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LIFE ON MARS, UFOs, SETI, SETA — AND SCIENTIST CLAIMS THE PARANORMAL IS FOR REAL!

Paul Whitehead, FSR Consultant

"Mars may be inhabited", announced an unexpected headline in a British national newspaper in July, a month which proved exciting in what some scientists had to tell us about extraterrestrials (and the search for extraterrestrial artifacts) and the paranormal.

It looked as if one sector of the scientific fraternity was going overboard in the search for ufonauts and their nuts-and-bolts craft.

The paper in question, *The Guardian* of July 22nd, didn't reveal who or what may inhabit Mars, but it did state the following:—"There may be life on Mars after all," two Americans claimed last night at a conference to mark 10 years of experiments since the first unmanned *Viking* space-craft landed on the planet in July 1976.

The biochemists, Gilbert Levin and Patricia Straat, said that no thesis had yet been able to explain the findings of an experiment which produced a "slightly better than 50-50 sign of living organisms, after radio-active organic chemicals were mixed with a sample of Martian soil to measure its metabolism."

Two days later, the *New Scientist* reported that Mars showed a range of distinctive signs of weathering by water or a similar liquid. Remote sensing of the planet from Earth had picked up features possibly caused by water flows (for example, rivers) and areas where water may have gathered.

The report concluded that there could be a huge volume of water locked up in the planet's crust — extending tens or hundreds of kilometres downwards from the surface area.

UFOs seen by "level-headed people"

A new book that appeared in the bookshops in July was "*A Dictionary of Space*," by physicist Dr Malcolm Smart, (Longman, £7.95). It was revealing in three of its entries.

First was its treatment of UFOs. While most sightings could be explained by natural or man-made phenomena, a number could not, he said. "Inexplicable sightings have been made by experienced and

level-headed people, e.g. *pilots and astronauts*."

He ended the brief entry by stating: "There is no *technical* evidence that life forms exist elsewhere in the Universe." (Did that mean there is *circumstantial* evidence — e.g., from alleged sightings of UFOs, or evidence of landings, etc? This is a question which FSR will try to follow up with Dr Smart — Ed.)

He then referred the reader to the sections of SETI and SETA, which were more bullish about alien civilisations.

SETI

Of SETI (*Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence*), he said:— "Some astronomers think there could be *hundreds of thousands of advanced civilisations* in the Galaxy." (Note: he is talking here of our galaxy alone, not the known Universe as a whole.)

"If life-forms exist, *we would expect to find alien probes*. It is quite possible that even a huge artificial alien habitat in the asteroid belt of our own solar system would be virtually indistinguishable from asteroids to terrestrial observers.

"*And for what reason would such a more advanced civilisation want to talk with human beings?*" he concluded.

SETA

Many readers may not have heard of the proposed SETA programme; I certainly had not. But SETA, Dr Smart tells us, stands for *Search for Extraterrestrial Artifacts*, and is a programme which has been proposed by a group of scientists who believe aliens may have visited — or are visiting — the environs of our planet.

The programme, he says, would "look for objects that would indicate the presence of *alien spacecraft* in the solar system. These objects might be beacons, robots or discarded debris from an alien search party, which were left behind on a planet or moon or in orbit and which, if discovered, would be of immense interest."

(The question begs, has the push for this programme come from Dr Hynek's "*Invisible College*", claimed to be a group of scientists interested in the UFO phenomenon and the study thereof, who wish to remain anonymous, but who allegedly meet from time to time to discuss their findings?)

Nobel Prize Scientist supports Parapsychology

The Guardian came up with another surprise in July. Yes, there could be something to ESP, levitation, the paranormal and strange phenomena, an article told us. This time even the most sceptical reader had to take it seriously, for the writer was none other than Brian Josephson, Professor of Physics at the Univer-

sity of Cambridge! (And a Nobel Prize-winner! Editor.)

Invoking the fascinating world of quantum mechanics, he said only a small change in conditions might be sufficient for "*extraordinary phenomena*" to occur.

Pointing out that his own research involved quantum mechanics, he wrote:— "What quantum mechanics does show (and there are experiments to confirm this prediction) is that under certain circumstances a pair of particles cannot (in a way that can be properly defined mathematically) be thought of as being totally independent of each other, even when separated from each other by a great distance." (See "*From Atoms to Tachyons and Hyperspace — And Back Again!*", in FSR 31/1.)

Effects resulting from this could be produced in our own "normal" world, Prof Josephson said — and indeed they already have. He quoted, as one example, superconductivity, where a quantum effect involving just two electrons gets expanded "as a kind of chain reaction" to a macroscopic scale.

If the "quantum inseparability effect" could be expanded into our world, "the consequences would be something very much like ESP".

"Likewise, with levitation, quantum mechanics predicts a definite non-classical force between two macroscopic objects." He "knew of no reason" why an interaction between a human being and the Earth should not produce levitation of the person.

These extraordinary claims, made by a physicist at one of Britain's leading universities, lends credence to recently-proposed theories that instantaneous communication — whether mental or by other means — over vast distances, may be possible, under the right conditions.

FOOTNOTE

In a sense, it could be argued that a clearer picture of the Universe we inhabit (and might be sharing with countless billions of other civilizations) has been emerging in recent months. Highly respected members of the scientific community (including astronomers) are coming out into the open and making statements which, only a few short years ago, would have invited ridicule from their colleagues.

At last, the study of the structure of the Universe and the forms of life it may contain has pushed the frontiers of scientific, philosophical and religious thought to new and exciting horizons.

Parallel with these developments is a perceptible acknowledgement from enlightened scientists and astronomers that the "story of the UFO" is far from written and over. Indeed, the quest to which *Flying Saucer Review* has long been committed, with assistance at times from both named and anonymous scientists, is now probably more "respectable" than ever before.

There is a new mood in the air; in the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, scientists are proposing spend-

ing millions of pounds on a massive telescope (with a 16-metre, or 52.5 ft. mirror), which will orbit the Earth at the turn of this century and try to "see" planets around nearby stars, according to the scientific journal *Nature* (week ending 24th July).

At the same time, physicists talk about parallel universes and multi-dimensions — even the possibility of ESP, of levitation, and of instantaneous (i.e. faster-than-light) communication!

There is also talk, from scientists, of 20 billion (i.e. 20,000,000,000) solar systems in our Galaxy alone, with maybe one in four supporting life as we know it, and perhaps one billion (1,000,000,000) advanced species all trying to communicate simultaneously.

The scientists even theorize, in a new book on Astronomy,¹ of all places, that a Master-Civilization may rule our Galaxy, maintaining dominance by preventing all other civilizations from talking to each other! And, according to this same book, *The Cambridge Atlas of Astronomy*, sceptics in the scientific community should be less blinkered, and take the study of UFOs more seriously!

COMMENT BY EDITOR, FSR

All indeed most splendid and encouraging stuff. The only thing that "bugs" us is this: why on earth is this sort of talk "all right" when it comes from scientists, including winners of Nobel Prizes, but most decidedly NOT "all right" when it comes from humble, non-scientific bods, like, for example, some of us at Flying Saucer Review who have been talking like this for years? (Can it be that, where wisdom is concerned, some are MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS?)

Is it just another example of "the Big Battalions"?

Fuller details of these undeniably interesting theories will be published soon in FSR.

¹ THE CAMBRIDGE ATLAS OF ASTRONOMY (Cambridge University Press).

ALIENS, LASER BEAMS AND CLONES

Paul Whitehead, FSR Consultant

AN intriguing new theory of how advanced aliens might travel through Space was put to the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), as reported in the British journal *New Scientist* of June 5, 1986. (*"Beam Your Clones to the Stars."*) They (the aliens) may have developed to the stage where they could produce electronic clones of themselves, said John Rather, vice-president of the Kaman Aerospace Institute.

These clones could even be self-replicating, allowing large numbers to "reproduce" by electronic means. *"These people might then squirt themselves into Space on a laser beam,"* he declared. *In other words, they could travel in the form of light.*

Mr Rather apparently failed to acknowledge the role that Isaac Asimov, the scientist and science fiction writer, has taken in drawing up this theory.

In one of his non-fiction works, Asimov recently looked on future scientific developments, and how man could benefit from these. One of them was new ways of Space-travel; Asimov saw the possibility of man eventually being able to transform matter (e.g. a spacecraft) into photons (particles of light), and beam it into Space.

Time would not pass for any beings on board, Asimov wrote, because they would be travelling at the speed of light. They could cross millions or billions of

light years of Space in what to them would seem an instant.

In his speech, Rather stated that work on transmitting large amounts of data by laser beam was already well advanced. "The pace of development is such that there are definite possibilities for achieving data rates sufficient to transmit large numbers of the alien species," he said.

It was revealed that scientists want to scan the heavens for messages which may be transmitted by laser beams by advanced civilisations.

Lasers have the advantage over ordinary radio transmitters in that they can be aimed very accurately at a target — thus making better use of the transmitted energy, the Association heard.

Man might even send the genetic code for a "fully educated, functioning human being" in a laser beam!

During another lecture, delegates heard how man might one day use the solar wind from the Sun and other stars to power spacecraft up to half the speed of light.

Footnote:— Scientists have begun to consider means by which other civilizations might be attempting to communicate across Space. Radio or light waves may be two methods: gravitational waves or neutrino particles may be others.

MAIL BAG

Correspondents are asked to keep their letters short and give full name and address (not necessarily for publication). It is not always possible for the Editor to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity to thank all who write to him.

The "Swirled Rings"

Sir, — I would like to draw your attention to two very exciting research papers, by ROLL, W.G. *et al.* These are "*The Miami Disturbances*" (Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research, 65/409, 1971), and "*Radial And Tangential Forces in the Miami Poltergeist*", also in the Journal of the American S.P.R., (67/267, 1973).

Both these papers describe the exercise of a field of force associated with a young male "poltergeist". I quote:-

"The trajectory of objects in relation to his position were noted, and objects beyond a certain distance were unaffected, but objects close to him tended to make short, outward, *clockwise* movements to the right, while objects further away made longer *anticlockwise* movements. It was suggested that such effects are consistent with, and could be produced by, a cigar-shaped rotating beam of force."

These two papers should be read in conjunction with the article in FSR 31/5 (1986) by P. Delgado ("*Mystery Swirled Rings in England*").

As these swirls and rings are found all over our globe in clusters, one wonders what is the controlling mechanism, and why?

From my observations, it appears that a poltergeistic force is present normally in the universe, rather like gravity, and seems to be concentrated by a combination of geological formations or biological (human) objects.

This force is "all-pervading", like gravity, but, unlike gravity, it needs to be "concentrated" or focused in order to make itself felt. Then it appears to act rather like a combination of gravity and magnetism — moving any type of mass, and in any direction, or producing a tangential force when focused.

I am sure that further research will enable this force to be identified, studied, and harnessed — as "others" have

done with it.

Yours sincerely,

Bernard E. Finch, MRCS, LRCP, DCh.,

(FSR Consultant)

London NW11.

September 23, 1986.

"Flying Wings"

Dear Sir, — I always find FSR most interesting.

As regards "Flying Wings", these have been around for some time, so I was surprised to see them referred to as "futuristic".

The most successful probably were those in the USA by the Northrup Company in the 1940s. The U.S. Government contracted the XB-35 in September 1941. After several experimental machines had been built and flown, the first regular one was put into the air on June 25, 1946. It was powered by four engines and carried a crew of 15, so it must have been pretty big! The Company then went on to build an eight-jet-engined model (the YB-49). But I do not know whether these went into production for the U.S. Air Force.

Earlier still, back in the 1930s, "flying wings" had also been built in Russia and Germany. They were of course designed as bombers, but I do not know if they actually went into production.

In the late 1950s, the Armstrong-Whitworth Company of Britain built a research "flying wing" aircraft. It was a small single-seater (AW-52)*, powered by two jet engines, and was, I believe, flown in the Coventry area of England. However, this was not a true "flying wing" as the cockpit projected several feet in front of the wing.

There can be no doubt that many more "flying wings" were flown in other parts of the world, but came under the various governments' craze for Top Secret security! Probably Mrs. Richardson saw one of these. I do not

believe that the massive "flying wing" seen lately over New York State could have been one of these, however.

As a matter of interest, in 1945 (the last year of World War II) many people in Worcestershire (Central England) reported seeing an "*illuminated cross*" flying overhead at night. Remember that this was at the time of total 'black-out' regulations, and aircraft carried no lights except when taking off and landing.

In fact it was a *Beaufighter* fitted with special lights to enable radar scientists to calibrate their instruments fitted to radar-controlled searchlights and anti-aircraft guns! *I know*, because I was one of the 'target' pilots!

Good luck to you and your excellent magazine!

Yours truly,

A. Dimond,

Westbank, Longforgan,

Dundee, Scotland DD2 5EZ.

April 12, 1986.

*For details, now see FSR 31/4. — EDITOR.

Crescents, Delta-Wings and "Boomerangs"

Dear Mr. Creighton, — In FSR 31/3 you published my letter which briefly described a craft that I had seen in 1952/53. Subsequently I received a letter from Mr. D. Hampton suggesting that it was the AW-52. Since it clearly *wasn't* the AW-52, as it didn't fit the criteria I had described, I did not reply to his letter.

Now he has written to you (FSR 31/2, *Delta-Wings and "Boomerangs"*) saying he has solved the enigma, notwithstanding the fact that the information I had given was only very meagre. A man with his obvious talents should not have reached such a conclusion so readily with so little information!

As a matter of fact I endeavoured *many years ago* to resolve the enigma