

THE WORLD'S LEADING GUIDE TO ALIEN PHENOMENA

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ALIEN ENCOUNTERS

ISSUE 6 DECEMBER 1996 £2.99

Abducted!

Alien Experimentation –
And How To Avoid It

Gutted!

Roswell Autopsy On The Slab



Skull & Scully

Are The
Crystal
Skulls
Alien
Artefacts?



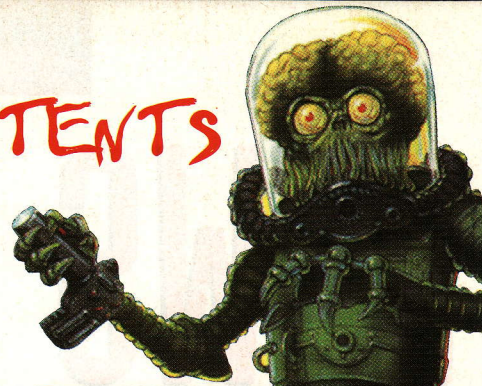
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Four
News! Win
X Files
Books!

Spotted!

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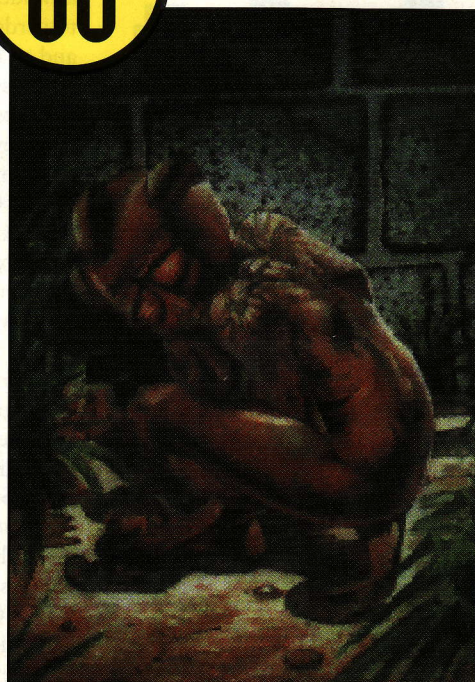


Illustration © 1996 Bilaua

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THE ABDUCTION!

Are you safe? You might think nothing can harm you whilst tucked up in your own home at night, but thousands of people from around the globe claim there is a force that can tear you away at any moment. Andy McDermott examines the world-wide phenomenon of alien abduction – Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind.



picture the scene. You are asleep in bed one night, and everything seems calm and normal. Suddenly, your home is invaded. No matter what security precautions you have, they prove utterly useless – the intruders come straight for you and nothing can stop them. You awake, but too late, and are completely helpless as they drag you from your home and take you away to an unfamiliar, terrifying place.

Your abductors have you completely at their mercy, but they show none, subjecting you to frightening and humiliating surgical procedures and experiments. When they have finished, they use drugs and hypnosis to suppress the memory of your hideous ordeal, but the horror lives on in your nightmares and in chilling flashes of recall. Finally, they return you, but they can violate the sanctity of your home at any time and the whole hideous process will begin again...

If this kind of kidnapping and torture was carried out by a human agency, there would be public outrage, demands for police investigation and political uproar. Yet thousands of people claim they have been subjected to exactly these kinds of appalling experiments, and the world's governments have done nothing to investigate them. There are even accusations that these very world governments are actively involved in abductions as part of some sort of horrific deal with alien intelligences.

The people being abducted are not members of an elite group, they are the average person on the street – male or female, young or old. The 'people' performing the abductions are not people at all. They are aliens.

HILL COMMUNICATION

The earliest occurrence of this type of alien abduction took place in 1961. UFO sightings had been common throughout the 1940's and 1950's, but for the most part they only involved observations of the craft themselves. Nobody, apart from Hollywood film makers, was willing to go public and say that any of the unusual objects in the sky actually contained living pilots. The reasoning of the time was that these UFOs merely contained robotic probes, not living aliens. These probes were probably sent to survey our planet, much as Earth's own probes were starting to explore the solar system.

The first indication that UFOs were guided by something more than automated systems came with the case of Barney and Betty Hill from New Hampshire. They had what at first seemed to be a UFO sighting in September 1961 on their way back from a holiday in Canada. They spotted an unusual light in the sky and stopped their car to watch its movements. As they watched, the light moved closer to reveal itself as a physical object. Barney Hill had moved away from the car in order

to get a better look, and thought he saw people watching him from the UFO. At that point, he became frightened and headed back to the car to join his wife.

When they finally arrived home, they discovered that they had lost approximately two hours during the encounter. They had no explanation for this, but in the following months suffered from stress, with no apparent cause. About two years after the encounter, the Hills underwent regression hypnosis by Dr Benjamin Simon in Boston, in an attempt to discover the exact cause of their problem. What Dr Simon uncovered in the course of the regression therapy was quite astonishing.

On the night of their encounter, hypnotic regression revealed that the UFO approached them and actually landed. The Hills were forcibly taken aboard the ship, where they were examined medically by its occupants – described as being similar to the now commonly accepted image of the Grey – before undergoing a memory suppression treatment and being returned to their car. Amongst other things, the examination included internal investigation by needle-like probes. The Hills also saw what they described as a star map which, when later redrawn by UFO researchers according to the Hills's descriptions, seemed to place the point of origin of the aliens as the Zeta Reticuli star system.

Through the use of some post-hypnotic process, the aliens erased the memories of the encounter from the conscious minds of the Hills. When Barney Hill thought he first saw beings inside the UFO and became scared, it seems likely that the abduction and experiments had already happened.

The Hills's abduction was the first fully documented case of humans being taken aboard an alien spacecraft, and it set the pattern for subsequent occurrences. Very few reports of abduction now deviate from the basic Hill sequence of events, and if they do, it tends merely to be in areas of specific detail rather than the overall experience.

Barney and Betty Hill, the first 'modern' abductees. Their story has frequently been challenged, but in many respects it is the archetypal abduction scenario.



One of the most disturbing theories is that the Greys use humans as a source of food.

A victim's view of alien abduction and experimentation. Abduction claims from around the world are currently on the increase.



LAURA'S STORY

Laura (not her real name) is an American abductee from Wyoming. This is an edited version of a transcript describing her abduction experience, as recalled under hypnotic regression and in sessions with a researcher.

"It was a night in October... I went to bed early, about ten o'clock, as I'd had a hard day at work. It was quite cold, so I had my bedroom windows shut.

"I don't know what time it was when I was woken up – I couldn't hear any noise from the freeway, so it was probably the middle of the night, but I couldn't hear anything at all.

"At first I thought I was choking... it felt like the back of my throat had swelled up, I was trying to breathe but I

couldn't. I got so scared because I thought I was going to die.

"The room was really bright, but it didn't seem to be coming from anywhere... it was a sort of blue-white light, like a searchlight. There was a smell as well, I remember it kind of stung my nose. It was like the smell you get from a Xerox machine, only stronger.

"I thought there was somebody in the room with me, but I couldn't turn my head to look, I just sort of felt it. I don't know whether there was really anyone there or not, but it just felt like it.

"The next thing I knew, I was floating... I could feel the bed covers slide off, but I couldn't move. I started to feel dizzy, and I still couldn't breathe. I was really scared now... I could hear a sort of buzzing noise in my ears. I think I fainted.

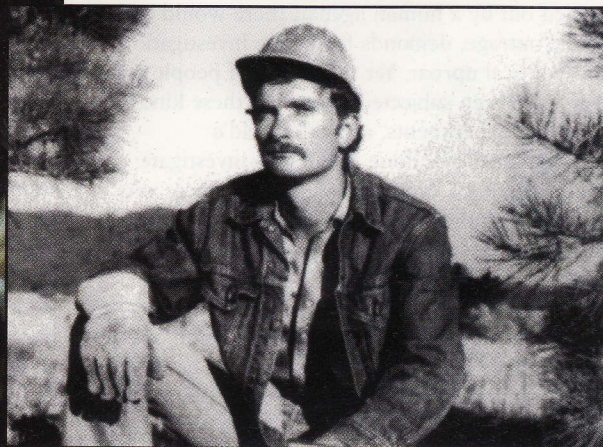
"I can't remember too well what happened after that... I was lying somewhere, but it wasn't my bed, it was hard. There was a light in my face, a bright light, it hurt my eyes. The weird smell was still there; it wasn't as strong, but I could still feel it. I could breathe again, but I still couldn't move.

"I could see people moving around me, but I don't think they were normal people. They didn't move right, they were sort of stiff, like robots. I couldn't see them properly because of the light, but I don't think they were human.

"I don't know how many there were of them, but I think there were at least three. One of them was doing something behind my head – I could hear a sort of tapping noise – and the others were down by my legs. I was very cold, not



Travis Walton, who was abducted in 1975 and had his story told in the (overly dramatised) movie *Fire In The Sky*. Above right: Lumberjack Walton at the time of the abduction.



WHY DO ABDUCTIONS HAPPEN?

The general opinion is that the alien abductors are performing some kind of tests upon their victims. This supposition is possibly borne out by the presence of implants in abductees, which may be used as either tracking or monitoring devices so that the experimenters can have continuous updates on the location and physical status of their unwilling subjects.

The implants usually take the form of tiny metal fragments, which if discovered (such as on an x-ray) would, on a casual inspection, look like nothing more sinister than metal splinters from some kind of minor accident.

If the implants are planted to monitor test subjects, then what kind of tests are being carried out? It seems unlikely that any race capable of creating technology that enables them to travel the enormous distances between solar systems would have much difficulty in researching basic human physiology. If the aliens have been abducting people since at least 1961, they would

Sceptics argue that it simply established a ready-made template for frauds and attention-seekers to follow if they wanted to be regarded with any degree of credibility. This template was given further reinforcement with the publication of Whitley Streiber's alleged true story *Communion*, which detailed the science fiction author's abduction and experimentation on by Greys. In addition, now that *Fire in the Sky* and, in particular, *The X Files* have brought the 'standard profile' of an alien abduction case into the mainstream public consciousness, it has become harder than ever to separate the genuine accounts from the inevitable fakes. However, this just provides us with all the more reason to keep on trying to seek out the truth.

cold like being outside in winter, but like having a filling at the dentist – I couldn't really feel anything except this thing like an itch, only inside me somewhere. It didn't really hurt, but it was real uncomfortable. I kept trying to wriggle to see if I could stop it, but I couldn't move. After a bit I stopped being quite so scared because this itch was making me so angry, and I couldn't do anything about it.

"The thing I remember most was something that moved up and down the bed above me – I remember it because it went in front of the bright light that was in my face. I think it was a machine, like a scanner or something... it made a sort of humming, buzzing noise when it got close.

"I don't remember seeing the faces of the people or whatever – they kept behind the light, mostly. I just remember

that they moved strange. I couldn't tell what they were wearing even.

"At one time, I got sort of embarrassed because I couldn't feel where my legs were, and I just thought that they might be wide open for all I know. Then I got angry because these people were just doing whatever they wanted to me and I couldn't stop them.

I don't know how long I was there, but I remember feeling really upset and angry later on and just praying they would get that light out of my face.

"I don't remember them finishing what they were doing or them taking me back home, it was like I fell asleep or something. I didn't remember anything much when I woke up next day, it was just like a fuzzy dream. Only I kept getting sort of flashes of it when I was

asleep; the light, mostly.

"The first time I remembered it properly was because of the smell – I was in the office by the Xerox machine and someone was using it, and that sort of stinging smell just made it come back to me. I ran out of the office because I was so freaked out...

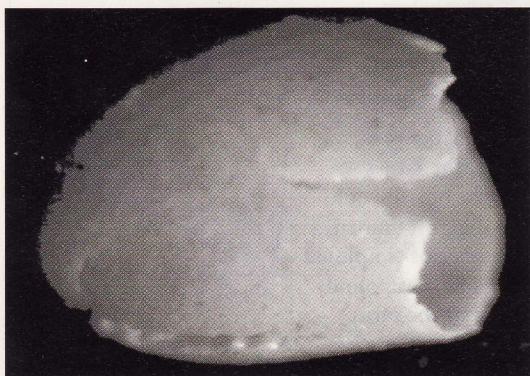
"It was a couple of weeks before I was able to talk to anyone about it, and when I did the first thing they said was 'sounds like you were kidnapped by space aliens'. At first I thought they were trying to make fun of me. I was never much interested in that kind of stuff before, but then I started reading about it, and watching stuff on TV, and I realised that was what had happened to me, almost exactly the same way as they talked about it."

Thanks to J P McKelso.

have probably have figured out our anatomy by now, 35 years later. The purpose of the experiments must therefore be more involved. One theory is that the aliens are obtaining samples of genetic material from humans. There are a number of reasons why an alien race would want to do this, and some of them are chilling.

One of the more innocuous theories is that the Greys are extracting human DNA in order to modify it and introduce it into their own genetic system. This would produce a diversity which is essential for the continued development of any species. This ties in neatly with the belief voiced by some that the Greys are a race of clones. If true, then such interbreeding would inevitably begin to cause flaws to develop in the alien DNA (or its equivalent) over the course of several generations. By augmenting the cloned DNA with that extracted from human subjects and using genetic recombination techniques that are – as yet – out of the reach of human scientists, the process of breakdown that would otherwise take place after repeated cloning would be avoided.

This theory places the Greys in the position of being essentially indifferent to humanity – they simply treat us as a resource to ensure their own survival. To some, this is in a way more offensive



This metallic fragment found in a human body may be the remains of an extraterrestrial implant.



Travis Walton undergoes hideous experiments in the film *Fire In The Sky*. In reality, Walton claims that the movie grossly exaggerated the alien tests for the sake of visual impact and crowd-pleasing terror.



JUST SAY NO

How can you prevent extraterrestrials from snatching you away in the middle of the night?

Here are a few suggestions we've come across. Just remember, if they don't work, don't blame us...

1: Focused mental strength. If you can force yourself to overcome the aliens' paralysis field, even if only a little, the effect rapidly begins to break down. They'll let you go as they're not much cop in a rumble.

2: Anger. According to some the Greys are telepathic – if you can concentrate your anger, instead of being afraid, they might get the message and leave.

3: Love. If the aliens are spiritual beings, they might be testing you to see whether you are as spiritually aware as them. Send them thoughts

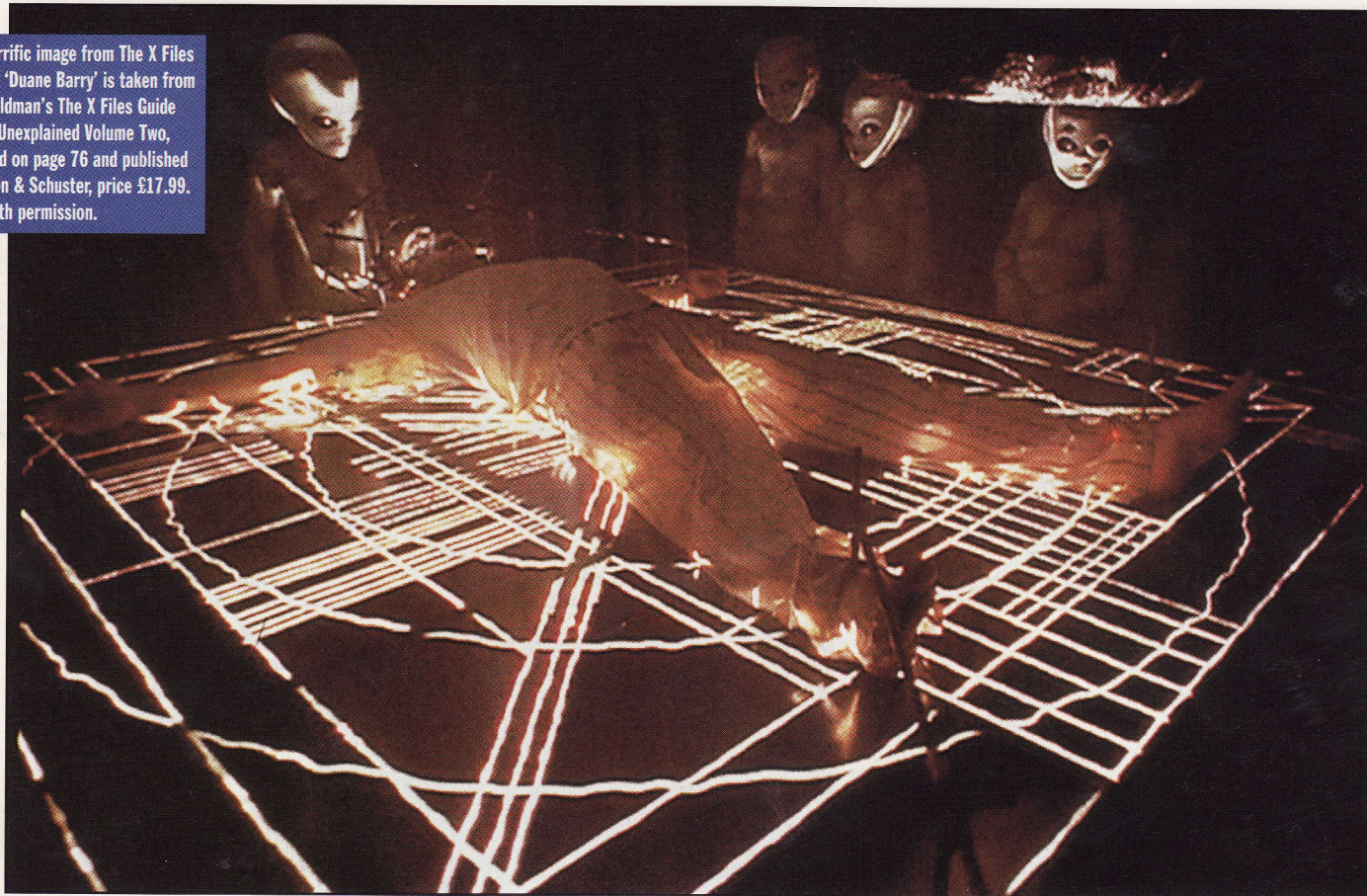
of love and forgiveness, and see if they respond in kind.

4: Chocolate. No kidding. Apparently, chocolate contains chemicals which upset the Greys' biochemical experiments. Better head down to M&W before you go to bed and stock up on Yorkies.

5: Crystals. Tying a quartz crystal to each corner of your bed with a copper wire will give aliens the heebie-jeebies. The crystals have to be charged, so why not buy a copy of issue one of *Uri Geller's Encounters* to get your free charged crystal?

6: High explosive. A bit desperate, admittedly, but if you strap some dynamite to your chest and rig it to explode if you levitate from the bed, the Greys certainly won't be bothering you again...

This horrific image from The X Files episode 'Duane Barry' is taken from Jane Goldman's *The X Files Guide To The Unexplained Volume Two*, reviewed on page 76 and published by Simon & Schuster, price £17.99. Used with permission.



than if the Greys were actually hostile, as many people perversely prefer being actively disliked than being ignored.

However, what if the Greys are hostile? What then would be the purpose of the tests carried out on human subjects? The most obvious answer would be that they are attempting to find our weaknesses, but if they merely wanted to exterminate humanity in order to take the Earth for themselves, they could easily have done it already. It does not require extraterrestrial ultra-tech to eliminate mankind, as we are more than capable of doing this ourselves.

We could even achieve it without rendering the planet uninhabitable to other forms of life through the use of genetically engineered viruses, nerve agents or even mass dispersal of naturally occurring diseases such as anthrax. This suggests an even more insidious and unpleasant plan behind the abductions.

NEW WORLD ORDER

What if, goes one school of thought, the Greys are attempting to conquer our planet, but instead of arriving in 15-mile wide city destroyers and blasting humanity to ashes, they are working behind the scenes to take over by stealth? This is the opinion of some of the more radical conspiracy theorists, who believe that the Greys secretly made contact with the world's governments, especially that of the United States,

According to
some
surveys, as
many as 2%
of Americans
believe they
have been
abducted.



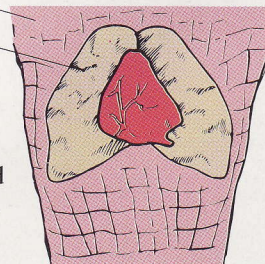
ARTIFICIAL BEINGS?

The postulated internal structure of the Greys (the diagram here is taken from what were apparently the MJ-12 documents) shows that they have a remarkably simplified set of organs. The human body still possesses a number of superfluous organs such as the appendix, that have yet to disappear through evolution. This shows that the Greys are thousands, if not tens of thousands, of years ahead of humanity on an evolutionary scale, assuming they followed a similar pattern of development. Alternatively, they could have undergone genetic modification to combine their internal organs into a more simplified and efficient system.

"Their internal organs are quite simple, they have a "One organ" which does the job of our Heart and Lungs....."

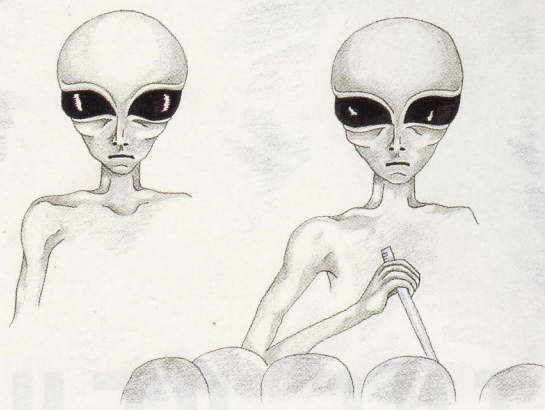
Chest cavity

Heart and Lungs (single organ)



This being the case, the Greys might only be able to digest a limited number of simplified organic compounds. One of the most terrifying theories about alien abductions is that they break down human tissue to use as nutrients.

An abductee drew this picture of her alien tormentors. The full chilling story appeared in issue one of **ALIEN ENCOUNTERS**.



several decades ago. In return for access to some of their technology, the shadow governments allow the aliens to abduct a number of their own citizens for nefarious purposes.

One of the most disturbing theories is that the Greys use humans as a source of food. Since alleged reports of alien autopsies show that the Greys have relatively simple digestive systems (possibly a result of genetic engineering having been performed on the race at some point in history), human tissue would be broken down by chemical means into a form of obscene soup which could then be easily absorbed as nutrients.

Another, equally unpleasant, possibility is that humans are being used as unwilling organ donors to replace ailing, radiation-damaged alien tissue. This could account for the precision mutilation of human bodies that has been observed on occasion.

Alternatively, with the reports of implants being left in abductees, they may be some kind of monitoring device to track down test subjects. If the aliens are carrying out modifications on humans at the genetic level, perhaps as a prelude to interspecies breeding or to eliminate tissue compatibility problems for spare-part surgery, they would need to know the exact location of their victims at any time.

A more extreme possibility is that the implants could be some form of control device. If and when the alien-aligned shadow governments decide to act to exert their power openly, those fitted with implants would be turned into unwilling soldiers for the New World Order. Since as many as 2% of Americans, according to some surveys, believe that they have been abducted, this would give the aliens an army of some five million disposable slaves in the US alone with which to enforce their world takeover bid.

Frightening as these abduction claims may seem, there is probably little to worry about. Abduction stories are fairly rare in the UK when compared to the US, and it is extremely uncommon for people to die or disappear as a result of alien kidnapping. On the other hand, with UFO activity on the increase all the time, abductions may increase in frequency as well. You could be next... and there is very little you can do to stop it.

GOTCHA!

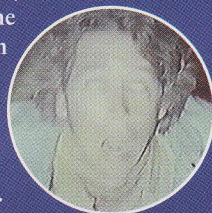
When Hollywood covers abductions in the realm of film, they just can't resist adding their own little tweaks to make things more 'interesting'. Here are some of the best...

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (1977)

Terri Garr is having a quiet evening with her son. Suddenly, clouds form! Electrical appliances explode! Lights shine through the window! Little Barry is sucked out through the cat flap (oo-er)! The aliens later turn out to be friendly, so scaring the wits out of isolated women is clearly their version of *Beadle's About*.

FIRE IN THE SKY (1993)

Travis Walton (D B Sweeny) is out lumberjacking with some buddies when he spies a UFO hovering in the woods. Rather than giving it some high knees out of the area, he goes for a closer look, and is rewarded by getting captured by an alien cousin of the Nazi dentist from *Marathon Man* and having things stuck in his eye. A true story, apparently.



COMMUNION (1989)

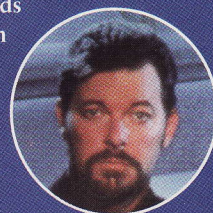
Another supposedly true story, in which minor sci-fi author Whitley Strieber (Christopher Walken) is whipped away by madly gyrating rubber stick-men for a spot of the old rectum/length of stout hose interfacing. The Oprah-esque moral of this story is 'publicly describe your humiliation and make a fortune'. Nice one.

BABYLON 5 — 'ALL ALONE IN THE NIGHT'

Perpetually smiling Captain John Sheridan (Bruce Boxleitner) is out earning some space miles when he's zapped by aliens and glued to an operating table. The Grey-like Striebers (clever wording, cheers) are looking for a race they can conquer. Luckily, Sheridan's mates rescue him and kill them. In an earlier episode, a human tries to sue a Grey for abducting his great-grandfather.

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION — 'SCHISMS'

Beardy Enterprise first officer Riker (Jonathan Frakes) is having trouble sleeping. Little does he suspect that every night, aliens from a subspace dimension are hauling him off and sticking sharp objects into him! No wonder he's a little restless. At one point, Riker finds he's had an arm sliced off, but luckily for his trombone playing they put it back again.



INDEPENDENCE DAY (1996)

Some, like Whitley Strieber, turn their abductions into opportunities. Randy Quaid, on the other hand, just goes bonkers. Fortunately, he proves that the aliens were real when they show up and start nuking everybody. You'll believe anything if you can believe an alcoholic crop-duster can pilot an F-18 and save the world.

THE X FILES — 'LITTLE GREEN MEN', 'DUANE BARRY', 'ASCENSION'

In the pilot episode of *The X Files*, Mulder reveals that his sister was abducted by aliens. In the first episode of the second season, we actually get to see it... and boy, was Mulder's memory of the event dodgy. Meanwhile, former FBI agent Duane Barry had problems of his own, what with aliens levitating him out of bed, zapping his teeth with lasers and (gasp) messing with his TV. But that was nothing to the indignity of Scully's tummy-suck, which took her from a 24" to a 66" waist in two minutes flat.



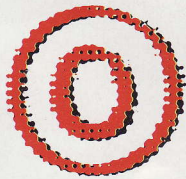
She's got every right to look marked.



Missing MARTIAN Mission



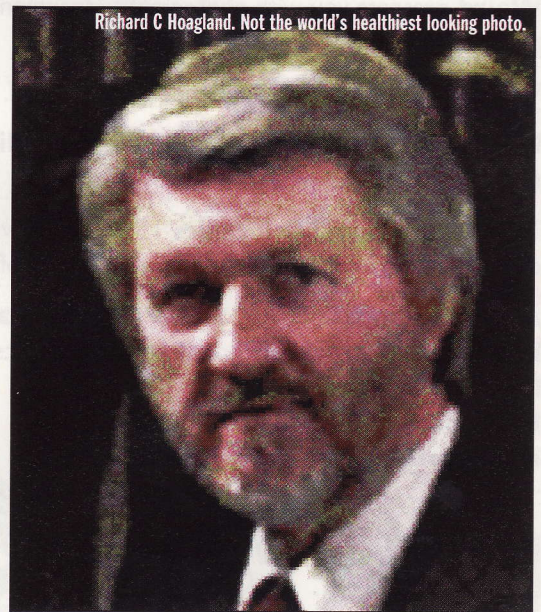

Scott Watt presents author Richard C Hoagland's stunning theory that a secret group within NASA may have hijacked the Mars Observer in 1992 to prevent information on extraterrestrials being beamed back to Earth.



On 25th September 1992, the Mars Observer (the first of the Observer series of planetary missions) was launched into space. The Mars Observer spacecraft was to be the first US spacecraft to study Mars since the Viking missions 18 years previously. The primary scientific objectives of the Observer's mission were to determine the global elemental and mineralogical character of the Martian surface, define Mars' topography and gravitational field, determine the seasonal cycle, and explore the atmosphere.

On 21st August 1993, contact was lost with the Mars Observer at a critical juncture. The probe was three days short of being inserted into orbit around Mars, and although NASA had a series of back-up commands to use should a situation like this arise, contact was never re-established.

A review board into the incident was held, chaired by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's



Richard C Hoagland. Not the world's healthiest looking photo.

Director Dr R Rhoads Stephenson. "Each of the review teams weighted the various hypotheses slightly differently, but we came to the same general conclusions about the loss," said Stephenson. The JPL report came up with the following possible causes for the loss of contact with the Mars Observer:

A breach of the Observer's propulsion system, due to either: a) the loss of electrical power due to a cut in the probe's power subsystem; b) a power cut resulting in the prevention of the main

and back-up computers from taking control of the Observer; c) power loss from the main and back-up transmitters because of an unknown electrical failure.

The panel found it difficult to ascertain the real cause of the loss of the Mars Observer since the probe had deliberately stopped transmitting data to Earth prior to its disappearance. The Observer had switched its transmitter off to protect its transmitter tubes from shock before it entered orbit around Mars. Although the loss of the probe was recorded as an accident, one man considered that the Mars Observer was hijacked by a secret group within NASA.

HOAGLAND'S ENTERPRISE

Author of *Monuments on Mars*, Richard C Hoagland, believes that NASA is covering up the possibility of the extraterrestrial origin of the Cydonia region on Mars. Research that he has conducted concerning the Viking mission to Mars in 1976 has led him to believe that NASA is withholding evidence of extraterrestrial life.

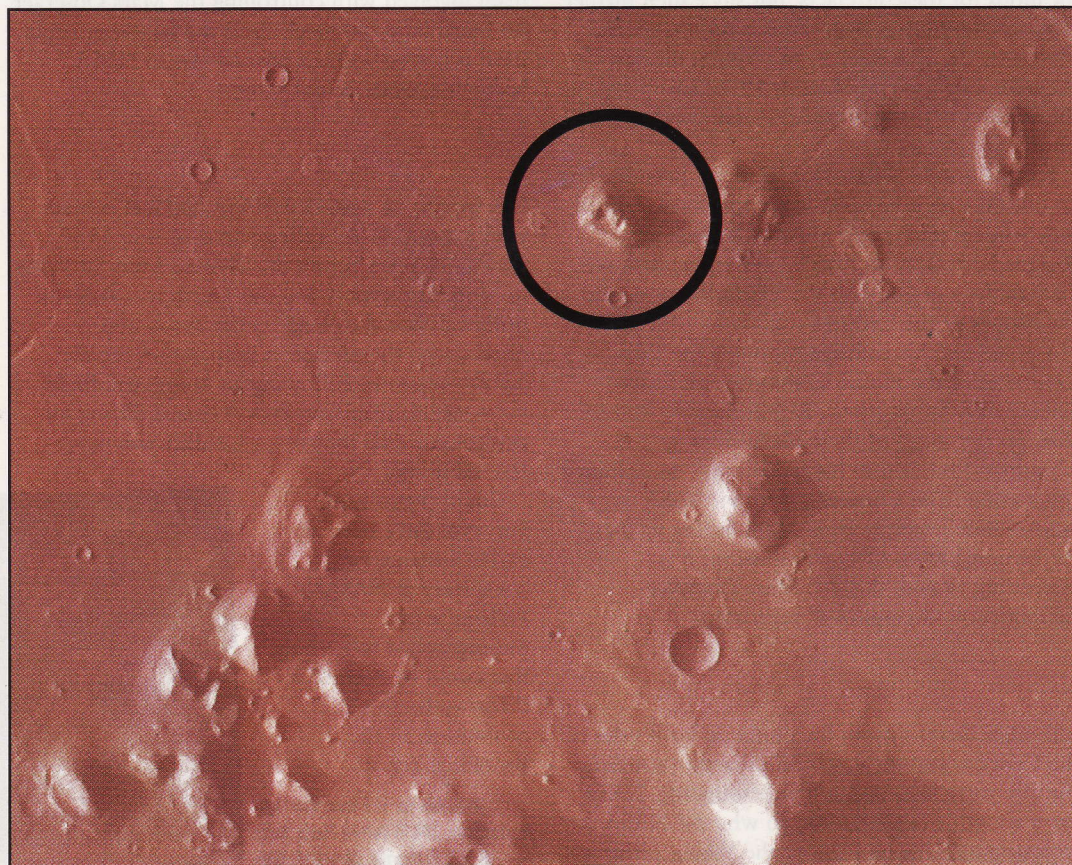
Hoagland is a former museum space science curator and former NASA consultant. In fact, during the historic Apollo missions to the Moon, Hoagland was also scientific advisor to Walter Cronkite and CBS News.

In the early 1990's, Hoagland led a team of volunteers and consultants in the creation of a pioneering space-age inner-city educational effort in Washington DC. The experiment was built



around the concept of student involvement in mission planning and data acquisition during various NASA planetary exploration missions, such as Hubble and the aforementioned Mars Observer. This experiment, called the Enterprise Mission, initially started life as an after school activity, but soon became an accredited course in the school curriculum. Over the years, scores of senior NASA headquarters and Goddard Space Flight Center personnel have enthusiastically participated in the project.

The ill-fated Mars Observer probe. Contact was lost with the probe in August 1993 – the official NASA explanation was that it lost power, but might it have been deliberately sabotaged at the highest level in order to stop it from taking too close a look at Cydonia? Subsequent missions such as Pathfinder and Global Surveyor (to launch in late 1996 and 1997) are unlikely to examine the region, as NASA consider it a 'low priority'.



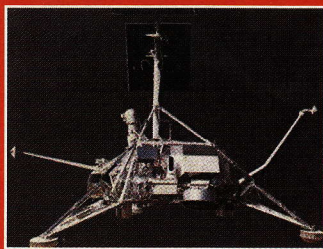
TAPE TALK

A 60 minute audio interview with Richard C Hoagland, discussing the Mars Observer hijacking is available from Future Positive, PO Box 2133, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 4EY.

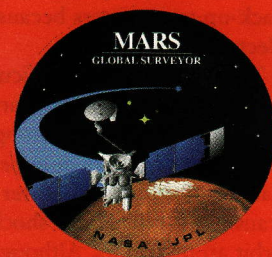
For further information on Richard C Hoagland and the Enterprise Mission contact The Enterprise Mission, 122 Dodd St, Weehawken, NJ 07087, USA. Fax (01 201) 271 1703.

Cydonia, as photographed by Viking Orbiter 1 in the 1970's. The famous 'Face' is circled. Some people think the objects in the bottom left corner are ruins of an ancient alien city.

MARS GLOBAL SURVEYOR



The Mars Global Surveyor mission is designed as a rapid, low-cost recovery (by NASA's standards) of the Mars Observer mission objectives, and is due to launch on November 6th. The scientific objectives involve high resolution imaging of the surface, studies of the topography and gravity, the role of water and dust on the surface and in the atmosphere of Mars, the weather and climate, the composition of the surface and atmosphere, and the existence and evolution of the Martian magnetic field. Following a ten month flight, the Global Surveyor is due to arrive at Mars around September 1997.



Mapping of the surface of Mars will begin in January 1998. Data will be assimilated for one Martian year (about two Earth years). The spacecraft will also later be used as a data relay for future US and international missions.

A small group within NASA could have hijacked the probe without anyone else knowing.

THE BROOKINGS REPORT

Hoagland's conspiracy theory dates back to the formation of NASA's mandate back in the late 1950's. Apparently, a report at the time by the Brookings Institution assessed what NASA should do if the possibility of the discovery of life or alien artefacts on other planets were discovered. On the 15th December 1960, *The New York Times* carried a news story on the Brookings report called 'Mankind Is Warned To Prepare for Discovery Of Life In Space'. The report raised the theory that the discovery of life on other planets could cause the collapse of society. NASA was given this report and warned to prepare for this eventuality.

The Brookings report also said that evidence of extraterrestrial existence 'might also be found in artefacts left on the moon or other planets'. The report mentioned Venus and Mars as possible locations for these artefacts, but since then further research has told us that Venus is uninhabitable. However, the discovery by the Viking mission of the infamous Face on Mars in 1976 has opened up the possibility that a civilisation may have existed on the red planet.

For the last 13 years, Hoagland has been leading an outside scientific team in a critically acclaimed independent analysis of possible intelligently-designed artefacts on NASA (and other) data sets. This analysis began with the Viking mission, and the images of the Cydonia region. In 1989, Hoagland and his colleagues briefed the then Chairman of the House Committee on Space Science and Applications, Representative Robert Roe, on the status of their Mars Investigation. Chairman Roe, before his sudden and unexplained resignation from Congress, directed NASA to acquire better images from Mars during its then forthcoming Mars Observer mission. It is interesting to note that the Mars Observer subsequently 'disappeared' soon after.

THREAT TO SOCIETY

Although there is room for doubt on both sides of the Cydonia argument, NASA's reaction towards the discovery was, and still is, astounding. NASA are a scientific organisation, so why did NASA act so unscientifically and ignore the Viking pictures?

If NASA felt that the Cydonia region was of a non-extraterrestrial nature then why didn't they, in the interests of science, simply re-examine the region? If proved right, they could have then officially quashed the UFO theory.

Perhaps NASA discovered something more than we (the general public) have actually been allowed to see, something that may have posed a threat to our civilisation. This 'threat' is highlighted in the Brookings report, which states 'societies sure of their own place have been disintegrated when confronted by a superior society'.

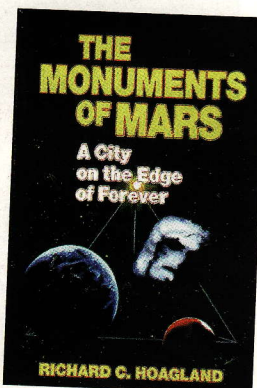
Hoagland has argued that the Brookings report sowed the seeds for a small group within NASA to conspire to withhold certain information from the public. He has also stated that the Mars Observer was more than likely hijacked by this 'black group' who feared that it might reveal some new information on extraterrestrials. Due to the small team involved with controlling the Mars Observer on Earth (approximately five) the hijacking could have occurred without anyone else in NASA becoming aware of the project.

SURVEYOR 4

It is worthy of note that NASA had lost contact with a moon probe called Surveyor 4 in 1967, almost 30 years before the ill-fated Mars Surveyor mission. Surveyor 4 was the fourth in a series of probes designed to land on the moon and photograph the surface in preparation for the Apollo missions. Following an uneventful flight, radio signals from Surveyor 4 ceased during its descent towards the moon. Contact was never re-established.

Could the missing Surveyor have been an earlier instance of conspiracy at NASA? Perhaps it too photographed something that could be deemed a threat to Earth's civilisation by the Brookings report.

Available for \$17 from Kali Light Productions, 190 El Cerrito Plaza, Suite #168, El Cerrito, CA 94530, USA.



ACIEEEED!

The Cydonia Face isn't the only weird object spotted by the Viking Orbiters. Also present on the Martian surface is this 'smiley'! Were the aliens who built the Face acid house ravers? Or is it just another example of our brains' innate pattern-finding ability to see something that isn't really there?



Talking HEADS

Could these ancient crystal sculptures of human-like skulls have been made by extraterrestrials? Joshua Shapiro thinks this is the case.



On May 26th 1996, the BBC aired a special programme called 'Mysteries of the Crystal Skulls' as part of their *Everyman* series. This one hour special was quite exhaustive, containing interviews with experts in the field and details of many different skulls from around the world. For the BBC to dedicate a complete programme to this phenomena illustrates just how widespread the intrigue that surrounds these crystal skulls has become. As the term suggests, a crystal skull is a replica of a human skull fashioned from various types of quartz crystal. There are many contemporary crystal skulls to be found in Mexico, Brazil and America, where they are carved by extremely skilled craftsman. However, these modern versions are merely copies of the few remaining ancient crystal skulls which date back hundreds of thousands of years. Now extremely valuable, the ancient skulls were found close to ruins of past civilisations such as the Mayan, Aztec and Inca tribes.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to discover their exact date of origin as there is no scientific way of dating quartz. Even if the skulls are discovered along with other objects



which can be carbon dated, there is no way of proving whether the skulls are from a similar era, or were made thousands of years before. This has led to an air of mystery being attached to these ancient artefacts.

ENERGY BUZZ

An amethyst crystal skull was discovered in a Mayan cache in Mexico during the early 1900's, and is now on display in Japan. The Mitchell-Hedges crystal skull also has Mayan links, as it was discovered within Mayan ruins in Belize in 1924. This skull is made from clear quartz, and although originally housed in England, is now owned by Anna Mitchell-Hedges in Canada. Other examples include 'MAX', the Texas crystal skull, found in Guatemala in the early 1900's and now owned by Joann and Carl Parks of Houston, Texas. This is also made from clear quartz. The skull that I have had the most contact with is 'ET', a smoky quartz crystal which was discovered in 1906 on a Mayan plot in Central America. 'ET' is now owned by Joke Van Dieten in Florida.

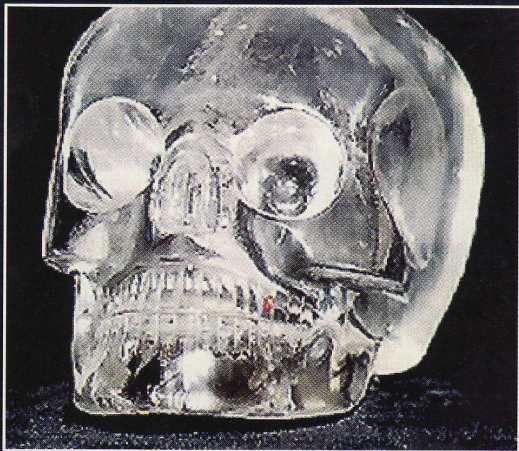
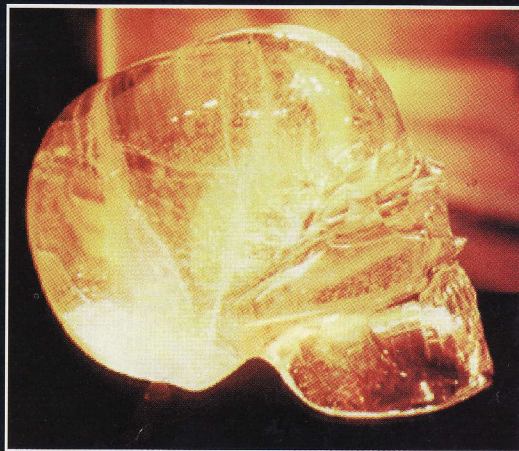


Top right: This amethyst crystal skull was found in a Mayan cache in Mexico.

Photo: Steve Mehler, © Francoise Beaudoin. Top middle: This crystal skull is currently on display in the British Museum of Man.

Photo: © John Shimwell.

One skull is unusual in that its shape is unlike any known humanoid skull. Experts have stated that no known bone skull on Earth exhibits its shape...



Bottom right: A contemporary crystal skull made by a master Mexican carver as a copy of the ancient crystal skulls.

Photo: Vera Lopez Shapiro. Bottom middle: Concentrate on this picture of a true ancient crystal skull and feel the force. Photo: © John Shimwell.



GETTING SKULL

Joshua Shapiro is currently lecturing on crystal skulls, and is seeking sponsors for a UK tour in early 1997. He has written several books on the topic, including *UFOs, Space Brothers and the Aquarian Age* (1986) and *Mysteries of the Crystal Skulls Revealed* (1989). More information can be gleaned from his web site at:

<http://www.execpc.com/vjentpr/>. Anyone wishing to help sponsor the UK tour should contact him at V J Enterprises, 9324 Home Court, Des Plaines, IL 60016.



Joshua Shapiro, currently lecturing on crystal skulls.



HEAD POWER

Many people have experienced a feeling of energy just by looking at pictures of crystal skulls. Try focusing your mind on one of the pictures shown here, and see if you can pick up any psychic vibrations. Sometimes the skulls will convey a message to those who can tune in to their wavelength. When Joshua Shapiro first looked at a picture of the amethyst crystal skull, he immediately thought, 'now you have confirmation that the prophecies of the transformation of our world are true'. Try it yourself and see what happens!

Many people who have had contact with these four skulls have picked up on their powerful energy. This energy has such a strong effect on some people that researchers are extremely curious how, and perhaps more importantly, why the skulls were made in the first place.

The most widely accepted theory is that their origin is inextricably linked to UFOs. On one occasion, a picture taken from beneath the Mitchell-Hedges skull clearly shows an alien craft within the crystal. It has transpired that certain colours or music can cause these images of UFOs to be triggered within the skull in similar forms to moving holographs.

The 'ET' skull is unusual in that its shape is unlike any humanoid skull known to man. It is slightly pointed at the top and the top jaw overbites the lower jaw. Archaeologists have stated that no known bone skull on Earth exhibits these characteristics. Perhaps it is therefore a representation of an alien skull structure, brought here by some extraterrestrial means.

ALIEN TECHNOLOGY

Michael Kant, an expert on crystal skulls, believes that the technology used to create these crystal skulls was brought to Atlantis by extraterrestrials from the Pleiades constellation. According to Kant, twelve galactic races or tribes came to Earth thousands of years ago. Each tribe brought an entire crystal skeleton which contained the knowledge and genetic coding of their race. These tribes met in the Four Corners of America, and since then have migrated below the surface of the Earth. There is also supposed to be a thirteenth skull which united the other twelve. Collectively, they are known as the 13 Master Skulls.

Many psychics who have had contact with the crystal skulls have experienced visions of extraterrestrials bringing the skulls to Earth in order to help humanity. Other people claim to have witnessed crystal skulls on board alien craft. These are purported to communicate with the skulls on Earth in some manner. This could be compared to our Internet, but instead of using computers to transfer data, aliens use these skulls.

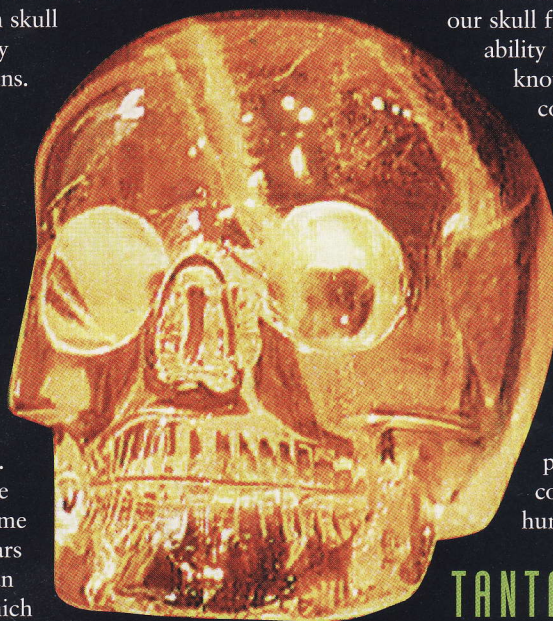
The craftsmanship displayed in these skulls is of an extremely high standard. Hewlett-Packard worked with the Mitchell-Hedges skull between 1970 and 1971 and concluded that even with modern technology, it was absolutely impossible to duplicate the incredible workmanship it took to

produce the skull. It therefore seems logical that if we cannot make the skulls today, it would have been impossible for our ancestors to have made them hundreds of thousands of years ago. This again points to them being apported to Earth by an alien race who possess technology far superior to our own.

TUNING IN

Quartz is well known for its natural capability to amplify an electrical current. In fact, all of our modern electronic devices use quartz in some form. Since our bodies constantly emit electromagnetic fields, it could be possible for quartz to enhance our state of being by amplifying the energy field around our bodies. This would help us to tune in to more subtle dimensions or develop our psychic abilities.

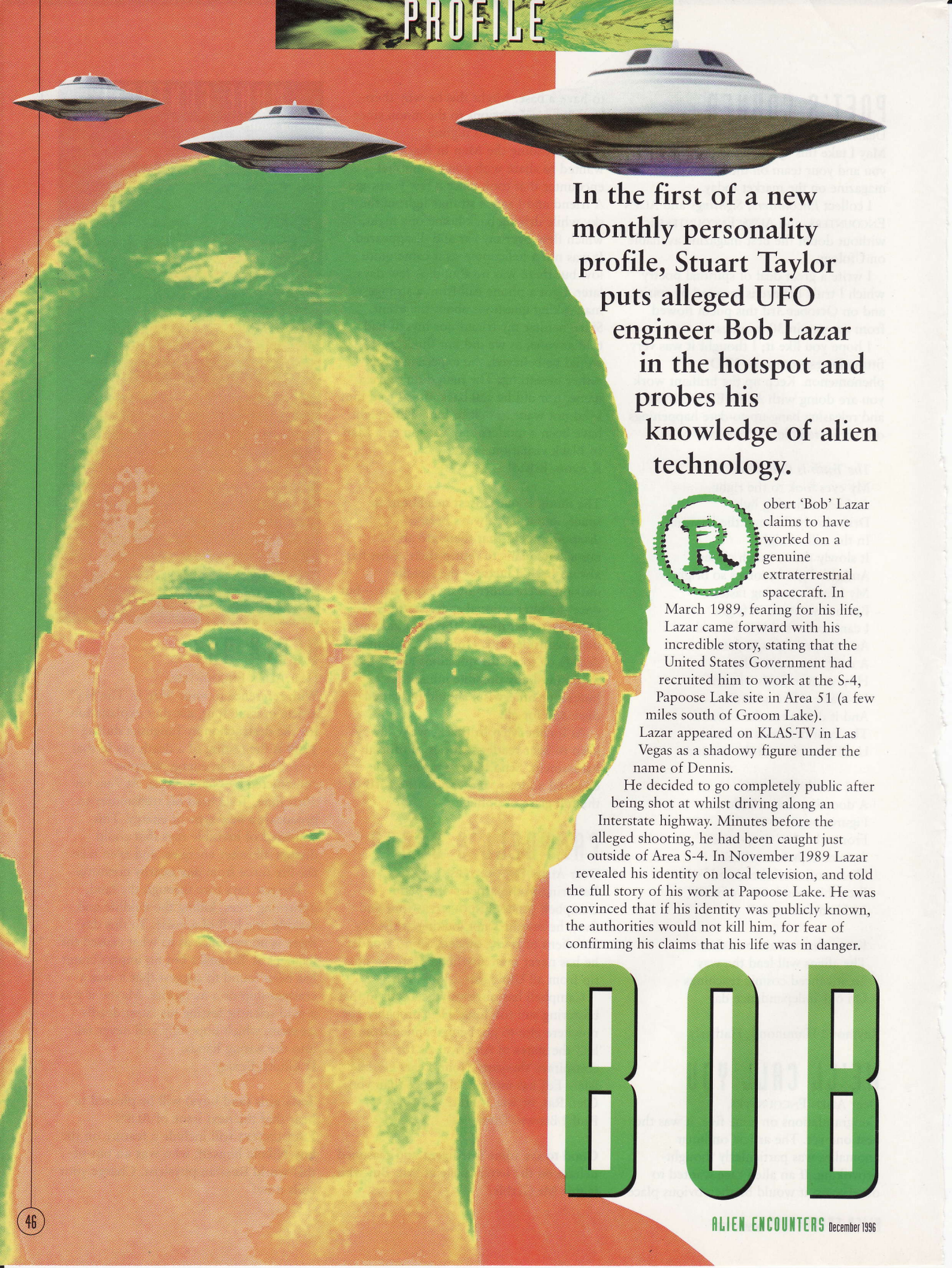
Some believe that the specific shape of our skull further enhances our ability to receive cosmic knowledge. Therefore the combination of quartz and a skull shape could produce something quite powerful. If you then involve a more advanced civilisation such as extraterrestrials who can use higher technology to 'program' the skulls, the result could be a powerful tool which could greatly assist humanity.



TANTALISING MYSTERY

Many people believe that the crystal skulls could be elaborate data receptacles that literally contain the entire history of our planet, including elusive questions such as the origin of man. Others believe that the 13 Master Skulls theory is correct, and that the skulls were given to us as a gift from certain 'gods' or aliens. This gift was meant to evolve the consciousness of mankind and make us aware of our inner divinity.

The skulls are all different, ranging through various sizes, shapes and colours. This variability could suggest that we have been visited by a multitude of alien races. Since scientists are completely baffled as to the origin of these skulls, the possibility that they were brought here by extraterrestrials is quite real. Many researchers continue to study the skulls in an attempt to fathom exactly what they are supposed to be used for, and how, but for the moment, their purpose remains a tantalising mystery.



In the first of a new monthly personality profile, Stuart Taylor puts alleged UFO engineer Bob Lazar in the hotspot and probes his knowledge of alien technology.



Robert 'Bob' Lazar claims to have worked on a genuine extraterrestrial spacecraft. In

March 1989, fearing for his life, Lazar came forward with his incredible story, stating that the United States Government had recruited him to work at the S-4, Papoose Lake site in Area 51 (a few miles south of Groom Lake).

Lazar appeared on KLAS-TV in Las Vegas as a shadowy figure under the name of Dennis.

He decided to go completely public after being shot at whilst driving along an Interstate highway. Minutes before the alleged shooting, he had been caught just outside of Area S-4. In November 1989 Lazar revealed his identity on local television, and told the full story of his work at Papoose Lake. He was convinced that if his identity was publicly known, the authorities would not kill him, for fear of confirming his claims that his life was in danger.

BOB

G'DAY, SPORT

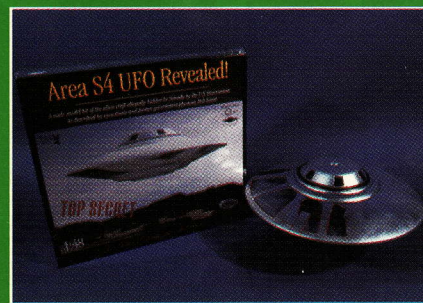
The spacecraft that Lazar worked on reminded him of a sleek sports car, so he nicknamed it the 'sports model'. Lazar said the craft was powered by a propulsion system that used gravity waves and needed an energy source (not from this planet) called Element 115. The interior of this flying disc was divided into three levels, but Lazar only had access to the first two.

The lower first level contained three 'gravity amplifiers'. Above them, on the centre level, was the craft's reactor. Also

situated in the centre of the disc were the seats and control consoles – these were apparently too small to accommodate the average human adult and looked like they were designed for small children. Lazar claims that the walls surrounding the centre level became translucent when the craft was energised.

A model kit of the Area S-4 craft that Lazar worked on has been produced by the Testors Corporation. For ordering information, contact Future Positive, PO Box 2133, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 4EY.

Alternatively, you can win one, courtesy of Frontier Models, on page 10 this issue!



THE JOB

Between late 1988 and early 1989, Lazar claims to have had hands-on experience with one of nine extraterrestrial disc-like spacecraft at Area S-4. The hangers that housed the craft were built into a cliff-face and so were undetectable by satellite.

Lazar claims that he was hired as a senior staff physicist for the United States Navy to work as part of a team required to reverse engineer one of the spacecraft. Reverse engineering is the process whereby you dismantle something to discover how it works. Lazar states plainly that he read official documents describing the craft's extraterrestrial nature. However, the closest he came to seeing a live alien being was a glimpse of what looked like a child through a window at the facility.

THE BOB FILES

Bob Lazar was born in 1959 and grew up in Long Island, New York, graduating from Westbury High School in 1976. Lazar claims to have obtained a Masters Degree at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) in 1982 and written a thesis on Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) at Cal-Tech in 1985, but as with most of Lazar's claims there is no physical evidence to support his years of study. Lazar blamed his 'non-existence' at these colleges on the government, insinuating that they had erased him from their records.

In the early 1980's, Lazar is known to have worked at Fairchild Electronics in Los Angeles.

During the mid 1980's, Lazar was employed at the Los Alamos National Laboratories before moving to Las Vegas. What his job actually entailed here is unclear, and despite Los Alamos initially denying that Lazar was on their payroll, his name was listed in their phone book.

Lazar was sacked from Area S-4 after taking a few of his friends to witness a test flight of one of the reversed-engineer craft on 29th March 1989. They were caught by security guards on 6th April 1989 when they returned to the site. The following day Lazar was called to a meeting with an FBI agent and was promptly relieved of his position. After his sacking, Lazar was later charged with pandering after admitting that he installed computer equipment in a Las Vegas brothel.

THE FUTURE

Lazar's claims have neither been conclusively confirmed nor conclusively denied. He currently runs a photo processing lab for the real estate industry and has been contracted by the Los Alamos National Laboratory to repair alpha radiation detectors.

Since coming forward, Lazar has made no attempts to continue publicising his story, mainly because he feels that there is nothing more that he can do. Lazar has offered the movie rights to his story to New Line Cinema, and the film is set to be directed by Chuck Russell (*Eraser*). Lazar feels that the movie will be the best medium for his story to be conveyed to the widest possible audience.

Lazar

ELEMENT 115

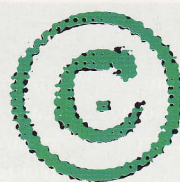
This is the power source of Lazar's alleged flying disc, which does not occur within nature as we know it. It is a heavy stable element with an atomic number of 115 (unsurprisingly this does not appear on the periodic table).

Inside the craft's reactor, Element 115 is transformed into Element 116, which is highly unstable, releasing anti-matter as it decays. The energy released from this reaction is used to power the disc's gravity wave.

Bob Lazar said that he worked with 500 pounds of Element 115. Apparently, one kilogram of Element 115 is equivalent to 47 ten-megaton bombs. Each flying craft needed only 223 grams of Element 115.

The element does not, as yet, have a name, though some wags have suggested 'Lazarium'...

GODS, GENETICS & UFOs



ould ancient flesh-and-blood gods be among us today, benefiting from an extended genetic longevity? Genetics is the key to understanding not only the origins of mankind, but also our immediate destiny. Ancient gods and genetics can be combined to produce a theory which explains the origin of alien beings. So-called Greys could either be a genetically created hybrid (like mankind), or a manifestation of the gods' technology that is still completely beyond our comprehension.

MAN THE GENETIC HYBRID

It is a fact that Darwinism cannot adequately explain how *Homo erectus* miraculously transformed itself into *Homo sapiens* 200,000 years ago. At that time, *Homo sapiens* suddenly acquired a 50 per cent larger brain, language capabilities and a modern anatomy, in total defiance of the principles of natural selection. After extensive research, it is possible to disprove the Darwinian explanation of the origin of man. The much touted search for the missing 'link' is better described as a search for an entire missing 'chain' of intermediate species, which in my opinion do not exist.

An ancient text known as the Atra-Hasis resolves the problem with its claim that mankind was created as a slave by a god named Enki and a goddess named Ninti, using a production line of 14 'birth goddesses'. The procedure appears to describe what we would now recognise as cloning. Similarly, in the Biblical account, man was created from 'the dust of the ground'.

The term for dust is derived from the Sumerian word 'TL.IT' meaning 'that which is with life', a reference to the ovum/egg cell. A close reading of these ancient texts, with the hindsight of modern genetics, suggests that mankind was initially created as a hybrid – a mixture between the genes of the gods themselves and the primitive hominid known as *Homo erectus*.

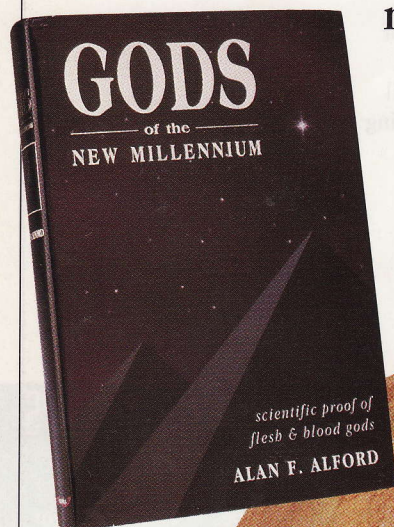
GENETICS AND LONGEVITY

The ancient gods were a flesh-and-blood race who ruled over mankind simply due to their higher status and technology. A crucial aspect of this higher status was the alleged immortality of the gods, some of whom appeared both at the creation of mankind and at the beginning of civilisation c. 4000 BC. Unfortunately, the very concept of immortality has caused these ancient legends to be ridiculed and dismissed by our modern scientists.

In recent years, however, it has become apparent that ageing is primarily determined by our genes. As a result of the latest breakthroughs in genetic science, some scientists are

Is Planet Earth a playground for immortal 'gods', who created us in their own image 200,000 years ago and still rule over us today? Alan

Alford presents a synopsis of his book, *Gods of the New Millennium*.



now confident that the human ageing mechanism will be found, and that our life spans will be extendable using gene therapy. Once again genetics sheds new light on ancient mythology. Could the gods have benefited from genetic longevity which was mistaken for immortality?

Perhaps the gods inherited artificially enhanced longevity genes, and protected their cells from oxygen attack by consuming cocktails of anti-ageing drugs (similar to those being sought in laboratories today). It is also highly revealing that male gods favoured offspring by half-sisters, a practice which would be incestuous and genetically dangerous today, but made perfect sense for gods whose genes were artificially enhanced and free of harmful recessives.

The evidence suggests that mankind, created in the genetic image of the gods, inherited some of the gods' longevity genes. The first clones, called 'LU.LU' in Sumerian texts, were hybrids and therefore unable to procreate, and long life spans were therefore an asset. The Garden of Eden incident records a later event, a genetic intervention by a 'serpent' god, which programmed two embryos (Adam and Eve) with sexual capability.

The presence of the serpent (a symbol of medicine and hence genetics) is highly revealing, and the consequences of his action fully confirm the genetic theory. Given the ability to procreate independently with a long life-span, Adam and Eve threatened a population explosion, and it became imperative to expel them from Eden to prevent access to the 'fruit' (anti-ageing drug) which would have extended their years indefinitely.

RETURN OF THE GODS?

Where are the gods now? Their presence on Earth can be traced to a point c. 200 AD, when they seem to have either left or gone into hiding. However, if the gods have been ruling over us for 200,000 years, it hardly seems likely that they would have conveniently disappeared from the scene during the last 2,000 years. The intriguing possibility from genetic science is that the gods are still alive today. Moreover, they could be passing among us without us even realising, for we were, after all, created 'in their image'.

There is a further reason for thinking that the gods' retirement is not permanent. The activities of the gods have been driven by a sacred calendar based on the Earth's 25,920-year precessional cycle (the apparent drift of the visible stars caused by the Earth's wobble), which the gods divided into 12 periods of 2,160 years. The beginning of this cycle or 'star clock' is conventionally dated to the era of Leo (10900-8700 BC), following which two rival groups of gods took turns for 'Lordship' over the Earth.

Much of the evidence for the star-clock can be drawn from events c. 2400-2200 BC, when the god Marduk was controversially due to take his



The Temple of Jupiter at Baalbek, Lebanon.

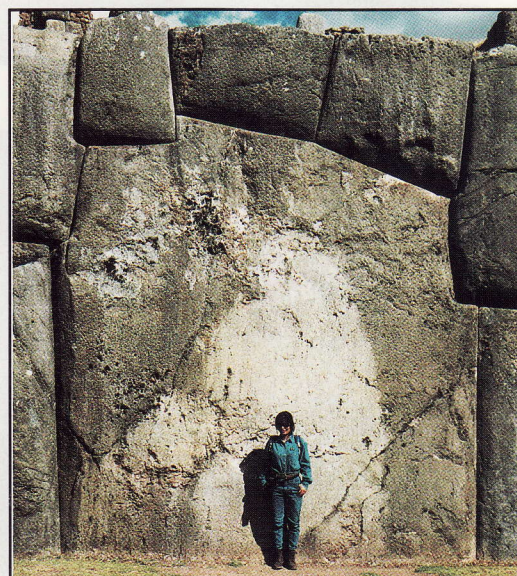
turn for Lordship in the era of Aries. Marduk's era was then followed by the era of Pisces, spanning the period 200 BC to the mid-20th century, during which the gods have either been absent or maintaining a low profile.

Although the new era of Aquarius is commonly dated to early in the new millennium, the determination of changes in the precessional eras is not an exact science, indeed the gods themselves used stellar observatories to decide the matter.

It is thus possible that this significant date in the gods' sacred calendar actually occurred some time earlier in this century, perhaps in 1947 when the UFO wave began...

A DANGEROUS SITUATION

So what is going on? As has been the case for the last 200,000 years, mankind is not privy to what his gods are up to, but can look to the skies and make some pretty good guesses. My historical study of man and his gods indicates a highly complex situation involving two rival groups of gods on Earth.



Could the gods have benefited from genetic longevity, which was mistaken for immortality?

A 120-ton stone in the wall at Sacsayhuaman, Peru.

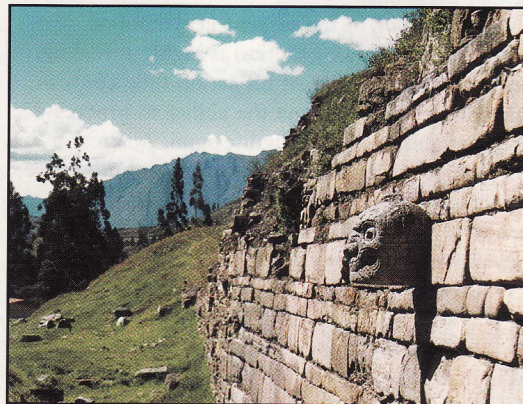


One of the most mysterious places in the world, the lost city of Machu Picchu, Peru.

THE GREYS

Is Earth the playground about to become Earth the battleground? In the past, man has been called to fight for his gods and has done so willingly, with enthusiasm and considerable loyalty. Today however, our independence and free will would result in a rather different situation. Just as man was once created as a hybrid to fulfil a particular purpose, it is possible that the small grey aliens have now been genetically created by the gods with a particular role in mind, perhaps to circumvent the 'free will' problem with man.

As a final thought, we must consider the possibility that the gods have been using an unknown technology to play tricks on our human senses, if for no other reason than to distract us from their real objectives. The Atra-Hasis text informs us that one group of gods was fully capable of carrying out atrocities against mankind in prehistoric times. It is thus quite possible that the Greys are not genetically engineered entities at all, but rather illusions which have been implanted into the human memory by means of a highly advanced technology.



A menacing head decorates a temple in Chavin de Huantar, Peru.

GODS' GIFT

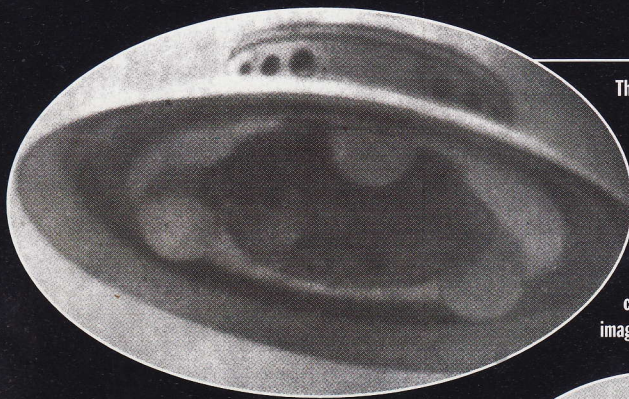
This article only represents a synopsis of the theories discussed in Alan Alford's new book, *Gods of the New Millennium*. If you wish to purchase the complete volume, contact Eridu Books on 07000 772000. *Gods of the New Millennium* is normally priced at £24, but is available to readers of *ALIEN ENCOUNTERS* at £19.95 including p&cp (overseas customers should add 20%). Alternatively, if you're feeling lucky, turn to page 51 for a chance to win one of six copies absolutely free.

Whilst it is tempting to regard these gods as a royal elite, it is also possible to deduce that they were the 'working class' of the god race, sent to Earth for a specific mission. To make matters even more complicated, it is possible to deduce that a third group of senior gods ('policemen') might have arrived in the Solar System c. 200 BC, thus accounting for the disappearance 'underground' of the other two groups.

This inevitably leads us to question whether the amazing technological revolution of the 20th Century, which we have taken so much for granted, has in fact been orchestrated. It is certainly curious how our technology is now being applied in strange directions such as the incredibly powerful (and expensive) space-based telescopes developed by ESA and planned by NASA. If we add to this the Pentagon's urgent Clementine 2 project, which plans to construct a missile system to shoot down 'asteroids' in deep space, then what we seem to have is a perceived threat by something far more sinister than a collection of outer space debris.

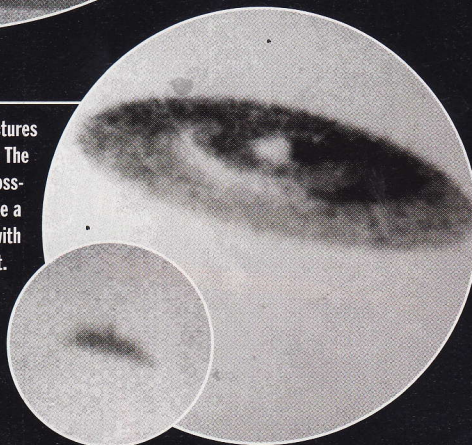


AlienSPOTTING



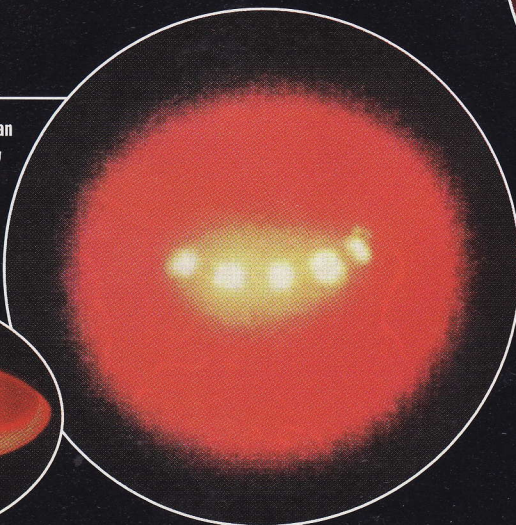
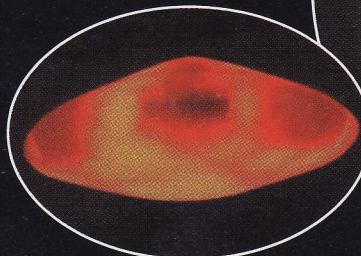
Through the late 1940's and 1950's, George Adamski proudly displayed his many UFO pictures, such as this 'Venusian' scout ship, and related his tales of alien contact. Although many people now think they are fakes, and the pictures themselves have a definite naivety to them, they correspond to the largely accepted image of the 'flying saucer'.

Another saucer, from a series of pictures taken by the Trents of Oregon in 1950. The craft can be seen to be very flat in cross-section, and banked sharply to make a turn, a movement often associated with saucer-type craft.

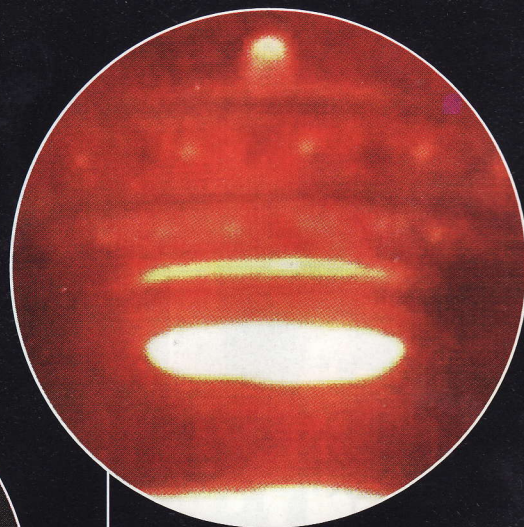


Billy Meier, Swiss Ufologist, has a collection of UFO pictures nearly as vast as George Adamski's. Meier's UFOs display considerable variety in their configuration, but the 'beamship' shown here is one of the more common. Judging by the pine tree behind it, this beamship must be rather small.

A brilliantly-lit UFO photographed by Brazilian Carlos Diaz. Diaz's pictures tend to show glowing, indistinct shapes rather than solid objects – the picture below is one of the clearest signs of the actual shape of the mysterious ships.



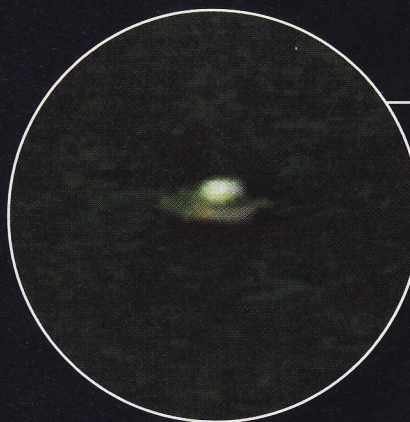
If you've seen a UFO and discounted the possibility of it being a terrestrial aircraft or natural phenomenon, the next question to ask is "What type of UFO is it?" ALIEN ENCOUNTERS presents a gallery of some of the more commonly spotted types.



One of the 'Gulf Breeze' pictures taken by Florida builder Ed Walters in 1987. There has been much debate about the authenticity of the pictures – the UFO above is said by some sceptics to be nothing more unearthly than a hot air balloon. However, numerous sightings have been reported from the Gulf Breeze area by many different witnesses.



This diamond-shaped craft is a variant on the usual saucer configuration, and one which is being increasingly reported.



A classic saucer, captured on video in Mexico (taken from the video *Voyagers Of The Sixth Sun* by Ark Soundwaves). A similarly-shaped object was captured on video by shuttle mission STS-48 whilst in orbit above the Earth.

One of the most widely recorded UFO sightings of recent times, the 'Belgian Triangle' was not only reported by over 2,500 witnesses, but was also tracked by Belgian radar and had F-16 interceptors sent in pursuit. Speculation that it was an American stealth aircraft has been hampered by the fact that it easily outran and outmanoeuvred the F-16s, which are faster than either of the known stealth planes, the F-117 and the B-2. Similar triangular UFOs have been spotted in other parts of the world, including Britain.



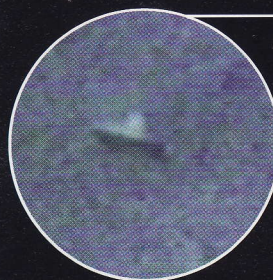
A cigar-shaped UFO at high altitude. George Adamski claimed his saucers came from cigar-shaped motherships, and UFOs of this shape are usually only seen at a great height. The bright lights may be a characteristic of the electrogravitic field required to keep the ship aloft – similar glows are often seen from the smaller saucers while they manoeuvre.



Bob Lazar's 'sports model', the UFO that he allegedly helped reverse engineer at Area 51/S-4 in Nevada. This sleek craft looks like a development of the Adamski/Meier saucers, in much the same way that cars have evolved since the 1950's. Cultural tracking, or are there rival groups of UFO manufacturers trying to outdo each other with cool-looking ships? Is the sports model the Reticular equivalent of the Ford Probe?



A 'saucer' shaped more like a Mexican hat, which is perhaps appropriate as the picture was shot in Mexico!



HAPPY SNAPPERS

We want your UFO pictures! If you have photographic evidence of alien spacecraft, mysterious stealth aircraft or just plain old strange lights in the sky, send them to us at ALIEN ENCOUNTERS, Paragon Publishing, Paragon House, St Peter's Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH1 2JS.

A type of UFO that was often seen during the 1950's across America. Government officials seemed to take particular interest in photos of this kind of UFO, leading to speculation that it had some kind of official connection – either an experimental craft built with UFO technology, or alien overflights carried out with the government's knowledge.



A more streamlined version of the classic Adamskian saucer. Features common to many saucer-type UFOs include the trio of ventral pods, which are commonly assumed to house the ship's propulsion system. Bob Lazar's description of the 'sports model' tells of three 'gravity amplifiers', although in the case of that ship the amplifiers are completely contained within the ship's hull.



BRAZIL Nuts OVER Aliens!



A huge stir has erupted in Brazil after an alien craft crash landed and four beings roamed the town of Varginha. Nina Pendred relates the horrific tale of events that has led to a mass government cover-up.



Brazil has recently been host to an incredible sequence of extraterrestrial events which have already been labelled as the biggest UFO capture case since Roswell in 1947. Actual alien

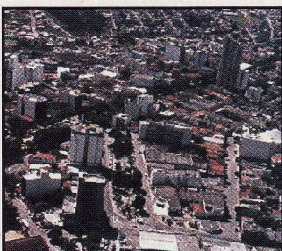
beings have been sighted by members of the public, captured by the military, and whisked away from public view. Naturally, this has led to a huge government cover-up which has left locals stunned at the official denial in the face of such evidence.

The centre of this uproar is Varginha, an important Brazilian town with 120,000 inhabitants. At 3.30pm on January 20th 1996, Katia Xavier, Liliane da Silva and Valquiria da Silva were walking home when they experienced something which will haunt them for the rest of their lives.

screamed in terror. Crouching near an old garage in full view was a hideous being with oily skin and three rounded bumps protruding from its head. The other two girls turned to look, and were paralysed with fear, unable to tear their eyes away from such an incredible sight. The being was about 1.6m tall, had two toes on each of its feet and three fingers on each hand. It did not appear to have any hair, but had large blood-red eyes which bulged horribly from its head.

As Liliane turned away, her sister Valquiria (14) and Katia (22) remained transfixed. According to Katia, "It was not an animal and it certainly wasn't human. It was a horrible thing." Valquiria said, "It seemed stupefied and didn't make any noise." Suddenly, the creature made a slight movement, and the girls fled in terror. Valquiria and Liliane's mother, Luiza Helena, was convinced that the girls had indeed seen something as they were practically hysterical by the time they reached their home and told her their story. Ufologists who later interviewed the girls were also satisfied that their tale was completely reliable, as their individual versions of the events matched perfectly and describing the creature made them visibly distressed.

Varginha, Brazil — scene of one of the most important alien encounters in recent years.



GIRLS STUMBLE ACROSS ALIEN

The three young girls were strolling down a narrow path enjoying the sunshine and chatting away when Liliane (16) looked to her left and

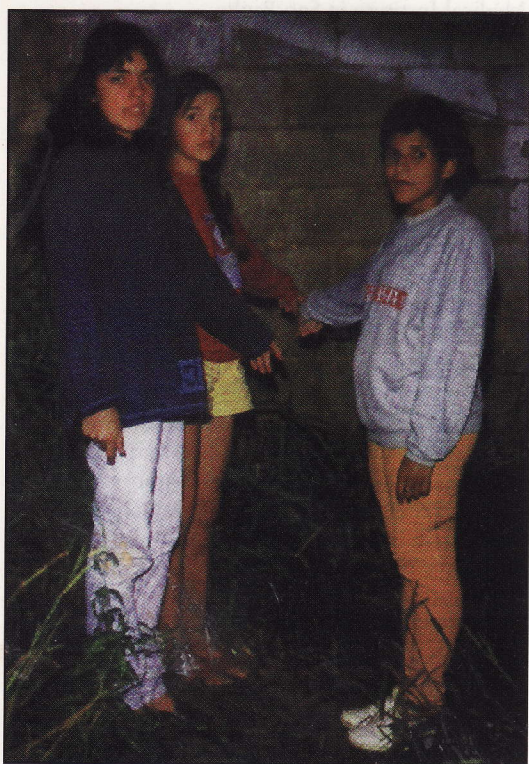
Eurico and Oralina Freistas, who witnessed the damaged craft fly over their farm at 1.30am on 20th January.



CRASH NEARBY

Unbeknown to these three girls, a UFO had already been seen that very morning in the same area of Varginha. Farmers Eurico and Oralina de Freistas were awoken at 1.30am by their cows, which were bellowing in fear and charging from one end of their field to another.

Curious as to what had startled their cattle, they opened their bedroom window and peered out into the night. There before them was a strange craft, hovering about five metres above the ground. Eurico stated, "We looked at the sky and saw a grey object similar to a submarine, the size



From left to right: Liliane, Valquiria and Katia, standing by the wall where they saw the strange creature.

MEN IN BLACK

Liliane and Valquiria da Silva thought their ordeal was over when the media interest in their experience died down a couple of months after the event. However, on April 29th at 10pm, their mother, Helena da Silva, was visited by four Men In Black. These strangers did not identify themselves, and practically forced their way into her home. Two were fairly young, the other two much older, and all four were wearing black suits and black ties. Two had pale complexions, the other two were dark.

They listened to Liliane and Valquiria's account of the alien, and then offered them obscene amounts of money to make a video saying that they had in fact made the whole thing up, and the alien was a figment of their imagination. However, the da Silvas were not easily persuaded, and told the press of their strange visitors the very next day.

of a small bus, flying very slowly over the ground." Oralina added, "There was something like white smoke coming out of it. There were no lights and it wasn't making any noise."

The craft was obviously damaged, as pieces of fuselage were dangling below the rest of the craft. The couple watched the craft for about 40 minutes before it slowly flew towards Jardim Andere, the area where the three girls later saw the alien creature.

Ufologists investigating the case have determined that the ship crashed near Jardim Andere. Its occupants would have probably been injured, and forced to take cover in local woods. Military personnel have leaked that the ship was recovered and sent to the USA for examination.

STONE THE CROWS

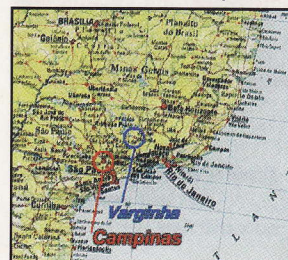
At 8.30am on the same day, the Varginha Fire Corps received an anonymous phone call reporting a strange animal on the loose in Jardim Andere. The Fire Corps sent out a team of four men, armed with gloves, nets and special equipment, presumably thinking that the animal was nothing more unusual than a puma or other big cat. The arrival of the Fire Corps was witnessed by at least three adults and three children. As the Fire Corps pulled up, these bystanders noticed a strange creature cross the nearby railway line and hide in neighbouring woods. One of the children even threw stones at the creature as it scuttled away.

The Fire Corps chased the creature into the woods, and with the aid of a net, quickly captured the being. It seemed to be slightly stunned, as if disorientated, and offered no resistance. The creature resembled the one seen by the three girls in every detail.

By this time, an Army vehicle had arrived on the scene. The Fire Corps carried the creature back to the road, and handed it, still within the net, to army personnel. The creature was placed in a wooden box, which was lifted onto an Army truck and covered with tarpaulin. Under a heavy guard, the truck sped away. Military personnel later confirmed that the being was at first taken to Escola de Sargento das Armas (ESA), the nearest

"We looked to the sky and saw a grey object similar to a submarine, the size of a small bus, flying very slowly over the ground."

Alien bodies were moved from Varginha to a military enclosure in Campinas.



THE ACID TEST

Three months after the four beings were captured in Varginha, yet another was spotted which matched their description exactly. At 9pm on April 21st, Terezinha Clepf, a former council member of Varginha, was at a party in Paiquere restaurant, within the grounds of Varginha Zoo. Mrs Clepf stepped out onto the veranda to have a cigarette, and saw the alien standing behind the railings that surround the veranda. It had the same large red eyes, only this time it was wearing a yellow helmet. Mrs Clepf met the creature's gaze for a few seconds, before retreating, stunned, into the restaurant. Thinking she was dreaming, she then stepped back outside for a second look. There was the creature, standing stock still in the same place. It was then that Mrs Clepf panicked and ran hysterically back into the party, grabbed her husband by the arm, and pleaded with him to take her home. Only afterwards while the couple were in the car did Mrs Clepf calm down enough to tell husband what she had seen.

Strangely enough, over the next 12 days, five animals in the zoo died unexpectedly. These were two deer, a tapir, a blue macaw and an ocelot. Despite their entrails being sent for analysis, only one, those of one of the deer, showed any sign as to the cause of death. The deer had died of caustic intoxication.

Could it be that these strange creatures carry some sort of virus which contaminates other beings, resulting in death? This would certainly add reason to the military not divulging results of the alien autopsies, as mass panic would ensue among the inhabitants of Varginha. Unless an official statement is made, the public will never know.

military base. From there it was transported to Brasilia by helicopter, then loaded onto a plane bound for the USA.

ARMY SHOOTS ALIEN

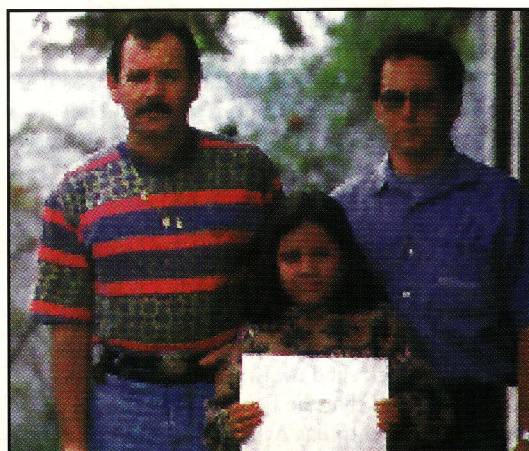
At 2.00pm, still an hour and a half before the three girls spotted the horned creature, a civilian witness saw a group of seven army personnel scanning the woods at Jardim Andere. These troops were carrying light automatic rifles, and seemed to be searching the area methodically. As they entered the woods where the Fire Corps had already captured a being that morning, the witness heard three shots. Apparently, a military witness revealed that they had shot and wounded one of these beings. It was lying on the ground, and being assisted by yet another creature.

A few minutes after the civilian witness heard the shots, he saw troops emerge from the woods carrying two army issue bags. Both contained objects of similar size. One of the 'objects' was moving inside the bag, the other remained inert. Again, the beings were taken away under heavy guard by Army troops. So far, this made a total of three alien beings captured by military personnel.

ALIEN NUMBER FOUR

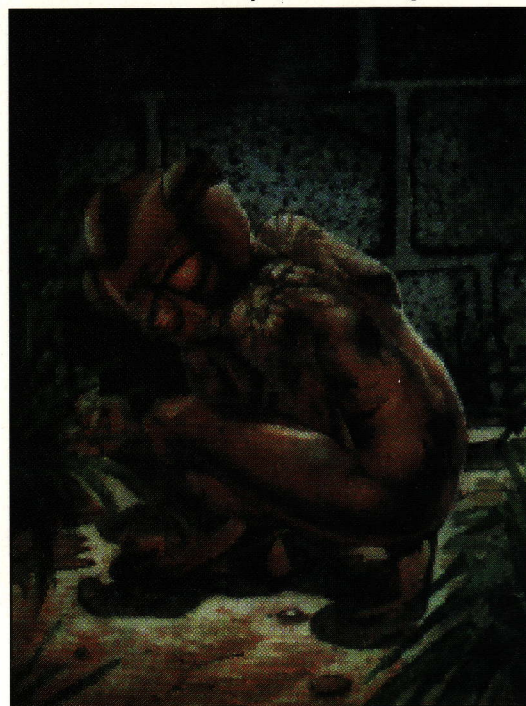
All this had happened before Katia, Liliane and Valquiria had come into contact with 'their' being. However, this creature did not escape capture either, but was whisked away from public view, this time by the Military Police. Again, the captors encountered no resistance from the alien being as they bundled it into a net. It seemed to be either wounded, ill or dazed.

The Military Police took the creature to Varginha first-aid station, but were refused entrance. Their next port of call was the Hospital Regional, where the alien was kept until 1.30am, when it was again moved, this time to the Hospital Humanitas. Although no information has been released to the public describing what treatment (or experiments) the alien being endured, it is certain that the creature died whilst within the hospital walls.



Afranio da Costa Brasil (far left), who took some photographs of a space craft flying over Tres Coracoes, near Varginha.

This artistic impression shows that at all times, the aliens have displayed timid behaviour when confronted by humans. © IstoE magazine.



At 4pm on January 22nd, the Army, Military Police and Fire Corps all came together to transport the dead alien from the Hospital Humanitas back to the ESA camp to join the other bodies. From there, one was taken to a well known forensic doctor in Sao Paulo State for an autopsy to be carried out. Another is being held at a military base called UNICAMP, and the third is being kept in a refrigeration unit at the Legal Medical Institute in Sao Paulo.

OFFICIAL DENIAL

Although information was leaked from the military to the media during the early stages of the operation, all official sources are now denying the existence of any of these alien beings. All related military troops are under observation by the Brazilian Intelligence Service and have been warned that anyone heard mentioning the word 'ET' or the names of local UFO researchers will be sentenced to ten days in prison.

However, the number of witnesses, and the extent of sightings of these beings, serves to illustrate that something very bizarre did land in Varginha. What happens to the alien bodies now and results of the autopsies will undoubtedly be covered up by local authorities, so unfortunately the public will never know the fate of these unfortunate beings.

Still, Varginha has certainly placed itself on the map, and there is even talk of Steven Spielberg turning the extraordinary tale into a Hollywood classic. Certainly those three young girls will never forget the events of 20th January 1996, for not even the greatest cover-up of all time will erase the truth they hold in their hearts.

IT'S A KIND OF Majic

Marcus Walker wonders whether the American government deliberately leak information from 'secret' UFO projects to throw the public off the scent.



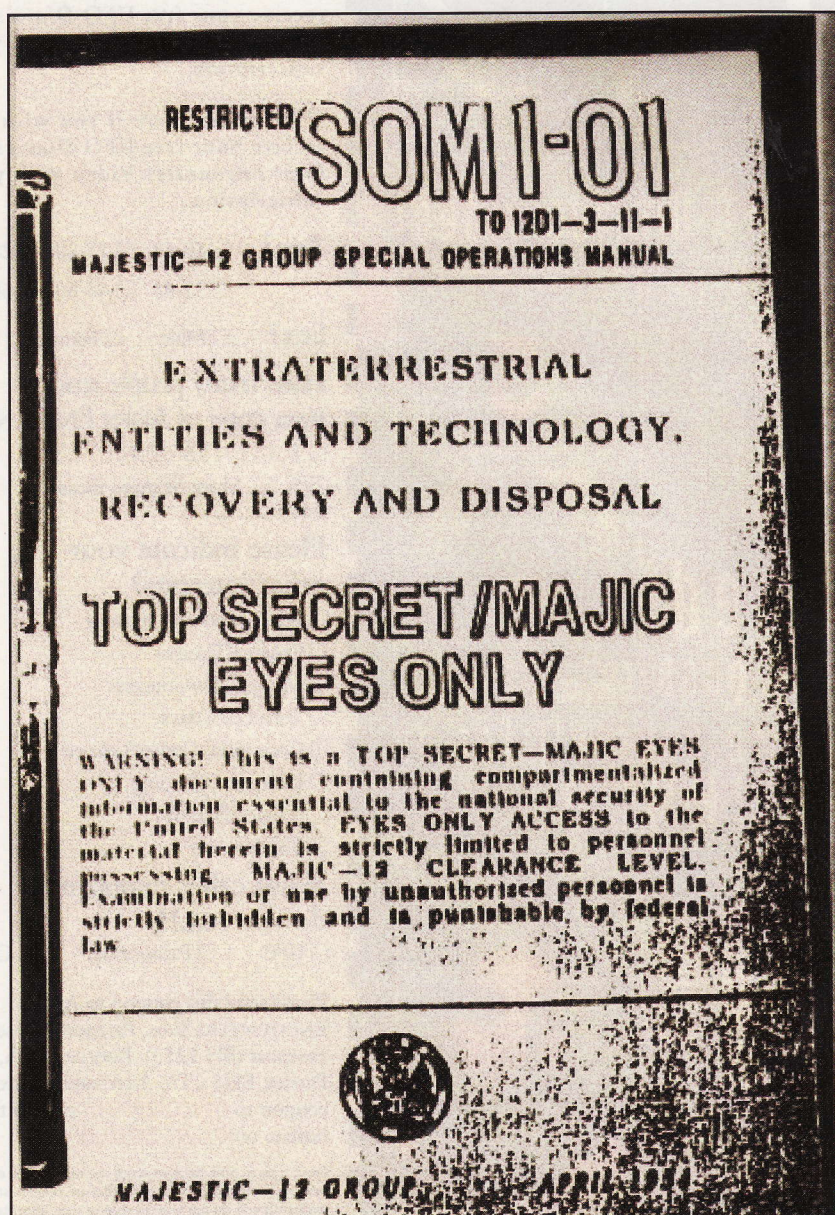
It is alleged that a group known as the Majestic Twelve (otherwise known as Majic or MJ-12) was established by special classified order of President Truman on the 24th

September 1947. This was the result of specific recommendations from Dr Vannevar Bush and Secretary James Forrestal. MJ-12 was intended to be a Top Secret Research and Development/Intelligence operation, who were to be responsible only to the President of the United States.

The original twelve members were:

Admiral Roscoe H Hillenkoetter, Dr Vannevar Bush, Secretary James Forrestal, General Nathan F Twining, General Hoyt S Vandenberg, Dr Detley Bronk, Dr Jerome Hunsaker, Mr Sidney W Souers, Mr Gordon Gray, Dr Donald Menzel, General Robert M Montague and lastly Dr Lloyd V Berkner.

Unfortunately, secretary James Forrestal died on the 22nd May 1949. It wasn't until the 1st of August 1950, some 15 months later, that his position within MJ-12 was filled by General Walter B Smith. This much we know about MJ-12, but not a great deal else.



It is obvious that MJ-12 were first founded on the back of the controversial Roswell incident of 1947, an incident that must have sparked massive panic in the Whitehouse for them to have had to go to such extreme measures to guarantee themselves the facts first hand before another incident could take place. Members of MJ-12 have come and gone and to an extent their activities have been followed by an extremely interested American UFO community.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

There are many more allegedly secret organisations besides MJ-12. If there is a crisis you can bet your bottom dollar that the Americans will have a secret code word for it. Take Project Sign for instance, which was founded in January 1948. This group's primary purpose was to provide as much background information about flying saucers as possible. Members of Project Sign monitored UFO movements in an attempt to determine the purpose of the beings piloting the craft.

It is unfortunate that it took the death of Captain Thomas Mantell on the 7th January 1948 to convince the government to start officially investigating UFO sightings. Captain Mantell was killed whilst attempting to intercept a UFO. As Mantell made visual contact with the object he said it "looked metallic and was tremendous in size". Mantell's last words were, "it's above me, and I'm gaining on it. I am going to 20,000 feet".

Mantell's body was eventually found next to his disintegrated aircraft, approximately 85 miles from Godman Air Force Base. The unknown flying object had already evaded three P-51 Mustangs



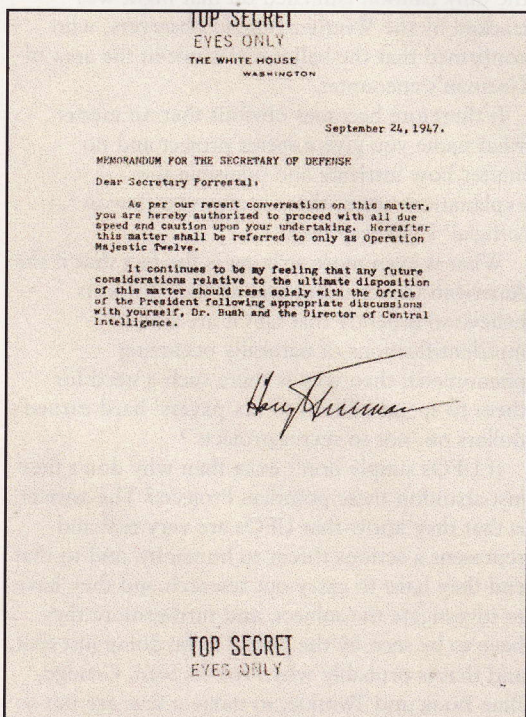
President Harry S Truman, initiator of the secret investigations group that became MJ-12.

which had been scrambled to intercept its flight path without any difficulty at all. Rumours as to why Mantell's plane crashed whilst in pursuit of the UFO were soon spreading like wildfire through the Air Force base.

One rumour suggested that Mantell's body had been burned by a mysterious death ray, leaving the plane out of control. Project Sign's official explanation of the crash was that Mantell had been chasing the planet Venus – this despite the fact that an early draft of the report immediately following the accident had actually ruled out Venus as a possible cause. This ridiculous statement did little to quiet the public interest in Mantell's death and seemed a poor cover-up for such a well documented incident. People refused to believe that a trained and highly experienced pilot (and equally trained control tower observers) could mistake the planet Venus for an object described by some witnesses as "a huge ice cream cone topped with red".

This incident underlines the inability of American officials to keep an incident under wraps, and perhaps even more importantly, to placate a bewildered public who have been leaked elements of this 'secret' information. It is therefore quite understandable that the American general public take any American Government statements about UFOs with a large pinch of salt.

Mantell's last words were, "It's above me, and I'm gaining on it."



The MJ memo where President Truman assigned the project its codename.

COLLISION COURSE

Project Sign soon developed into Project Grudge which in turn became the legendary Project Blue Book under the watchful eye of Captain Edward J Ruppelt. Blue Book became notorious for its stubborn and dogged investigations into UFO sightings. Its members very rarely accepted that the object concerned was a UFO, preferring instead to produce a 'rational' (if illogical) explanation for each sighting.

LEAKY SOURCES

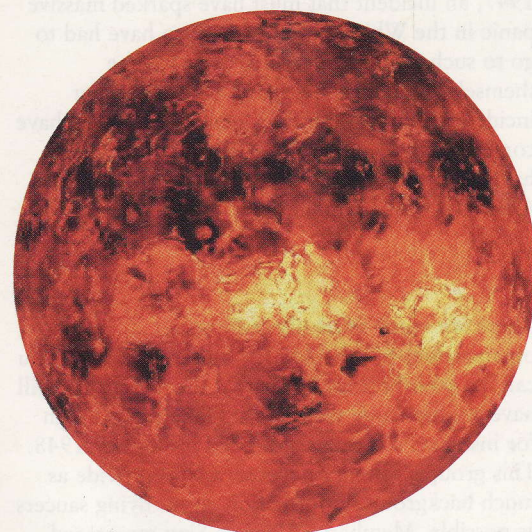
Leaked documents have shown that the call sign 'Majic' is officially used to describe Majestic Twelve, but many leaked documents are very difficult to authenticate, and simply accepting that MJ-12 is real is just not good enough. It is amazing that not one former or present member of MJ-12 has ever been tempted to sell their story to the press, especially as there seems to be a 'Bob Lazar' waiting to cash in on every possible opportunity.

It does seem logical that the American Government should launch an inquiry into the happenings at Roswell all those years ago, but MJ-12 appears to have acquired an almost legendary mystique right up to the present day.

But let us face facts, the Americans are not exactly good at keeping operations quiet - the goings-on at Area 51 are just one example of a secret that couldn't be kept. This is a base that to all intents and purposes was just not supposed to exist, and the American Government fought tooth and nail to preserve its secrecy. Despite these official denials, almost everyone in the United States and probably across Europe knew that Area 51 did indeed exist. After all, there were detailed photographs of the base, interviews with base personnel and guards posted around the perimeter to prevent anybody from wandering into the area.

This goes to show that Americans have a very poor track record when it comes to keeping things secret from its general public. It therefore seems strange that organisations such as MJ-12 are still considered to be operating on a 'secret' level. Even if they are, Ufology should stop worrying about it and concentrate on the real issue at hand - the study of Ufology as a whole.

The planet Venus. The official report on the Mantell crash actually contradicted an earlier investigation which ruled out Venus as the possible cause for the UFO sighting which led Mantell to his death.



impression that its manoeuvres were controlled by thought or reason".

OFFICIAL FLAWS IN THE PLAN

Despite this account, Blue Book still put forward the theory that the unidentified light was nothing more than a small illuminated weather balloon. This was confirmed by the Weather Bureau who stated that a small balloon was launched in Fargo on the evening in question.

Not satisfied with this account, Major Donald Keyhoe, an avid UFO researcher, checked again with the Weather Bureau. Keyhoe discovered that the only balloon launched on that night was tracked by the Weather Bureau observers, who confirmed that the balloon was not in the area of Gorman's encounter.

It therefore becomes obvious that no matter what name you give a secret project and no matter how intricate and plausible the explanations seem, there is always a flaw in 'official' UFO responses.

What is even more striking is the fact that if the American Government and all their Projects believe so ardently that UFOs are simply misidentifications of naturally occurring phenomena, then why is there such a need for them to spend billions of tax payers' hard earned dollars on 'not so secret projects'?

If UFOs simply don't exist then why don't they just abandon these pointless Projects? The answer is that they know that UFOs are very real and represent a serious threat to humanity, and to that end they have to carry out research and they have to investigate the subject, and furthermore they have to be seen by the public to be doing just that, and that is probably why Projects Sign, Grudge, Blue Book and Twinkle, to name a few, are not so secret after all.

Rumours suggest that Mantell was killed by an alien death ray.

When Blue Book members did come up against an incredibly detailed sighting, their official answer was usually that the UFO was either a bird, a conventional aircraft or a weather balloon. Needless to day, these 'explanations' were easily destroyed by a little detective work.

For example, Lieutenant George F Gorman experienced a bizarre encounter with a UFO in Fargo, North Dakota on October 1st 1948. After returning from a cross-country flight Gorman had radioed the control tower for clearance to land. The control tower told Gorman that the only other aircraft in the area was a Piper Cub. Gorman could see the Cub below him as he made his approach, so immediately panicked when an unidentified light shot passed him to his right.

Gorman instantly assumed the light was coming from the tail of another aircraft so radioed the tower to complain that they had not informed him of this third aircraft. Baffled, the tower replied that the Piper Cub was still the only other aircraft in the area. Gorman gave in to his curiosity and decided chase this unexplained light. As Gorman approached the UFO he could see that it was about six to eight inches in diameter and emitting a blinking light.

Gorman's plane and the UFO then engaged in a series of aerial manoeuvres until Gorman was on a collision course with the object. When Gorman realised that the light was not going to take evasive action he decided to put his aircraft into a dive. The two missed each other by a matter of feet, but Gorman had to repeat the move a second time when the light rounded and attacked again. Moments after the second incident the light began to climb and soon vanished from Gorman's view. Gorman filed his report, stating "I had the distinct

People often think that the first UFO sighting was Kenneth Arnold's 1947 experience which gave rise to the term 'flying saucers'. In fact, strange objects in the sky have been observed since the beginning of recorded history. Harry Hinde turns back the clock to look at some historical sightings.

Suns of



Recently, there have been numerous reports in both the press and on television which claim that UFO sightings are no more than prototypes of secret aircraft under development by the US military. Frequent sightings of a bizarre triangular craft seen over the north of England have all been explained in these terms, and an article in the *News of the World* claimed that "most flying saucers sighted in the second half of this century were man-made".

For all I know there may well be some truth in these claims. The Stealth Bomber is one case in point, and secret aircraft must surely account for a percentage of UFO sightings, even if this percentage is not so great as we are being asked to believe.

Obviously though, it makes for a ready-made excuse for a put-down that becomes difficult to deny. That's partly why historical sightings are of great interest.

There is no chance here of triangular objects being fobbed off as the latest secret aircraft – not, that is, unless they also perfected the art of time travel! But let's not give people ideas. The truth is that this planet has always been witness to strange objects in the sky, and it is the consistency of these reports and the descriptions given that make the whole UFO mystery so beguiling.

ANCIENT ART

Since the times of primitive man these sightings have captivated the minds of all those privileged to see them. Cave art depictions of saucer-like craft and other flying objects of unknown identity plainly show that UFOs are no new phenomena. The caves of Altamira in Spain, La Pasiega, Niaux, and Les Trois Freres in France all feature curious hub-like objects that look impressively like modern day drawings of UFO sightings. At Niaux, the

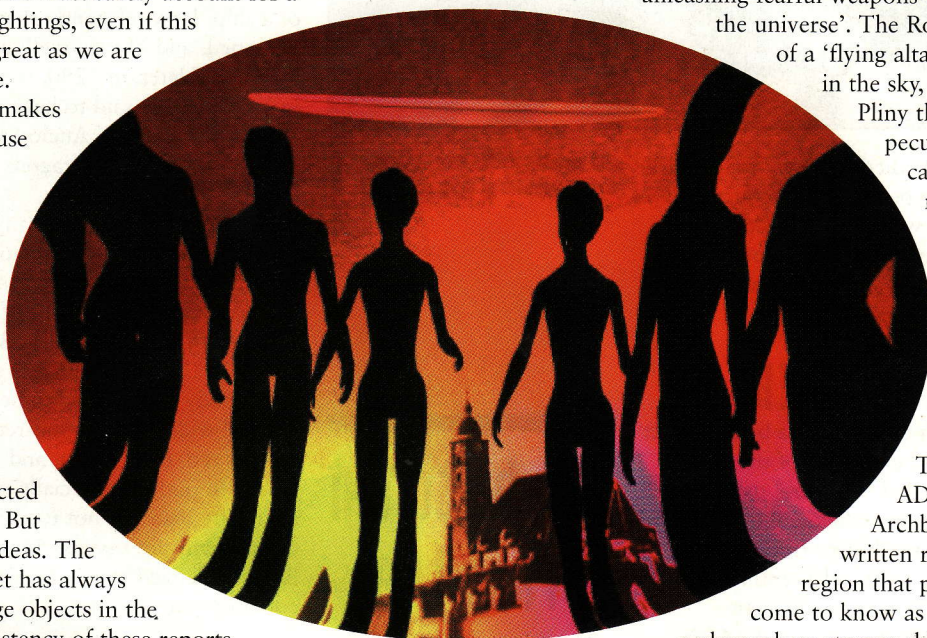
drawings feature a saucer-like object with what looks like a vapour trail following on behind it. In his book *Beyond Earth*, author Ralph Blum comments that in the caves at Ussat in France, 'an object remarkably like our Lunar Module, complete with ladder and antennas, stands on four crane legs, and beneath it as though to give the scale is an erect human figure'.

In issue three of *ALIEN ENCOUNTERS* we saw how ancient societies believed they had received their wisdom and knowledge from culture bearers who had come from the skies. Indian mythology is especially rich with these accounts of what they termed Vimanas – flying chariots – capable of unleashing fearful weapons with 'the power of all the universe'. The Roman writer Livy tells of a 'flying altar' that once appeared

in the sky, and the historian Pliny the Elder speaks of peculiar lights which he called 'suns of the night'. In his epic work *Historia Francorum*, 584 AD, the Bishop of Tours in France is perplexed by curious 'domes and golden globes that raced across the sky'.

Two centuries later in AD 779, Agobard, the Archbishop of Lyon, made written reference to a celestial region that people of the day had come to know as Mangonia. This was a place where strange ships sailed to in the clouds carrying away amongst other things 'those fruits of the earth which are destroyed by hail and tempests'. Although the Archbishop was almost contemptuous of the whole story, calling it a great 'stupidity', he nonetheless gives an extensive report of the subject. He even talks of an abductee account, of three men and a woman about to be stoned, having 'fallen from these same ships'.

The four claimed to have been carried away by miraculous men who showed them marvels and wonders, and upon their return were told to tell of the majesty they had seen. Unfortunately, their statements were mistaken as sure proof of them having consorted with the devil, for which they



THE NIGHT



Do ancient carvings such as this contain representations of flying craft?

would no doubt all have died. Happily for them though, the Archbishop persuaded all concerned that the whole episode was just an illusion and that what they had seen was clearly impossible! In his words, 'truth prevailed', and their lives were duly spared.

EASTERN ENCOUNTERS

In Japan in 1271, the appearance of a bright object in the sky at the planned execution of the well known priest, Nichiren, led to general panic. The event was interpreted as an unfavourable omen and the lucky priest was allowed to go free!

Interestingly enough, a full eight centuries before the term 'flying saucer' was made popular, contemporary accounts from Japan in the 11th century speak of 'earthenware vessels' of astonishing luminosity flying through the sky! The Japanese are also credited with having undertaken the first organised inquiry into the UFO phenomenon, which they viewed with considerable alarm. The Japanese believed that the appearance of these objects heralded the coming of serious events and disasters. In 1235, General Yoritsume ordered a scientific investigation of these bizarre sightings. He and his men had watched mysterious lights swirling around their encampment and were desperate for answers. However, the operation Blue Book of its day ended with a rather less than scientific answer. The cause of these lights? "It is only the wind making the stars sway."

The wind must have been blowing amazingly hard in Japan because throughout the Middle Ages 'curious signs' and 'flying wheels' together with yet more 'earthenware vessels' continued to strike fear and dread into the hearts of the populace.

HATS AND HERESY

In the Middle Ages, belief in extraterrestrials bought you a quick ticket to being burned at the stake. The sixteenth century scientist Giordano

Bruno met with just such a fate with his apparently innocent suggestion that "There are also countless Earths turning around their suns, neither worse nor less inhabited than our globe."

Understandably people were rather less than eager to report strange aerial phenomenon lest they too be carted off to the stake! Even so, UFOs continued to be reported in the sort of language that left no doubt as to their devilish origins. It was probably in this way that 'witches on broomsticks' became a popular and accepted manner of describing these curiosities.

Nor were the clergy at all immune to these sightings. In 1254, monks at St Albans in Hertfordshire were treated to the sight of a 'kind of a ship, large, elegantly shaped and well equipped, and of a marvellous colour'. Nearly forty years later, in 1290, monks at Byland Abbey in Yorkshire are said to have seen strange round discs in the sky. The Anglo Saxon Chronicles of AD 793 tell of 'fiery dragons seen flying through the air'.

From Tübingen in Germany, the year 1577 brought a baffling manifestation of weird black hats that were seen in the heavens! A publication of that time remarks, 'Out of these clouds have come forth reverberations resembling large, tall and wide hats, and the earth showed itself yellow and bloody and seemed to be covered with hats, tall and wide, which appeared in various colours such as red, blue, green, and most in black!' Of course in outline, especially when seen in silhouette, hats are not too different from saucers or 'earthenware vessels'. In other words, UFOs have challenged man's imagination through countless generations.

**The historian
Pliny the
Elder speaks
of peculiar
lights which
he called
'suns of the
night'.**

DEEP THOUGHT

The subject of these aerial perplexities became the preoccupation of several great thinkers. Paracelsus, the great alchemical genius of the 15th Century, felt particularly attracted to the subject. A popular notion of the day was to see the explanation in terms of elemental beings occupying a plane of existence between man and the angels. The ancient Greeks looked on these beings as the 'daimonas', from where we derive our own word demon. To the Hebrews, they were the Sadaim. According to an old French book entitled *A Treatise of The Secret Sciences*, 'these demons were held to be an Aerial Race, ruling over the Elements, mortal, engendering, and unknown in this century to those who rarely seek Truth in her ancient dwelling place, which is to say the Cabala and in the theology of the Hebrews, who possessed the special art of holding communion with that Aerial People and of conversing with all these Inhabitants of the Air'.

Paracelsus wrote a complete manuscript on the subject, but thought it hazardous to make contact with these beings. In his book *Why These Things Appear to Us* he wrote: 'Everything God creates

manifests itself to Man sooner or later... Thus these beings appear to us, not in order to stay among us, but in order for us to become able to understand them'.

The well known mathematician Jerome Cardan (1501-1576) wrote of a peculiar incident his father often talked about. Apparently he had once been confronted by strange beings wearing clothing resembling ancient Greek togas. In all there were seven of these beings, 'about forty years of age'. According to Cardan, 'their lives were much longer than ours, and might even reach to three hundred years duration'. These men seemed to have great knowledge and wisdom but were reluctant to share it. Writes Cardan: 'When my father asked them why they did not reveal treasures to men... they answered that it was forbidden by a peculiar law under the heaviest penalties for anyone to communicate this knowledge to men'.

SCIENTIFIC SIGHTINGS

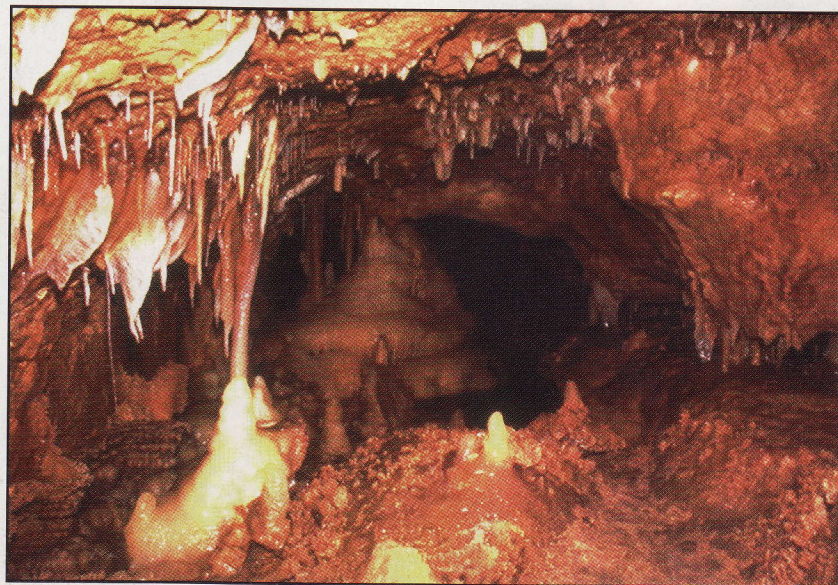
Today, professional astronomers would surely think twice about reporting strange objects in the sky, but in 1882 attitudes were not quite so stuffy! In the autumn of that year Greenwich astronomer Walter Maunder was looking out across London from Greenwich Observatory when he became aware of a strange circular disc. Maunder later published an account of his sighting in *The Observatory* magazine, which was in response to a request by the Royal Astronomical Society to name the most remarkable thing he had ever seen in his long career. According to Maunder: 'A great circular disc of greenish light suddenly appeared down in the East-North-East... and moved across the sky as smoothly and steadily as the sun, moon, stars and the planets move, but nearly a thousand times as quickly!' Maunder explained that the circularity of its shape was simply the effect of foreshortening and that later the object became 'that of a very elongated ellipse'.

In 1783, the scientist Tiberius Cavallo was a witness to a sighting that also stunned Royal guests at a celebration to mark the birth of the 15th son of King George III and Queen Charlotte. A luminous object appeared from beneath a cloud and soon became brilliantly lit before coming to a halt. According to Cavallo's account of the incident, 'This strange sphere seemed at first to be pale blue in colour, but its luminosity increased and soon it set off again towards the east.' Even though the sun was shining the object is said to have lit up everything on the ground and eventually disappeared with a terrific explosion.

In the summer of 1881 while cruising in the waters off eastern Australia, the two sons of the Prince of Wales were thrilled to see a large flying object! In their book *The Cruise of the Baccante*, they described what they'd seen as 'a fully illuminated ship' (of the sky).

Eight centuries before use of the term 'flying saucers', accounts from Japan speak of 'earthenware vessels' flying through the sky!

Cave paintings of saucer-like craft and strange beings plainly show that UFOs are not a new phenomena.



In September 1768, the German poet, dramatist, author and scientist Johann Goethe was himself a witness to a strange luminous object. He was journeying from Frankfurt to Leipzig by stagecoach. At one point the rough uphill track was so treacherous from mud and rain that the passengers were forced to alight and follow on behind. It was then that Goethe suddenly became aware of lights in the ravine below them. Writes Goethe: 'All of a sudden, in a ravine on the right hand side of the track, I saw a sort of amphitheatre, wonderfully illuminated. In a funnel-shaped space there were innumerable little lights shining, ranged step-fashion over one another; and they shone so brilliantly that the eye was dazzled. But the sight was even more confusing because these objects did not keep still, but jumped about here and there, as well as downwards from above!'

With no parallel experience to form a comparison Goethe concluded, 'Now whether this was a tumult of will-o'-the-wisps, or a company of luminous creatures I will not decide.'

Intense periods of UFO activity seem to have been just as prevalent in the past as they are today. One such period was a UFO outbreak over the western United States.

Literally hundreds of strange craft were seen flying through the skies. One outbreak in Kansas City, Missouri, was witnessed by an estimated 10,000 people. Also in 1897, Alexander Hamilton, a member of the United States House of Representatives, signed a sworn statement claiming to have witnessed a cigar-shaped craft over 300 feet long which landed on his farm.

Remember, all of this happened long before man had taken to the skies, and a full hundred years or more before the Stealth Bomber was even dreamed of! So yes, UFOs have been around for a very long time – in fact, since man first looked up at the skies above him. Thankfully, that was thousands of years before secret US projects were around to confuse the matter.

ALIEN ENCOUNTERS

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