

# FLYING SAUCERS

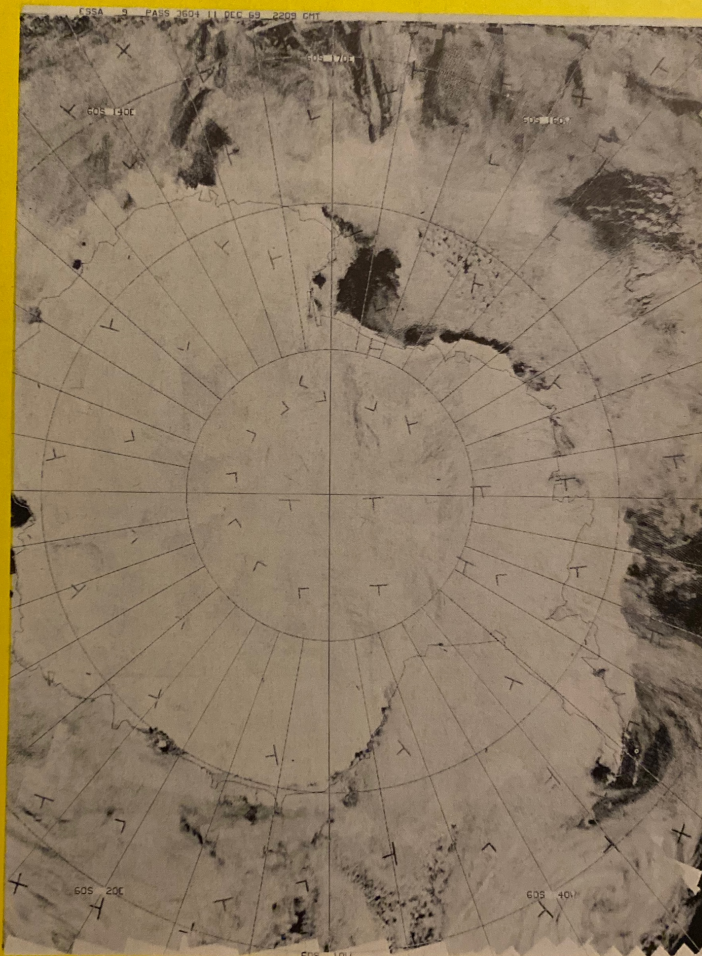


SEPTEMBER, 1970 - - - Issue No. 70

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**THE ABSENCE OF UFO ARTIFACTS**

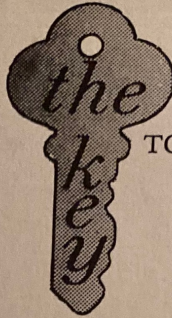
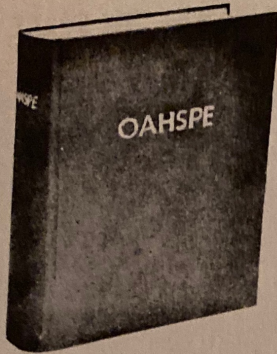
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# FLYING SAUCERS

SEPTEMBER, 1970  
Issue No. 70

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reduction and numbness in arms and that lasted about 24 hours. A small depressed area was found over his right eye, where he claimed he was hit by the ray.

In 1966 an Orlando boy fainted and suffered hand tremors due to a close UFO approach, while at Cocoa Beach another witness fainted, suffered ear troubles and migraine headaches after a similar experience. Williston police in 1955 reported a "stinging sensation" and "waves of heat" from six UFOs maneuvering overhead. Other physiological effects reported by saucer sighters in Florida included arms and legs that "went dead", "electrical feeling", "pricking of skin" and clothing that "appeared to burn them".

UFOs with "beams of light" or rays of light coming from their edges were reported from Jacksonville, Bradenton, Manatee, Sarasota and other Florida locations. Serious UFO investigators were convinced that "ultraviolet radiation" and "ultra-sonic sounds" were being utilized in view of the growing number of UFO sighters who reported eyestrains and burns, as well as the animal reactions when a UFO was present. Animals it is known can detect ultra-sonic sounds which are inaudible to the human ear.

In Florida, in thousands of UFO incidents reported sounds attributed to UFOs have on most occasions been reported to vary "whistling" (LaGrange-1946), "like diesel engine" (Fort Myers-1952), "turbine noise" (Haugue-1966), "sputtering" (Ormond Beach-1967), "humming" (St. Petersburg-1968), "an odd noise" (DeLand-1968), "buzzing" (Seabring-1969) and "whirring" (Eustic-1970). In a small percentage of cases there is evidence of some kind of propulsion exhaust which appears as smoke, vapor, mist, flame, or "billowy-like jet trail".

Animal reactions to the approach of UFOs have varied from cows "bolting" at Belle Glade in 1952 to a dog tearing his cage apart" at Ft. Myers in 1965 to "dog that began to shake violently" at Jewish Creek in 1967 to "dog that tore a hole through green porch" in blind panic at Edulla, Florida in 1968.

Two cases of panic and hysteria

among school students have been uncovered in Florida, both in 1967, and both during the daylight hours. On April 6-8 hundreds of students, teachers and citizens reported a group of dome-topped UFOs in the vicinity of the Crestview elementary school near North Miami. Most of the sightings took place during good weather, in broad daylight, at distances ranging from 250 yards up to about two miles. Students were "shouting and screaming" and running into the school building. Many were visibly upset and some became hysterical. Some adults watched through binoculars and reported "strange sounds". School was dismissed for the rest of the day.

A little over a month later, the scene reoccurred on a smaller scale when on May 16 at the Orange City elementary school students watched a "flying saucer" through their school windows at 12:35 p.m. The UFO appeared to be 60 to 80 feet in diameter, was black in color and glistened when the sun shone upon its surface. Its bottom was flat and the top of the saucer had a dome on it with an "antennae". On the bottom was an orange bar that "flashed an orange color" when it maneuvered above the trees near the school. The Orange City students and teacher Mrs. Helen Brokenshire knew nothing of the Crestview encounters, since they were not widely published until June.

Radar trackings of "unknowns" were frequent in Florida and kept the military in a "tizzy". Such reports were a "dime a dozen" and many were backed by simultaneous visual sightings from the air and on the ground. MacDill Air Force Base (Tampa), Patrick Air Force Base (Cocoa), Herndon Airport (Orlando), Cecil Naval Air Station (Jacksonville), and Homestead Air Force Base (Homestead) were plagued as such occurrences were reported from La Grange (1946), Key West (1950), Tampa (1952), off tip of Florida (1956), Jacksonville (1956), Florida's east coast (1957), and at Cape Kennedy and Merritt Island throughout the 1960s.

Jet chases occurred near Patrick AFB (1952), near a Florida Missile Range (1954) at Port Richey (1966) and at Brooksville (1968). On

December 11, 1956 a Navy jet pilot reported a "dogfight with a round, orange-red UFO over Jacksonville. His encounter was verified by the crew of two airlines nearby and was confirmed on the Naval Air Station radar screens. Two other Navy jets tried to close in on the UFO, when it rose rapidly up to 30,000 feet and was witnessed visually by persons on the ground as it returned to circle and buzz the jets in pursuit. Two cases of buzz tests being interfered with were reported from Cape Kennedy in September, 1962 when an automatic tracking system switched from a rocket to a UFO, which had already been tracked in the area 10 minutes prior to the launching. The UFO gave off a strong "radar target" and was much larger than the rocket. On March 18, 1963 a large white UFO was seen by four Ft. Lauderdale witnesses moments before a Minute-Man rocket veered off its course and had to be destroyed. Both "targets" left the area, the UFO just after the rocket was destroyed from the ground.

UFO photographs, some of them on movie film, were taken by a variety of eyewitnesses, including a store manager, students, housewives, and military personnel over Miami Beach (1952), over Tarpon Springs (1958), over Miami (1959), over Ft. Walton (1961), over DeLand, Ft. Lauderdale, Orlando and Winter Garden (1967), over Miami (1968) and over DeLand (1969). Many still and moving pictures have been taken or reported taken, but only a few of these can be considered genuine. One of the better was taken by Store Manager Harry Caslar near Eglin Air Force Base on January 22, 1961. Caslar took 8 mm footage of a metallic-looking cigar-shaped UFO that was revolving. Most recent was a color photograph of a low-level "UFO with dome and rims" taken by a schoolboy in August, 1969 near Lake Winnemissett in DeLand, which are currently under investigation.

Florida's "haunted highways"...now here's a story in itself. U.S. Highways E-W 44, 17-92 N-S, U.S. 1 on the east coast and U.S. 301, U.S. 19, U.S. 50, U.S. 41, U.S. 19, and Interstate 75 and 4, as well as the Sunshine State Parkway 95 have been the scene of hundreds of



automobile chases in the Sunshine State over the past dozens of years. Motorists have been frightened out of their wits by UFOs that paced their cars at Tampa, Jacksonville, St. Petersburg, Islamorada, New Smyrna Beach, Paisley, Daytona Beach, near DeLand, Elfers, Port Richey, Ocala, Lakeland, Everglades, Bellievew, Williston, Brooksville, Vero Beach, Tamiami Trail, Sanford, Casselberry, Kissimmee, Bunnell and Titusville. On June 23, 1964, 15 to 20 glowing disc-shaped UFOs paced the car of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Taylor at Vero Beach. Their daughter Linda and Eddie Pfund stated that during the pursuit the UFOs occasionally flew in V-formations.

On May 6, 1966 real estate businessman Bill Keralas from Cape Coral was stopped for speeding by the Highway Patrol on the Tamiami Trail. His story revealed: Keralas said he was chased by a blue-green UFO (about 100 feet in diameter) for 10 miles. Keralas raced away from the object at speeds up to 115 miles per hour. The object illuminated the highway and finally "whooshed" over his car before leaving the area. Needless to say, Keralas appeared disturbed and visibly upset, almost in a state of "shock". Police said they believed his tale of woe.

More recently however on Thursday night, January 29, 1970 brothers James K. Pendarvis, 25, and Glenn Pendarvis, 15, reported a "closeup" of a dome-topped UFO, estimated to be about 12 feet high and 40 feet long, which hovered above the treetops off U.S. Highway 44 near Cassia, a community located 15 miles west of DeLand. The UFO appeared to be approximately 200 feet away at a 75 foot altitude and made an intense "whirring" sound that could be heard easily above the sound of the diesel truck that James was driving for Blackwelder and Shuman, Inc., a fruit trucking firm in DeLand.

James and Glenn watched the UFO for approximately 3 minutes as it hovered and revolved near the highway. When their truck approached the UFO, they noticed that it had horizontal "doors" with brilliant flashes of blue light that closed upon their arrival in the vicinity. As it approached their car it

was estimated at the closest distance to be 150 feet away. The eyewitnesses described a brilliant green light on the top of the object, an orange light on the bottom and a red light on each end of the object, which appeared to be "like one saucer inverted on top of another". The UFO left suddenly at a 45 degree angle toward a northwest direction. The following evening James Pendarvis and his wife Sue were paced by another UFO of the same description for 10 miles near Paisley on U.S. Highway 42 to the outskirts of DeLand. Many other sightings of strange flying objects had been reported previously years before in the same vicinity, so it did not seem strange that the UFO appeared for the third straight night on Saturday, January 31 and was witnessed again by James and Glenn Pendarvis, although at a much higher altitude. All three sightings occurred between 9:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Re-occurrences of the phenomenon have been noted before in different parts of Florida, so that selectivity seems to be employed by the UFOs for reasons unknown. Examples of this have been documented in Socorro, New Mexico and Exeter, New Hampshire and elsewhere in 1964 and 1965, but also in Miami Beach on two nights in 1952 and at Belle Glade during the same year. UFOs reappearances were reported four times over a matter of hours at Port Richey in 1966, seven times successively at Archer in 1967 and nine different times to the same area of Maitland (1967) over a short period of time.

Electromagnetic interference reports are scattered throughout Florida over the past 75 years. Power failures were reported during UFO encounters in Miami (1960), in Jacksonville (1962), in St. Petersburg (1967), in Jacksonville (1969). Car motors and in some cases headlights were stopped near New Smyrna (1967) and Brooksville (1968). TV and/or radio interference were noted during UFO appearances in Sarasota (1967), in Archer (1968), at Homestead (1968) and Medulla (1968). Houselights dimmed in Jacksonville (1962), a home "vibrated" in Port Richey (1966) and house electric clocks and an Acutron

wrist watch stopped at DeLand (1968).

When a UFO appeared above Spring Park Road, Jacksonville on October 10, 1962 houselights dimmed and some went out, while the parents reported a "tingling sensation" on their hands and their children screamed with "fear". On December 8, 1966 a retired RCA engineer Ed Fields saw a UFO that hovered over his home and as it did his house "vibrated" and he reported a "pricking sensation" on his skin and an "electrical shock". The UFO was a "great black object with four darker spots on its underside"—a typical saucer shape often reported elsewhere.

On May 8, 1958 two women driving from Brooksville on the Tarpon Springs Road (U.S. Route 19) toward St. Petersburg encountered a UFO overhead at 6:30 p.m. While watching the brilliant object in the western sky they both felt pain in their faces and experienced considerable eyestrain.

A large number of UFOs with "domes surrounded by rims" and looking very much like the planet Saturn with its rings have been reported in many communities in Florida. A series of amazing photographs were taken and released of similar UFOs over Brazil in 1968. On August 14, 1952 at Coral Gables, a white UFO with orange rings around it was reported by many, while on March 24, 1954 Captain Don Holland, a U.S. Marine pilot chased a round UFO "having rings like the planet Saturn" and tried to photograph it, unsuccessfully due to the extreme UFO maneuvers that occurred. Saturn-shaped UFOs were reported over Key Biscayne and Coral Gables (1952), off the southern tip of Florida (1954), near New Smyrna Beach (1957, at Weeki-Wachi (1965), at Ormond Beach (1967) and over DeLand, DeLeon Springs, Pierson and Bartow (1968).

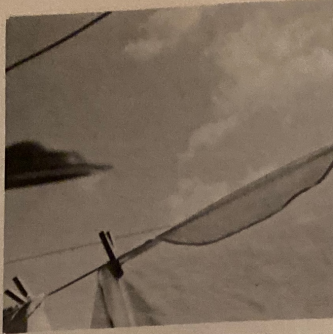
The "falling leaf" maneuver of UFOs at low altitudes was recorded at Miami and Venice in 1967 and over Medulla (1968). "Minature sparks" were reported coming off the edges of UFOs by many eyewitnesses at Miami (1959) and again in DeLand, Cocoa Beach and Jacksonville (1968). Saucers having "windows" were



frequently reported over the years in many Florida locations, but specifically at Sarasota, Tampa, Daytona Beach, Homestead, Ormond Beach, St. Petersburg, St. Cloud, Clearwater, and Lakeland and Medulla. One of the best of these reports came from an Air Force transport pilot, Jack Puckett on August 1, 1946 near Sarasota. Captain Puckett stated he approached a large cigar-shaped UFO near his transport plane, which was a C-47. As he watched it (the UFO) approached his plane head on and veered across his path. Captain Puckett stated the UFO was twice the size of a B-29 and had many "portholes or windows" along its side. At Sarasota, this scene was again repeated on May 4, 1960, 14 years later when an architect there reported a yellow elliptical UFO with four evenly spaced "windows", square with slightly rounded corners.

UFOs in formations were reported by large numbers of eyewitnesses on many occasions, with as many as two dozen objects seen and as few as two in formation, sometimes in V-formations, sometimes in groups of three or four and sometimes in a straight line formation. Such cases were recorded over Tampa and Coral Gables (1952), near Miami (1954), over Key West (1959), at Sanford (1962), at Key West again (1966), and at Titusville, Orlando and Sarasota (1968). On October 20, 1959 at Key West two enlisted men reported a star-like UFO, joined by another one at high speed formation flying. On August 6, 1963 multi-colored UFOs flew together over Sanford.

UFOs that bathed treetops and housetops with a "blood red" color (similar to the now famous Exeter, New Hampshire series of UFO encounters featured in national magazines) were reported by frightened witnesses near Opa-Locka, Lake Helen, Coral Way, Archer, Brooksville, Boca Raton, Plantation, Miami Beach, Pompano Beach, Venice and West Palm Beach. Sometimes sounds like "huge vacuum cleaners" were reported in these type encounters at low levels. Nine eyewitnesses on July 13, 1967 at Lake Helen reported a "huge red" object that hovered near their home. A chief example of this occurred on October 8,



UFO—Summer, 1969. —ho AX

1968 at Pompano Beach at 6:52 p.m., when Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manning, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burns, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Daniels watched a "big red globe, larger than the moon, shimmering and reflecting a red light", which cast a fiery light on houses in the Pompano Beach area. At first Mrs. Manning thought their neighbor's roof was on fire. "I never believed in those things before," said Mrs. Manning, "but I'm a convert now."

The flight characteristics of UFOs are consistent and sophisticated. They include hovering, extremely fast acceleration or deceleration, vertical and/or horizontal performance, wobble or fluttering motion, zig-zag trajectories, formation flying, revolving (part or all), following-the-leader, etc.

In 1967 fishermen off New Port Richey were startled to see disc-shaped UFOs rising out of the ocean near their ships. Similar reports came near Miami and from the Coast Guard off Englewood. An earlier report was made by two Miami newspaper reporters, a photographer and the captain and first mate of a pleasure boat on a fishing trip in Bahamian waters. About 11:30 a.m. they saw "two strange objects" coming straight at them, low over the water and across their bow. The elliptical UFOs had "what appeared to be stubby, wing-like projections jutting out from either side". They remained in sight for two minutes. Such UFO encounters have been recorded hundreds of times worldwide in ship logs.

Police blotters in Florida continue to record many reports day in and day

out. Newspapermen at many locations report they receive on an average four or five UFO reports a week, but seldom publish more than one a month.

One such case occurred when pilot James J. O'Conner, piloting a private plane over Sebring on September 20, 1966 saw a cone-shaped UFO a "good city block" long which overshadowed and paced his craft for three minutes. O'Conner dropped his plane to 3,500 feet and even then it was still as big as a football field. Just as O'Conner was about to fire a .38 caliber pistol at the huge UFO in an act of desperation, the UFO did a reverse peel-off in a 360 degree turn. The UFO made a sound like "rubber tires screeching on a rainy road".

"Angel hair", a fibrous substance that usually drops in masses when UFOs maneuver suddenly overhead has been recorded many times in Florida since September 20, 1892 when a vast quantity "like great white sheets", some 50 yards or more in length fell on housetops and treetops at Gainesville. On November 11, 1962, when a UFO was spotted over Lakeland "loops and whorls" fell to the ground. On February 1, 1967 between Sebastian and Vero Beach a sky full of wispy stuff floated down on the breeze and was reported by dozens of autorists. Spectators grabbed the silky strands in their hands and it vanished slowly on their fingertips. The substance fell over mailboxes, telephone lines, power lines and on automobiles. Prior to this fall, brothers Dennis and David Walrath reported they watched a cigar-shaped UFO hover for 10 minutes over Sebastian inlet "that reflected the sun like a mirror". Other falls of "angel hair" occurred over Miami and Bunnell in 1968. The material (not to be confused with spider's gossamer) seems to be a by-product of the UFO propulsion system and is usually shiny, fibrous, sometimes containing "bits of metallic fragments" and on other occasions have proven to be slightly "radioactive".

At an October 5 press conference in Dallas, Texas Colonel James A. McDivitt, command astronaut for the Apollo 9 lunar test missile confirmed that he and his crewmen had sighted



three UFOs on their June 5, 1965 orbital flight and he had photographed one. NASA confirmed that the object remains "unidentified". McDivitt further added, "They're there without a doubt, but what they are is anybody's guess."

Other Florida astronauts, who had reported UFOs in other missions were John Young, Michael Collins, Charles Gordon, Charles Conrad, James Lovell, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Frank Borman and others. Additional UFO photos have been taken by some of these astronauts and also still remain "unexplained". In fact, four UFO reports by astronauts could not be solved by the University of Colorado UFO Study Project by scientists there. On one occasion, many years ago, the U.S. Air Force jumped all over NASA for releasing astronaut UFO incidents to the public saying that "NASA had once again let the cat out of the bag."

Though the pattern of many UFO observations in the United States and overseas have been reported from many isolated areas, there are many exceptions to this rule. Jacksonville, thought once to be away from the influence of UFO encounters, has dozens of cases of very good sightings. UFO incidents are not as sporadic as one would think. Many communities in Florida have had "repeated visits" over a period covering dozens of years.

On January 5, 1968 at 9 p.m. alarmed citizens swamped switchboards with requests for action by news media concerning many numerous reports and sightings of UFOs. Channel 17 of Jacksonville sent out their news and camera men and were the only news media to report the UFOs and the power failures that followed the sightings. The UFOs were described as about at 15,000 foot altitude, round glowing discs, with flashing lights moving east, then rapidly changing to a westerly course and fading from view. Two girls, Joan Frost and Gertie Wynn, while waiting for a bus, saw two lighted UFOs that dropped toward them at a distance of 150 feet high and just as their bus arrived they fled from the UFOs to board the bus. This was confirmed by the driver who also witnessed the UFOs at close range. The girls felt the

UFOs were about to abduct them and ran to the vehicle in terror.

Reports of UFOs near Jacksonville came from pilots in 1954, 1967 and 1968. On August 22, 1957 at the Jacksonville (Cecil Naval Air Station) a black, bell-shaped UFO bearing two bright, white lights at the top and measuring 45 feet in diameter was chased by a civilian in a car until the engine stalled. The object was hovering 15 feet away and its underside resembled a disk with fins. When a jet plane took off from the airfield, the UFO went out of sight almost instantaneously. The car battery was found completely dead and the two witnesses compared the noise made by the UFO, "somewhat like a helicopter".

UFOs with "beams of light projected to the ground" were reported over Jacksonville on August 11, 1968. Automobile UFO chases occurred near Jacksonville on Interstate 95 and on Highway 17 on several occasions. What affect these incidents could have on Highway Safety is certainly not open to question.

On July 30, 1952 sailors at Jacksonville saw a strange saucer-shaped UFO in the sky while waiting in a chow line. In 1954 Mr. and Mrs. V.B. Lamoureux watched a UFO moving in the direction of Jacksonville. While they watched the UFO they saw two military planes come up, and one of these went alongside the object and passed it. Since the object was alongside an easily identifiable plane, there was no question of mistaken identity. The couple have become converted and have been reading reputable UFO books with an open mind since this experience.

Since 1965 some outstanding statements have been made concerning the UFOs that are worthy of note. "The phenomena of the UFOs should be considered as global." Dr. Feliks Zigel, astronomy professor of the Moscow Aviation Institute said it as he called for a global investigation of the phenomena, as he indicated a growing Russian concern about UFOs.

United Nations Secretary General U Thant, according to Drew Pearson's column, took time out from his many

responsibilities to say, "I consider the UFOs the most important problem facing the United Nations next to the war in Vietnam."

In March, 1966 at that time Republican representative Gerald R. Ford called for a "full-blown congressional investigation of the UFO problem".

During these years or before astronomer Seymour Hess of FSU, Jackie Gleason and former governor Haydon Burns reported their own UFO sightings. The later reporter had his plane paced by two UFOs near Ocala for his second sighting of his life.

UFOs do crazy things sometimes, like shooting straight up out of sight when a high powered spotlight was directed toward it (May 17, 1958-Ft. Lauderdale); like jumping across a highway (1952-Near Cassadaga); like "exploding" (March 23, 1966-Fort Pierce) and (October 13, 1968-Lakeland); like lowering "telescopic legs" (November 26, 1968-Melbourne); like "dropping flares" (1963-Sanford); like "playing hide and seek with 14 eyewitnesses" (August 6, 1963-Sanford); like "dropping a net, which picked up something" (June 10, 1967-Ormond Beach).

Overhead action many times is diversionary, while much activity takes place on the ground. The UFO landings, some with "occupants" and some without, are the most important aspects of the UFO mystery that bear close watching. And they are on the increase too! It could be that Florida residents have already lost the UFO war, without for the most part, even knowing one existed. Like Roy Thinnes of the TV show "The Invaders" (whose hobby only incidentally has been UFOs for years, and he's had two UFO sightings himself) recently stated, "There's more truth to the UFOs than people realize."

Recently the U.S. Government, through the University of Colorado UFO Study and the Air Force "Project Blue Book" has told us a lot by refusing to tell us anything. We of the Florida UFO Study Group believe that the UFO problems are deeper and far more complex than many could comprehend or accept. History has a



way of repeating itself, and 75 years of Florida UFOs has convinced us of the fact that we still have a lot more to learn. Scoutmaster "Sonny" Desvergers summed it up best in 1952 when he said, "Perhaps it's not foolish to believe that it will affect the future of all of us someday."

In recent years large cigar-shaped UFOs have been reported releasing small flying saucer-shaped objects above Miami, Sanford and Orlando. Some of these structured objects have been seen landing at various Florida locations. Many eyewitnesses have reported UFO occupants inside and outside of landed UFOs. Some witnesses have approached too closely and have suffered burns and injuries as a result of "beams of lights" or "balls of fire" that have been projected from the UFOs.

Actually the phenomenon of UFOs goes back into the study of the history of mankind. "Flying clouds" and "flying chariots", some of them with living creatures, are cited throughout the scriptures and "flying shields" have turned up in Greek and

Roman manuscripts. In archaeology and frescoes, drawings, costumes and artifacts which appear to be similar to today's space suits and space capsules have been depicted in drawings on cave walls in China, Japan and the Sahara desert. Chinese and Japanese have for years believed that "their ancestors came from the skies", Indian legends and Eskimo legends refer to "sky boats, metallic birds and sky people." Ancient manuscripts, ship logs, worldwide scholars and folklore throughout the world tell similar stories.

These same things are being recorded today throughout Florida, and for the past three-quarters of a century thousands of similar UFO "happenings" have been documented throughout the Sunshine State, as well as worldwide.

(Fawcett encourages people to come forward with their reports of UFO encounters, because all additional information aids in evaluating such incidents. Also by making your reports public, it will

help to encourage others who have similar experiences to make their reports known. This will help to eliminate ridicule, censorship and the emotional stigma tied to the UFO subject.

In the long run, the UFOs which remain a challenge to science, religion and society in 1970 will someday become acceptable and understandable to both the believer and skeptic alike.

And when these common-place things called "flying saucers, little men and ray guns" become a part of your life (as they have for millions of persons from all walks of life worldwide already), how about telling the Florida UFO Study Group, P.O. Box 1355, DeLand, Florida 32720 of your UFO experiences?

Help them to make the UFO subject "respectable", whether confidential or otherwise, in Florida and elsewhere. The flying saucer jig-saw puzzle can be solved. Your UFO encounter may be the "piece of the puzzle" that has been missing for quite some time.)

<sup>MO</sup>  
**— GEORGIA MAN SEES  
STRANGE FLYING OBJECT—IT  
STOPPED HIS TRUCK**

*MARS*  
Bill Overstreet, 50, of Elmer, is a man who has never put much faith in the stories you hear now-a-days about flying saucers and UFOs—but all of that changed suddenly yesterday morning, (March 5, 1969) as he was on his way to work.

Overstreet, who is a star route mail deliverer, was on his way from Elmer to Atlanta Tuesday morning just after sunrise at about 6:40 a.m. when he noted a bright light to the south of him as he was about four miles west of Atlanta on Route J.

The object seemed to be going in a northerly course while he continued on west and came over a crest of a hill to see this "thing" directly over the roadway ahead of him.

Overstreet, a man not given to exaggeration, described the object as a reddish-colored ball about 100-feet in diameter about 50 feet above the ground.

It gave off a light so bright that he pulled down the sun visor in his truck and shielded his eyes with his hands.

While he watched and approached it, it changed color in the center to a bluish color that wavered and he noted a thin border around the outside of the UFO that was yellow and moving in a clockwise motion.

He heard no noise as he got closer to the thing and decided to investigate by driving under it. He estimated its speed at about 40 miles per hour.

As he got closer, a beam of light that was the width of the craft at its origination but only about eight-feet in diameter on the road, shot down in front of him. Overstreet described the beam as bluish-white and giving off intense heat—he compared it to the inside of a car in mid-summer when all of the windows had been rolled up on a sunny day.

When the front of the truck touched the beam, both the engine and his citizen's band radio abruptly

stopped. He depressed the clutch pedal and the UFO moved ahead of him and both the engine and radio came back to life. He again attempted to catch up with the thing to see what it was but the engine started missing when he got to within about six feet of the beam and stopped altogether when he contacted it again.

He then stopped chasing it and watched it move out of sight to the west—still maintaining the relatively slow (for airborne craft) speed and low altitude as it veered north around the tower near highway 63 and then southeast and out of sight toward Macon.

Overstreet estimates that if it continued on its present course it would have crossed highway 36 about four or five miles east of here. The UFO seemed to follow the curve of the land as it went. He estimates that he saw it for about seven or eight minutes.



**T**he flying saucer, or UFO (some writers discriminate between the terms UFO and flying saucer, and treat them as having different meanings. However, I will use them interchangeably here, if for no other reason than to prevent monotonous repetition.) has now been with us "officially" for about twenty-three years. In using the word "officially", I mean that as far as the American press and Mr. Average American Citizen are concerned, the flying saucer did not exist before June 24, 1947, when Mr. Arnold made his historic sighting of nine shiny objects over the Cascade Mountains. Of course, according to the Air Force, the flying saucer didn't exist after June 24, 1947, and is still non-existent today (unless the Official Secrecy Theory is true). The most recent evidence of the Air Force's public attitude toward UFOs can be found in their closing of Project Blue Book (which, incidentally, I said they would never do in a letter to this magazine which appeared in the October, 1969 issue—but I'll explain that goof elsewhere).

So therefore, June, 1947 might be designated as the start of the UFO enigma (or problem, depending on your particular point of view) in at least the United States. Of course, sightings were made and documented well before that time, but this is not known to the general public. Hence, June 24 might be called the birthday of the American UFO. (Next June 24 be sure to bake a cake for your favorite Venusian).

Since 1947, a whole new group of young people have emerged, the same group which has grown up along with the atomic bomb and television, and

all of the other things that make up our modern, civilized (that's debatable) society. Directly or indirectly, the flying saucer has been an affecting influence on them throughout their entire lives. Unfortunately, this influence has not been a very good one, as the UFO has been publicly and scientifically downgraded, and along with almost everything else that catches the general public's eye, the flying saucer has been commercialized, and to a rather great extent at that.

When the flying saucer stories of the summer of 1947 hit the papers, new interest and speculation was quite naturally aroused concerning such things as life on other planets and possible future space flights from Earth. Consequently, this interest was seized upon and made use of commercially. Logically speaking, if people think outer space and flying saucers, consumer products will be geared toward outer space and flying saucers. If people think trees (to use another example), the television set will shortly be bombarded with documentaries and talk shows about trees, and the department store shelves will become crowded with tree-shaped cigarette lighters and lamps, and so on and so forth. (Up to this point I haven't seen a flying saucer-shaped cigarette lighter, although I have seen an advertisement for a UFO lamp. What next?)

If you think about it, it only stands to reason that people are going to spend their money on what interests them. If a product is marketed in which no one has any interest whatsoever, the product simply will not sell. You don't have to be an economics major or a big business

genius to see that. You can well understand then why the cardinal rule in the business of selling to the public has to be "Make What The People Want To Buy" (of course most of the time it seems like it should read "Make The People Buy What You Want Them To", but that's another matter).

The UFO has been no exception to this rule. People have been interested in UFOs, and UFOs have been commercialized. Since 1947, the flying saucer has appeared in almost every newspaper (on either the front page or the comic page, usually the comic page), nearly every joke book, and in just about every monster movie.

Just walk into any stationary store and count all of the references you find to UFOs. First of all, in the comic book section you will find two brands of UFO literature. In one type, some funny character is laughing his head off at the little green man who has just landed in his back yard. In the other, an assorted group of super heroes are mustering all of their secret powers and atomic strength to defeat the "alien invaders" who arrived in their flying saucers and must now be stopped before they destroy the entire Earth.

Now move to the paperback book section. If they have anything at all on the subject, it is most likely entitled something to the effect of "My Round Trip Budget Tour of the Solar System", or "The Planet Clarion on Five Dollars a Day", instead of the more prominent and scholarly works of such writers as Vallee and Fuller. If people have to go out of their way to find a good book on UFOs, then why should they waste their time?

If you've had enough of the

## A GENERATION OF UFOs

Albert Sarrantonio, Jr.



paperback books, you can always look at the greeting cards, or the ten-cent (at least they used to cost ten cents) toys, or the candy rack, or the magazines, or the bubble gum cards, or anything else you wish. You're bound to find a few flying saucers and little green men here and there. Likely as not they will be laughing at you; or they will be ready to blast you with their super maser-laser-phaser ray guns. (That's pretty strange, isn't it? How could the very same thing exist at such opposite ends of the pole and both laugh and hate at the same time? We'll look at this closer a little later.)

Now leave our typical stationary store and go to a Saturday afternoon movie matinee. What do you see? Thousands upon thousands of children screaming and laughing as three flying saucers proceed to wipe out the entire Eastern Seaboard. And of course these horrible monsters (the spacemen, not the children) are finally driven back and destroyed by the one or two remaining scientific geniuses who have somehow managed to survive the holocaust.

Have you had enough? Not yet. Go home and turn on your television set. How many TV shows have had a flying saucer theme, or have had at least one or two episodes involving UFOs? Not an overwhelming number, but if you think hard enough you will realize there have been quite a few indeed. There are also plenty of movie matinee reruns being shown continuously, as well as newer monster flicks and TV movies.

How many of these boob-tube displays treat UFOs as a scientific problem? Need I ask? Almost every time the flying saucer has been portrayed on the screen (either the movie or TV screen), it has been "manned" by either monsters or freaks. The monsters have been bent on the destruction of all humanity, while the freaks (funny looking three foot tall fellows with bright green skin and two antenna set prominently on the tops of their shiny little heads) do everything in their humorous power to keep us rolling in laughter.

The truth of the matter is, the flying saucer has been mishandled by most everyone who has ever laid his hands on it. It has been mistreated, misinterpreted, misconstrued,

misguided, misused, misidentified and miseverythinged. It has been alternately played up and played down, depending on which action seemed to be in vogue at any particular time. It has been amazingly over-sensationalized and remarkably under-scientificized. In short, the whole thing has been botched.

Now what about our "UFO Generation"? Where do they fit in? They were youngsters when the first big flap hit the U.S. or they were born after it. They have lived with the flying saucer all their lives. Throughout their entire existence they have been bombarded with science fiction oriented television shows, movies, and toys. (Please don't misunderstand me here; I'm not knocking S.F. I'm a science fiction fan myself.) From the cradle on they have regarded the UFO in two entirely different, completely erroneous ways.

On the one hand, in what we might call their "real world", they have watched their parents laugh whenever UFOs were discussed. Whenever the term flying saucer came up, laughter came along with it. Also, part of what we may term their "fantasy world", or the world of make-believe consisting of television, movies, play, etc., has been taken up with the humorous side of flying saucers.

On the other hand, a good part of their fantasy world has been occupied with the more gruesome aspects of the commercialized UFO. This of course would include the monster movies and horror magazines, which portray the flying saucers and their occupants as anything but peaceful and friendly.

Of course, the younger a member of our "UFO Generation" is, the more that the fantasy world would tend to dominate. A child's fantasy world would play a larger role in his earlier years because he is as yet virtually unaware of the great big unromantic world around him. At this early age, a child might tend to believe that something such as flying saucers do exist, but that they carry with them terrible demons from outer space. He would think this way largely because this is what he has seen on TV and read in the comics. This is what stimulates his young imagination. And what child has not played "Man from Mars" or helped "Jimmy, the Space

Cadet doll" defeat the cloud men from Uranus? These things are all part of a modern childhood.

As the child grows older, though, the real world begins to take over more and more, and the fantasy world is pushed into the background. As far as UFOs are concerned, this is where laughter begins to play the larger role. If he sees both comedians and eminent scientists (who, by the way, are supposed to keep an open mind) laughing, then what is to keep him from laughing along? If nearly everyone except a very small minority of "pig-headed ghost chasers" is brushing aside the whole affair as was nerves and swamp gas, then why should he raise a voice of protest? After all, you can't protest over something that doesn't exist; you can't get serious over a stylish joke. So why not laugh along, and let the whole world laugh with you?

If you take a child and tell him from the moment that he can listen that UFOs would be something to be afraid of if they did exist but since they don't he can laugh at them, and if he gets the same impression from everyone else around him, then he's going to believe it. He really doesn't have any choice. If he hears the same thing over and over hard enough and long enough, then he's going to become conditioned to the feeling that this is the way it is, even if it's not. He has "learned" to think this way. (what did Pavlov do, anyway?)

And so where do we find ourselves now? We find ourselves with a whole group of young people with a curious mixture of feelings on the UFO subject. They have feared, and they have laughed. For ten and fifteen and twenty years they have had it pounded into them that if aliens from outer space did exist, they would be something to be feared and something to be destroyed. They have come to regard any other intelligent life form which might exist somewhere else in the universe as totally "inhuman" and wanting nothing less than the complete desecration of Earth and all living creatures on it. They have "learned" to fear the unknown—to fear the flying saucer.

And they have also been led to believe that flying saucers, in actuality, can be laughed at, simply



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because they do not exist. They have knowingly and unknowingly deluded themselves into a sweet state of security and self assurance that we are the only intelligent beings ever created anywhere in the universe, and that space is therefore ours to command. Therefore, thinking that there is anyone anywhere out there on any of those planets twirling around any of those suns who is bigger and better than we are is pure idiocy.

So now we see why most people today are so laughably apathetic and possibly deeply fearful of UFOs. They have been literally brainwashed from all sides into thinking that flying saucers are pure folly, and if they do exist that we had better start praying like mad because the end is near.

But what would happen if a person dominated by this kind of thinking suddenly came face-to-face with a real live UFO? What would he do? Would he stand there and laugh? I don't think so. He'd be scared stiff!

You might be thinking that even if a knowledgeable ufologist came across a UFO, he would be scared. And you're probably right. I know I would be. But the point is, if a thousand, or

ten thousand, or a million, or ten million people saw a UFO and had nothing to fall back on but complete, ignorant fear, then what would happen? I think you can guess. (Some of you must remember the "War of the Worlds" radio panic of October 30, 1938.)

The sad fact is, the great majority (the "silent majority"?) of Americans, as well as many people in all countries of the world, are miseducated on the subject of UFOs. And where there is ignorance there is fear, and where there is fear there is panic, and so on. If we were suddenly faced with a massive exhibition of alien spacecraft what chance would there be of preventing chaos? What chance would there be of calming an entire population who know nothing at all about UFOs save what they have seen on the movie screen or read in the funnies?

The problem lies in education. People must be made aware (in a sane and scientific way) of what most assuredly does exist. The unflattering truth that we are not alone, that we do share the heavens with other races more advanced than we are must be

broken gently to the people of the world, to the UFO Generation.

I'm afraid that I cannot agree, therefore, with Dr. Edward U. Condon's recommendations that teachers who find their students maturing an interest in UFOs should try to divert this interest. This is absurd. Who has the right to tell a child where his interests lie? Certainly not Dr. Condon or anyone else. Dr. Condon states that children have been miseducated by books on UFOs, and this is undoubtedly true, at least in part. But let us not forget that from examination of the Condon Report itself, it becomes evident that Dr. Condon, along with most of his staff, was as miseducated on the subject of UFOs as anyone ever was. Many if not most of the books available on flying saucers are sensationalized, but there are many good pieces of writing which must not be ignored by anyone seeking the truth.

The truth is there—somewhere. But it can't be found and it can't be faced by a group of people too ignorant and too fearful of what may lie just ahead. The UFO Generation must begin to learn.



Serious scholars of sea mysteries are quite familiar with the total disappearances of ships and their entire crews: ships such as the *Atlanta* (1880), *Waratah* (1909), *Kobenhoven* (1920), *M.S. Arkarimoa* (December 28, 1955).

They are also familiar with ships found abandoned: the *Rosalie* (1840), *Hermania* (1849), *James B. Chester* (February 28, 1855), *Marie Celeste* (1872), *J.S. Cousins* (1881), *Freya* (October 28, 1907), *Zebrina* (October, 1917), *Belle Isle* (July, 1941), *M.S. Holchu* (February 7, 1953). More recently there was the *Joyita*.

Many of the derelicts, still perfectly seaworthy, contained evidence that

suspended in their davits.

We come now to UMMs (unknown marine monsters). When dealing with this subject, there is an impressive amount of documentary testimony to support them:

16th century. Olaus Magnus described a fiery-eyed sea serpent off the coast of Scandinavia as scaly, two hundred feet long, twenty feet in girth, with a two-foot long mane.

July 6, 1734. Off Greenland, bishop Hans Egede reported having seen a scaly sea serpent the length of his ship. Its snake-like head was held high above the water. It had flappers—or paws—and “blew like a whale”.

1747, Captain Lawrence de Ferry

scientist was present to identify it.

1905. Two Fellows of the Royal Zoological Society named Meade-Waldo and Nichell, reported on December 7 that while on the yacht *Valhalla* off Brazil, they distinctly saw a sea serpent about one hundred and fifty yards away. It had large fins—or appendages—about six feet long, projecting about two feet above the water. A reptilian head topped a snake-like neck of seven or eight foot length. Although the man-thick body was submerged, it was faintly visible and appeared to be of immense size and strange form.

January 30, 1934. The senior officer of the *Maurenania*, S.W. Moughton, summoned some of the

## RAIDERS OF THE SEA— UFOs or UMMs?

Alex Saunders

the crew had deserted their ships in panic. In some cases overturned chairs and tables were found. Drawers were withdrawn and their contents dumped. Clothing was scattered about. Valuables were left undisturbed. And so on.

Usually there were no signs of bloodshed or weapons; no evidence of violence or a disturbance of any kind. Radios were in working order, but no distress calls had been sent. Food, water and fuel were plentiful.

In more than one case it was apparent that the crew had been in the midst of a meal when they deserted. Deserted in what? Not in the lifeboats, for they usually were still

of the Norwegian navy made a sworn statement that in late August of 1746, he, along with eight men in a small boat, saw a sea serpent. A shot fired at the creature wounded it. Corroboration came from two of his men. With its head hovering two feet above the water, it “appeared to have eight humps about a fathom apart on its back. Behind the head there was a white mane.”

During the next sixty years, reports of sea serpents were frequent from both sides of the Atlantic. On November 18, 1808, an unknown marine monster estimated at sixty feet in length was washed ashore on one of the Orkney Islands. Unfortunately no

crew with loud cries. He had spotted an UMM. All witnesses agreed that it was sixty-five feet long, six feet across, was a shiny jet black, and traveled at high speed. The captain made this cryptic entry in his log-book: “Sighted a sea monster headed S.W.: 1:20 p.m.”

December 30, 1948. About one hundred miles off the North Carolina coast the S.S. *Santa Clara* plowed through the Gulf Stream en route to Barranquilla, Colombia. Cape Lookout was due west. It was noon.

Suddenly the vessel shook. It had struck something. Third officer John Axelson, who was on watch at the time, looked over the rail—and gasped.



An unknown marine monster was rolling and thrashing wildly about twenty yards astern. Soon a large watery area was red with bloody foam.

Unbelievably, Axelson's bellow for help had chief officer William Humphrey and one or two others running toward him.

The wounded creature—dark brown, slick and shiny—was further described as "having a flat head about five feet long, shaped like that of an eel, a neck eighteen inches thick and six feet long, and a body twice as thick, of which some thirty feet showed above the surface."

Although a wireless message was flashed to the United States Hydrographic Office, the ship unaccountably did not stop to lower a boat for investigation. No photograph was taken, or any attempt made to collect the creature believed to be mortally wounded. Still, the incident was officially entered in the log-book of the *S.S. Santa Clara*.

Not to be overlooked is a passage from the book *KON TIKI* by Thor Heyerdahl, which goes:

"...about two o'clock on a cloudy night, when the man at the helm had difficulty distinguishing black water from black sky, he caught sight of a faint illumination down in the water which slowly took the shape of a large animal. It was impossible to say whether it was plankton shining on its body, or whether the animal itself had a phosphorescent surface, but the glimmer down in the black water gave the ghostly creature obscure, wavering outlines. Sometimes it was roundish, sometimes oval, or triangular, and suddenly it split into two parts which swam to and fro under the raft independently of each other. Finally, there were three of these large shiny phantoms wandering in slow circles under us."

On April 30, 1960, Tim Dinsdale was driving slowly along a cliffside road three hundred feet above Scotland's glassy black Loch Ness. The aeronautical engineer and author of the book *Loch Ness Monster* was ending a six-day vigil for the monster itself when he triumphantly spotted a reddish-brown, hump-backed object floating about sixteen hundred yards away.

Slamming on the car's brakes, he grabbed his movie camera. Dinsdale began taking pictures of what he thought was the back of a huge, semi-submerged animal now swimming for the far shore in a slow, zig-zag course.

It disappeared below the surface. In turning left along the opposite shore, a tremendous wash of foam was thrown up.

The forty feet of 16-mm film taken was televised by the BBC later that year. This was followed by other television programs throughout the world. As a result, confirming letters began to pour in, and new corroborative testimony was offered by previously silent witnesses.

As usual, zoologists remained silent, not wishing to disturb the status-quo. And, apathetically, the financing of a scientific investigation was never undertaken. There the matter rested.

Then, in 1964, a group called the Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau, headed by amateur naturalist, David James, turned over the Dinsdale film to a specialized unit of the Royal Air Force for independent analysis and interpretation.

These experts were from the Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Center, the crack outfit that analyses long-range aerial photographs. They were the ones who detected Germany's secret buzz-bomb bases during World War Two. In a two thousand word document, they concluded that Loch Ness was indeed the habitat of some enormous object, probably alive.

Twenty-times enlargements of frames were used for examination, and distance-estimating scales were established along and across the line of sight. The object on Dinsdale's film rose three feet above the waterline. It moved at ten miles per hour. And it was NOT a surface craft or submarine.

"Which leaves the conclusion"—went on the Air Force's report—"That it is probably an animate object. The normal body 'rounding' in nature would suggest that there is at least two feet of it under the water. It may be deduced that a cross section through the object would be less than six feet wide and five feet high."

A few statistics about this lake

would not be out of order.

It is twenty-three miles long and one to one and a half miles wide. At its maximum depth of seven hundred and fifty-four feet there remains a steady temperature of forty-two degrees.

The abundant marine life of salmon, trout, eel and pike makes it a haven for any giant monster—or probably several.

Those who still scoff at the reality of UMMs use this line of reasoning:

If such creatures exist in the oceans of the world, how is it that dead or injured ones are never washed on some shore? Or why have none of the numerous scientific deep-sea expeditions ever captured a living or dead specimen? Only the uninformed would say this has never happened.

Close consideration should be given to the number of whales, well known to science, whose carcasses have very seldom been found stranded, or floating on a watery surface. The same can be said of giant squids which abound in deep water.

No evidence exists that the rotting flesh of a dead UMM would float. A blue whale one hundred feet long and weighing over one hundred and thirty-five tons would, if stripped of its blubber, sink like lead. How surprised we might be to see the countless piles of skulls and bones of UMMs littering the ocean floor.

Despite all the trawling and dredging, continue the scoffers, no specimen has ever been brought to the surface that made worldwide headlines. Some have been uncovered, true enough, but these were only the small and more sluggish variety, mainly invertebrates. Certainly no unfamiliar sea mammoth was ever caught.

Our planet contains a vast land area that has by no means been fully explored. Vaster still is the water area which covers five-eighths of our globe. Here tremendous regions have never known the passing of a ship.

At one time it was believed that the utterly dark oceanic depths of several miles contained no life at all, due to the terrific pressure levels. For example, the pressure only one mile below the surface is a ton per square inch. On the ocean floor itself it is seven tons per square inch!



This non-life belief is now known to be false. Aquatic life in all its diversified forms does indeed exist abundantly beneath the surface of our seas.

This may perhaps not include eight-tentacled octopuses of sky-scraper size, as they dwell in comparatively shallow water. An entirely different matter might be overgrown oarfish. Or the main food of the sperm whale—giant deep-sea squids known to science as *architeuthis*. Some run a hundred feet across the tentacles and can attain a weight of three tons. Found on a New Zealand beach in 1888 was the longest squid ever measured—fifty-seven feet!

Unknown marine monsters may live in the far depths of Earth's oceans by the millions, nightmarish and gigantic. But how would we even suspect their presence unless death, sickness or injury brought one to the surface? And then, by mere chance, the body would have to be seen. Unless it was close to land, there would be even less chance of the carcass washing ashore.

Could it be suggested that the UMMs (some species at least) are survivors of the huge sea horrors of the Cretaceous Period? At first this suggestion seems unreasonable, idiotic. But on second thought, is it?

The oceans have altered but little since their creation eons ago. Of course there has been some decrease in size, and they have undergone a certain amount of temperature changes.

The DEPTHS, however, always remain at the constant temperature of about thirty-three degrees Fahrenheit, and there is no valid basis for assuming that such has not always been the case. Hence, there is no scientific reason why creatures that dwelt at great depths in the prehistoric era should not have descendants, or close relatives, inhabiting the ocean today.

In December, 1952, a fisherman caught a strange-looking fish off Anjouan Island near Madagascar in about six hundred and fifty feet of water. A noted ichthyologist of Rhodes University College at Grahamstown in South Africa was notified. He was Professor J.L.B. Smith who was flown to the scene in a military transport plane provided by

South Africa's appealed-to Prime Minister, Daniel F. Malan.

Professor Smith then began an intensive study of the "living fossil" which turned out to be a six foot, one hundred pound primitive fish called a coelacanth. Scientists had believed the coelacanth that dated back almost three hundred million years to have been extinct for seventy-five million years!

Yet a LIVING one had been caught in the sea, as have dozens of others in the ensuing years.

On land the matter is quite different. Since the dinosaur age, the Earth's surface has been completely transferred in many ways. Climatic changes is one. Another is volcanic disturbances. To this could be added recession of vast areas of ocean and inland seas, and consequent alterations in vegetable and animal life.

But the ocean depths remain the same. And because of this, denizens of that habitat could be the ones that are responsible for vanished ships. It is hardly likely that the species known today could, in anger or hunger, attack and destroy an ordinary-sized vessel.

However, the possibility remains that certain forms of giant, horrendous aquatic life to man could do just that—wreck a ship, or climb drippingly over the rail to hunt down and devour a paralyzed crew.

The case for UMMs does have some authoritative supporters. Here are the views of two of them.

*Christopher W. Coates:* (An ichthyologist and former curator and aquarist of the New York Zoological Park, the famed Bronx Zoo).

"It's quite possible. We don't discount the stories of sea serpents one bit, and the discovery of the coelacanth certainly lends substance to the belief that there may be other strange things in the oceans."

*H.W. Parker.* (A former keeper of zoology at the British Museum, and a disbeliever in the existence of giant, prehistoric animals roaming the unexplored parts of the world. But—):

"In the depths of the sea there may still be gigantic creatures of which we have no knowledge. And, with this remote as it may be, it is unwise to deny the existence of the sea

serpent."

Returning to derelicts, not all were found lifeless. When, in 1880, the skillfully past dangerous reefs to ground gently at Easton's Beach, near Newport, Rhode Island, relieved fishermen on shore climbed aboard. Congratulations were in order for the captain (in this case Captain John Durham—or Huxam) for his remarkable seamanship. But the captain was not present. Nor any other soul. No life at all—except for a quiet and friendly mongrel dog.

All signs indicated a hasty abandonment. Coffee boiled merrily on the stove in the ship's galley where breakfast had been set for the crew. Tobacco smoke was still detectable in their quarters.

Somewhat similar was the five-masted schooner *Carroll A. Deering*. When first observed on January 31, 1921, she was rammed against Diamond Shoals along the Outer Banks of the Carolina coast. She was under full sail. Because of the turbulent weather, it was not until four days later that the ship could be boarded. Except for two gray cats, the *Carroll A. Deering* was devoid of life.

Food was in the galley. On the stove were pots of soup, meat and coffee, preparation for a meal.

Missing were both lifeboats and two large sea anchors, including one chain. Other damage was in evidence.

So these two ships yielded living things—a dog and two cats. Three animals. If only they could have talked, or communicated in some manner, they might have given a clue that would have solved the sea mysteries—and all similar ones—once and for all.

But animals don't usually talk. Not so other creatures. Birds, for example, or, specifically—parrots. Which instantly brings to mind a chilling article first published almost twenty-five years ago in a national magazine.

In the February, 1947 issue of *True* magazine, Albert Richard Wetjen wrote about ships sailing into oblivion, and others found drifting lifelessly. His article, *In Peril of the Sea* (not classified as fiction), is a most fascinating one because of the story of the derelict *Santa Cristobal*



(or *Sante Cristobel*).

Like this writer, Wetjen had never heard of the above ship, but still felt that the story told by former mate, Murdock, was true. This despite his noninclusion of names, dates, times, etc.

With Murdock and the first mate keeping watch just before daylight, their ship was coming up from Cape Town to Bombay when they saw a queerly acting barkentine away to starboard.

Binoculars showed no signs of life. When a hoisted signal got no response, the captain sent the second mate and a few sailors to investigate.

Later their report stated that the three-masted ship was indeed lifeless. Human life, that is, for active rats could be heard below hatches. Cockroaches, too, abounded.

The derelict was in good condition with all lifeboats in place. Fresh water and stores were plentiful, while a mixed cargo was intact.

All papers were in order in the captain's desk, including the log-book which had been made up to a date about a week previously with no unusual occurrence recorded. The ship was of Portuguese registry, and carried a crew of fifteen, most seemingly of varying ancestries.

It was decided to try and get the ship to the nearest port of Colombo with a group made up of the second mate, four volunteer sailors, and Murdock as an acting officer. This was all that could be spared, and in this way both ships could be managed with skeleton crews. Once on the derelict, the six conducted a more careful inspection, and were mystified by:

Sizeable green stains like the leakage of a now-gone bag or keg were here and there on the clean deck.

A rusty revolver with all cartridges fired was found in one of the scuppers.

A dead cat was discovered near the break of the poop—unaccountably flattened out, or squashed.

Flopped on its belly, a parrot was located in a cage that hung from the forepart of the galley house. Just barely alive, it was obviously suffering from thirst and hunger. The men deposited water and food beside it, and went on.

Presently Murdock's ship got back on her course for Bombay, while the derelict headed for Colombo.

With the helmsman on duty, and a sailor-cook preparing a meal, Murdock and the second mate were in the main cabin when there rose a sudden and terrible scream. All hair stood on end.

The second mate ran to his cabin for a revolver. When it was learned that none of the sailors were responsible for the outcry, another search of the ship was started.

Then it came again—a second shrieking scream.

As it was now growing dark, Murdock and the second mate used a hurricane lamp. In passing the galley they were frozen by a further scream that pierced their ear-drums.

Next came a flapping noise and the fear-ridden second mate lifted his lamp. A hysterical sort of laugh left his lips.

What the light of the lamp revealed was the now-revived caged parrot. It swung on its perch and blinked at the two. A closer look showed the parrot as appearing sort of dazed—or crazy—if that can happen to a bird. After it let out still another scream, the two relieved men left to reassure their companions.

But that was not the end. Blood-curdling screams left the parrot at intervals. And, before long, it began to talk. Talk? No, it was more like screaming out sentences, many of which were unintelligible. Some were seemingly in one or more foreign languages, but once or twice during that first night, it screamed clearly in English:

"My God, shoot the damned thing!"

Another repetitive sentence was uttered early the next morning.

"It's coming after me! It's coming after me!"

From Murdock: "The horrible thing was it had different voices. Even the snatches of foreign stuff were different, and the two English bits we could savvy were different. So were some of the screams. It made us all sweat, cold sweat. That parrot had picked up everything he was giving out from different men. It was an old bird and probably had had a lot of masters and seen a lot of things, and now and then it would talk sort of

normally and even croak a plaintive 'Pretty Polly!' But when it let go of the screams and stuff it was mimicking something recent. You could tell it somehow. It was repeating what men, frightened men, had said, and somehow we knew too they were the men who had manned that damned ship and had disappeared!"

It was figured that the parrot talked in Portuguese, Spanish and perhaps German, having heard all those languages aboard the ship. It seemed clear that it had SEEN something, and KNEW what happened. If only one of the six men present knew languages a clue might be gotten.

However, translators could be located in Colombo. Maybe the parrot WAS holding the secret. And maybe something could be gleaned from the ravings of the crazy (?) bird once its words were translated and sifted. Maybe the whole mystery of the deserted ship would be solved.

The parrot did not let up on its screaming. It went on incessantly, and reached the point where the second mate went to pieces. He started drinking, and raved at the bird to shut up.

Things inevitably came to a head when the parrot gave a particularly weird scream. That did it. The second mate went berserk. He grabbed an axe and swung at the cage, smashing it and its occupant to a bloody mess of feathers and wire. So far gone was he that Murdock was forced to put him in irons.

The derelict itself never reached Colombo. About two days out she ran into a heavy gale that left her dismasted and sinking. All six hands took to the longboat when the mystery ship took a sudden plunge.

After being picked up by a British steamer, they arrived at Colombo where their story was flatly disbelieved. The second mate was ill for weeks with some sort of brain fever. The others soon drifted out onto other ships, and it was surmised that Murdock rejoined his own vessel in Bombay.

Thus the whole terrifying episode forgotten.

But it was not forgotten by author Albert Richard Wetjen.

Murdock, he felt, was earnest in his



story telling. It seemed to him to be the case where only one explanation accounted for the facts. Then what was responsible for the absence of life aboard the *Santa Cristobal*? Answer: some type of unknown marine monster!

So Wetjen thought the terror came from the sea. Could be, but let us not ignore the sky. It is just as reasonable that it came from ABOVE, as the following true stories might indicate.

First—the *Joyita*.

Setting out to sea on the bright, cloudless morning of October 3, 1955, was the diesel-powered *Joyita*. It had left the coral-fringed island of Apia the South Pacific in Western Samoa. Her destination was the port of Fakaofu in the Tokelau Islands, a less than two-day chartered trip. Including Captain Thomas H. "Dusty" Miller, the fourteen passengers and crew totalled twenty-five.

When her expected return of less than a week did not materialize, an intensive full-scale air-search of fifteen thousand square miles was undertaken by the New Zealand government. The search ended after a fruitless week.

Then, on November 10, 1955, the *Joyita* was found, afloat, but listing to starboard some six hundred miles off her course—and COMPLETELY LIFELESS!

The investigation commission came across a few things out of order. Because of the radio's broken aerial lead, transmitting signals were limited to one or two miles. A broken one-inch galvanized pipe which formed part of the cooling system of the port auxiliary engine had caused flooding of the hull. The log-book was missing, along with the three Carley floats, lifebelts, sextant and compasses.

Curiously, the passengers' personal belongings were located on deck under a canvas awning. This could indicate a frantic desire to disembark with their possessions. If so, why the change of plans? If this gathering had been done to prevent water damage, why had their abundant food supplies been ignored?

And though conditions at that time were undoubtedly very bad, it did not warrant evacuation. The ship was at least afloat, and afforded some degree of security.

Why was the *Joyita* abandoned? What could produce such utter fear (if fear it was) as to cause the abandonment? One can only offer explanations, as was done by the investigating officials.

1. Battered by a giant hurricane. No. The nearest one to her path was nearly two thousand miles away. Not even a rain shower was reported anywhere within hundreds of miles.

2. Night-time collision with a larger passing ship. Ruled out. Such ships were nowhere in the area.

3. A pirate raid. Illogical. Pirates would not have left the valuable belongings found on board.

4. A violent seaquake. No evidence of an eruption at that time that could have tossed both crew and passengers overboard.

5. Foundering, fire or explosion. Evidence of all these were lacking.

6. Marine monsters. Again we come to this theory, and who can say it is impossible? However, impossible it would be if a 1959 report regarding the *Joyita* is true.

The report tells of an incident that happened at Whirltoea Beach, eight miles north of Waihi, Australia.

A wine bottle was washed ashore. Inside was a sobering message. It was signed by the *Joyita's* steward, and read:

ABANDONING SHIP. STRANGE  
CIRCULAR METALLIC OBJECT  
FORCING US ABOARD IT. HELP  
US.

If this story is no hoax, then the *Joyita* was involved with, not a UMM, but a UFO (unidentified flying object). And the same could be said of another ship:

The *S.S. Ourang Medan* was a Dutch vessel which, while churning through the Straits of Malacca in early February, 1948, sent out SOS distress calls repeatedly. Dutch and British listening posts deciphered the words "All officers including captain dead, lying in chartroom and on bridge. . . probably whole crew dead."

Next came a series of undecipherable dots and dashes, followed by the crystal-clear: "I die." After that—ominous silence.

Rescue ships from Dutch Simatra and British Malaya hastened for the troubled ship which was located fifty miles from the position given.

When boarding parties clambered aboard, they gasped at what they saw. Death had taken over completely. Lifeless bodies sprawled everywhere. Not only was the dead captain found on the bridge, but other officers were in the wheelhouse, chartroom and wardroom.

In the radio shack was the conscientious wireless operator, slumped in his chair, his hand still on the sending key. The bodies of the crew lay all over—in their rooms, in the passageways, on the decks.

All dead faces had one thing in common—a look of stark horror. The *Proceedings of the Merchant Marine Council* had a report on this incident. It read in part: "their frozen faces were upturned to the sun, their mouths were gaping open and the eyes staring. . ."

Not only were all humans inexplicably dead, but so too was the ship's dog, a small terrier whose lips were drawn back and teeth bared in either anger or agony.

An examination of the dead revealed an astonishing fact. Nowhere on their bodies was there a sign of a wound or an injury. In fact, there was no indication of violence in any form such as a weapon (none were found), or damage to the ship (none was located).

It was decided to tow the vessel into port, but this was not to be. A fire with belching smoke and flames started in number four hold. So fierce was it, and so quickly did it spread, that immediate evacuation was necessary. All boarding parties hurried to the safety of their respective ships.

Soon after, a tremendous explosion on the *S.S. Ourang Medan* had it sinking beneath the waves. And with it went the riddle of what had really happened to it and all those aboard.

The crew were found with looks of pure horror. They were staring in one direction—SKYWARD. Was this because the attack came from ABOVE, in the bizarre form of a UFO?

One wonders if the great mysteries of the sea will ever be solved. Perhaps the explanations are natural, quite mundane, really very simple. Perhaps.

Then again, the actual truth might jar our sanity. Could it be that it is better we do not know?



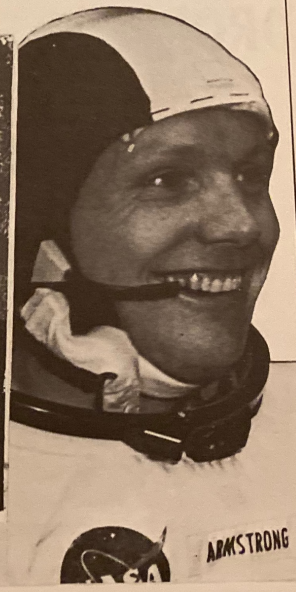
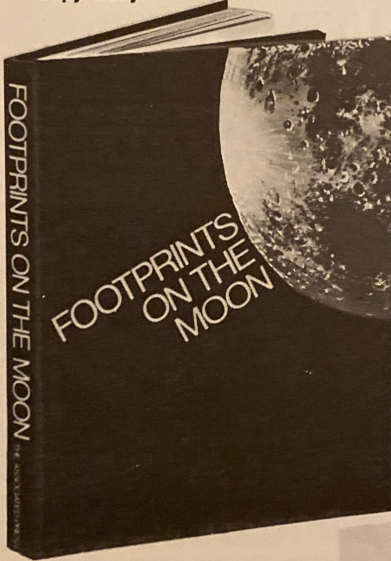
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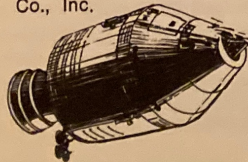


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## THE ABSENCE OF UFO ARTIFACTS

Erich A. Aggen, Jr.

**D**o the ufonauts have a foolproof method of retrieving or destroying instruments and objects accidentally left on Earth? Does this explain the conspicuous absence of UFO artifacts?

A colleague has suggested that the ufonauts perhaps abide by a strict code of non-interference in relation to "primitive" cultures (such as ours) which are in an elementary stage of scientific and social development.

Technological "contamination" is probably considered a severe violation of the non-interference code. From this presumption one can extrapolate that all alien devices apt to be accidentally lost during landings, etc., are "tagged" so that they are always accounted for and either recovered or destroyed if left behind.

Methods of tagging might range from radiological and electronic to techniques beyond our technological grasp.

The non-interference code might be enforced by a continuous scanning of all tagged objects carried by all piloted UFOs operating on or near Earth. The scanning would most likely be carried out by neutral "overseers" having no special interest in Earth except that of preventing technological "fallout".

The aggressive actions of a small number of UFOs and their occupants might be classified as minor violations of the code. It is doubtful that enforcement of the code is 100% flawless. The behavior patterns of the various ufonauts are probably totally divergent, unpredictable and generally difficult to control. Such violations would not constitute technological contamination since no artifacts have thus far been left behind long enough for anyone to study in detail.

It is perhaps true that those in charge of enforcing the non-interference code can only

prevent technological contamination with complete certainty. Even with their immense powers they would find it almost impossible successfully to limit social and psychological infringements of the code.

It is obvious that all ufonauts do not have our best interests at heart. A small minority continues to act irresponsibly. The non-interference code may provide a counter-force to wholesale harassment and exploitation by this minority.

The non-interference code may explain why no significant traces of the Tunguska Object have been found. The Tunguska Object was possibly a piloted craft that went out of control and was forced to self-destruct.

The Tunguska Object entered Earth's atmosphere over Siberia on June 30, 1908. It glowed with a brilliant white-hot fire as it streaked across the skies above the Yenisei Basin and exploded with the devastating force of a 10-megaton thermonuclear bomb near the Tunguska river. The object exploded in the air and its effects were heard and felt over 600 miles away, as far as the city of Kansk. In an area of 6000 square miles surrounding the center of the blast trees were denuded and uprooted and flung in a southwesterly direction corresponding to the shockwave of the explosion. At the center of the explosion trees directly beneath the object were left standing although stripped bare and "fried" by the intense heat and radiation of the shockwave. The destruction wrought by the object was tremendous.

Some scientists have suggested that the object was a giant meteorite, a piece of anti-matter or a comet. These theories fail to explain, however, how the Tunguska Object altered its course twice before exploding. First it moved in a south to north direction and then,

rather abruptly, changed to an east to west flight path. Only a piloted or intelligently-guided object could have executed such a maneuver.

It seems plausible that the Tunguska Object was a "manned" vehicle launched by a highly evolved civilization.

The sentient beings responsible for the Tunguska Object would certainly be curious as to its ultimate fate: They have probably dispatched further such vehicles to investigate the circumstances of its demise. These vehicles could have reached us any time after 1908. This is one possible source of UFOs.

The non-interference code cannot explain all facets of the UFO artifact problem, however.

The nearly incomprehensible nature of the UFO phenomenon renders any conjecture as to its purpose or origin extremely tentative. Most researchers seem to be convinced that such mundane methods of investigation as information collection and correlation will eventually "solve" the UFO mystery. This idea, however, is inconsistent with the intangible nature of the mystery.

It is obvious that current investigative techniques are wholly inadequate. The UFO phenomenon affects our entire existence and cannot be divorced from it. Most persons working in the interrelated fields of parapsychology and UFO research will not admit the failure of their methods, however. This negative attitude consequently reduces the effectiveness of their efforts.

Who or whatever is responsible for this phenomenon certainly would not be so phlegmatic as to allow any member of the human race to gain any inkling of its or their true nature or intentions. If they can prevent UFO artifacts from being discovered



and studied they can also manipulate the minds of men with comparative ease. Therefore, current research efforts are subject to a certain degree of distortion.

Historically, man's attention span has been very limited. The individual human life span is much too short to permit a continuity of thought or action over a period of several centuries. The average human being passes through life too quickly to accomplish anything of truly monumental importance. This is the primary obstacle in the way of productive UFO research. To find a solution or answer to this mystery it seems clear that research efforts must persist over hundreds of years.

The absence of UFO artifacts poses a challenge to UFO researchers and the whole field of UFO investigation. Is it possible that UFO artifacts have been found but have gone unrecognized for what they are? Can dedicated UFO researchers gain any advantage by pursuing this possibility?

At the present time UFO organizations are totally incapable of studying and analyzing a UFO artifact with modern scientific devices even should one be found. How many organizations have access to electron microscopes, computers or modern laboratories staffed with professional researchers?

UFO researchers and organizations should prepare themselves for such an eventuality; a modus operandi should be worked out. How should a UFO artifact be treated if discovered? How could it best be preserved? How could it best be transported? Should contingency samples (filings, etc.) of the object be obtained if possible? Should photographs of it be taken if possible? Should it be measured and weighed? All factors should be considered. Research can be conducted under contract to a commercial research institute or laboratory—has this possibility been considered? Could the artifact be guarded against government seizure and classification?

Every researcher and especially every UFO research organization should prepare as best they can for all conceivable contingencies. To act AFTER THE FACT could prove disastrous.

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## Space Age May Need ASTRO-THEOLOGY

**H**eaven was above the firmament, or the arch of the world's sky. Limbo, to which unbaptized babies were consigned, was, in the words of one poet, "the wind that blows between the worlds." Today, men pierce the firmament with telescopes and other scientific devices and have not found heaven. Today's scientists declare there is no wind in space. What lies beyond the vast concept men call space?

. . .Not that infinity is an alien term to science. Mathematicians use it as a component daily in computing equations with great reliability. But as Gerald Kuiper, director of the lunar and planetary lab at University of Arizona acknowledged, infinity is a metaphysical concept that man's present consciousness cannot grasp. To Dr. Kuiper and many others, space is actually curved, endlessly turning back on itself in varying curves. . . At least as puzzling a dilemma is the question: Does intelligent life exist on other planets, or is the human enterprise unique to earth?

Some churchmen say the question requires a new "astro-theology" or, as the renowned astronomer Harlow Shapley put it: "In (our) thoughtful search for the ultimate, let us trust

that (we) got glimpses of a Stellar Theology." Chestnut declared, "If you say God is not in the (creation) picture, then I would say there are probably millions of planets containing life. But, with God in the picture, the question is: What is God's purpose?" He said there is nothing in scripture to tell if intelligent life exists elsewhere as part of God's purpose. Dr. Bok and Dr. Kuiper agree it would be "silly" not to expect there is intelligent life on other planets, though perhaps not in our solar system. "It might be different," said Dr. Kuiper, "but life on earth has tremendous variety."

Dr. Shapley goes even further. In a complicated argument he estimates, "on the basis of sampling," that there are more than 100,000 million billion stars in the universe, each capable of sustaining life, and many with planetary systems like our sun's. "The fact that life exists on this undistinguished planet and arose here naturally is by itself nearly enough assurance that life is a cosmoswide phenomenon."

. . .Does this shake man's "religious elitism" and his belief that earth's men alone are the children of God? Shapley himself says: "A

ONE-PLANET DEITY HAS FOR ME VERY LITTLE APPEAL." But suppose intelligent life is found which has not received the Christian message of redemption? Is it incumbent on Christians to convert that life?

A Jesuit priest points out that space life must be the object of another providence, not the children of Adam, and "so not a part of our salvation history, which is that of a fallen and redeemed race."

But Chestnut declares that, if God made space man in his image, as he did Earth men, "they were given the same freedom of choice as we have here: the same events would have followed; and I would conclude they would have fallen, requiring redemption through Christ." However, he rejects the idea of missionary work among man's celestial neighbors, noting the high cost: "It would eat up all the money we need here to help relieve the condition of man. I cannot consider God would ask men on this planet to do this. If God made them, he has made provisions for them in his own way. I don't know how he will (redeem them), but I am positive he will."





## Where The Reader Has His Say

Dear Sir:

I was intrigued by the photos in June's Issue of FLYING SAUCER'S of the satellite photographs of the earth showing a hollow interior. Now could I obtain photographs of this? Maybe not the originals but copies. If so will you please tell me the prices, etc.

Keep up the good work on your most interesting magazine. I am an ardent believer in UFOs, having seen one for myself.

Lillian M. Stoddart  
7711½ Santa Monica Blvd.  
Hollywood, Calif. 90046

• Two of the photos were obtained from the *Journal of the SMPTE*, February 1970 issue, Vol. 79. Since we only got a "clip" from this magazine, we do not know what the letters SMPTE stand for, but judging from the accompanying ads, it is a photographic journal of 79 years standing. The article in which the photos are presented was written by Glenn E. Matthews, whose address is 55 Stoneham Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14625.

The other two photos were obtained from NASA's book *Exploring Space With A Camera* (NASA SP-168).

The first two photos can presumably be obtained from the Environmental Science Services Administration, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Washington, D.C. and the other two from NASA, also in Washington.—Rap.

24

Dear Ray:

I'm shook by your statement in the June '70 editorial, of FLYING SAUCERS Magazine, that the ESSA-7 photo (11/23/68) shows "we do not see any ice fields in a large circular area directly at the geographic pole. Instead, we see—The Hole!"

YOU'VE BEEN HAD!!! Unless you are referring only to a small central portion of the large "black hole" showing in the photo.

The "large hole with the ring of white clouds around it," which most readers must assume you are referring to, extends down to the middle of Greenland, and includes Baffin Land and Ellesmere Island, not to mention Novaya Zemla, etc. Plenty of solid land (and ordinary Arctic ocean) is included in that big hole in the cloud cover.

Just compare the photo and latitude marks (placed by computer in photo, as you say) with a North Polar region map in your atlas. The latitude circle just inside the "hole" is 70 degrees N. Incidentally, the photo is a composite paste-up, placed over a sphere for rephotographing. Look at the seam running about 2 o'clock. [So, it was a clear day over the pole. So what? No hole shows.]

Leon Davidson  
64 Prospect St.  
White Plains, N.Y. 10606

• You are "shook", but not shook enough! For example, you are not shook enough to check your own statements. If you are going to be in

the business of debunking Ray Palmer, you will have to quit making "suppositions" and avoid any rationalization. First, I did not say that the entire black area was the hole (if it really is a hole). It is my opinion that the hole has to be not more than 800 miles in diameter, and probably less. Yes, the computers placed the overlay of Greenland inside the dark area. It had to, because the computer is programed to conceive of the planet as a perfect sphere without a hole, and it is programmed to include all of Greenland even when the camera does not delineate the total area of the overlay. But where you go into the realm of supposition, is the method used to take the photo presented. It is a composite (either 3 or 6 exposures, because the camera is capable of such latitude on each pass over the pole, at the discretion of the ground control). But it is not a composite pasteup placed over a sphere and rephotographed. It is 3 or 6 radio-received photos pasted together and then reproduced as you see it in the magazine.—Rap.

Dear Sir:

I don't think that the cover photograph on your June 1970 issue shows the hole at the North Pole. That satellite is in an orbit such that it is always noon, local time, on the ground, directly below it. This is supposed to provide light at a reasonably constant intensity for taking the many pictures that are assembled into the mosaic on the cover. (That's right, that is a mosaic, not a single photograph.) The dark space in the center is the area where the sun is below the horizon even at noon. This is a phenomenon that happens in the Arctic regions every winter. In the latitude of Wisconsin this is a matter of minor interest to some, and of real importance to no one. Here in the Arctic, however, this is one of the facts of life. I live only about 150 miles south of the Arctic Circle. Even here, we get very little sunlight in the winter. At Christmas the sun is visible for about five hours, and it never gets very high. However, in the summer we have continuous daylight for two months. Although the sun goes down for about five



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hours, it dips just below the horizon, and we get twilight all night. This sky is so bright that only the moon, Venus and Jupiter are visible. I would very much like to see a photo of the same type taken in June. Incidentally, the picture of the southern hemisphere is taken during the period of continuous polar daylight. A picture of the southern hemisphere taken during the south polar night should show a blank space in the middle.

I should also mention that the so-called hole in your cover picture included northern Greenland and some of the islands in northern Canada. The Department of Transport, by whom I am employed, maintains a number of Upper Air Stations, where radiosonde observations are regularly conducted, in the area included in the "hole". These are at Alert and Eureka, on Ellesmere Island, at Isachsen, on Ellef Ringnes Island, at Mould Bay on Prince Patrick Island, at Resolute Bay, on Cornwallis Island, and at Sachs Harbor on Banks Island. There has been no mention in any annual reports from the Department of Transport of any hole in the Arctic. Also, weather observers often (except for myself) transfer from one station to another, and we have had men here who had been at one of the above stations without seeing any evidence of a hole. (I have been at Baker Lake as a radiosonde observer for 13 years.) I might also mention that I specialized in astronomy when I was in university.

In my opinion, if there is a hole in the polar regions, it is in the head of the propounder of the idea.

Kenneth G. McCulloch  
Baker Lake  
NWT, Canada

• I hope you are not willing to stake your life on your rebuttal! Let's take your first "fact". These satellites are not in orbits such that it is always noon on the ground below them. They are in polar orbit and circle the planet every 90 minutes. Each time around, they take from 3 to 6 pictures of the area shown in our photos. And yes, the photo is a mosaic of these 3 or 6 pictures taken on that particular pass on that particular date.

Next, you make a great point of the

areas illuminated (and not illuminated) by the sun. Even if it were relevant, no such effect as shown in the photos would be possible if we agree to your statements—because the photos are taken within a period of 90 minutes, and not only would the polar area be dark because of lack of sunlight, but half of the Earth's surface which is in a nighttime condition! However, I say this is not relevant, because you have not bothered to check the methods used by the satellites to take these pictures. There is more than one camera involved, and one of them is an infra-red camera which permits photographing the cloud cover (remember it is cloud cover that is being photographed, not the Earth's surface) with equal facility be it daytime (light) or nighttime (dark). Thus, we get this "remarkable" photo of the vast area of 40% of the Earth cloud cover regardless of the fact that half of the area is on the night side of Earth. If your argument were valid, we would have less than 20% of the Earth surface in our photo, and not a complete disk, but only a large crescent, or at most, a half-sphere. Even your concept of the south pole photo would not be the entire circle, but only the daytime side.

The difficulty of observing the polar area is one that we have stressed many times in past issues, for as much as ten years. Our back issues are full of them. So, when you state that the hole cannot be there because of all these weather observers stationed around the Arctic Circle "who would have seen it", makes us a little but exasperated. As we replied to Mr. Davidson, the images of those areas printed inside the dark area on our photos are not really in the area we designate as a possibility for the hole. They are where they should be, except for what I might term a slight foreshortening due to the computer not being programmed to allow for any departure from the normal spherical curvature of the Earth.

Wouldn't you have been a real riot in the court of Isabella of Spain when Columbus proposed sailing around the world! You could have said: "The only thing you'll sail around is your round head!" Yes, the hole in the pole is in my head, and there are thousands

of mysterious things that I've discovered that have put it there! I am very anxious to learn the answers to those many questions, which have so strangely pointed toward a hole that, try as I might, does not persuade some acceptable scientific evidence to come my way to refute it. At first it was said that space satellites would prove there was no hole. But quite the reverse, they only add more mystery. Over one million pictures taken of Earth from space, and out of these, the only polar pictures released fail utterly to prove the hole does not exist. In short, I'm still waiting for those wise men at the "top" to make a point a reasonable man can accept.

Now, recently, the most fascinating discovery of the polar area of all has been made with the revelation that as we approach the pole, the surface of the ocean *begins to slant toward the north!* Wow! Every high school student knows that the absolutely infallible way to find a level and construct something on that level, is to use the surface of water, which *never* tilts. Now why, 800 miles from the pole, does the water suddenly begin to tilt in that direction? Obviously gravity has something to do with it. Either gravity in that area no longer is functioning directly toward the center of the Earth, or the center of mass is being dislocated (by the fact of an increasing angle of descent into a depression, the surface of which is at right angles to this displacement of the center of gravity of Earth's mass).

And lots of little things like the distance to the east-west horizon, which so baffled Nansen, being greater than the distance to the north-south horizon at this very same 800-mile location! It would take a very thick book to present all the strange facts that are not explainable without postulating some such thing as a hole at the pole, a hollow Earth, or something. Maybe it's only a depressed area, and not a hole all the way through, or into the center. But whatever it is, it is something, and one thing is sure, it is NOT the billiard-ball smooth roundness over its entire surface that Earth is supposed to be!

I think it is important to find out why these things are so. If not to prove a hole, at least to understand



our Earth better. (Maybe it's only a "magnetic" hole?) The only reason there are polar orbiting satellites today is because the launchers finally took into consideration the anomalies of gravity directly over the pole. Prior to that, we lost every satellite launched on a precise polar orbit. The Russians have hinted (strongly!) that the only logical place to establish easy space travel off this Earth is at the poles. And they hint equally strongly

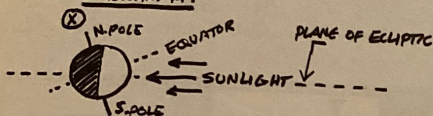
the reason why—gravity. It is weird to understand that scientists as able as they are would even suggest that gravity might not be a factor inhibiting rocket launches from that point, and even more weird, the suggestion that there might be planets without gravity, where no retro-rockets are needed to land! Our planet is a tremendous mystery, and the more we find out about it, the more mysterious it gets.

The mysteries that surround the pole are getting so multitudinous that the challenge is no longer possible to ignore. Maybe you don't want any answers, but I do! And don't think that I want the answer to be a hole! ANY answer will do, rather than the baffling mystery that makes the bump of curiosity on my head swell until it seems likely to burst. In which case, we WILL have a hole in your editor's head!—Rap.

HAL CRAWFORD  
3537 RIDGEBEAR  
DALLAS TEX. 75232

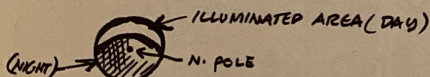
DEAR 'RAP',

RE THE 'HOLE-AT-THE-POLE' PHOTOS IN THE JUNE 1970 ISSUE OF FLYING SAUCERS: I FEAR THAT YOU'RE LABOURING UNDER A MISAPPREHENSION. WHEN SEEN FROM THE EQUATOR, THE EARTH RESEMBLES DIAGRAM A.



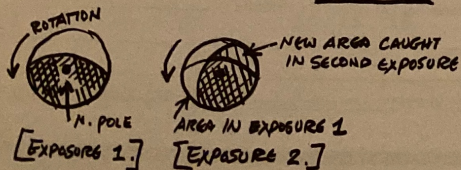
NOTE THAT THE AXIAL TILT REMAINS THE SAME, POINTING AT POINT-X, OR, IF YOU WISH, THE STAR POLARIS. IN DIAGRAM A, THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE WOULD BE IN WINTER. TO REVERSE THE CONDITION, MERELY 'DARKEN' THE LIGHTED HALF & VICE VERSA, WITHOUT CHANGING THE AXIAL TILT.

WHEN SEEN FROM POINT X, THE VIEW WOULD BE AS IN DIAGRAM B.



SINCE ONLY PART OF THE EARTH CAN BE ILLUMINATED AT ONE TIME, THE PHOTOS SHOWING BOTH AMERICA & EUROPE/ASIA (THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE) IN DAYLIGHT MUST BE ASSEMBLED FROM MULTIPLE EXPOSURES. I.E., A COMPOSITE.

AFTER THE SATELLITE HAS PHOTOGRAPHED THE ILLUMINATED AREA IN DIAGRAM B, THE CAMERA WOULD WAIT A CERTAIN INTERVAL TO SNAP THE REST. THE RESULTS OF REPEATED EXPOSURES WOULD RESEMBLE DIAGRAM C.



EVENTUALLY, A SEQUENCE OF EXPOSURES WOULD DEPICT THE WHOLE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE, AS IN DIAGRAM D. (THE SKETCH IS CRUDE, BUT



WHITE SPOT: THE N. POLE.

IT GETS THE IDEA ACROSS: THAT THE AREA OF THE POLE IS SHADOWED DUE TO THE AXIAL TILT.)

THIS IS THE REASON WHY THE ARCTIC & ANTARCTIC AREAS

HAVE MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS DARKNESS & MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS DAY. THE AXIAL TILT IS THE CULPIT, NOT A POLAR HOLE. THAT PHOTO OF THE SOUTH POLE IS THE REVERSE OF THE NORTH, AS WOULD BE EXPECTED IF THEY WERE TAKEN AT NEARLY THE SAME TIME: THE SOUTHERN AREA WOULD BE REPEATEDLY EXPOSED, TURNING THE AREA INTO AN OVER-EXPOSED 'WHITE-OUT' RESEMBLING A CLOUD COVER.

AS I GO BACK & RE-READ WHAT I'VE WRITTEN, I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT I'VE OVER-SIMPLIFIED IT SOMEWHAT. FOR ONE THING, THE SATELLITES ARE TOO CLOSE TO EARTH TO CATCH THE WHOLE DISC, AS MY ILLUSTRATIONS IMPLIED; SECONDLY, THE CAMERAS DON'T USE CONVENTIONAL FILM: THEY'RE HIGH-RESOLUTION TV SCANNERS. DESPITE THIS, THE EXPLANATION HOLDS TRUE.

I'VE BEEN INTERESTED IN YOUR HOLLOW-EARTH THEORY SINCE THE DECEMBER 1959 ISSUE OF ES. HOWEVER, I HAVE YET TO SEE ANY CONVINCING EVIDENCE FOR IT. AS AN INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE, ON THE OTHER HAND, I'VE ENJOYED IT. ON THE SUBJECT OF POLAR HOLES, I'M WHAT MIGHT BE DESCRIBED AS A 'FRIENDLY SKEPTIC'.

REGARDS,

Hal Crawford



would be sufficiently within the range of dates above to allow the major portion of the arctic circle region to be dark.

2-If Earth were photographed from space, directly over the north pole on the dates given (Nov. 23 and Jan. 6) over 1/2 of Earth's surface would be in shadow. This is not the case in the photos of the north polar region that you published.

The photos of the "HOLE" that you published, might possibly be a composite of four or more photos taken at 6 hour intervals, on the dates given. This method would show Earth outside the Arctic circle to be uniformly illuminated—and show the Arctic circle to be dark, and appear as a hole! The photo on page 4 has the "squared circle" effect that such a composite photo would produce.

To check this out, try to obtain photos of the north polar region for June 20-25. If the photos are composites, they will appear as the south polar region does in the photos you published. If not composites, about 40% of the area photographed will be in shadow.

Robert Achzehner  
1-S-250 Stratford Ln.  
Villa Park, Illinois 60181

• I've already answered one of your points, which destroys your argument about the entire 40% area of the circle of Earth being visible, by pointing out the photos were taken during a 90-minute revolution of Earth, and were taken at almost the same instant. I would venture to guess that the entire 3 or 6 pictures were taken in a period of about ten minutes or less, more likely less. In a six-hour interval over a 24-hour period, the clouds would show no matched pattern, but show hundreds of miles of dislocation of the remarkably integrated cloud patterns actually depicted, by reason of their movement and change in shape and direction and angle.

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These photos are composites, but they do show the entire area in the light. Not because it is sunlight, but because ESSA-3 and ESSA-7 (the latter in particular) are armed with cameras designed to get the picture without concern for the sunlight present. In short, they can be taken "at night" with equal facility as "at day".

What you've just read are initial letters, written hastily by readers who didn't stop either to think, or research their stands sufficiently to bolster them. They are simple evidence that past education can serve to "brainwash" just as well as propaganda. All premises made were on the basis of previous concepts, previous facts (such as the Earth being flat, and Columbus was most certainly going to sail off the edge of his doom—ha, ha!) and (Galileo, forced to recant his heresy of the Earth not being the center of the solar system, by order of the Church, which knew better). Readers of FLYING SAUCERS ought to subscribe to our companion magazine SPACE WORLD, so they can keep up with the latest facts of space exploration and the science used in the exploration, including the gadgets, and they would not come up with refutations that waste our time re-educating them from the "facts" of out-moded (and erroneous) textbooks printed prior to the space age.

How about somebody actually in the cloud-photographing business, including the polar satellites, sending me a print of those photos which in his opinion will shatter my theory to bits? It would be impossible for me to go through hundreds of thousands of photos looking for some "clinchers", even if they would be sent to me! Or is it true that there is secrecy and censorship? My point is this: if there is no hole, it would be in the interest of the public good to show up such goofs as me, with some facts. But if there is a hole—and you know

it—I challenge your right to keep it from me! In my mind, science cannot be political. If it kowtows to the politician or to the military, it is worthy of all the epithets and curses that can be heaped upon its collective head. Any scientist who is not true to his fellow-man in passing on his discoveries for the betterment of all and of all knowledge, is a scoundrel.

Yes, I have reasons for presenting these photos—very good ones! There is not a person in this world who has ever read any of my magazines who can say that I have ever fooled or tricked him! All of them will agree that many of the things I have presented have later fallen flat on their faces, but not because I lied about them! I presented them. I gave you a chance to see for yourself, decide for yourself, refute or support me if you could!

Take another good look at those photos, and see if you can come up with a few more strange things? How about "retouching", for example? And, if that exists, what about it! Wouldn't THAT make you mad!—Rap.

Greetings:

(This is not a "letter to the editor" and is NOT for reprint under penalty of the law.)

Rev. Blank  
cc to attorney Blank

• Perhaps it is strange to reply to a letter which we did not print! Although I doubt that we could be prevented from printing it, the above injunction makes it a case of "discretion is the better part of valor", because when somebody threatens to sue you, you take him at his word! However, the content of the letter concerns the content of FLYING SAUCERS magazine, and at the very least we will publish our REPLY because we think we have been seriously and unjustly maligned and that on strict hearsay! We say hearsay because the writer of the letter we are not allowed to print based his whole accusation on the basis of what somebody told him—he did not read the reference made in the magazine itself, and in fact, his informer, although of the cloth, was a cockeyed liar!





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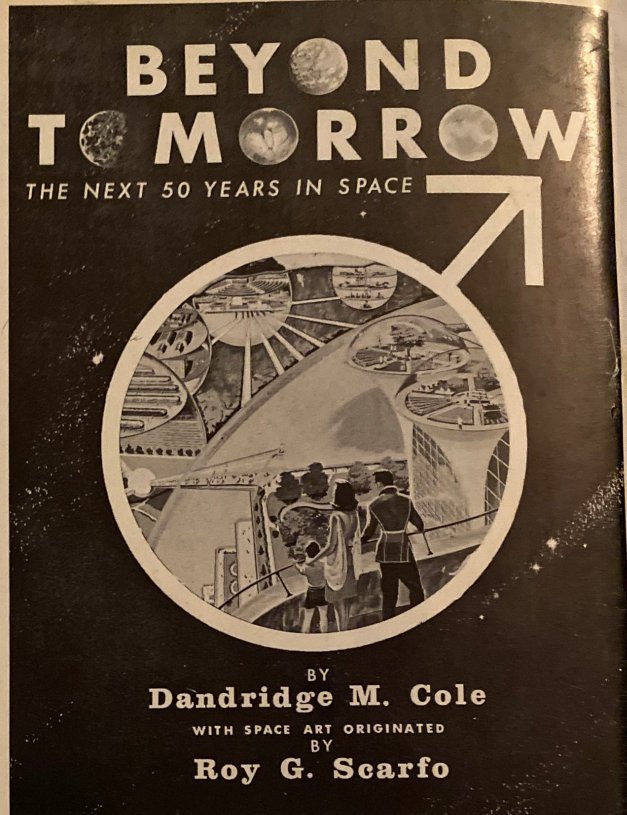
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