry is not likely to go public, at least in the early stages, unless the investigators satisfy themselves that they are onto concrete information that can withstand critical assault by skeptics, including skeptical Congressional colleagues.

The 1965 Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, crash is another case that is beginning to turn up large numbers of witnesses. It is a focused case that can be looked into in its own right without commitment to a broader inquiry. Again, it involves alleged government cover-up of potentially significant events and, like Roswell, some high-handed treatment of local citizens. The only weakness of Roswell and Kecksburg is that neither case immediately affected a large number of Congressional constituents—except insofar as Government cover-up affects us all. But the human testimony and physical evidence is potentially strong in both cases.

Hypothetically, cases even more likely to attract broad-based interest in Congress might be:

- If crop circles/pictographs began showing up widely in several farm states in the U.S., and included con-

siderable crop damage, in conjunction with UFO sightings.

- If UFOs began showing up over the Persian Gulf, causing electromagnetic effects and showing up on military radar.

- If widespread UFO sightings over a few months' period also were recorded on videotape from independent locations and showed some detail (not merely pinpoints of light against a dark sky). In short, if the reports were sufficiently widespread, detailed, and convincing, and left physical traces or instrumental data for analysis, Congress would pay attention. So would scientists.

'Bizarre front'

Instead, the ufological "front" displayed to Congress and scientists is bizarre, clownish, confusing and unconvincing, thanks to the crackpots and opportunists who seize every opportunity to grind their particular axes.

Also—at the risk of sounding paranoid—I am convinced that it is in the interests of those in the government who favor a complete cover-up to deliberately introduce disinformation, false information, confusion and doubt into the picture, so that no one knows what to believe and the whole truth is almost impossible to figure out. So there is a natural alliance between the information manipulators and the manure spreaders, both of whose stock in trade is public snowjobs. They use each other for their own ulterior motives.

In summary, Congressional hearings on UFOs are extremely rare, and then only brought about by very unusual combinations of circumstances. Before advocating Congressional hearings on UFOs, one should know something about the structure and workings of Congress, what problems members face when they are asked to investigate UFOs, and the types of information or evidence that are likely to stimulate Congressional interest. Solid, credible UFO facts and evidence is the most persuasive material to be furnished to them. Congress is daily faced with fundamental questions on military affairs, housing, anti-drug trafficking, agriculture, health care, transportation, environmental pollution, energy resources, space pro-

grams, science and technology—you name it. When members are asked to look into UFOs (read: crackpot stuff mainly in the tabloids), don't be surprised by their lack of enthusiasm. It is our job to separate out the crackpot stuff and present convincing evidence to persuade them that UFOs are not a nonsense problem. ●

*Richard Hall was at the forefront of efforts to obtain Congressional hearings on UFOs during the 1960s, as assistant director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), an organization he served for 10 years. Hall has also been employed for a decade by the Congressional Information Service, a private publishing firm that markets abstracts and indexes of Congressional publications. He is the author of *Uninvited Guests*.*



Richard Hall

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ELISEO ÁLVAREZ-ARENAS

Anomia

Conviene repensar la *anomia*. No es ésta nada nuevo; es algo eterno casi, como el pensamiento griego. Literalmente es "falta de leyes", "desprecio" de éstas. La novedad, si acaso, estriba en la consideración que de la anomia hace Ralf Dahrendorf en su libro *El conflicto social moderno*. Una cita breve: "El hacer caso omiso de las normas y valores de la sociedad oficial se ha convertido en un hábito muy extendido. Este hábito es presumiblemente la característica más expresiva de las sociedades europeas en los últimos decenios del siglo XX. Tiene un nombre: el de anomia...". Bien, ¿de qué se trata, pues, al decir que hay que repensar la anomia?

En cierto modo se trata de considerar lo que pasa en el mundo en la forma bajo la que vienen las cosas decisivas para él: la *política*. Claro es que hay otras cosas que pasan en el mundo que son igualmente decisivas para éste, como el *arte*, y acaso más la *religión*, pero la política es la que verdadera-

entender por anomia: *anomia*, en lo que ahora interesa, es una *relajación del acatamiento y cumplimiento de la normativa y de los valores legales al no sentirse el hombre ligado a la sociedad para la que se han dado esas normas y valores* que estructuran lo legal. Tal relajación es *causa*. El efecto correspondiente es que *la sociedad*, debilitada en lo legal, *no obliga a cumplir sus propias reglas*", y, con ello, *el incumplimiento queda sin castigo*, o al menos sin el castigo debido.

Si eso es la anomia, asalta ya la duda de si no habrá existido siempre en lo europeo, en lo histórico de los tiempos de Europa, en cada una de las naciones que la componen. Cabe llegar a la conclusión de que sí, aunque no con generalidad extensa en

por ascendente hizo en cierto modo fuerte a la clase ayer inferior, al *tiers état*, y el político hubo de acomodarse a esa fuerza, y hubo de hacerlo *cediendo* en algo, como hay que ceder ante toda revolución cuando ésta se dinamiza contra uno... y ya se estaba entonces ante *la rebelión de las masas*. La masa se crece en el cultivo de la socialdemocracia y llega a creerse algo de valor en sí misma. Se rebela, en efecto, y no admite mando alguno que no tenga con ella contemplaciones que la descarguen en mucho del peso de la ley, que tiene que pesar, y lo ha hecho siempre, porque el hombre, sin freno legal suficiente, tiende al libertinaje y cae en él. El efecto real del fenómeno ya lo señaló a su tiempo Ortega antes que nadie: nadie manda

bilidad o incapacidad, de la autoridad para hacerlas cumplir. En ciertos aspectos parece prevalecer la inhibición; en otros, la incapacidad. La autoridad se inhibe cuando su intervención ha de ser rígida y fuerte por razón de las cosas. Ejemplo claro de eso: la criminalidad y el terrorismo. La autoridad, en forma de *justicia* en esos casos, da la impresión de no atreverse a actuar con la contundencia que debiera para no pasar por dictatorial y represora. Se pulsa cierta tolerancia con el criminal, e incluso con el terrorista, por recelo a protestas airadas de ciertos sectores de la opinión o de algunos partidos políticos que gritan como si desafuero fuera aplicar la ley en su letra y en su espíritu. Gritan los partidos organizados y calla la opinión por indiferencia o por una hundida *simpatía*, no reconocida, claro es, hacia el criminal de hoy, motivada acaso por asociaciones románticas con figuras de antaño que robaban o asaltaban con pretextos de ha-

inverso, es decir, que el embotamiento de las facultades intelectuales y espirituales de las culturas y pueblos mismos es la causa de la incapacidad e imposibilidad de creación. Y ese espíritu creador pierde el claro ver de los conceptos eternos que rigen la vida espiritual de las sociedades: justicia, libertad, conciencia de ser, ansia de ser más o de seguir siendo. La materia, lo material, se deteriora de igual modo, pero lo hace con paradójico aparecer, ya que la propia civilización que degenera y decae no percibe los síntomas de su mal. Lo material llega a ser ostentoso y caro, pero vacío: la técnica, la arquitectura, las artes. Apariencia y valor material, pero nulo reflejo del brillo del espíritu... Y la anomia es sentir inconsciente de un espíritu flaco y escéptico. Es, en el fondo, una rebelión automática de la materia contra el espíritu, de lo formal contra lo sustancial y profundo en las sociedades decadentes. La realidad es que éstas, por más que sientan su necesidad seriamente, carecen de re-

política es lo que realmente pasa en el mundo, frente al arte y la religión, que, de mejor modo, *quedan*. La política, además, es lo de cada día, lo inmediato, lo que no es posible dejar en quietud transitoria porque viene a ser el imprescindible motor de la vida material de los pueblos... Se trata, pues de la política.

Si la anomia rige el mundo de estos días, será porque la política la ha provocado y, tras la provocación, la ha permitido o la tolera al aceptar implícitamente su incapacidad de eliminarla. Pero antes de seguir procede preguntarse: ¿es cierto que la anomia rige hoy en el mundo o en la sociedad civil? Y si es así, ¿qué se debe entender por mundo o sociedad? Por mundo o sociedad hay que suponer que se comprende lo que llamamos Occidente, y, dentro de este concepto, más concretamente Estados Unidos y Europa. También el mundo ese encierra en sí al resto de América (la española sobre todo) y a lo que, siendo trascendente, no es occidental, como Rusia y Japón; pero la verdad es que ese resto del mundo refleja de un modo u otro lo que en Occidente pasa... Pues bien, ¿es ése un mundo anómico? El autor citado dice que sí, aunque matiza de tantos modos la anomia que no llega a quedar ésta ni definida ni limitada. Sin embargo, esto es, creo yo, lo que Dahrendorf quiere

todo caso, pero con intensidad variable en función de las características dominantes de cada momento histórico. Porque el pueblo nunca ha sido dado, con libertad y convicción, al cumplimiento estricto de normas y leyes, y las sociedades, en tiempos especiales, han parecido ser tolerantes con ciertas desviaciones legales de los hombres... Pero la anomia de hoy, que existe y es clara en Europa, lo es así comparada con el alentar europeo de un pasado histórico relativamente reciente. Ese *pasado reciente* de Europa es, naturalmente, la revolución de 1789. Parece ser que la anomia es ahora, en los decenios noveno y décimo del siglo XX, más marcada e intensa de lo que lo fue desde 1800. ¿Por qué?... La razón o causa que se ve más a mano es la evolución de la forma práctica que ha experimentado la *política* en Europa en los últimos 200 años. La revolución acabó con el absolutismo monárquico y trajo el poder de la burguesía: otro absolutismo acaso. El último cuarto del XIX, y tras la otra revolución —la industrial de 1848—, aportó a esa política de Europa o en Europa el socialismo, que, evolucionando hacia la socialdemocracia, acabó, en lo exterior al menos, con la preponderancia de la burguesía y empezó su lucha aparente con el capitalismo. El movimiento social de vi-

no hay mando. Al menos en Europa. El totalitarismo, o la tendencia a él que se materializó en algunos ejemplos, fue lógica consecuencia política. Al faltar el mando o ser la autoridad débil e inoperante por tanto, predomina el desorden en la sociedad, y el desorden produce siempre violencia. Para volver al orden no cabe en principio más solución que la de la fuerza y, en mucho, el dictado. Lo curioso, pero humanamente explicable, es que la mayoría sometida a una autoridad fuerte, sin que sea inhumana ni opresora, acepta ésa con resignación, y hasta con gusto, por considerarla un mal menor.

Pero el equilibrio en política no encuentra con facilidad su punto estable. La autoridad incontestada degenera, sin duda, y una autoridad degenerada no es autoridad. Se vuelve prácticamente a la democracia, que es la única viable, y enseguida se repite el fenómeno. Eso ha sido lo de Europa, y Europa vive ahora esa socialdemocracia, aunque con matices de accidente distintos a los de antes de 1914, sistema con el que se ha vuelto a la anomia... Y la anomia, dice Dahrendorf, acaba fácilmente en tiranía.

Mas la anomia no es sólo efecto de la indiferencia de la gente hacia la ley y la norma, sino también —y acaso sobre todo— de la inhibición, por de-

cer el bien. El pueblo no se altera en exceso. Se protesta, sí, y se condena, pero los actos no pasan de palabras o de una que otra manifestación por las calles. Al día siguiente se vuelve a vivir la vida normal como si nada hubiera pasado.

Y sin embargo, *pasan cosas* con la anomia. Pasa en especial el deterioro de los fundamentos de la sociedad, de uno de ellos que ha destacado en Occidente con forma de primerísimo cimiento estructural: el derecho. El derecho se resiente porque el jurista prevarica. Al *no haber justicia*, el hombre se desanima, el ciudadano recela, el rebelde e insurrecto se crece, la sociedad se atemoriza en el escepticismo. El pulso social decae porque el conflicto se agudiza. ¡Decaer el pulso de la sociedad! ¿Qué es eso? Eso exactamente: la *decadencia*; y, en lo que es nuestro, la decadencia de Occidente.

Es raro que al comentar la anomia mediante el estudio y el análisis críticos no se capten ecos de relación de causa a efecto entre el declinar de nuestra civilización y la anomia general que se puede apreciar en casi todos los órdenes de la vida occidental en general, y especialmente en la europea. Porque en las decadencias de los pueblos todo se deteriora. El espíritu se debilita y deja de crear; por tanto, de comprender... aunque el sentido del proceso sea tal-vez el

cursos para detener la creciente gravedad de la anomia, y mucho más para extirparla. Da la impresión de que la anomia, llegada a su punto crítico de inflexión, es irreversible ya. El único remedio posible es el de la engañosa apariencia, es decir, el de que no sea genuina y real la decadencia supuesta. Porque, si no hay declinar, puede la anomia ser curable, aunque en realidad exista. Claro es que, como toda cura de algo grave, ha de ser efecto de contundencia en el remedio: la mano fuerte de la autoridad, a impulsos de una mente política decidida... Pero eso, se dirá, es el autoritarismo. En efecto: eso y la natural tiranía que se insinuaba en el libro.

Pero Occidente decae. Por más que se proteste contra el parecer de Spengler, no es muy realista pensar que su opinión es sólo fruto de un pesimismo injustificado. Occidente decae y decae Europa. Lo material aparente parece tener todavía vigor suficiente. Dicen que incluso anda en alza. Y si el espíritu se muere, pero el cuerpo vive activo y en auge, ¿a qué la preocupación y el duelo? La anomia denunciada no debe de ser mal decisivo, ya que la renta *per cápita* se mantiene e incluso sube. ¿Qué más da, entonces, esa perturbante anomia?

Eliseo Álvarez-Arenas es almirante de la Armada española.

L E T T E R S

Editor:

My compliments to Barry Taff on his recent article (Vol. 7, No. 2) titled, "UFOs on Trial: Evidence Beyond Reasonable Doubt."

After 40 years of researching the "puzzle," I, too, am convinced that the real story is far bigger and more earth shattering than merely a UFO extraterrestrial contact.

The conclusions of my "Thirty Year Synthesis" of the UFO data have led me to believe and fully agree with Zecharia Sitchin that the human race is indeed a hybrid race that has been seeded here and genetically manipulated for millennia but that the intimate contact is still going on.

The ramifications of this are indeed staggering, considering the implications and impact on our worldwide political, social, economic and religious institutions.

Taff has hit the proverbial nail on the head. An attorney friend of mine has said that he could get a conviction in any court in the land on the present evidence. The crucial matter at the moment is to enlighten our masses to the fact that WE ARE NOT ALONE!

Bob Dean
Tucson, AZ

Ed. note: Dean recently won his lawsuit against the Pima County Sheriff's Department in Arizona, claiming that he was due a promotion but was overlooked because of his UFO beliefs.

Editor:

I would like to respond to your Forum, "UFOs on Trial" (Vol. 7, No. 2). The issue you are grappling with is not credibility at all, but something much more basic—authority. Who has the authority to say what UFOs might be? In a court of law, the jury hears the case, deliberates for a time and then hands down a verdict. The jury's authority is absolute, and the power system backs that up.

The UFO isn't like that. If there are visitors here from the stars, then no human being on Earth knows anything. They are in control of

knowing, not us. It is this that drives everyone crazy. In our heart of hearts, everyone feels that there is *no* real authority anywhere in this business.

Charles Fort talked about "acceptances as a way to handle the extreme inconvenience of the bizarre and unexplainable." Based on several years of reading and talking combined with what I myself have seen, I have come to the following acceptances:

1. There is another, non-human intelligence on Earth.
2. This intelligence is interacting with us.
3. The scope of this interaction implies vast importance.
4. Human culture has been greatly affected.
5. Deliberate deception is being used by this intelligence.
6. Various U.S. government agencies are also involved.
7. The human race is virtually "helpless" at this time.
8. It is important that we find out all we can about this intelligence.

Val Germann
Columbia, MO

Editor:

The abduction and use of hypnosis by supposed aliens has striking parallel in the victims of CIA/government secret operations. I believe there is a strong possibility of our government using mind-control operations in an effort to stabilize the U.S. population through psywar techniques. We have far more to fear from the Fascist-national security-Orwellian gangsters running this country than a questionable visitation by "spacemen" conducting experiments throughout America.

At any rate, I would enjoy seeing physical evidence of UFOs.

Mike B. McManus
Pasadena, CA

Editor:

Really enjoyed your last issue of *UFO*. I want to thank you for including my daughter's picture in your magazine, even though she had a dif-

ferent name! We love Paula Watson (p. 10, Vol. 7, No. 2) but alas, it was not her in the picture. It was Lozana Elwood, who *did* speak at the First Annual Las Vegas International UFO Congress with Valery Uvarov.

Other than that, we especially appreciated the section on Russian research, as we are also corresponding and working with Russian contactees/abductees.

Keep up the good work, Vicki, Sherie and Don!

Aileen Garoutte
UFO Contact Center Int'l.
Federal Way, WA

Editor:

In regards to your MediaWatch column in Vol. 7, No. 1: *UFO Paradox* was stated as being the publication of Erich Aggen. This is not correct. Aggen's affiliation is strictly as a contributing writer.

UFO Paradox is an independent publication co-edited by Kerri L. Murphy and Barry Ballenger. The newsletter is not affiliated with any other UFO groups or organizations in the United States or foreign countries. We are seeking answers to the UFO mystery and to this end, we invite a wide range of ideas, opinions and speculations. The newsletter's business address: P.O. Box 774, Liberty, MO 64068

Kerri L. Murphy
Barry Ballenger
Liberty, MO

Ed. Note: UFO apologizes for the errors.

Editor:

Could *UFO* please set the record straight concerning the case of Edward "Billy" Meier? Are his beautiful photos and film footage hoaxed, or is he a genuine contactee? It seems the UFO community itself is divided over the authenticity of his "proof." Could your magazine offer its theory or knowledge of the most compelling UFO case ever?

Mike Schober
Dunkirk, NY

Ed. Note: We hope to investigate the Meier case for a future issue.

It's true that the effects of knowledge can be more than some are able to bear; the keepers of UFO-alien intelligence obviously view the rest of us as too weak, too ignorant—or too insignificant in their scheme of things—to cope with understanding of our possible cosmic heritage. Either that, or what UFO watchers assume as “alien” has a far more earth-bound origin. What if spokesmen for the defense of the incredible were to take their case into a court of law?

UFOs On Trial: Evidence 'Beyond Reasonable Doubt'

By Barry Taff

If ufology as a whole was forced into a court of law in an effort to prove that the Earth is indeed being visited by highly advanced, technically superior extraterrestrial beings possessed of seemingly metaphysical instrumentality, what would serve as evidence to convince a jury, beyond a reasonable doubt, of this premise or theory?

A review of the more substantial pieces of documentation published over the last 30 years shows numerous instances of what, on the surface, appears to be very compelling evidence regarding extraterrestrial UFOs. Such books as *Above Top Secret* by Good, *Clear Intent* by Fawcett and Greenwood, *Sky Crash* by Randles, Butler and Street, *UFO Crash at Roswell* by Schmitt and Randle, and perhaps many of the FOIA documents released by the FBI and CIA, are highly suggestive that something of an extraordinarily strange and unknown origin is, and has been, regularly violating our airspace with impunity.

However, as impressive as much of the aforementioned material may appear, it lacks even one essential piece of hard data; something physical or tangible to show a judge and jury. In this respect, all of the superb research efforts on the part of hundreds of dedicated ufologists have as yet failed to produce a single piece of physical evidence that would stand as irrefutable or incontrovertible proof of extraterrestrial production.

In search of the 'smoking gun'

This is not to imply that there has not been a diligent effort on the part of most researchers to uncover such a smoking gun. But given what might be the most elaborately orchestrated conspiracy in the history of any government to obfuscate, deceive, misdirect and manipulate its public in terms of the real truth underlying UFOs, it's highly improbable that there would be any loose pieces of hard evidence simply lying around somewhere waiting for the likes of Stanton Friedman to pick up and bring to the world's attention.

About the only kind of hard evidence capable of impressing a trial jury would be either an actual UFO vehicle itself or an alien being, dead or alive, in the flesh.

Admittedly, this is a very tall order, and may not be possible in the near future given the incredibly tight security around such potentially earth-shaking evidence.

In this regard, perhaps more emphasis should be placed on the work of Leonard Stringfield, whose research and publications into Crash/Retrievals may eventually provide that piece of “hard” evidence to convince a disbelieving world that the nightmare has already begun. With the exception of the Roswell case, which can stand on its own merits, Crash/Retrieval investigations, once cleaned of all disinformation possibilities, promise the most rewards in terms of objective data.

Since 1978, Stringfield has published seven pieces of literature specifically dealing with Crash/Retrievals. The most recent of which is *UFO Crash Retrievals: The Inner Sanctum, Status Report VI*. (See review, p. 35.)

This latest report opens with a most intriguing piece developed from a statement provided Stringfield by Robert Dean as concerns a previously classified study entitled “Assessment: An Evaluation of a Possible Military Threat to Allied Forces in Europe,” which was established in early 1961 at the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers, Europe (SHAPE), which was, and is, the military arm of NATO.

Although dated in terms of the cold war situation, this assessment, in and of itself, appears to be far more than a simple acknowledgement of UFOs, for reference is made to “several” extraterrestrial civilizations and a “process” or “plan”, suggesting that far more elaborate information was collected that was never made available for publication or even review.

Additionally, there is a direct mention of crash/retrievals supported by photographs, bodies and exotic “plasti-metals” that were beyond our understanding.

With today's technology base, these so-called plasti-metals sound mysteriously like matrix composites being used in aerospace, or at least a highly evolved generation of such.

Given the early dates of the study's initiation and publication, one can only wonder what follow-on data has been collected since the mid-1960s. While not providing absolute hard, objective evidence we can yet examine, this study certainly establishes a fascinating paper trail....one that can definitely be followed.

Gruesome allegations

Moving forward in time brings us to page 50 of *Status Report VI* and the early 1970s where a high-ranking U.S. Army officer, a source of great integrity, conveys to Stringfield what is perhaps one of the most terrifying events in ufology. This report contains information, which, if verified, may generate more questions than it answers; in it are the purported claims of Special Forces soldiers in Vietnam who came upon aliens sorting and collecting human body parts! The very idea of alien beings landing for this gruesome purpose smacks of the kind of frightening stories coming out of John

Although sounding much like a scene out of the motion picture *Predator*, is this the only incident of its kind which transpired during the Vietnam war? Why, one might ask, were the aliens so frantic to collect body parts to begin with?

Another startling story regarding what may be yet another New Mexico crash/retrieval is revealed by Stringfield on page 41 of *Status Report VI* from a source, Chuck Oldham, of Landsdowne, Pennsylvania. The alleged witness was a former military officer with a high security clearance. While serving in the military, he had a special clearance that enabled him to access a restricted library (prior to 1970). Due to the highly sensitive nature of the information, no information is provided which could be used to identify him or the location of the base.

Although provocative in content, the most tantalizing portion of the interview is the tail-end where the U.S. military/government's withholding of their knowledge is discussed. Admittedly, we've all heard, and by now are quite familiar with, our government's supposed reasons for debunking UFOs. However, particularly interesting about this one aspect is that from the very beginning of our military's investigation and study of UFOs, they've always emphatically stated two constants.

One piece of propaganda has been the ardent denial of the existence of UFOs, period. Secondly, the official line was that these phenomena, whatever they are, do not represent a threat to our national security. These two statements are incompatible and contradictory. For if there are no UFOs to begin with, why be concerned with a possible threat to national security? Is this yet another example of a not-so-brilliant oxymoron, like "military intelligence?"

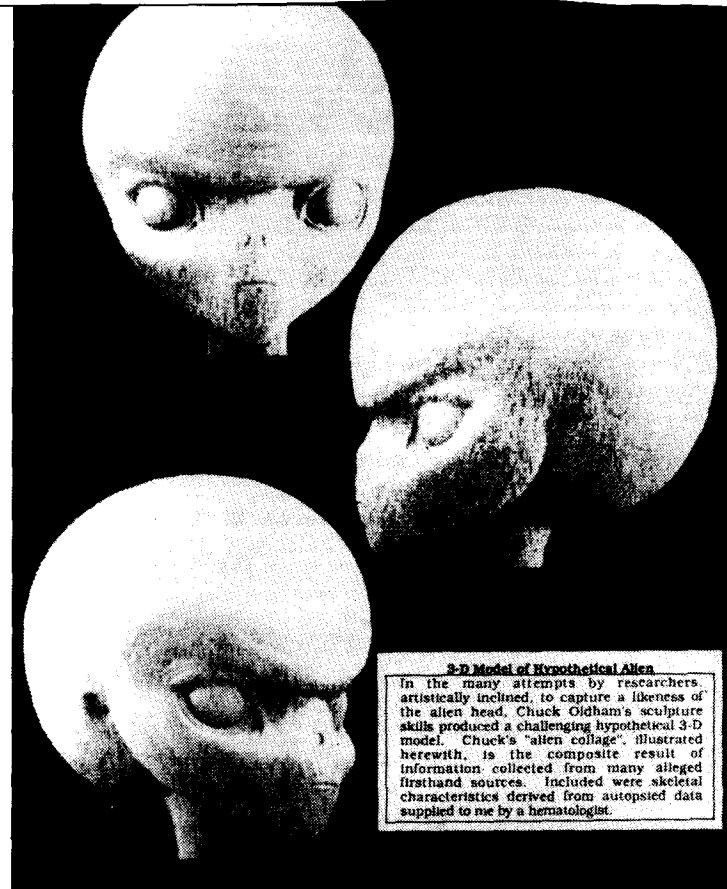
The 'Big Secret'

Something beyond strange is going on here. It strongly smells like our government may be concealing something about UFOs and their occupants which far outweighs the simple concept or understanding that our planet is being, and has been for quite some time, visited by intelligently-controlled extraterrestrial vehicles. Based on the amassed evidence, there is good reason to suspect that even if an ultra-high level of the U.S. government has indeed developed a formal relationship with one or more extraterrestrial races, this in and of itself would not constitute sufficiently damaging information to withhold from the public.

What if that which has been learned during the course of dealing with alien entities is so potentially devastating, though perhaps not in terms of a possible invader or conqueror, that it could literally rip apart the very fabric of our planet's social structure?

Another portion of Stringfield's *Status Report VI* describes the testimony of a purported Major General in the Air Force, who reveals his knowledge of UFO crashes and aliens dead and alive. He also told Stringfield's source, one Cheri Manet, of a "very high level cover-up" extending to "the highest office in the land."

Exactly what would shake our belief systems? We are already pretty much aware that UFOs exist and represent technology far superior to our own, and that they've



ALIEN COLLAGE—Three views of a 3-D model of a hypothetical alien head, sculpted by Chuck Oldham from alleged firsthand source material.

FROM *UFO CRASH/RETRIEVALS: THE INNER SANCTUM* (*Status Report VI*)

been flying around our skies for at least forty-five years. So what's so damned shocking? Certainly not what we already assume or suspect.

Given the media exposure to the entire concept of extraterrestrial life and UFOs in general, from *Unsolved Mysteries* and *The UFO Report* to *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *E.T.*, *Communion* and *Predator*, what could possibly be left to our imaginations that hasn't already become part of our cultural mindscape?

As a modern civilization, we've been slowly acclimated, conditioned and even begun accepting the notion of alien life visiting Earth and directly interacting with its population. What could possibly serve to break down the socio-economic structure of society along with the military industrial complex that would be a direct result of the release of UFO data by our government? Certainly not losing faith in our own government's ability to protect us against supposedly hostile aliens! Although no contemporary nation particularly enjoys knowing that a technologically superior intelligence can willfully violate its airspace leaving them virtually incapable of responding, we can't say that the U.S. population would suddenly lose trust in its government.

That, in all likelihood, happened a long time ago as

we became painfully aware of how underhanded, deceitful and unscrupulous our elected officials really are.

Only casual interest

Judging by popular response to the more than thirty-year informational blitz on UFOs/ETs, most people find the subject amusing, curious and interesting, but their concern about such matters is relegated to occasional lectures, movies, reality-based TV shows and after-hour cocktail party discussions. Unless UFOs affected individual lives to the point of influencing decision-making processes on such issues as family, job, income, health and religious convictions, such information would not have any significant impact on society in general.

What facet of UFOs could possibly affect people's lives at these dramatic levels? Certainly not concern over national security matters, nor the worry that every time an inferior culture meets or confronts a superior one, the prior is either assimilated or destroyed by the latter, at least in human history. Well then what's left?

Again, reference must be made to Stringfield, but this time a passage from page 44 of his *Status Report III*, which tells of a pathologist who allegedly performed an autopsy on an alien body, and who was ultimately silenced. Stringfield writes, "In essence, according to the pathologist, primeval earth had become an experimental test tube for a new race whose development required periodic watching . . . if world governments have medical and other back-up evidence to support the hypothesis, then the posture of silence takes on new meaning. Perhaps they [world governments] assume that man's concept of himself in his world would be shattered."

Blow to human psyche

Bullseye! In all probability, this information is the missing link as to why the world's governments, or the U.S.' more specifically, will not divulge virtually any UFO data to the public. Stringfield's evidence, if existing in physical form, could unquestionably be the most devastating blow to the human psyche since the beginning of recorded time on this planet.

Think for a moment how an area like the Middle East might react if the U.S. government officially announced the aforementioned material, which in essence says that human beings were not necessarily made in the image of God, but perhaps in that of a hybridized reptilian humanoid! As many zealots in this world are always more than happy to run into a suicidal *jihad*, or holy war, screaming the name of their God, might not such a declaration trigger severe hostilities toward those who release such blasphemous or sacrilegious information? Tempers might flare and a world war of the nuclear kind might result for offending and insulting their longstanding Moslem beliefs.

How about all the people in the Western world who attend church or temple on a regular basis? Would such a proclamation affect their attitudes about the God-head and themselves? To say the least, it would spiritually knock the whole human race down a few notches and on its collective behind! Humbling as that may be, could we live with such a systemic shock?

Most of the ethnic and religious attitudes within various cultures on Earth are deeply ingrained within the

unconscious, and while not looked at as hardened facts, have become an integral part of what makes humans so proud of their unique individual heritages. In one fell stroke, all of that history might be forever dispelled and destroyed, replaced by a far greater truth and reality.

Question of origins

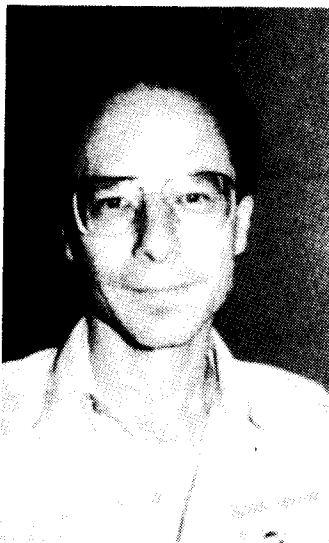
The question of who we are and from where as a race of beings we stem is perhaps one of the most profound questions facing us. It is at the very root and core of our being. How degrading would it be to have our biological and theological history re-written into little more than a cosmic experiment? Just think of the difficulties we are currently experiencing regarding interrelationships between different ethnic races on Earth. What would happen if "grey" was suddenly added to that list?

If indeed the circumstantial evidence presented here is valid, whose best interests are served by maintaining a tight lid of secrecy on government UFO knowledge?

Surely our negligent and relatively inept government knows full well the irrevocable ramifications of declassifying such potentially destabilizing information; planetary chaos followed by socio-economic infrastructure collapse.

Other than those few individuals, proportionately speaking, who really want to know the truth regarding UFOs—some scientists, researchers, UFO journalists, scholars, etc.—most people would not benefit in any way whatsoever by the release of such information. Is it possible that the world's governments might actually be doing the right thing for one of the few times in their existence? Or is it simply the knowledge that a government cannot rule or govern a body of people rendered apathetic, hysterical, self-negating and panic-stricken by having their reality turned upside-down and inside out—a race with an inconceivable past and an uncertain future?

Perhaps if people were slowly conditioned to this new reality—or new world order—their response might not be so self-destructive; just maybe, we're being protected from our greatest natural enemy: ourselves. If given the power of rendering this monumental decision, what would you do?



Barry Taff is a researcher and screenwriter whose studies concentrate on the scientific aspects of UFOs and the paranormal

UFOs On Trial: Witnesses Must 'Do The Right Thing'

By Vicki Cooper

It takes only the briefest amount of pondering to come up with the wisest answer to Taff's last question in the previous essay. Sorry, but—

I just don't know how I'd tell the world's multi-racial, largely ignorant population that it's little more than a cosmic experiment by those hideous grey aliens! No one does.

If indeed that's found to be the reason behind the government's jealous guarding of its purported secret cache of UFO/alien information, then we can rest assured that their silence is not only golden, it's unequivocal. If these aliens are in fact on our horizon, the time for humanity to step out of its material playpen has surely arrived, but apparently too soon for this confused planet. Questions of cosmology, ecology, psychology, theology—in fact, all the big “ologies” that usually appeal only to the most idealistic and intellectual college freshman—quickly take on untold significance. In light of what too many want us to believe is the “grey alien threat”—and a pending collapse of our socio-economic infrastructure even without 'em—surely none of the world's governments can afford to have a store of citizen-worker bees sitting and staring at its collective navel, in search of a revised identity and God knows what kind of new and expanded version of religious worship to lean on.

Unanswered questions

It must be kept in mind that such entertaining musings are no more than that. We have nothing but rumor and propaganda to account for reptilian humanoids; even abduction testimony leaves too many unanswered questions that stand firmly in the way of the inherently logical mind. To grasp and promulgate the incredible, without proof, requires a far too agonizing mental and emotional leap, yet in ufology this is a wickedly tolerated form of criminal behavior.

The burden of such knowledge should make one scream for the relief of unloading on the public, but we see no such indications from those who would be in the need-to-know in-crowd; their actions, however, do speak louder than words. They secretly corral interested parties, decimate the information base with lies and disinformation, and with a mindless, two-faced arrogance, willingly destroy minds and reputations in service to a twisted idea of protecting the world civilization from chaos. Sorry, but it doesn't wash.

For the time being, doubt is the safest path to truth. As confining as it may be, journalists are taught to abide by a standard rule of thumb when it comes to imparting any factual information coming from a single source: find at least one more source to corroborate the information in question.

Another important rule of thumb: Protect your sources.

Do the right thing

Leonard Stringfield is only doing what any decent journalist would learn to do, and Taff has extrapolated



his information into a superficially acceptable rationale for a particularly insidious form of official secrecy. Is it possible that the world's governments might actually be doing the right thing? Taff asks.

Individual responsibility

Doing the right thing in this case becomes not a governmental imperative, but an individual responsibility of the highest order. And doing the right thing is emphatically *not* keeping the knowledge of all time—ET aliens are here, they created us and are top dog in every sense of that strangely appropriate rank—a dark secret. It is not “the government” that would know about the reality of UFOs and aliens. It is not “the government” that would bend under the weight of such unprecedented knowledge. It is individuals. Not one, but many, if Stringfield's information can be trusted.

So in lieu of the real thing—hard evidence, as Taff notes, in the form of an actual otherworldly vehicle or an alien being, dead or alive—ufological spokesmen for the defense of alien reality are left to deal with anonymous individual sources.

Let's call our star anonymous witness Harry, and our eager ufologist/journalist/spokesman for the defense Howard. Harry is a shaky lone voice in the wilderness who cannot bring himself to: 1. Link up with other star witnesses who make similar claims; 2. Along with those other witnesses, connect with other trustworthy spokesmen besides Howard and confess their mutual knowledge, so that Howard can corroborate Harry's claims; and 3. As a group, approach one of the several recognized whistleblower support organizations and prepare a formal presentation, through established legal and media channels, to present their claims to *at least* those segments of the public that profess a willingness to listen to such stories. (And incidentally, unlike a court of law, that “jury” could be carefully selected by Harry and Howard alone!)

The trouble with Harry

But for some reason, Harry will talk to Howard and Howard only. The burden of proof thus rests with Howard, who willingly passes the witness' information on to a largely credulous crowd of UFO buffs. But he, too, cannot bring himself to think through a plan of action that moves the case out of the ufological arena and into the more impactful courtroom of mainstream folks.

Harry and Howard thus form a tight duo kept safely ensconced in a fringe world. Why are UFO-alien claims considered fringe? Because both the current star witness and spokesman for the defense keep them confined to the fringe!

Whether such testimonial confinement is deliberate or unconscious is hard to establish, but it exists. When Howard listens to Harry, he must realize that the longed-for hard evidence also exists, and that Harry just might know at least in what directions to point reponsible investigators.

If Harry is on the level, Howard must realize that even more stellar witnesses exist who have yet to come forward. If Howard opens his mind even more, he'll hear in Harry's tentative allegations the tacit fact that the so-called aliens, if they are real, are complicit in this damnable secret. The defense simply cannot rest in until "they" become more forthright.

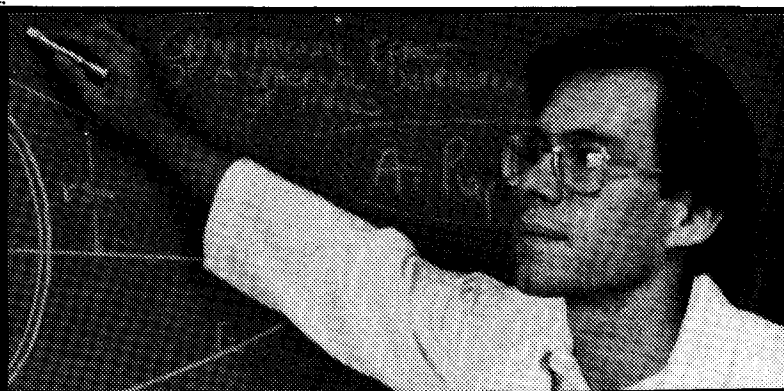
Only one way to go

Until such time, the rules of procedure must change to conform to a largely *pro bono* case with minimal evidentiary strength. The spokesmen for the defense thus must join forces and hinge their case on testimony alone. Unfortunately, given the power of the prosecution (Aliens?? Ha!), Harry's lone voice just doesn't cut it (and that includes the flaccid "Harries" whom some ufologists credit with being "high ranking members of the intelligence community").

Though basing its case on testimony alone, the defense does so with one thing in mind—attracting future witnesses with greater authority and credibility than Harry could ever hope to have. And until those witnesses come forward—the ones having irrefutable photos, who know where the bodies and craft are stored, who have documented relationships if not to the White House and the National Security Council at least to ranking officials in the Department of the Defense—no judge or jury will sit still and be convinced, not ever. There's no legitimate reason that they should.

So until we see those faces and hear those names, on the stand, without qualification, willingly testifying for the defense—UFO case dismissed.

On October 18, 1991
the **FOX** network
introduced Americans
nationwide to this man



physicist and ex-government scientist

Bob Lazar

He says, "What the U.S. Government is hiding in the Nevada desert affects your history, your philosophy, and maybe even your theology."

This information is so alarming that, in the Spring of 1991, the POPE solicited Las Vegas tele-journalist **GEORGE KNAPP** for information on Lazar. Not even the Vatican got the information contained in

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Vatto. Quasi subito, il giornalista Benitez e anche — seppur con toni più moderati — ufologi come Javier Sierra e Josep Guijarro, hanno accusato l'aeronautica di aver manipolato i casi, alterando dati e particolari, e nascondendo certe informazioni. Ballester Olmos, lo studioso promotore della declassificazione è stato ben presto coinvolto in queste accuse. Altri, come l'ufologo Pedro Canto, sulla base dei dati prodotti da Ballester si sono detti convinti della limpidezza del suo comportamento. Sierra ritiene che l'aeronautica abbia volontariamente sminuito e svalutato le testimonianze dei piloti di linea, e ha gettato sospetti su Ballester, che, con il suo gruppo di collaboratori, avrebbe contribuito a fornire

spiegazioni convenzionali per molti casi. Alcuni documenti, inoltre, sembravano misteriosamente essere irreperibili. Nel '93 il giornalista Juan José Benitez ha attaccato con veemenza la collaborazione tra ufologi e militari nel suo libro *Materia Reservada*, e ha rilevato come vi siano contraddizioni fra le valutazioni espresse per i casi negli elenchi rilasciati con la declassificazione e i giudizi dati a suo tempo dagli inquirenti militari dei singoli fatti. Ballester Olmos non ha tardato a replicare. Oltre a pubblicare, nel '95, il voluminoso libro *Expedientes Insolitos*, ha ribadito che a suo avviso i casi di fonte militare appaiono quasi tutti spiegabili, e che dalle sue indagini non risulta alcun indizio

di manipolazione o di inganni deliberati da parte dei militari. Anzi, sarebbero stati fatti sforzi concreti per rinvenire i documenti «spariti». Alcuni fogli ritenuti di scarsa importanza secondo Ballester sarebbero poi stati distrutti per motivi burocratici. Qualche altro sarebbe semplicemente andato perso fra le migliaia di tonnellate di carta prodotte ogni anno dalla macchina amministrativa militare. Ballester ha inoltre pubblicato studi dettagliati per dimostrare come un caso invocato più volte dai suoi accusatori come prova della manipolazione — un avvistamento effettuato il 25.2.1969 da un aereo di linea dell'Iberia in volo fra Parigi e Madrid — sia stato invece inchiestato con limpidezza e co-

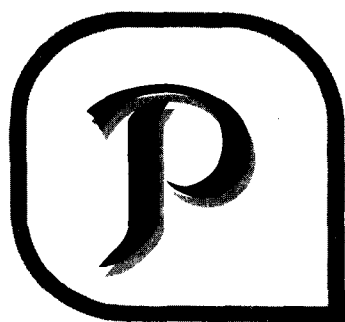
me non vi siano tracce di frodi nei documenti rilasciati. Egli ha anche scritto che molti — come lui stesso — hanno ottenuto nel passato per vie traverse qualche documento *tuttora* da declassificare, ma che ciò non prova certo che a lui venga usato dai militari un trattamento di favore. Le polemiche proseguono violente, con minacce di ricorso alle vie legali, soprattutto fra Ballester e Benitez. Nel '94, si è arrivati ridicolmente a far eco a insinuazioni — generate da un falso prodotto negli Stati Uniti — che Ballester sia stato un agente della CIA! Le pagine di documentazione ufo declassificata, intanto, si avvicinano verso quota 1500.

G.S.

Il silenzio degli UFO

Pier Luigi Sani

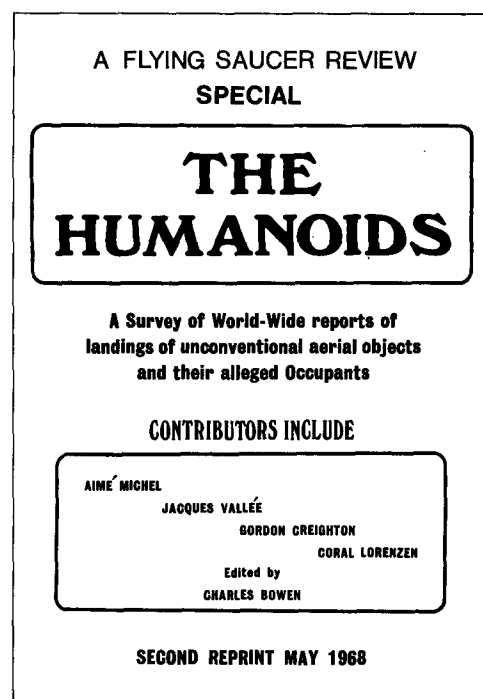
Ovvero: il problema del non contatto



remessa. Penso che in ufologia una trattazione sul tema del «silenzio» non sarebbe completa se non si affrontasse, oltre che il problema del silenzio «sugli» ufo, anche quello del silenzio «degli» ufo. Il primo è il problema della cosiddetta «congiura» da parte dei

nostri governi, che sembrerebbero voler nasconderci la verità, o quanto meno le informazioni sul fenomeno; il secondo è il problema del «non contatto» da parte della intelligenza che, apparentemente, sovrintende al fenomeno stesso. È ovvio che la questione del non contatto si pone solo nell'ipotesi che questa presunta intelligenza sia non umana. Che, poi, essa appartenga ad esseri provenienti dallo spazio, o da altre dimensioni, o dal tempo, o da qualsiasi possibile altrove, non ha qui molta importanza. Resta sempre il fatto che, nell'ambito dell'ipotesi, essa è presente ma ci ignora. Il problema del non contatto si evita soltanto negando che gli ufo abbiano un comportamento intelligente, il che, stando all'evidenza disponibile, non risulta obiettivamente possibile. È lecito infatti affermare che l'ipotesi di un pensiero non umano estrinsecantesi attraverso gli ufo, anche se non

Copertina del fascicolo speciale edito dalla «Flying Saucer Review» nel quale apparve per la prima volta il celebre articolo di Aimé Michel sul «problema del non-contatto».



dimostrata, sia comunque legittima. E per quanto poche siano le probabilità di essere vera che siamo disposti a concederle, essa reclama, per il solo fatto di presentarsi come possibile, la più attenta considerazione. Perché se un'intelligenza «aliena» esistesse e ci stesse visitando, sarebbe importante



Lo scrittore Charles Fort, che già nel 1919 definì il «non-contatto» come il «mistero più grande di tutti».

capire il motivo per cui evita, o sembra evitare, il contatto con noi.

Il primo a porre il problema del non contatto è stato Charles Fort, che nel suo *Il Libro dei Dannati* pubblicato nel 1919 lo definiva come «il mistero più grande di tutti»¹. All'epoca di Fort non si parlava ancora di «ufo», ma dall'esame di certi fenomeni aerei inesplicati l'autore aveva maturato la convinzione che sul nostro pianeta fossero presenti delle intelligenze aliene.

Con l'avvento dell'era ufologica (1947), il problema del non contatto si è imposto all'attenzione di tutti gli studiosi. Ma la riflessione più approfondita sul tema è stata, e resta, quella dello studioso francese Aimé Michel, pubblicata con il titolo *The Problem of Non Contact* in appendice al rapporto *The Humanoids* edito nel 1967 dalla rivista inglese «Flying Saucer Review»².

Michel, recentemente scomparso, era un sostenitore dell'origine extraterrestre degli ufo, almeno nei limiti consentiti da un'ipotesi di lavoro. Ipotesi che egli preferiva perché, per usare le sue stesse parole, «fra tutte le possibili teorie soltanto quella extraterrestre dà come risultato finale la previsione di un corpo di evidenza che corrisponde molto bene ai fatti osservati»³.

Quella che segue è una sintesi del suo pensiero in tema di non contatto, fatta utilizzando il suo articolo contenuto in *The Humanoids* ed il suo libro *Mystérieux Objets Célestes*⁴.

Il pezzo non è una novità. Fu pubblicato per la prima volta sul GdM n° 32 (anno 1973). Ma ritengo, riproponendolo oggi a 23 anni di distanza, di fare cosa gradita sia ai vecchi lettori che forse non lo ricordano, sia ai lettori nuovi che non lo conoscono. Per gli uni e per gli altri esso costituirà, spero, un serio motivo di riflessione, e comunque un'affascinante avventura del pensiero.

IL PROBLEMA DEL NON CONTATTO

Il contatto è possibile ma evitato?

Un'astensione dal contatto è concepibile anche in termini di morale umana. Il motivo potrebbe ad esempio essere costituito dalla consapevolezza di provocare, con il contatto, la fine della nostra civiltà. Noi stessi sappiamo infatti che laddove due civiltà di diverso grado evolutivo vengono a contatto, la meno evoluta è destinata fatalmente a soccombere. La storia della colonizzazione fa testo. Ma il contatto potrebbe essere evitato per motivi del tutto diversi dalla morale, e per noi incomprensibili. In questa prospettiva potrebbero ritrovare considerazione i racconti dei «contattisti». I costruttori dei dischi volanti sarebbero le avanguardie di una civiltà sconosciuta che ci sta visitando e che ha preso contatto con «certi» uomini (i contattisti, appunto). Una grossa difficoltà è che le testimonianze di questi «personaggi» discordano l'una con l'altra, il che suggerisce che almeno qualcuna di esse è falsa. Inoltre si deve constatare che l'opera dei contattisti ha avuto un effetto del tutto negativo, inducendo gli studiosi a conclusioni quasi unanimemente scettiche. Quelli che credono negli uomini-contatto sono una piccola minoranza degli ufologi, che a loro volta sono pochissimi. Pertanto il «contatto tramite i contattisti», se c'è, è limitato ai soli interessati, mentre quasi tutta la specie umana resta, di fatto, esclusa da esso.

Il contatto è non previsto?

I veri responsabili del fenomeno Ufo potrebbero non essere qua. In tal caso i «piloti» umani o umanoidi visti in varie occasioni non sarebbero che dei robot (biologici o no) costruiti per assolvere determinati compiti fra i quali non figura il contatto con noi.

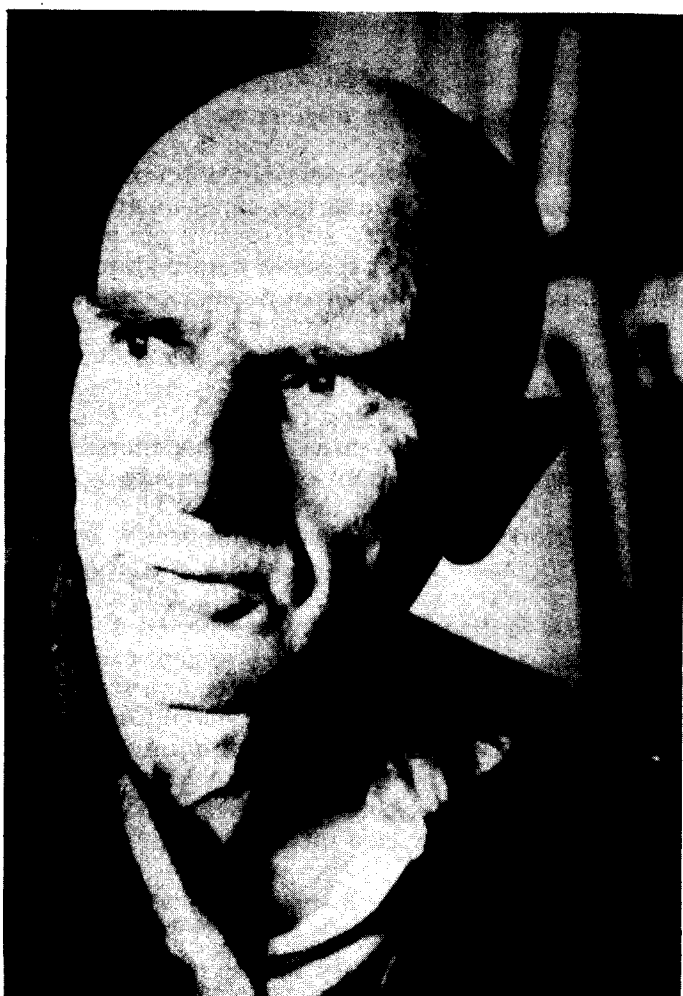
In particolare i piccoli «umanoidi» dalla grossa testa si prestano molto bene all'idea del robot biologico. Una super-tecnica biologica e genetica potrebbe averli creati accelerando artificialmente il normale ritmo evolutivo della specie umana (incremento della cefalizzazione, decremento degli organi vegetativi). Il «materiale greggio» potrebbe essere

stato fornito dalle specie terrestri, ma non necessariamente.

Una terrificante forma di questa ipotesi sarebbe che il «sistema x» che agisce tramite l'opera di robot biologici non è un essere vivente, bensì una macchina. Un gigantesco robot, dotato di poteri e di conoscenze enormemente superiori a quelle dell'uomo, potrebbe essere stato in orbita intorno alla Terra, o su qualche pianeta disabitato del sistema solare, per un tempo lunghissimo, addirittura dall'inizio stesso della vita. Esso osserverebbe, agirebbe e manipolerebbe gli eventi e gli esseri per mezzo degli Ufo e delle creature viventi che ha costruito o allevato. Il processo di evoluzione biologica, e perciò lo stesso uomo, potrebbero essere stati prodotti da lui.

Il contatto è intellettualmente impossibile?

A prima vista, l'impossibilità di un contatto intellettuale fra esseri dotati di intelligenza sembra un paradosso. Se gli alieni scendessero in mezzo agli uomini, noi potremmo imparare la loro lingua, e loro la nostra. E se non sapessero parlare, potremmo intenderci per iscritto. Helen Keller restò cieca,



Aimé Michel, il grande ufologo francese autore di un celebre articolo sul «non-contatto».

sorda e muta dall'età di 19 mesi, eppure ciò non impedì ad Anna Sullivan di entrare in rapporto con la sua coscienza e di aprirla a tutte le sfumature del mondo da cui era rimasta esclusa. Perché dovrebbe essere diverso con un essere extraterrestre?

Perché? Ma perché Helen Keller era un essere umano, dotata cioè di un «livello psichico» umano. Esistono sulla Terra, o sono esistiti, innumerevoli livelli psichici, dalla semplice cellula all'uomo: c'è un livello umano, un livello da scimmia, un livello da usignuolo, un livello da trota, e così via fino al limite del nulla.

Ora, lo scambio di informazioni è possibile soltanto fra animali della stessa specie, o fra animali di specie diversa ma di livello psichico simile. Quando, in montagna, la marmotta avverte l'avvicinarsi di un pericolo, essa avvisa le compagne emettendo il suo grido stridente. Lo stesso grido, avvertito da un branco di camosci, ne provoca ugualmente la fuga. Ma ecco il manifestarsi della differenza di livello: l'uomo imita il grido della marmotta, essa ne resta ingannata, risponde e, se non vede l'interlocutore, ingaggia una specie di conversazione. Ma che può dire un uomo ad una marmotta? Anche approfondendo al massimo la conoscenza del suo linguaggio, egli non potrebbe porgerle che messaggi adeguati al suo livello. Non sarebbe possibile esporre in «marmottiano» il teorema di Pitagora. Viceversa, l'uomo potrebbe, alle lunghe, arrivare a conoscere i pensieri del livello di marmotta. È, del resto, ciò che fanno i naturalisti. Konrad Lorenz, ad esempio, parla così bene la lingua delle anatre selvatiche che è capace di guidarne uno stormo così docilmente come un caporale guida le sue reclute. Il fatto è che noi possiamo entrare in rapporto con tutti gli esseri viventi, al loro livello psichico, a condizione che questo livello sia inferiore al nostro o, piuttosto, che il nostro «cumuli» il loro. Analogamente, dovrebbe essere possibile per gli alieni entrare in rapporto con noi. Ma chi ci dice che essi «cumolino» il nostro livello umano? L'aspetto cumulativo dello psichismo terrestre, per cui il livello umano cumula quello della scimmia, quello del pesce, quello della rana, etc..., si spiega forse per il fatto che noi discendiamo tutti da una stessa evoluzione, che per essere uomini abbiamo dovuto essere antropoidi, per essere antropoidi siamo stati qualcosa di simile ai lemuri, e così di seguito a partire dal batterio. Il corpo umano riassume tutto il passato della vita terrestre, e lo spirito umano riassume tutto il passato psichico di questa vita. Ma l'uno e l'altro hanno aggiunto qualcosa che ci fa essere più della somma di tutto ciò. Noi possiamo metterci al livello di ogni gradino evolutivo, perché ogni gradino è stato percorso, fin dall'origine della vita, dalla nostra progenie. Ma un essere che derivi da un'altra linea evolutiva avrà il nostro stesso psichismo? Non possiamo saperlo. Che un livello psichico superiore debba essere necessariamente passato attraverso il livello umano, è comunque possibile. In tal caso, ragionando per analogia, esseri dotati di un super-

pensiero dovrebbero poter entrare in contatto con noi, al nostro livello. Ma per lo stesso ragionamento analogico, noi saremmo irrimediabilmente impossibilitati a comprendere il livello loro. E così come l'ape non capisce che fa il suo miele per l'uomo e non sa distinguere un alveare artificiale da uno naturale, e così come un cane non distingue una colonna di cattedrale da una pietra qualsiasi, né una cattedrale da una caverna, analogamente noi non potremmo capire, del comportamento degli alieni, che gli aspetti concepibili dal nostro livello intellettuale. E tutto ciò che fosse per noi incomprensibile, non potrebbe mai essere tradotto in linguaggio umano.

Un'agghiacciante conseguenza di tale situazione potrebbe essere questa: il contatto, in effetti, esiste, ma è «invisibile». Vale a dire che il contatto fra noi e «loro», stabilito al loro livello, sarebbe e resterebbe, checché noi facessimo, indiscernibile ai nostri occhi.

Ancora, il ragionamento analogico ci permette di farci un'idea di una cosa altrimenti inconcepibile. La maggior parte dei nostri rapporti con gli animali è irrimediabilmente indiscernibile per loro: gli agnelli, per esempio, non sapranno mai che li si alleva per prendere loro la lana e per mangiarli. Noi usiamo degli animali con il nostro senso del tempo, che essi non hanno. Essi coabitano con noi fino al termine della vita senza sospettare che il loro destino è costantemente deciso in regioni di pensiero inconcepibili per la loro mente. E questo, si badi bene, nonostante che i loro occhi non abbiano mai cessato di vedere la realtà. Pertanto, la risposta alla domanda: perché gli alieni non si mostrano apertamente a noi?, potrebbe essere di una prodigiosa semplicità: non si mostrano perché il nostro spirito «non può» vederli. La loro assenza potrebbe essere soltanto apparente.

Il sorcio che rosicchia i nostri vecchi libri vede fisicamente, con i suoi occhi, tutto ciò che vediamo noi. Vede, ma non percepisce. La forma delle lettere si proietta sul fondo della sua retina, ma egli non saprà mai leggerle. Dello spettacolo umano non vede che quanto si confà a lui sorcio, e quando avrà rosicchiato la maggior parte dei libri della letteratura universale, non uno solo di essi gli avrà detto qualcosa, poiché ciò che rende libro un libro resterà sempre nascosto al suo intelletto.

Un giorno uno scienziato scriverà una memoria in cui dimostrerà che è necessario distruggere tutti i sorci dalla faccia della Terra, e ne indicherà il mezzo: la semplice pressione di un bottone. Poi andrà a dormire. Un sorcio allora capiterà sul tavolo dello scienziato, assaggerà la sua memoria, non la troverà di suo gusto, e se ne andrà a rosicchiare qualcos'altro. Tre giorni dopo tutti i sorci saranno distrutti.

Anche per noi questa può essere la visione dell'universo: percepire soltanto ciò che, dello spettacolo quotidiano offertoci dalla natura, risulta di un livello psichico uguale o inferiore al nostro. E se qualche essere siderale dotato di uno psichismo

super-umano frequenta i nostri cieli, noi siamo impotenti a comprendere la sua attività e ad intuirne lo scopo, così come il sorcio è impotente a leggere le memorie scientifiche.

Supponiamo che una tecnica super-evoluta abbia raggiunto la capacità di registrare sperimentalmente il pensiero, e che i possessori di questa tecnica si mettano a percorrere gli spazi siderali: come prenderebbero essi contatto con il pensiero di un pianeta sconosciuto?

La fantascienza lo immagina molto bene: un'armata di registratori del pensiero arriva su questo pianeta, percorre in lungo e in largo un perimetro stabilito, e raccoglie, in un batter d'occhio, o in qualche mese, tutto il pensiero compreso in quel perimetro. Perché gli autori di questa fantastica mietitura dovrebbero prender contatto con gli abitanti di quel pianeta? Con gli uomini, per esempio? A che scopo?

Noi saremmo altrettanto nudi, davanti alle loro macchine registratrici, quanto un credente davanti a Dio.

Conclusione

La speculazione sul mistero del non contatto potrebbe continuare all'infinito, ma ciò non servirebbe a risolvere il problema.

Di concreto, dalle argomentazioni di Michel, emerge un fatto basilare: una volta ammesso che dietro al fenomeno ufo agisce una intelligenza, i motivi del comportamento di questa intelligenza non possono che giacere al di fuori della razionalità e della logica umane. Rivelano, cioè, un pensiero non umano. L'inevitabile implicazione di tale super-umanità, dice Michel, è che l'attività ufo avrà sempre per noi un lato incomprensibile e ci apparirà contraddittoria e assurda. Pertanto non ha alcun senso contestare l'ipotesi della provenienza extraterrestre degli ufo con la obiezione che «se essi fossero qua si farebbero conoscere».

L'assurdità (per noi) del non contatto non è che la misura del nostro limite intellettuale. Aspettarsi da un'intelligenza superiore un comportamento conforme ai nostri schemi logici è, oltre che contraddittorio, anche e soprattutto ingenuo. Eppure questa difficoltà, e sovente incapacità, a concepire un pensiero «diverso» è estremamente diffusa, e non soltanto fra la gente comune ma anche, ed è desolante, fra i rappresentanti della scienza ufficiale. In realtà, l'assurdo e l'irrazionale (per noi) sono proprio quello che dovremmo aspettarci. Come ha acutamente osservato Arthur Clarke in un vecchio ma sempre attuale adagio: «ogni tecnologia sufficientemente superiore alla nostra non sarebbe, per noi, distinguibile dalla magia».

¹ C. Fort, «Il Libro dei Dannati», Armenia, Milano 1973, p. 153.

² Traduzione italiana: «Gli Umanoidi», Edizioni Mediterranee, Roma 1974.

³ A. Michel, «In Defence of the ETH», in *Flying Saucer Review* n° 6/1979. Traduzione italiana in GdM n° 258, p. 58.

⁴ A. Michel, «Mystérieux Objets Célestes», Arthaud, Parigi 1958, pp. 365 ss.

I know that there are a lot of people out there who have their pet ideas on what UFOs are all about, and I know, too, that most of them insist on being allowed to state their opinion anytime they feel like it. But this is not the way to conduct science. Science is not made up of opinions, and opinions will not make, nor sway facts. Opinions traded among peers often leads to new insights and new understandings. Opinions stated for the purpose of showing the breadth of one's knowledge on the subject, or to show "the open mindedness" of the speaker, seldom advance the subject or influence anybody. In terms of the subject at hand, it turns off and turns away those of the scientific community. Paraphrasing Haisch, the UFO community at large so badly corners scientists by our poor representation of science that they are put into a deeply defensive mode about the subject, without ever having examined our good to better evidence. This is our problem, not theirs. *SC*

It is we who present the good evidence badly, most often by trying to bend the evidence sharply toward preconceived ideas of what the UFO is, rather than by making a good presentation and letting the evidence lead where it may. Today, even the best presentation is often lightly treated, partly because of the obvious lack of community we present to the world, and partly because of the amount of confusion created by the popular media, and the check-out stand out press.

Unlike science, where all of the facts are checked out before pronouncements, and where a peer review system can insist on honest work, the UFO community is plagued with quite the opposite. There is a tendency to hide seemingly new information, waiting on prime opportunities to spring "great new revelations" on the

world. Frankly, I do not know of any such "Great UFO Revelation" that ever held up in the light of day.

In the UFO business there is a tendency to be the first to get the news out, to grab the glory, regardless of the facts, and regardless of where the information came from, or, in some cases, whether or not it even makes common sense, or fits any known pattern in the field.

On the part of some there is a tendency to hide behind government security, even when it is the point of the argument. Claiming to know the deepest darkest secrets hidden under the deepest darkest security system is a cop-out for simultaneously claiming that "there is no way you can check out my story." Some use this as a license to say anything and then claim "The Secret Cover-up." Where's the person who really does know something and is willing to get arrested over it.

The tendencies discussed in the last couple of paragraphs should strike a warning bell. It pays to be the most cautious in the company of the most noisy.

To close out, I wish to again invite everyone who truly has an interest in getting this subject in front of mainstream science to read and to study Bernhard Haisch's article, and then to think about where you fit in that picture and what you can do to improve it.

Well discussed, well examined, wide open, verifiable information is much closer to science than headlines from a credulous news-seeker. We want science. We want facts. We want truth. We should demand verification. We should demand reproducible results.

Groundless proclamators, charlatans, and egomaniacs will not move us forward. Beware!

Science and the general scientific method will eventually answer all of the questions about the UFO. Lets renew our commitment to science and move forward from now.

UCU THE GLASS CEILING

by John S. Waddell, Ph.D.

UFO researchers often ask themselves in frustration, Why won't the mainstream culture take this phenomenon seriously? Researchers have been able to document literally thousands of encounters, and have often been able to provide evidence at levels that under normal circumstances would be accepted by the scientific community or in a court of law. Yet, there has never been official acknowledgment of even one ETI contact, or that the evidence taken as a whole has any validity.

This has usually been blamed on the resistance of the scientific community to accept a new paradigm and the refusal of the defense establishment to give up its secrets. However, the number and variety of reports keep

piling up and are shown on television almost weekly, yet there is comparatively little impact on public consciousness. There appears to be a glass ceiling made up of the public's (often unconscious) fear of what contact would mean.

Even if visiting aliens are benign, their existence would certainly require a massive adjustment to our religious and cultural views. Our place in the universe would be changed forever. We would no longer be the masters of our Earthly destiny, but dependent to some extent on the goodwill of "alien" beings whose intentions we could only surmise.

These are issues that can certainly evoke fear. People who are ready to face them, such as those of you reading

In many respects, the battle has not been between secretive governments and the public's right to know, but between the people who have the courage to seriously address ETI contact and the public's right not to know.

this, have sought out the abundant *unofficial* information available. Most people, however, prefer to ignore these issues, and choose either to dismiss the subject of ETI contact altogether, or relegate it to titillation. The latter would be similar to speculating about who killed President Kennedy. It is fascinating to think the CIA might have assassinated Kennedy, for example, but unless this would be confirmed *officially*, people do not have to deal with the difficult questions about what this would mean to our democracy.

Likewise, many people tell pollsters they believe UFOs are "real," but most of these people would probably also say that humans are the most advanced species on the planet. Only when it is officially confirmed that we are not, will these people really have to face the difficult psychological and cultural issues surrounding ETI contact.

Many folks interested in UFO research have been frustrated by the various governments' lack of forthrightness in these matters, just as many were frustrated by the sealing of the Kennedy files. However, the public at large, perhaps for similar reasons, has been largely content to leave knowledge about both issues at the level of speculation.

Some would assert that this is because the public has been hoodwinked by the government. But those of you reading this and those answering the polls, obviously have not. People say they believe UFOs are out there, and they watch shows about Roswell, but they do not insist that their leaders get to the bottom of this. If they did, the evidence would come out. With the possible exception of Congressman Schiff, there is no political leader in America whose job would be at risk for not pushing an investigation into these issues.

Many focus their frustrations on shadowy, unelected government leaders, while ignoring what may be the greatest barrier to official acknowledgment of the evidence: the public's ambivalence about facing the profound psychological and cultural impact of becoming the second most advanced species on "our" planet.

Whatever aliens are out there have also conspired to deny us proof of their existence. Some attribute darker motives to visiting aliens, but it is quite possible they are sensitive to our psychological needs and have chosen not to force their existence upon the many who would be devastated.

Because of these barriers, those of us who take UFO research seriously are like a football team that has never won a game (and we get about the same level of respect). We have scored some points, and there have been personal victories, but neither we nor our work has been honored by the mainstream culture.)

For this to change, something will have to happen to make the possibility of alien contact psychologically real for the public, just as something happened to make it real for us. For some, this is simply a matter of exposure to the abundant evidence. However, for the majority, it appears only a significant lowering of the psychological barriers will allow the UFO phenomenon to become real.

This could happen through the presentation of shocking, irrefutable evidence that will literally crush these barriers, or through individuals making peace with the frightening possibilities implied by alien contact. UFO researchers seem to have been largely focused on the former, and the alien visitors frequently on the latter.

Psychological barriers to knowledge are often adaptive, and the pain to the personality can be extreme if the barriers are removed without adequate support. Trying to force people to face situations which they are not ready to handle can be painful both for those receiving the message and for the messengers. The most common defense against facts which people are not ready to hear is to ridicule the messenger—something which those of you reading this know all too well.

In many respects, the battle has not been between secretive governments and the public's right to know, but between the people who have the courage to seriously address ETI contact and the public's right *not* to know.

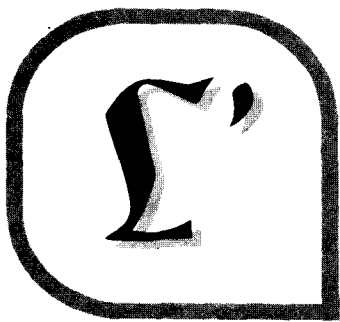
Sooner or later, however, there will be an incident which will break into public consciousness, and both the public and our leaders will have to scramble to come to terms with the implications of contact. Those of us who have been willing to face these issues can help facilitate a process whereby both the public and our leaders are prepared, and where a breakthrough will be as minimally threatening as possible.

This can be done by continuing the development of physical evidence, and concurrently, addressing the profound issues implied by that evidence. Finally, the recognition that there is a glass ceiling made up of public fear, can reduce the frustration of UFO researchers when, again and again, the mainstream culture refuses to acknowledge the abundant evidence.

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Congiura del silenzio?

Un tema di grande attualità su cui è necessario fare chiarezza - Nel prossimo fascicolo un servizio speciale di 24 pagine sull'argomento



ufologia si porta dietro fin dai primordi una serie di luoghi comuni (o idee, o credenze, ognuno scelga il termine che preferisce) che ne diminuiscono in qualche modo la rispettabilità in quanto si prestano a fungere da facile bersaglio per le critiche (più o meno serene)

degli scettici. L'esempio più tipico è quello della correlazione automatica tra ufo ed extraterrestri. Un altro è quello della cosiddetta «congiura del silenzio». È facile risalire alla loro origine; non altrettanto è giustificarne la persistenza nel tempo. Probabilmente sono stati i primi ricercatori americani, con le loro teorie e convinzioni, a «ingabbiare» il fenomeno ufo in un insieme di frasi fatte da cui esso non è poi riuscito più a liberarsi. Valga per tutti il personaggio Keyhoe. La sua influenza in campo ufologico è risultata determinante, sia per quanto riguarda l'interpretazione del fenomeno in chiave extraterrestre, sia soprattutto per avere formulato, primo fra tutti, l'idea della «congiura del silenzio». Sarebbe comunque difficile, ripeto, capire il perché una determinata teoria ed una certa convinzione abbiano potuto radicare a tal punto nell'opinione pubblica da diventare «etichette» indelebili dell'ufologia. Lascio il problema ai sociologi.

Qui mi limito a constatare che le «etichette», piaccia o no, esistono; e che pertanto spetta agli ufologi stabilire quanto di reale e quanto

di fantasioso si nasconda dietro di esse. Prendiamo il caso della «congiura». Come ho detto, l'espressione originale si deve al Keyhoe; il quale, però, la intese in un senso molto più ristretto di quanto non si faccia oggi. Mentre lui accusava di «cospirazione» non altri che l'Aeronautica Militare degli Stati Uniti (USAF), attualmente il concetto si è esteso sul piano internazionale. I fautori della «congiura» credono infatti che le autorità politiche, militari e scientifiche dell'intero pianeta conoscano la «verità» sugli ufo (la loro provenienza aliena) e cerchino, concordemente, di nasconderla alla gente. Il motivo dell'occultamento sarebbe di evitare il «panico» che si scatenerrebbe non appena questa presunta «verità» fosse ufficialmente proclamata.

Personalmente non condivido la teoria del «panico». Essa poteva forse avere un certo fondamento negli anni '50, all'inizio dell'era spaziale, ma non oggi, negli anni '90, quando tutti noi ci siamo ormai assuefatti al pensiero che la vita (compresa la vita intelligente) sia estremamente probabile nell'universo.

L'argomento merita comunque di essere approfondito. Lo faremo nel fascicolo di dicembre, un fascicolo speciale di 80 pagine che conterrà un inserto di 24 dedicato interamente alla «congiura del silenzio», tema divenuto negli ultimi anni di scottante attualità per il gran parlare che si sta facendo di Roswell e dell'Area 51. A titolo d'introduzione pubblichiamo intanto, qui di seguito, l'opinione che attualmente hanno in proposito i

due maggiori centri ufologici italiani, il CUN e il CISU, rappresentati rispettivamente da Roberto Pinotti e da Paolo Toselli. Entrambi sono stati intervistati dal GdM ed hanno risposto ad una stessa serie di domande sull'argomento. Ecco il loro parere.

**È VERAMENTE TUTTO PER NOI QUESTO UNIVERSO?
O C'È QUALCOSA CHE I GOVERNI NON CI DICONO?**

Il parere del CUN (Centro Ufologico Nazionale)

Intervista al Segretario Generale Roberto Pinotti raccolta da Giuseppe Stilo

D. Che cosa s'intende per congiura del silenzio?

R. Più di una cosa. E questa cosa è cambiata nel tempo. Il concetto di congiura è legato al fatto che le autorità, soprattutto quelle militari americane, nei primi anni '50 iniziarono ad applicare una politica di censura sui dati, fatto del resto comprensibile se ci si pone nell'ottica della prassi militare. La congiura vera e propria sarebbe scattata nel '53, all'indomani dei lavori della «Commissione Robertson», quando venne codificato un atteggiamento di *debunking*, di discredito soprattutto dei testimoni civili, di cui pure all'inizio il Blue Book aveva richiesto la collaborazione. Tali scelte furono condizionate dalla partecipazione ai lavori di membri della CIA. È il primo atto. Successivamente tale politica, istituzionalizzata, culminò nella «Commissione Condon» sugli ufo, le cui risultanze negative erano precostituite e nella successiva chiusura del Blue Book, con conseguente eliminazione delle pressioni dell'opinione pubblica. Da allora, le ricerche ufficiali sugli ufo sono proseguite non più alla luce del Sole.

D. Esistono indizi concreti della congiura, e, in caso positivo, quali sono i più significativi?

R. Sotto un profilo storiografico, i più importanti sono quelli che ho già indicato. Tutto è abbastanza chiaro fino al 1970. Ci si può chiedere però se le chiavi di lettura possibili siano soltanto quelle ricostruibili come visto, o se ne siano ammissibili ancora delle altre.

D. Quali le possibili motivazioni del cover-up?

R. In buona sostanza, la motivazione è stata una sola e continua ad essere una, anche se lo scenario è cambiato e si sono modificate anche le maniere in cui tale politica si rapporta ai fatti. Per essere più chiari: ora che le tecnologie permettono, attraverso la loro massic-

cia diffusione, di registrare fenomeni insoliti. L'atteggiamento è sicuramente mutato. Ci sono pesantissimi e coerenti indizi che riportano di attualità lo scenario già fatto proprio dalla «Commissione Robertson» nel 1953. Ossia, la sensibilizzazione del pubblico nei confronti del problema da attuarsi nei termini giusti. Il punto è quali siano questi «termini giusti». Allora, da un lato il *debunking*, quando denuncia dei falsi, può essere un fattore volto in positivo. E a ciò sono da aggiungere alcuni fatti: negli anni '50 è iniziato un boom letterario della fantascienza. In seguito si è avuto il boom della SF cinematografica, con Hollywood che l'ha fatta da padrona in questo gioco. Un'esplosione in cui troviamo strani coinvolgimenti di ufologi, quali Hynek. In questo scenario anche lui può esser stato un attore. La stessa corsa alla Luna ha avuto essenzialmente un fine psicologico, nel farci capire che siamo cittadini dell'Universo. Oggi stiamo entrando in una grande, nuova fase: si sta consentendo alla gente (si pensi a «X-Files») di credere. Potrebbero essere tutti elementi di un piano a lungo termine volto al rilascio «morbido» di informazione culturale che dia segnali che evitino il rischio di uno *shock* in caso di reale contatto di massa con gli extraterrestri. Oggi c'è una «congiura» che dà parziali informazioni, in cui la gente apprende senza apprendere fino in fondo, sa senza spaventarsi, e così via. E anche lo stesso fenomeno ufo potrebbe essere ciò che gestisce un gioco parallelo a quello delle autorità, ma che va pur sempre nella stessa direzione.

D. È ipotizzabile che all'origine dell'idea del cover-up ci sia una percezione paranoica della realtà?

R. No, non la vedo come una versione paranoica della realtà. Anche se a livello letterario è

possibile ricercare i segni di una ideologia paranoica basta vedere come nel caso degli Stati Uniti si sono mosse le cose. È una presa di coscienza che dipende dalla solitudine davanti all'enorme sviluppo dei mass-media. Tale coscienza, in un popolo psicologicamente «giovane» e in precedenza ottimista e pragmatico come quello americano non c'era mai stata. Ancora una volta è stata Hollywood a far capire certe cose. La congiura c'è davvero, altro che paranoia. Facciamo l'esempio di Area 51. Se si va lì e si parla con la gente, quelli non ti dicono: qui ci sono i marziani. La gente è arrabbiata perché si chiede il motivo dell'esistenza di una zona che ufficialmente... non esiste. La gente si sente lesa nei propri diritti, e questo è molto importante per gli americani. Ciò naturalmente dà poi corpo ad eccessi di vario tipo, come le pseudo-rivelazioni di John Lear o di William Cooper. Questi sono fatti di cui occorre cominciare a parlare. La leggenda di Area 51 cresce, ma qualcosa alla base ci deve essere. Tengo a ripetere che fatti di questo tipo non sono spiegabili come visione paranoica della realtà.

D. E la situazione italiana?

R. Esistono «due anime» anche fra le autorità militari italiane. Se la congiura c'è, anche da noi essa va senz'altro nella stessa direzione. Ma se qualcuno in quell'ambito dice: vediamo se è possibile occuparsi degli ufo in maniera diversa, nuova, ad esempio coinvolgendo la Protezione Civile, il capo di Stato Maggiore ad un certo punto ordina di lasciar stare «tutte queste fesserie» e la cosa finisce lì. Non sono in grado di dirti se e cosa stia succedendo anche da noi in questo momento. Non ho idea. Però sappiamo bene che esiste un livello *coram populo* che ti raccontano in ambito difesa — ossia i 230 dossier raccolti tra il '78 e il '95 — e che

ci sono altre cose che non ti vengono a dire e che non sapremo mai, perché hanno altri livelli di sicurezza. E ci sono, stai tranquillo. Da qui, tuttavia, a dire che c'è una congiura del silenzio in Italia... Boh! L'Italia fa parte del meccanismo: siamo inseriti nella NATO, e così via. Non vorremmo sostenere davvero che i nostri capi militari contino quanto gli americani e che siano in grado di condurre una politica autonoma sugli ufo! L'unica che lo ha fatto è stata Parigi. Lo hanno fatto, ma alla fine il risultato è simile. Di organismi ufficiali francesi come il GEPAN e il SEPR non sappiamo molto. Dietro di essi c'è molto di più. Negli anni '80, convalidando l'atterraggio con tracce di Trans-en-Provence il GEPAN evidentemente «esagerò». Dopo c'è stato un ritorno al silenzio, voluto da qualcuno. Il punto centrale, alla fine, è quello della possibilità che la massa sia informata *in the proper way*, come dicono gli americani. Se tu violi il «livello» che qualcuno ha pensato per te come limite entro il quale puoi dire certe cose, sei fregato. Se ti ci tieni, anche al limite estremo, va tutto bene. Gli ufologi, tutti noi, siamo attori di questo processo. Noi tutti siamo «usati» da qualcuno che può avere interesse ad utilizzare gli addetti ai lavori come casse di risonanza. È un processo che si autogenera, come per gemmazione. È complesso e al tempo stesso semplice: proliferando, non hai più la possibilità di vedere il quadro completo... e ti ci perdi!

La congiura sugli ufo fa riferimento a luoghi di potere (quali certe burocrazie) che non sono quelli manifesti, come la Presidenza degli Stati Uniti. Il potere non è quello che appare, ma quello che c'è.

È con questo potere che anche gli ufologi devono fare i conti!

G.S.

Carl Sagan & Immanuel Velikovsky

Charles
Ginenthal

En este libro, publicado en 1995, Charles Ginenthal deja al desnudo la atrabiliaria personalidad de Carl Sagan.

su ponencia con unas frases aperturistas y sibilinas: "El ser humano usa su imaginación muy ampliamente, pero todos los productos de la imaginación humana están basados en realidades. Es nuestro deber encontrar hechos que puede que no hayan sido inventados, sino que provengan de realidades".

Lo malo es que, cuando le ponen delante esas realidades sus propios contemporáneos, él se remonta a 1842 para analizar unas luces que vieron unos frailes. ¡Olé por la Ciencia!

En las más de cuatrocientas páginas de que consta el documento de Byurakan, hay cientos de enrevesadas fórmulas matemáticas que nada tienen que ver con la realidad de la actual presencia de los ovnis entre nosotros. Aquellos científicos se dieron gusto desembuchando logaritmos y practicando durante varios días un onanismo mental astrofísico. Algunos, como G. C. Simpson, de la Universidad de Harvard, dijeron cosas tan sabias como que "las probabilidades de vida extraterrestre son remotísimas" o "la creencia en los ovnis es un monumento a la credulidad". Y lo malo es que se estaba refiriendo al profesor MacDonald, astrofísico de la Universidad de Arizona, que poco tiempo atrás se había suicidado. Lo

que el doctor Simpson no sabía es que muy probablemente al doctor MacDonald lo suicidaron por defender abiertamente desde su cátedra la realidad de los ovnis.

En cuanto a las resoluciones, no fueron muy brillantes. En primer lugar, aquellos despistados sabios no estuvieron de acuerdo en las consecuencias de un contacto con inteligencias extraterrestres, porque mientras algunos dijeron que

"sería un terremoto para la cultura humana y que ésta corría el peligro de desintegrarse", V. L. Ginzburg, de la Academia de Ciencias Soviética, dijo que "aunque el contacto sería una revolución para la Ciencia y la tecnología, se puede asegurar que no supondría peligro alguno para la sociedad humana". El famoso profesor Sakharov fue, en cambio, más salomónico: "La información procedente del contacto sería útil para los seres humanos sensibles y buenos, mientras que sería peligrosa para los tontos y los violentos".

Menos mal que en una de las resoluciones finales dicen: "Si algún día son descubiertas civilizaciones extraterrestres, el efecto en la Ciencia, en la Filosofía y en la tecnología humanas será inmenso, y tal descubrimiento influirá positivamente en el futuro de la humanidad".

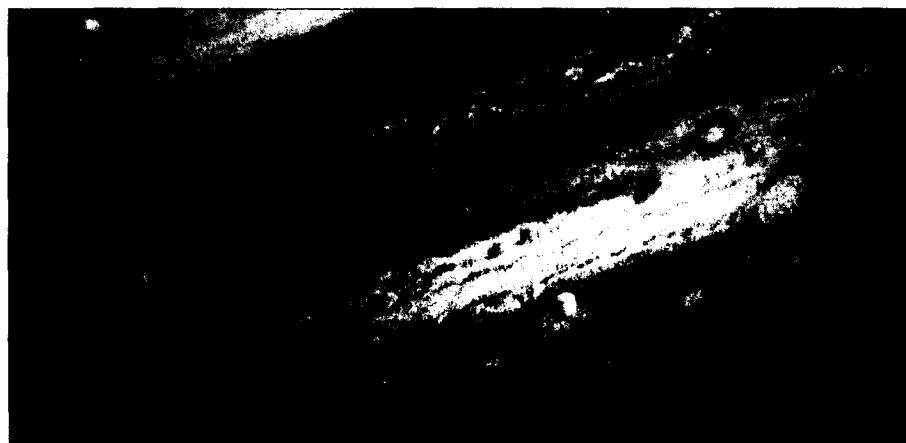
Desgraciadamente, no ha sido así, gracias en gran parte a la

soberbia y a la miopía de la megaciencia que, como siempre, está servil e interesadamente al servicio de la criminal y antihumana paranoia militar.

Otra de las resoluciones fue que se crease un grupo de estudio para profundizar en la investigación de la posible existencia de una inteligencia extraterrestre. Por supuesto que en ese grupo estaba Carl Sagan quien, en todos los años que han transcurrido desde entonces, no ha sido capaz de caer en la cuenta de que no hay que ir a buscar fuera del planeta la inteligencia extraterrestre, porque está actuando entre nosotros de mil maneras diferentes.

Y dos últimos detalles que muestran la atrabiliaria personalidad del doctor Sagan. El primero es que se negó a asistir a la reunión de sesenta científicos en el MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), celebrada en 1992 para estudiar el fenómeno de las abducciones (ver Enigmas, año II nº 2), a pesar de haber sido especialmente invitado; y segundo, preguntado en un programa de televisión sobre qué pensaba de los misteriosos dibujos que en la actualidad están apareciendo en todo el mundo en las cosechas de cereales, respondió que ya se había demostrado que eso era obra de dos señores retirados que querían divertirse (ver Enigmas, año II nº 3). Ante respuestas tan cínicas como ésta, mucho nos tememos que ciertas "altas autoridades" del planeta le hayan asignado al doctor Sagan la misma ingrata y vil tarea que hace años le asignaron a otro famoso astrónomo (el doctor Menzel): usar su fama de científico para engañar a sus conciudadanos. [E]

Instantánea recogida por el Voyager 1 de la inmensa cara de Júpiter, en la que aparecen dos de las lunas del planeta más grande de nuestro sistema solar. Ambas lunas tienen un tamaño parecido a la de la tierra.



Psicosi da UFO

Federico Rosati

*Le ragioni della politica del silenzio delle autorità USA –
La psicosi dei Marziani – Orson Welles e La Guerra dei Mondi –
L'opinione della scienza e la "politica del contagocce".*

Le autorità statunitensi, che per prime si sono trovate a dover fronteggiare il problema dei cosiddetti "flying saucers" (dischi volanti), hanno portato avanti, sin dall'inizio, una politica volta alla minimizzazione e al discredito del problema di fronte alla popolazione. In pratica, hanno cercato di convincere l'opinione pubblica che non c'era nessun pericolo concreto, in quanto la questione era del tutto inconsistente. Sui motivi di questa politica si possono avanzare varie ipotesi. Si può pensare che inizialmente si preferisse tenere segreto il fenomeno, in quanto esso era, per lo più, sconosciuto, e sembrava inoltre mettere in ridicolo le Forze Aeree, che, pur così efficienti e avanzate dal punto di vista tecnologico, risultavano impotenti di fronte a tali velivoli. Si può addirittura ipotizzare, come del resto è stato fatto, che le autorità statunitensi si siano impossessate in qualche modo di una parte più o meno consistente di questa tecnologia, e che quindi abbiano avuto e abbiano ancora tutto l'interesse che queste conoscenze restassero e restino segrete. Tuttavia, credo che, oltre a questi, vi sia anche un terzo motivo, non per questo meno importante, che abbia portato le suddette autorità a seguire una politica di "cover-up", ovvero di nascondimento della verità e di occultamento delle prove. Cosa potrebbe succedere infatti, se improvvisamente alla popolazione mondiale venisse rivelato che la nostra Terra è visitata da velivoli extraterrestri costruiti con una tecnologia di fronte alla quale noi, attualmente, siamo praticamente impotenti? E cosa potrebbe succedere se addirittura una razza aliena si rivelasse all'Umanità, così, di punto in bianco? Credo che non ci voglia molta immaginazione per rispondere a queste domande. Probabilmente ci sarebbe un crollo dell'economia, una destabilizzazione di ogni forma di potere, e soprattutto si diffonderebbe tra la popolazione una terribile "psicosi da UFO", che porterebbe a disordini e a suicidi. Del resto non dobbiamo neanche lasciare tutto

all'immaginazione per ipotizzare una situazione del genere. Abbiamo, infatti, degli esempi passati che ci testimoniano come questo pericolo sia reale e assolutamente da non sottovalutare.

Il 30 ottobre del 1938, alle ore 20:00 circa, Orson Welles, attore e regista, interruppe improvvisamente i programmi di tutte le stazioni radio della CBS (151) e annunciò: "... nei dintorni di Groves Mills è caduto un grosso oggetto fiammeggiante. Il suo fulgore è stato visibile per centinaia di miglia attorno, mentre il boato dell'impatto è stato udito anche a New York". Un astronomo, che per caso si trovava nello studio – almeno così fu detto – dichiarò di essere molto preoccupato. Mentre venivano ripresi dalla radio i normali programmi, Welles disse che avrebbe inviato i radiocronisti sul posto per verificare e seguire l'accaduto.

In realtà questa non era altro che la trama del romanzo fantascientifico di Herbert G. Wells,



Orson Welles nel 1938, anno della famosa trasmissione radiofonica sulla "guerra dei mondi".

"La guerra dei mondi", dal quale poi fu tratto il famoso film omonimo. La popolazione, però, non sapendolo, fu presa dalla psicosi dell'invasione marziana.

Ad un certo punto vennero interrotti nuovamente i programmi e vennero trasmesse delle notizie circa ciò che si diceva stesse succedendo. Si parlò di creature mostruose e invincibili e di incredibili macchine d'attacco, si disse che nella prima battaglia che vi era stata l'esercito americano era stato sconfitto, che vi erano persone che ardevano come torce a causa di quello che veniva chiamato "raggio della morte", che vi erano ovunque grattacieli che crollavano e nubi di gas venefico che uccidevano senza pietà. A questo punto, come è facile immaginare, il terrore dilagò. A Philadelphia la popolazione si era già rassegnata e arresa; a Chicago vi furono numerosi tumulti e fughe; a Washington vennero organizzati dei gruppi di resistenza e di soccorso; a New York, infine, che – a quanto si diceva – era già sotto il controllo dei Marziani, si crearono code di automobilisti che cercavano di salvarsi rifugiandosi nell'entroterra. Il bilancio dei danni poté essere fatto solo quando Orson Welles arrivò al punto in cui – secondo il racconto – grazie alla densità dell'atmosfera terrestre che era diversa da quella marziana, si riuscì ad avere la meglio sugli extraterrestri. Vi furono numerosi suicidi, moltissime persone si ferirono durante le fughe disordinate, e vennero calcolati danni per milioni di dollari.¹

Nel 1949, poi, nel New Jersey, si verificò una situazione simile, anche se questa volta vi fu un esito diverso. Anche in quella occasione venne trasmesso un programma estremamente realistico sulla "guerra dei mondi". Inizialmente ebbe l'effetto di creare spavento tra la popolazione, poi una folla di persone che non aveva gradito troppo lo scherzo fece irruzione nella stazione radio e tutto il personale venne ucciso atrocemente.²

Sembra tuttavia che la storia non insegni un gran che. Il 30 ottobre del 1974, infatti, nella California settentrionale, la stazione radiofonica KXGO trasmise un programma che parlava di una fantascientifica pioggia di meteoriti sulla stessa California. Si disse che nel momento in cui le "luciole cosmiche" si schiantavano al suolo ne fuoriuscivano dei microbi micidiali che causavano la morte istantanea; si disse inoltre che si presumeva che a questo bombardamento sarebbe seguito uno sbarco extraterrestre in forze. La drammaticità e il modo realistico con il quale venne recitato il copione fece sì che iniziò a diffondersi il panico tra gli ascoltatori, i quali tempestarono di telefonate i centralini della guardia civile e dei giornali. Saputo del caos provocato, venne interrotta la trasmissione e si cercò di spiegare che non si trattava della cronaca di un fatto reale, bensì di un semplice programma. Lo speaker, tuttavia, non fu in grado di finire, in quanto una folla inferocita aggredì la stazione radio, ed egli dovette mettersi in salvo.³ Fatti del genere fanno pensare che, con le dovute

differenze, anche rivelazioni del tipo di quelle accennate sopra potrebbero avere effetti destabilizzanti.

Del resto, che queste considerazioni sono state tenute presenti dalle autorità dell'USAF (United States Air Force) non è un mistero: vi sono montagne di documenti e di dichiarazioni, ufficiali e non, che lo provano, oltre alle non meno importanti testimonianze di personaggi come il maggiore Donald E. Keyhoe, il quale ha collaborato a lungo con le Forze Aeree e che ha raccontato con notevole efficacia quelle che erano le varie posizioni sulla politica da tenere a riguardo all'interno dell'USAF nell'immediato dopoguerra.

Inoltre, in diverse occasioni, anche esponenti del mondo scientifico hanno mostrato di considerare seriamente questa possibilità.

Il 21 agosto 1970, a Brighton, in Inghilterra, il congresso dell'Unione Astronomica Internazionale stabilì, su mozione del Prof. Anthony Hewish, scopritore delle stelle pulsar, che, nel caso si fosse arrivati a scoprire qualcosa riguardo l'esistenza di eventuali esseri extraterrestri, queste informazioni sarebbero dovute rimanere segrete, in quanto l'opinione pubblica, ancora impreparata ad una rivelazione del genere, avrebbe potuto reagire in modo negativo.⁴

Nel 1987, poi, sempre a Brighton, durante il Congresso Astronomico Internazionale, un gruppo di sociologi presentò su richiesta della Sessione del SETI (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence) i risultati di uno studio sul tema delle conseguenze di un eventuale contatto con una civiltà extraterrestre. Il documento, dal titolo "CONTACT: RELEASING THE NEWS" (CONTATTO: DIFFONDERE LA NOTIZIA), analizza i possibili effetti catastrofici che una rivelazione del genere provocherebbe all'interno della nostra società; vengono prospettate una probabile crisi di autorità e un possibile crollo dell'intero sistema socio-politico. Quindi, discute anche il problema di come far sì che un tale evento possa avvenire in modo non traumatico, proponendo la soluzione di una preparazione della popolazione mondiale attraverso una graduale rivelazione della verità.⁵

Forse, del resto, le autorità stanno effettivamente portando avanti questa "politica del contagocce"; è possibile, anche se è solo un'ipotesi, che nel momento in cui questo processo verrà portato a termine, allora la verità sull'intera questione verrà finalmente rivelata.

^{1,2,3} Gianfranceschi Luciano, *UFO, Cronache del mistero*, Rusconi, Milano 1977, pp. 75-77.
^{4,5} Pinotti Roberto, *UFO, Visitatori da altrove*, Rizzoli, Milano 1990, pp. 485-488.

UFO

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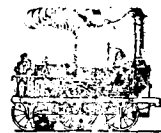
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RICHARD HALL

The Impact of Extraterrestrial Contact



Richard Hall



In a famous episode of Rod Serling's "Twilight Zone," the humans are concerned about the intentions of the aliens, until they find the alien manual entitled "To Serve Man." Obviously, they are here to help us, the relieved humans conclude. What they fail to realize is that it is a cookbook. The moral of the story is that self-delusion can be fatal.

We have no way of knowing the ultimate alien "game plan," unless we arbitrarily choose to believe one of the received "messages" obtained by contactees or abductees, and they are notoriously inconsistent and self-contradictory. But we can infer a few things and examine realistic alternative possibilities. On one hand, they have been around for 50 years or more and life goes on; society survives. On the other hand, a large number of people have been severely injured during close encounters with UFOs. If we credit abduction stories, many more humans have been treated like laboratory animals. There is no cause for complacency.

Since the reality of UFOs has not been "officially" accepted by governments or science, they exist in a sort of twilight world and have little impact on our daily lives or on society as a whole. But suppose tomorrow or next week society were confronted with absolute, unequivocal proof of extraterrestrial intelligent life. What would be the impact of that on our daily lives, our key institutions, and on society as a whole? Although some scholars may have considered this rather vital question, surprisingly little has been said or written about it.

The Fund for UFO Research is

compiling an issue paper for publication in 1999, in which sociologists, theologians, and other scholars will essay answers to these questions. The form the proof takes almost doesn't matter for the sake of the argument, but landings and open contact obviously would be the most dramatic, and the most likely to have

ence, and religions, even making this most benign assumption? These are matters of the utmost importance that we should be thinking about, and preparing ourselves for whatever the truth proves to be.

Since the reality of UFOs has not been "officially" accepted by governments or science, they exist in a sort of twilight world and have little impact on our daily lives or on society as a whole.

serious consequences. Suppose we find unmistakable artifacts on the Moon or Mars. Or suppose multiple tracking cameras record controlled nonhuman craft entering and leaving the earth's atmosphere. At the very least, it will be back to the old drawing board for science, governments, and the people.

What happens to us, clearly, will depend almost entirely on what the aliens want or expect from us in the long run. Peaceable, friendly overtures could be very exciting and usher in a wonderful new era. But what of the impact on earthly governments, sci-

Cool Prediction

From a close study of collective behavior, my informed guess as to how most people would react to extraterrestrial contact is ... if plenty of credible information is available, there is very little risk of any harmful or destructive behavior of the kind we might all 'panic'.

—Robert L. Hall, PhD,
social psychologist

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BUSCANDO RESPUESTAS A LA NO-INTERFERENCIA **EXTRATERRESTRE**

2001

Cada vez que hablamos de extraterrestres, de otras formas de vida no terrenales, siempre suele haber alguien en la reunión, que se pregunta lo siguiente, :

“ Yo, lo que no entiendo, es que si de verdad existen los extraterrestres, los marcianos, o como los queramos llamar, lo que no me cabe en la cabeza digo, es porqué no se dan a conocer de una forma clara y definitiva, vamos , que se dejen de historias misteriosas, de apariciones por aquí y por allá, de abducciones extrañas, de desconcertarnos en definitiva ¡ coño !, y simplemente se nos “ presenten” educadamente, en una especie de rueda de prensa internacional, supervisada por los respectivos gobiernos, o como fuera, y se acabase así el misterio de si hay vida por ahí fuera o no. Tampoco es que nos fuese a cambiar la vida radicalmente, seguramente tendría que ir a trabajar al día siguiente, por decir algo.....”

Incluso la gente más incrédula de nuestro planeta, está hoy en día “sensibilizada “ sobre la posible existencia de vida exterior, ya sea por la innumerable aparición de películas sobre estos temas, ya sea por libros, por revistas, periódicos, comentarios, anécdotas, etc. De alguna manera, la mayoría de los seres humanos estamos concienciados de la más que posible existencia de vida extraterrestre, de esta manera, no podríamos calificar como traumática una “presentación oficial alienígena”.

Tratar ahora de enumerar las posibles ventajas y/o inconvenientes de tal histórico acontecimiento, sería materia para otro debate. Intentar argumentar a favor o en contra de ese hipotético suceso, y discutir sobre la forma de llevar a cabo dicho evento, no es la materia planteada en este escrito. Más bien, de lo que se trata, es de intentar bucear entre las mentes cósmicas vecinas, y adivinar otras razones para la no -interferencia, que es lo auténticamente verdadero que ocurre. Ellos nos podrán visitar, nos estudian, e incluso podrán convivir algunos con nosotros, pero siempre bajo una máxima, la no - interferencia alienígena en el desarrollo de la vida humana en la Tierra.

¿ Y porqué ?

Puede que la vida sea un proceso natural aleatorio en el desarrollo del Universo. Cuando se produzcan una serie de factores en un planeta, la vida aparecerá ineludiblemente, como un hecho natural inevitable. Y luego se desarrollará, y aparecerá la vida inteligente tras un proceso evolutivo, y ese tipo de vida será estudiado y contemplado por las civilizaciones superiores, siempre bajo la máxima del respeto íntimo a la forma de vida aparecida en ese planeta, contemplada como una más de las maravillas del universo, y respetando hasta sus últimas consecuencias ese desarrollo de vida concreto.

Ese respeto, tendría que ver con la creencia de que Dios creó el Universo (el cómo sería cuestión de otros estudios), y por tanto el intentar influir en los

acontecimientos naturales (o divinos) de cada planeta, sería como intentar modificar el aleatorio devenir del proceso de vida instaurado en el Universo desde su creación. Ese respeto hacia las formas de vidas aparecidas y su progreso, hará imposible que los extraterrestres hagan algo más que unos cambios de luces. Ni siquiera podrían evitar la destrucción de la vida en la Tierra. La vida en cada lugar y su desarrollo, es sagrada, es una parte de Dios, como a su vez ellos mismos lo son, y no van a interferir en la forma en que ésta se desenvuelva.

En resumidas cuentas, nos tendremos que apañar entre nosotros mismos si queremos salvar a nuestro planeta de la destrucción. Necesitaremos crear una nueva sociedad más justa, donde el beneficio del capital esté mejor distribuido. Tendremos que poner fin a las desigualdades entre las naciones. Habrá que buscar unos políticos nuevos, en cuyas ideas las armas, la explotación y las injusticias tengan sus días contados. Necesitaremos regenerar nuestro planeta para que podamos vivir en él muchos años más. En definitiva, tendremos que unirnos como raza humana habitante del Planeta Tierra, para salvar nuestro hogar, y a la vez capacitarnos para comprender lo que somos. Cuando entre todos entendamos, que lo más importante es salvar la vida que se creó en su día en la Tierra y respetarla, entonces, quizás bajen a felicitarnos.

Buscando otras respuestas, y unido a la reflexión anterior, cabe la posibilidad de que exista una "policía" cósmica que evite la llegada de platillos volantes domingueros, de turistas galácticos, de conquistadores universales, y demás personajes insolidarios, que lo único que harían en caso de pública aparición, sería aumentar más nuestra confusión.

Esta "policía " extraterrestre, sería a la vez, la última esperanza de supervivencia que tendría la humanidad en caso de una destrucción inmediata.

Dejo este documento sin finalizar, para que todo aquél que vislumbre una nueva respuesta, la añada a este humilde escrito, y se convierta al final en un apoyo para comprender mejor nuestro entorno.