

# CONTINUUM

The Official Publication of ParaNet Information Services, Inc.

**Pat  
Robertson  
Advocates  
Death by  
Stoning for  
UFO  
Enthusiasts**

**Interview:  
Jim Marrs,  
author of  
"Alien  
Agenda"**

**Phoenix  
Sightings  
Update**

## **WHEN WILL "ET" CALL? An Analysis of "Contact"**

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volume 7 number 1 FALL 1997

**\$4.95**

## From the Editor's Black Hole...

Wow! What more can I say about this issue? Big changes take time, though, so I want to thank you for being patient with us as we have worked through the changes in this magazine. Special thanks to Anne Green, our new artwork and layout artist for her hard work in making these improvements happen. Good job!

This issue not only features artwork improvements, it has some pretty good articles, too. Greg Wheeler gives us a review of Carl Sagan's movie, "Contact," and fits it into his overall theme of establishing a First Contact science.

For our transcribed interview from "The ParaNet Continuum" radio show, we've selected the interview with Jim Marrs. Jim's other major work was "Crossfire: The Plot that Killed Kennedy", which is somewhat of a legendary work in the conspiracy community. His new book, "Alien Agenda" has a similar ring to it. We don't agree with everything he said in his interview, but it is certainly food for thought.

I've also included another couple of chapters of my unpublished book "Close Encounters of the Revelation Kind." This time, I look at the possibility that images of the space shuttle were misinterpreted by John, as he watched them unfold on the viewscreen of an alien time-ship. Fanciful? Perhaps. But it's not the first time people have noticed how you can replace the word "angel" with "alien" in the Bible and suddenly make some sense out of it!

Our nationally syndicated radio show, "The ParaNet Continuum," with host Michael Corbin, continues to grow, and we've received e-mail from many of you who like the sound of our new intro and our format. Denver listeners - remember - we're on for two hours every Sunday night from 10 PM to midnight on "Ralph" - KRRF, 1280 AM on the dial. National audience - remember, you can order tapes of that second hour.

This issue features one other thing - the ParaNet catalog. We are distributing this issue to many of you who requested the catalog, so we hope you enjoy the extra bonus of a free issue of Continuum! Please let us know how you like the new look of our magazine, and remember, too, that we depend on Continuum subscriptions to help finance the radio show. If you've enjoyed the show, please help us out by subscribing to our magazine.

More info on ParaNet, Continuum, our investigations department (MICAP) and our radio show is available from our web site at <http://www.paranet.org/paranet>. Be sure to check it out!

Brian Wood  
Editor/Publisher

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# CONTACT:

*Windows, Doors and ET Metaphors*

By Greg Wheeler, PhD.

In 1926, Robert Goddard successfully tested the first liquid fuel rocket in the United States. On the other side of the world, prospectors discovered gold in isolated Edie Creek, 35 miles inland from New Guinea's northern coast.

Through small doors come giant transformations.

Before that time, the native highlanders of Papua New Guinea had no first-hand knowledge of the world outside their warring tribal villages. Provocative signs of other intelligences—plumes of smoke rising above the distant horizons—generated folktales about who might be kindling these fires, but these did not entice further exploration. The highlander worldview held that the deceased became white-skinned demons and migrated to the outer edge of the world, where the trees held up the sky. Incredible tribal rivalries and dialects hindered highlander freedom of movement and flow of information. The highlanders' window on the world allowed glimpses, but the doors to the outer world were closed.

Neither highlander nor outsider were motivated to pass through those doors until the search for gold eventually brought someone from beyond the smoky horizons into the highlander's universe. Sadly, the highlander worldview, like so many indigenous cultures of old, had no concept for that universally pernicious motivator of exploration, "prospecting for gold." They would learn soon enough.

First Contact, November 6, 1930: Onguglo Komugl of Kerowagi thought he had seen a ghost. "Highlanders shared a general belief in the spirits of the dead...who...had

to be placated by ritual and sacrifice...They were confident, sure of their position at the center of things but acutely aware of their vulnerability to the inhabitants of the spirit world."<sup>[1]</sup> Villagers scrutinized the intruding "spirit-people" and interpreted their every move in terms derived from the ancient highlander worldview. Dead relatives had returned. Tribesmen picked out uncles, father and sons. Whole villages agreed. Familiar gestures & behaviors clearly pegged the identity of each dearly departed personality among the visitors.

Observation and comparison with the predictions of their worldview soon demystified the "real" nature of the intruding spirit-people. Inquisitive tribesmen realized these "spirits" were mere mortals, although capable of some amazing technical feats.

While some highlanders fell victim to gunfire, the astute among them turned the arrival of the explorers to their own advantage. Individual highlanders found ways to turn the intrusion to their own advantage, stealing explorer goods, trading with the newcomers, and gaining prestige with those yet to be contacted further inland.

We must be cautious about analogies drawn from human-human encounters. While these recollections of formerly isolated Papua New Guineans offer us some insight into the possible ramifications on human cultures of confirmed First Contact with extraterrestrial civilizations, we must keep in mind that the "others" were not remarkably different physically, and could be incorporated into mythologies about the dead: First Contact was not preceded by new knowledge;

First Contact was not the intended purpose, but incidental to other motives, etc.

But in our caution, we must not dismiss the power of novelty demonstrated by this First Contact. The highlander worldview, unchanged for countless generations, was immediately undermined by simple physical contact with Australians, changing fundamental cosmological assumptions, and precipitating rapid social change. In only 50 years, a static tribal society was transformed into an independent nation.<sup>[2]</sup>

It took less than 50 years for

Goddard's primitive rocket experiments to blossom into the Space Age, our window on the universe was opening dramatically, and in 1960, a young astronomer named Frank Drake used a West Virginia radio telescope to listen for evidence of technical societies which might have developed around two nearby stars. He called his search "Project Ozma."

Despite considerable difficulties, a few persisted in this radio surveillance. The intense controversy in the scientific world about "little green men" has forced total reliance on private funding. Even as recently as this summer, an astronomer publicly proclaimed that it appears Earth alone in the galaxy harbors intelligent life. Guillermo Gonzales, a research astronomer at the University of Washington, in an article entitled



*Through  
small doors  
come giant  
transformations.*

"Nobody Here But Us Earthlings," stated that, "We should not be asking: 'Are we alone?' We should be asking instead: 'Why are we alone?'"<sup>[3]</sup>

Other prominent scientists have expressed similar views. As a result, scarce public science dollars were not to be spent "waiting for ET to call." As with the highlanders of Papua New Guinea, political forces hindered exploration. Guarding the place where the Earth touches the sky is a prime function of a complex society. Going there is reserved for the boldest explorers.

One such explorer, Dr. Frank Drake, was not to be denied.

*"We should not be asking: 'are we alone?' We should be asking instead: 'why are we alone?'"*

—Guillermo Gonzales

Author of the famous Drake Equation<sup>[4]</sup>, he has continued his search, based on the assumption that there could be 10,000 intelligent, communicative civilizations in our galaxy alone. With over 200,000,000 stars in the Milky Way to search, and minuscule private funding, the process of listening is tediously slow. "That makes every good candidate star we survey about a 20 million to one long-shot."<sup>[5]</sup> Given the odds, it is not surprising that no "pillars of smoke" have officially been detected among the candidate stars.<sup>[6]</sup>

Dr. Drake and his colleagues would not expect ETs to just "drop in for a visit" when con-

sidering the time, distance, expense and necessary purposes for such complex undertakings. "Star travel is an expensive way to explore other systems, and you had better be darn sure that there is something (or someone) of interest to find before you send out your mission on a journey that could take years to centuries, depending upon the target and disavowing any faster-than-light drives. There is an easier way...the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI)."<sup>[7]</sup>

Even without any direct evidence, the idea of "10,000 intelligent, communicative civilizations" possibly sharing our galaxy is a powerful conception, contemporary human thought profoundly leading to inevitable speculations about ETs. Only time will tell if any theory about such beings will be any more accurate than those of the highlanders about their white Australian interlopers. Meanwhile, the storytellers are not restrained by hand-wriving scientific debate.

In the film "Contact"<sup>[8]</sup>, based on the more complex book of the same name<sup>[9]</sup> written by the late Dr. Carl Sagan, Dr. Eleanor Arroway, the protagonist, pitched her unfunded SETI proposal to the Hadden Foundation, philanthropic creation of the eccentric billionaire engineer, S. R. Hadden. The committee spokesperson replied, "Your proposal sounds less like science, and more like science fiction." A point well taken, since he says this inside a science fiction story! But perhaps Sagan was tipping his hat to this interplay between real discovery and imagined science, which arguably began in 1865 when Jules Verne's "From the Earth to the Moon"<sup>[10]</sup> first showed the terrestrial door to the cosmos could be pried open.

George Turner's essay, "Science Fiction as Literature," defines science fiction as the genre which suggests "alternative modes of existence...based on facts which connect them with the real world while confining the imaginative element to logical development...the literature of possible alternatives."<sup>[11]</sup>

Science fiction's explosive growth across the 20th century has seen an increasing focus on imaginative First Contact scenarios to such an extent that in literature, in broadcast and motion picture media, and in popular science, we live in what might be called "the Era of Extraterrestrial Intelligence."

This may be just as it should be for a society stepping timidly out into the interplanetary void. "It's the way it's been happening for billions of years," to paraphrase the alien in "Contact." Civilizations always travel to the horizon, and eventually, either discover or are discovered by the alien Others—the ones we call ETs. The smoke of intelligent life cannot be contained.

Edmund Cooper believes science fiction has become the literature of our era because scientific progress has too often transformed its fictional speculations into science fact.<sup>[12]</sup> Dr. Arroway makes this point in her pitch. "You want to hear something really nutty? I heard of a couple guys who wanted to build something called an airplane...ridiculous, right? What about breaking the sound barrier, rockets to the moon, atomic energy, or a mission to Mars. Science fiction, right?"

To my grandfather, Harold Harwood, these ideas were science fiction, for a while. He always spoke with amazement at the scientific and technical

progress he had witnessed in his life. He was born in Iowa in 1889, twenty-five years after Jules Verne had proposed his fanciful method for flying around the moon, and 89 years after Volta first produced electricity from a copper-zinc battery. Before my grandfather was 13 years old, H.G. Wells had started *The War of the Worlds* and landed *The First Men* in the Moon, and Garrett Serviss had sent explorers to Mars in spacesuits, armed with "atomic disintegrators."<sup>[13]</sup> The pace of both science and science fiction was accelerating already. The Wright brothers would first fly when my grandfather was 14, but before he died in 1971, he would see men land on the moon and the first close-up pictures from Mars via Mariner 9.

Radio personality Art Bell has taken to calling this exponential growth of information and technology "The Quickening."<sup>[14]</sup> "Smoke" on our cosmic horizon seems increasingly likely in light of the possible findings of ancient life on Mars, water on the moon and on Europa, planets around other stars, and recent findings which suggest that Earth may have evolved at least two intelligent hominid species (Neanderthal DNA may have split off 500,000 years ago!)<sup>[15]</sup> Terms in the Drake equation are slowly resolving, and the resulting guestimates of the number of possible galactic civilizations seem only to increase.

In contrast to the more uniform highlander culture, science fiction has spun a full spectrum of tales about those who may kindle the fires lighting our galactic horizons. As the alien says to Ellie in "Contact:" "[Humans are] an interesting species. You are capable of such beautiful dreams and such hideous nightmares."

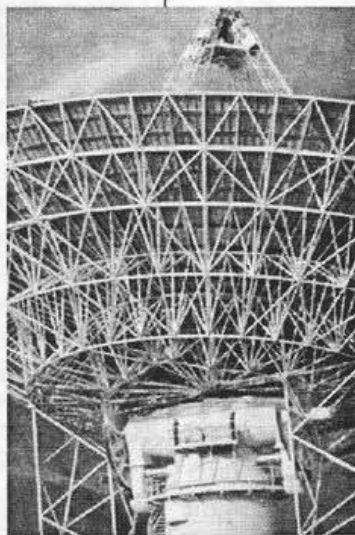
The nightmare part of the first contact spectrum has been well represented on the big screen, which always loves a good xenophobic disaster. One could argue from the highlander's case that, in fact, *First Contact* can be very traumatic, resulting as it did in the loss of many villagers' lives in Papua New Guinea. *First Contact*

with "The Blob," "The Thing," "Them!" and "The Invasion of the Body Snatchers" dominated movies themes in my own youth. Today's newer versions, like "Independence Day" and "Mars Attacks!," continue the tradition of hopeless paranoia felt by many when confronting the unfathomable vastness of space with all its possibilities. Who would want First Contact with such entities? Bring out the nukes!

But, in the midst of this alien attack movie pulp, intriguing and beautiful dreams occasionally filters through the haze, suggesting a more optimistic view of First Contact. Real space travel (reality, as usual, following way behind the trailing edge of the "literature of possible alternatives") gave us vistas of the Earth as a blue oasis of life, and of neighboring planets and moons as places stranger and yet more accessible than fiction could imagine. These more sanguine scenarios proved to have as much public appeal as the xenophobic variety. The "Star Trek" television series, the movie "2001: A Space Odyssey," and eventually "Close Encounters" and "ET," gave audiences the hope that ETs might be capable of compassion for human failings, and that the human response could be more than to lob increasing lethal explosives at any alien "thing" that moves.

Interaction between science fiction and developments in science, technology and culture has never seen such a full and lovely expression as in the movie "Contact." A blend of the best of such movies as "2001" and "ET" with the seemingly mystical love which Dr. Carl Sagan had for the Cosmos has yielded a powerful production that will likely inhabit the optimistic end of the First Contact spectrum for many years to come.

The late Carl Sagan had long been a proponent of SETI. Like most scientists, Dr. Sagan assumed that science has a good grasp of cosmic realities. For example, he supposed that exploratory interstellar space travel, even at nearly the speed of light, would be very difficult, if not impossible, even for advanced cultures. Planetary civilizations will identify and communicate with each other by radio first, before justifying a "half-trillion" dollar expenditure to build individual spaceships. In *Contact* the movie, this theoretical ban on faster than light travel (relativistically speaking, of course) is only overcome one person at a time, using one wormhole at a time, at terrible expense.



In *Contact*, there are no UFOs, alien crashes or alien abductions which can short-circuit the long and arduous task of discovering ETs by massive iterations of vast astronomical data. No aliens visit Earth uninvited. In *Contact*, evidence of their existence is as clean and clear as ones and zeros on a printout.

Sagan's version of the political intrigues of SETI are familiar to anyone who has worked in an organization where conflict is based on power, egos and money (and who hasn't?) This conversance with everyday life contributes to "Contact's" appeal, and stands in contrast to the "nightmare" First Contact scenarios with their dark and elusive government conspiracies and cover-ups of secret bases hiding alien artifacts.

Optimism is more what one would expect from a visionary like Sagan, who embraced the Cosmos unreservedly, and who could not tolerate a demon haunted world.<sup>[16]</sup> *Contact* spectacularly spins the SETI saga, taking us a "small step" of giant proportions into a vast, populated galaxy. Jodie Foster's powerful performance

must surely rank among the year's 'best female actor' candidates at the 1998 Oscars. Together with perfect special effects, this believable tale has assuredly become the benchmark for all future "optimist" visions of First Contact.

Yet, like the movie's message from Vega, "Contact" is a multilayered communication. These deeper themes offer intriguing complications on the straightforward SETI motif.

While SETI was the method used in discovering the Vegan transmission, the conventions<sup>[17]</sup> regarding the disclosure of this information were not followed very closely by the fictional Dr. Arroway. The real Dr. Sagan appreciated the sloppiness of realpolitik, even in radio astronomy. Dr. Arroway, the discoverer of the Vegan signal, should not have made any announcement until she could determine whether the signal was "credible evidence" of the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence. (This is a principle I wish Ufology would adopt!) Nor did she get the pleasure of "first public announcement." (All too familiar in Ufology, where the "rush to the media" leaves no quarter to the cautious.) Data was not disseminated to "the Secretary General of the United Nations" but appeared to remain the proprietary claim of the US government. (Finally, a theme familiar to Ufologists!) If not for the wiles of an eccentric billionaire (Ufology has a few of those, too.), Contact suggests, all would be lost. Here the plot gets even murkier.

Dr. Arroway, the consistent victim of her predatory egomaniacal mentor, Dr. David Drumlin, did get her payback. But in the process she became what Scott Scribner and I in prior articles have called a "narrator." Her fantastic encounter with alien intelligence seemingly left no verifiable traces, except an indelible impression upon her soul. She had started out an ambassador from Earth, but became an unwitting liaison from the carefully discrete Vegans.

In Contact, we see Sagan's understanding that even a highly credible

witness might fare poorly under the scrutiny of the prevailing worldview. Like the highlanders we mentioned earlier, Dr. Arroway's peers psychologize the narrative. "Dr. Arroway, isn't it possible that..." and unlink her report from its physical correlates. She is forced to admit that all she has is her experience. She cannot disavow her narrative. The experience is deposited in her life, working itself out, slowly, even imperceptibly. "This is the way it's been done for billions of years," says the Vegan to Ellie.

"Contact's" portrayal of the alien is a sensitive one. Perhaps Sagan wished to play with the religious adulative, "Heavenly Father." But the success of this metaphor implies an intimacy with Ellie beyond that of simple encounter. It posits a loving concern for Ellie and for her kind, a nonjudgmental connection with the human experience of loneliness. It reveals the alien to have needs too, to also feel alone in the incredible vastness of creation, to find joy in the presence of other beings, however different. "Contact" is the "gold" which draws the advanced civilization into the sheltered world of the pre-contact planet. Carl Sagan left us with the hope that Contact is its own reward.

Despite its reliance on standard science, and seeming vision of orderly comprehension of its message by reason, "Contact" gives much to be considered by those dealing with UFOs, crop circles, and abduction narratives. Sagan and his gifted writer wife Ann Druyan suggest that comprehending First Contact requires a radical worldview metamorphosis. Did Dr. Arroway really travel anywhere, or was it imagined? (Did the witness really get abducted by aliens?) Why would an advanced culture show itself to Dr. Arroway as her father? (Do aliens really have ESP powers?) Why is there no evidence? (Did someone fake everything?)

These questions of reliability of witness data, of real versus hoaxed First Contact events, of manipulation of researchers by higher forces seeking advantages, or simply covering

malevolent secrets, are familiar to Ufology. Dr. Arroway decoded the signal, but she could not deconstruct the context. Her culture bound her to her village in much the same way as the highlanders of Papua New Guinea were restrained by their own worldview. She had to return to her routines of life, at least for a while, filled to overflowing with a knowledge only time would permit to unfold.

What "Contact" implies is that the tasks of a scientific Ufology, and those of a scientific SETI, are not remarkably different. Ufology must, too, question what we have seen, apply our best science to what is known, and extrapolate to the unknown. We often admit into consideration data that others find appallingly untrustworthy and unworthy of science. Clearly, SETI researchers face the same scourge from skeptics who maintain a priori that finding life beyond earth is of no consequence. As David Drumlin said to Ellie on the road after canceling her grant, either they are out there or they're not.

This binary view of reality is belied by human consciousness. Put a one/zero scientist in a relativistic wormhole "subway," have her encounter alien life in the guise of her deceased father, and then return her to her point of origin before a second ticks away for the outside observer, and you have expressed all the contradictions of Ufology wrapped into one awkward bundle.

That is the compelling message underneath the SETI First Contact scenario, that any encounter with ETs happens within the context of our culture as we now live it. Assimilation of that encounter, even recognition of that encounter, will prove a daunting task.

"Contact," SETI, and certainly the "Earth Only" scientists make no room for the phenomena that fall into Ufology's camp. But for those of us who search beyond the bounds of consensus science and even SETI, "Contact" reminds us to keep our minds open, just as SETI should teach us a few things about jumping to con-

clusions. Ufology must recognize that confirmed First Contact should be well established before proclamations are made that the aliens are among us. We must recognize the essentially private nature of abduction narratives. Ufology should establish protocols, much as SETI has already done, for informing others of discoveries and for cooperative ventures to verify and assess the value of any discoveries. Most of all, Ufology should abandon the parochial "I found it first-no you didn't" bickering, with its wild, unfounded claims, its commercialism, and its ego based authority system that has so effectively undermined any progress toward becoming a discipline in First Contact Science.

Dr. H. Paul Shuch, Executive Director of the SETI League, has said, "By privatizing SETI, we have a golden opportunity to do the search the way it should be done, not the way our supposed leaders deem politically appropriate and expedient."<sup>[18]</sup> Ufology, free of the overt control of Project Blue Book and the like, has not offered SETI much guidance on how it should be done. Perhaps the time has come for Ufology to learn a few lessons from it's slightly more respectable SETI cousin.

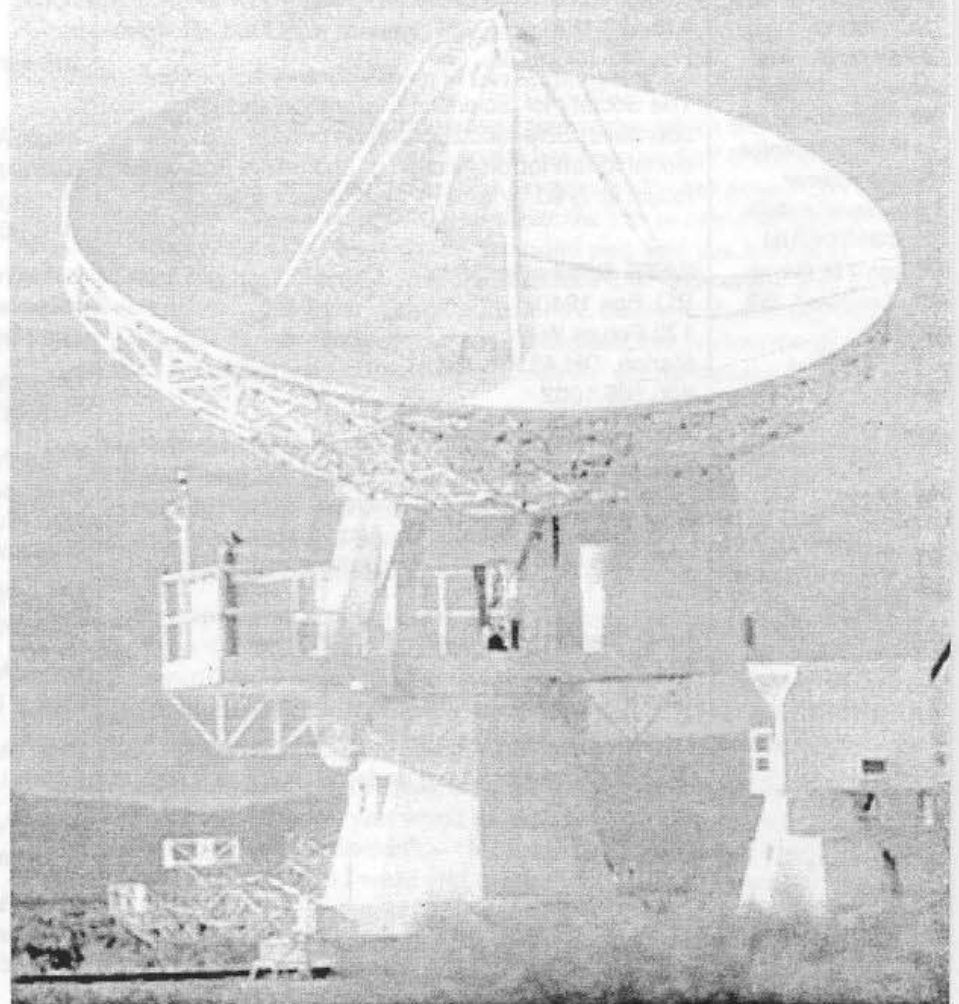
In one of "Contact's" early scenes, David Drumlin faced a livid Dr. Arroway, having just canceled her SETI funding. He loudly tries to reason with her. "Look, I know you can't see it now, but I'm doing you a favor! You're far too promising a scientist to be wasting your gifts on this [SETI] nonsense!"

Dr. Arroway yells back, "I don't consider what could potentially be the most important discovery in the human race nonsense!"

Somewhere between sense and nonsense lies...First Contact. ■ ■ ■

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- [13] *ibid.* p. 69
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- [16] Carl Sagan, "The Demon-Haunted World: Science As a Candle in the Dark." New York: Ballantine, 1996. "Can't we afford one attack helicopter's worth of seed corn to listen to the stars?" p. 400.
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- [18] Editorial: *Why Haven't We Heard Them?* <http://seti1.setileague.org/editor/fermi.htm>





### **The J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS)**

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Founded by the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek, "the Galileo of Ufology," CUFOS is committed to the scientific study of UFOs and related phenomena. Associate membership, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly *International UFO Reporter*, is available for a \$25 annual contribution.

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eign) for 6 issues.

### **Unsolved Mysteries**

NBC Television  
Friday at 8 p.m. ET

Hosted by Robert Stack, this program deals with UFOs and psychic events fairly regularly but also focuses most of its efforts on missing persons and homicides.

### **Sightings**

Sci-Fi Channel  
Triage Entertainment, Inc.  
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Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

*ParaNet* has been involved behind the scenes with Sightings and believes it to be a sincere effort to explore the mysteries of our world. We have high regard for this series and the people involved.

### **Interesting Internet Links:**

[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/T\\_porter/persemf.htm](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/T_porter/persemf.htm)

Persinger mind control article mentioned on 10/6/96 show.

<http://www.cs.bgsu.edu/~jzawodn/ufo/misc/enigma.html>

The Psychology of Dreamland by Terry Hansen.

<http://www.psytek.com/coa19.html>

Project Bluebeam (mentioned on 11/17/96 show).

<http://www.ensc.sfu.ca/people/SupportStaff/girling/personal/hill>

New ideas regarding the starmap of Betty Hill (mentioned on 12/29/96 show).

<http://207.179.129.61/index.htm>

Stanton Friedman's Web Page.

<http://www.glufon.com>

Global UFO network (GLUFON).

<http://www.bufora.org.uk>

British UFO Research Association.

<http://www.icon.co.za/~arib>

UFO/Paranormal Phenomenon.

<http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/framemst.html>

UFO Folklore.

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# Exclusive Interview with Jim Marrs, author of "Alien Agenda"

(from The ParaNet Continuum radio program, May 11, 1997)

The controversy over the existence of UFOs is over, according to Jim Marrs, a journalist most noted for his book "Crossfire: The Plot that Killed Kennedy." Marrs' latest book, "Alien Agenda" uses his investigative insights to uncover and expose information that has been kept hidden from the American public for years.

Marrs consults experts from all sides of the UFO issue, drawing on hidden government files and secret military intelligence operations to present comprehensive proof that aliens have visited Earth.

Marrs is also the author of the New York Times best seller "Crossfire: The Plot that Killed Kennedy." The movie rights to "Crossfire" were purchased by Academy Award winning director Oliver Stone, and the book was used as the basis for the film JFK.

**ParaNet:** Let's cut straight to the chase. What is your book about?

**Marrs:** This is a book that I've written to not preach to the choir. There are a lot of people who have studied the UFO phenomenon for years, and if they start glancing through the book, they're going to say, "Oh, I remember that and I remember that", but I'm not sure they will know some of the details that I've managed to pull out of various classic cases. I'm writing for those people who have an open mind but who have never really taken a serious look at the UFO issue. To begin to get an idea of what the "Alien Agenda" is all about, you have to take this overview. It's the same tack I tried to take in tackling the JFK assassination. Any one fact or issue could be explained away as coincidence or accidental, but when you look at the broad mosaic, you begin to get a better picture.

**ParaNet:** There were indeed fresh facts in your book.

**Marrs:** For example, did you know about the giant satellites that went into orbit of the Earth in 1953? The story was reported in the *New York Times*, *Time* and *Newsweek* and then it just kind

of went away. The U.S. military put out a release in 1953 saying that they had detected two giant moonlets that had come into orbit around the Earth and they were travelling 18,000 miles an hour around the equator, one at 400 miles and one at 600 miles out. There was some talk about using them as a stepping stone to travel to the moon. They set up a "worldwide satellite

the local police and they came with a geiger counter. The police said the object was radioactive. The next day some state people showed up, took some bags away while holding the media some distance away. They then told the media that there was nothing there. I did some checking and found that some officials did in fact take something away. I use this as a classic example of how, yes, they can take evidence away and make official pronouncements that nothing happened and get away with it.

**ParaNet:** You've done a lot of moon research. Tell us about it.

**Marrs:** We've had six Apollo missions to the moon that returned a bunch of dirt and rocks and so a lot of people just take it for granted. The moon, as it turns out, shouldn't even be there! The Apollo missions proved that the moon rocks weren't the same composition as Earth rocks, and so it could not have been pulled from Earth as some suggest. It had to come from somewhere else. So now picture the Earth sitting here in orbit, and here comes the moon from outside, and it passes by the Earth. Celestial mechanics would tell you that it had to pass by at some distance or the gravitational pull of the Earth would break it up. But it doesn't - it goes on by, and over time is captured by Earth and placed in a near perfect circular orbit with one side always facing the Earth. It's the only satellite we

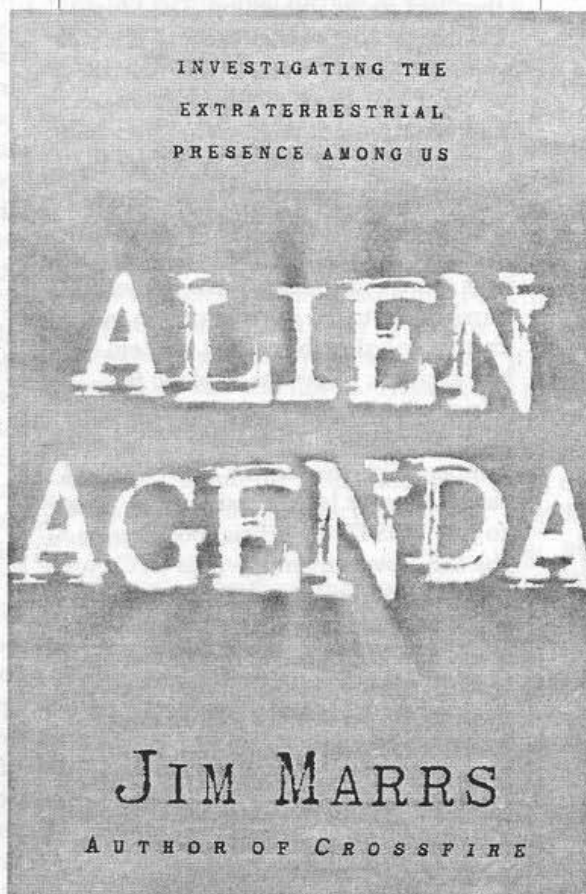
know of that's like that.

**ParaNet:** There have been those who speculate that the moon is an artificial satellite.

**Marrs:** That could be. If you accept that as a theory, then the moon had to be "driven" into orbit and "parked" there.

**ParaNet:** Tell us about some of the data that supports that theory.

**Marrs:** The densest rock, instead of being inside, is on the outer edge, almost as if it's a hull of some sort. The



search" headed by a respected astronomer. Then all of a sudden everything went quiet. And within a few years, it was like, well, they're not there anymore. We were pretty naive back then!

**ParaNet:** In many ways, we still are! You also talked about your own investigation of a mysterious cube that came down in a man's pond.

**Marrs:** In 1977, a wire story appeared that said a man in New Hampshire had found what looked like a black cube in the hole in his frozen pond. He called

center of gravity of the moon is a mile and a quarter off center. A ball with an offset center of gravity will wobble all over the place, so how, again, does it get in this circular orbit. One of the Apollo missions dropped the lunar module onto the surface and the seismometers picked up the hit. Scientists said that the moon "rang like a bell" when that happened.

**ParaNet:** *You do a treatment of MJ-12 in the book. Tell us about it.*

**Marrs:** MJ-12 was supposedly a highly placed, highly secret, highly compartmentalized group within the government of the U.S., that in the 1940s or early 1950s, took control of the UFO issue. It may be that they were never known as Majestic 12, but the argument about whether they existed is specious. From government documents and internal papers, it's plain that such a group existed.

**ParaNet:** *Is there a coverup?*

**Marrs:** Oh, that's one of the most demonstrable things of all. The whole thing about the aliens gets into some very tenuous territory and as I point out at the first of the book, this may be more about mindset than it is about UFOs. Since there's such a maddening lack of physical evidence, you can kind of take whatever position you want to. But I don't think there's even a hint of a doubt that there's been a coverup.

**ParaNet:** *You say in your chapter about the moon that a scientist told you that there have been missions to the moon that we don't know about.*

**Marrs:** Right. A lot of people say "how can that be?" I have a lot of trouble with that myself, but what if they were secretly launching antigravity or other secret rockets from somewhere else, and only launching big rockets from Cape Canaveral, for show?

**ParaNet:** *There are a lot of classified launches that would make that easier.*

**Marrs:** That gets into the alien aspect. This year they've put up lots of communications satellites and they work. But when the Russians launch probes to Mars and we launch probes to Mars, or a secret Titan 4 launch is done, we lose communication with them and they're gone.

**ParaNet:** *What happened in Roswell, NM in 1947?*

**Marrs:** If you want to, you can believe government pronouncements with little or nothing to back it up, that simply say that nothing happened. First they said it was just a weather balloon that crashed. More recently, they're saying, well, we did lie to you about the weather balloon; it was actually a Project Mogul balloon that we sent aloft to test nuclear testing by the Soviets to see if there was any radiation in the upper atmosphere, so they admitted to us that they lied about something. The Mogul balloon hardly washes because if it was indeed a secret project at the time, they never would have given the go-ahead to issue a press release saying they had captured a flying disc! So you can believe the government or you can believe some 300-400 individuals that are now on the public record saying I was there, I saw discs, I saw bodies, I carried 'em to the base, I put 'em in a crate, I guarded the crate, I put 'em on the airplane, I flew the airplane to Wright field. I don't think there's any question that something very unusual happened in Roswell. To step back and take a broader look, consider this: prior to July of 1947, the official position of the U.S. government towards UFOs was one of openness - there's something flying in the skies, it's real, tangible, we think it might be secret Soviet weapons testing, perhaps based on captured Nazi technology, but it may well be craft under intelligent control from another planet. But then you have the Roswell incident. Within two months, President Truman had created the CIA, the National Security Agency and the National Security Council. This created our modern national security state. It bypassed the traditional and Constitutional lines of communications and authority, namely Congress, our elected representatives. From that point on, UFOs came under very tight, strict, high-echelon control and the whole official government position began to shift to one of ridicule and dismissal.

**ParaNet:** *Do you think the NSA had anything to do with this?*

**Marrs:** I think it was already in the works, and Roswell just hastened it.

**ParaNet:** *You deal a lot with remote viewing in your book.*

**Marrs:** I stumbled on the remote viewing story in 1992. At that point, no one was talking about it, and yet the government had been using it secretly for almost a quarter of a century. Remote viewing is nothing more or less than what we used to call "psychic clairvoyance". It's the ability to perceive persons, places and things at a distance using something other than your five normal senses. This all began in the early 1970s with the publication of a book called "Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain." That book met with a lot of popular success over here, but the people that were really paying attention were the military and intelligence chiefs. And their attitude was, well, we don't think there's much to that, but if the Commies are doin' it, we gotta do it too! So the CIA began throwing money at psychic research, very quietly, very secretly, at Stanford Research Institute in Menlo Park, California. And what they found was absolutely astounding! And they found that it does exist, it does work, and they were able to train military intelligence officers to use this methodology to locate enemy submarines, satellites, aircraft, secret plants. It worked like this: say they knew there was a new Soviet biochemical warfare plant, but they didn't know where it was. Now we have all these spy satellites that can locate a beer can, but you gotta know where to look! So they would turn to these "psychics" and would say we want to know where this plant is. So they'd take 8-10 of these people and from their plant at Fort Mead, Maryland, they'd go out and throw their minds out. When they got enough data, analysts would guess where the places were.

**ParaNet:** *How does this tie in to aliens?*

**Marrs:** When these military trained remote viewers were tasked to go up and look at these high performance craft that the Soviets were testing, they'd go do that, but they'd see something else! Quite often they'd say "that's not the Soviets. That's not ours! That's not even from this planet!" Every military trained remote viewer had direct knowledge contact with UFOs. Although they were not tasked with observing them, and their superiors didn't even want to hear it, they nevertheless began to compile what they

called their "Enigma Files", a true-life counterpart to the X-Files. Over a period of time, they generated a little information about what was going on. Having satisfied myself that this was a valid methodology, I felt I could take what they say about the alien agenda with some seriousness.

**ParaNet:** *How do we know this information is accurate.*

**Marrs:** Ingo Swann, in the early 1970s, remote viewed Jupiter. He said it had a small ring, a weak but present magnetic field. Nobody knew any of that at the time. When Voyager went there in 1979, it proved that he was right. Thus, when remote viewers said that the Phobos 2 probe was knocked out and remote viewers said a UFO had come off the Martian surface and caused it, you have to take it with some seriousness.

**ParaNet:** *All of this implies that somebody may be in control of the data. Who is in control?*

**Marrs:** There's no question that the military is in charge, and they see this alien technology as potential weapons, and as such, they've got to keep it secret and proprietary. But then it extends farther, because the people who tell the military what to do or who tell the government what to do represent the top two percent of the population. Two percent of the population of the U.S. owns the vast majority of the wealth and production capability.

**ParaNet:** *So it's all about power and money and control!*

**Marrs:** And also to maintain the monopolies over energy, transportation, medicine and other multi-billion dollar industries. ■ ■ ■

# The Book of Revelation: Angels or Aliens?

by Brian Wood

Third in a Series

*The following excerpts are from an unpublished book that I wrote a few years ago. I spent about a year studying the Bible, the Koran and other religious works throughout history with an eye toward making sense of them in terms of UFO landings rather than visions. The commentary that follows is meant to stimulate your imagination, not to discredit Christianity. It's one of many possibilities. . .*

*The section presented below is a colorful picture of dragons, serpents and a pregnant woman. It could actually be a description of the space shuttle...*

## Woman, Child and Dragon: Space Shuttle

**12:1-17** And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

A woman clothed with the sun with the moon under her feet is an excellent description of the space shuttle on the launch pad, lit by thousands of watts of floodlights at night (see Figure 1). The red external fuel tank would have looked like a fire-breathing dragon once the rocket took off. Before launch, a movable swing-arm holds an exhaust hood at the top of the tank. This hood looks a lot like a crown. When the main engines are ignited, sparks can be seen flying beneath the

orbiter (the "stars of heaven" being "cast to the earth"). John surmises that the woman is pregnant because he sees its belly open once the orbiter reaches orbit (the cargo bay doors are opened), followed by the birth of a satellite (see Figure 2). This child is to rule all nations with a rod of iron, a good description of an antenna boom protruding from the satellite or possibly the Remote Manipulator Arm that is used to remove the satellite from the cargo bay (see Figure 3). John says that the woman "fled into the wilderness" to a place prepared by God - a good description of flying into space. He says the woman had wings to allow her to fly - the orbiter's wings. The dragon and his angels were then cast out - the solid rocket boosters and the external fuel tank were jettisoned. John backtracks to the launch, noticing that as the rockets ignite, the acoustic suppression system is triggered, drenching the pad in thousands of gallons of water ("the serpent cast out of his mouth water and ... the earth ... swallowed up the flood")(see Figure 4).

## The Two Beasts: SEX and SAMs

**13:1-10** And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it

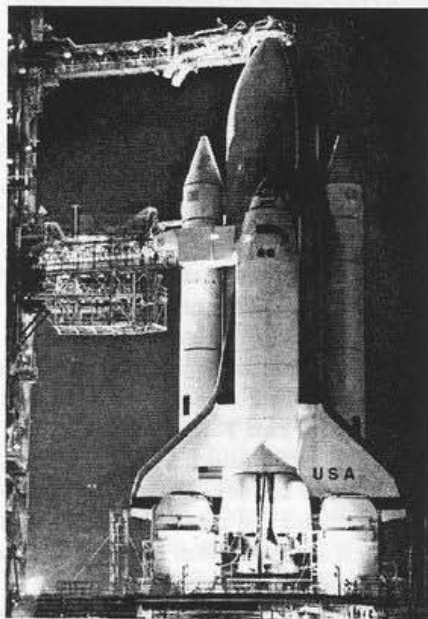


Figure 1.  
The space shuttle, lit by floodlights, and with the vent hood on top. Is this a woman, clothed with the sun, chased by a dragon into the wilderness?

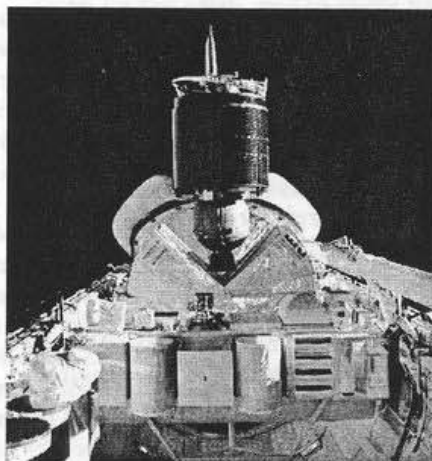


Figure 2.  
Launch of a satellite from the shuttle. Is this a pregnant woman giving birth?

This is an important section, as it acts as a time indicator. If it is indeed a description of the Space Shuttle, as it seems, the time of this catastrophe can be placed within the next fifteen years or so. Why? The shuttle, as much as an engineering feat as it is, will not last forever. Work is already underway on replacements for the shuttle, including craft that can be launched from high flying aircraft and then achieve orbit by firing its own rockets. If we are to ever conquer space, we must find better, more economical, and safer methods of transportation. In our admittedly limited history, new technology has replaced old within a decade or two. This would tend to indicate that the images John reported seeing were taken in our not too distant future. This is not necessarily cause for alarm. As shall be shown in the chapters that follow, the aliens seem bent on helping us through the catastrophe, and it is possible that Earthlings themselves will rise to the occasion and weather the storm.

was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

This is one of the most studied chapters in Revelation. Many biblical scholars take the 'beast' as a symbol of a great European leader who takes over the world, or at least Europe and the Middle-East. Some televangelists have devoted a tremendous amount of energy toward explaining the seven heads and ten horns and ten crowns as the European Economic Community, a bloc of nations that has been formed in Europe to create a sort of United States of Europe. However, the numbers have been shown to be of dubious

benefit in interpreting John's visions. A far more obvious and simple explanation is that John is describing a jet aircraft. John once again uses animals to explain what he sees: the beast is said to be like a leopard - having camouflage paint. It has the feet of a bear - the landing gear. The mouth of the lion is the jet intake, and the power of the dragon is the fiery exhaust (see Figure 12). This is further enhanced by the "name of blasphemy" on the beast's heads: blasphemy, to John, would have been a symbol that was not recognizable, perhaps simply the identifying marks of the country of origin of the fighter. The number of heads and horns is not significant using this scenario. However, John also says that one of its heads was wounded to death, but was healed. This implies that John sees what looks like an opening with fluid he takes to be blood (perhaps fuel or oil) coming out of one of the many protrusions on the jet.

Next, another beast rears its ugly heads...

**13:11-18** And I beheld another beast coming up out of the

name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

The first beast rose out of the sea. This one rises out of the earth. Although it has all the power of the first beast, it has only two horns. The image this conveys is one of a fighter encountering a surface-to-air missile launcher, perhaps one with two banks of tubes. Both would be marked with identifying symbols. Fire coming down from the sky is consistent with the firing of the wing missiles (see Figure 12).

The sealing of a symbol in the foreheads or right hands of the people is strongly reminiscent of the custom of the wearing of phylacteries, small cases holding passages from scripture, which were worn on the foreheads by Jewish men when saying their morning prayers. However, a more likely scenario is that John has seen people exchanging currency or coins when buying goods. In his day, goods were bartered by the exchange of property or services, not by currency, so it would

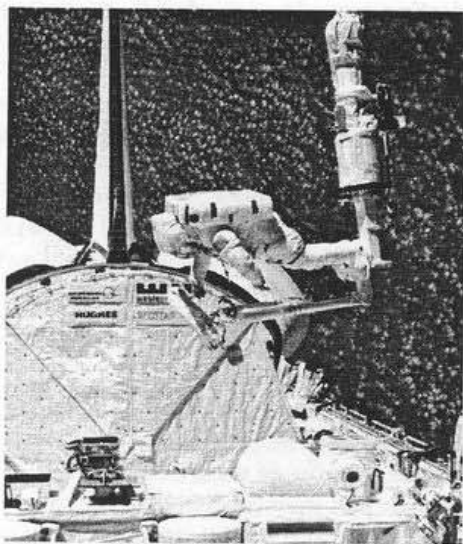


Figure 3.  
An astronaut on the remote manipulator arm. Is this a man child that will rule all nations with a rod of iron?

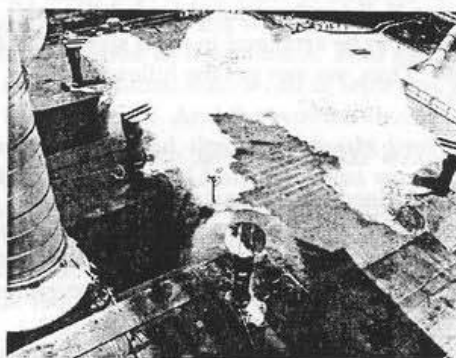


Figure 4.  
The acoustic suppression system drops 300,000 gallons of water on the pad in 30 seconds. Is this a serpent casting water after the woman?

earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his

have seemed quite unnatural to see people paying for their food the way we do today. This would mean that the symbols on the currency had very little if anything to do with the beasts that John saw.

There has been a tremendous amount of speculation throughout history on the nature of the mark of the beast, or 666, referred to at the very end of the above passage. The person who bears this number is also called the antichrist by most evangelists. Some have suggested that our society's use of numbers for everything (Social Security, Employee numbers, credit cards, etc.) implies that the beast is our economic system. Others have tried to link certain people throughout history with the number. For example, Ronald Wilson Reagan was said by some to be the antichrist because there are six letters in each of his names. This illustrates the danger in taking this too seriously - in this case, the leader of a great country was in mortal danger from fanatics who believed Reagan was the antichrist.

The analyses mentioned above all miss the boat entirely. In ancient times, it was a custom to add up the numerical values of each of the letters in a person's name, as a kind of game. How was this done? The Greek alphabet used the first eight letters to represent the numerals 1-9 (omitting the '6'), the next eight to represent tens (10-80, 90 being excluded), and the final eight to represent hundreds (100-800, 900 being excluded). Other symbols were used to provide the excluded numbers. An apostrophe following the characters was used to indicate that the word was really a number, and a similar tick mark was used before and below the characters to indicate that the number represented thousands.

In the original Greek, the simplest combination of symbols that can be used to represent the number 666 is χζς (or ΧΞς in caps), which are the Greek letters chi (600), xi (60) and ς (6). If the symbol John saw was indeed this one, it is impossible for the symbol John saw to have been a proper name, since the '6' does not have a letter to represent it. When he says it is the number of a man, he is making the connection that the symbol must be a number and not a name, because one of the characters is *only* used as a number. John's statement that "him that hath understanding" should evaluate it is an indication that John himself does not know what it means.

If we use the English lettering system, the Greek symbols look amazingly like our X, E (or the symbol for 'and') and S. The symbols do not have to be arranged in most significant to least significant order. Thus, we can get the following arrangements:

χζς, χςζ, ζχς, ζςχ and ζςχ

It would be interesting indeed if John had seen the English word *SEX* and interpreted it as Greek characters whose sum was 666. Some would claim that in the age of AIDS, which is spread primarily through sexual intercourse and intravenous drug abuse, sex has certainly become a beast. In fact, the "noisome and grievous sores" that John sees on the victims of the cataclysm would certainly fit the description of Kaposi's sarcoma, a rare skin cancer that is a common ailment of those with AIDS. However, in the context discussed above, it would appear to be simply a series of marks observed on a missile launcher.

## Chapter 10 Return of the Earthlings

**14:1-5** And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. John now sees a ship return the 144,000 that were rescued earlier to the top of a mountain. They were able to speak in a

tongue that was not understandable to him because they were Earthlings from John's future and they spoke in English, or Russian, or Spanish or something other than the languages of John's time. John calls these people virgins. In his mind, these are the purest people, and would naturally be the ones revered most by God. This is a bold assumption on John's part. If there are really only 144,000 to be saved, it might possibly make sense to save those who are guaranteed to be free of sexually transmitted diseases so as to start civilization over again without that stigma to worry about. More than likely, however, John is just wrong that they are virgins. In fact, since he says that these people had not defiled themselves with women, he is rather explicitly leaving out women in this group of the saved people. This fact is conveniently overlooked by evangelists who wish to convince their congregations that all they must do to be saved is to accept Jesus into their hearts; it would appear they also must be men! No doubt this stems from the status of women in John's day and is a simple mistake, but it is a revealing one nonetheless.

Some more flying craft are seen next...

**14:6-13** And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

John saw three more aircraft flying into the sky. He embellishes this simple observation enormously with an admonition to worship God, and a reminder that the Earth is still reeling from the havoc.

Next, John describes some ancient crop circles...

**14:14-20** And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his

*Continued on back cover—*

# ParaNet Postings

*This column presents selected posts from people who have expressed their opinions on the ParaNet computer network regarding topics from Angels to Zeta Reticuli. You can participate simply by having a computer and modem. Log onto your Internet service provider and access the network via the Usenet newsgroup alt.paranet.ufo. Spelling and grammatical errors have not been fixed—these articles are exactly as posted.*

**From:** cluster\_user@yale.edu (Cluster User)

**Subject:** Re: Evidence for UFO's

**Date:** Mon, 29 Sep 1997 16:20:30 -0500

In article [19970928005701.UAA02685@ladder02.news.aol.com], tyghock@aol.com (TYGHOCK) wrote:

- No dead aliens in the depths of Roswell!
- No UFO's knocking our planes out of the sky!
- No looming alien invasion!
- No such thing as alien abductions!
- Just too many people with over active imaginations!
- People, take a reality check once in a while!

BTW, this is from a Grey.

As an open-minded skeptic, let me field this one.....

- There are no dead aliens in deep freeze that we know about. It seems highly unlikely to me, based on the known evidence, that Roswell produced alien bodies, dead or alive.

I don't know what to think about Roswell... such a spin campaign from both camps. In the end, all I can say is that something bigger than a balloon happened there.

- I very highly doubt that UFOs are doing anything to our planes.

I think there is more than ample proof that military aircraft have been harassed in the past 50 years. That...

Turkish case, I believe- where the pilot had something tracked by ground radar in it's sights, was able to lock but then not to fire several times... that is a very interesting case, to which it seems skeptics can only cry "military conspiracy", it would seem.

- I doubt a looming alien invasion because, frankly, if they have the technology to reach us, hide from us, outrun us and manipulate us, to HALF the extent claimed in this ng, we'd be slaves already.

Why not go one step further in your logic- with that sort of power, they'd have no broad, invasion-motivating need for us as slaves. Why do you think they'd want to dominate- or even have anything to do- with us?

- I'm uncertain about alien abductions. There's a lot of fantasy and mental filler going on in many abductees. And the actions written about are totally illogical, even for aliens. But I can't yet write it off as mere psycho-hysteria, cultural expectations, lies and illness. Those four components are there, in significant numbers, but there's something else, too - something about the initial trauma that remains, to my satisfaction at least, unexplained.

Fair enough. I too think that something is going on with abductions, but that the weird irrationality of it from our perspective makes it an extremely fishy subject. However, I do absolutely believe that we can't appreciate at all what an alien's point of view on us is, nor appreciate what their powers and their shortcomings are.

- Lastly, I don't think our present culture has even started to come to grips with the true nature of reality. The "surface level" of our physical reality is pretty simple and tractable- straight physics. But it is clear to me, through an understanding of OBE, for instance, that this is just the surface- the mechanisms that underlie the complete spectrum of physical reality are much more complex, possibly unreachable with the tools we use now.

My speculation is that these "Aliens" aren't just masters of our brand of physics, but that they've peeled several layers deeper in to the onion, to the point where most of what they do we

would consider "mental." The abilities at hand at that level- time travel, unlimited instantaneous consciousness projection- these are human abilities to, apparent from OBE studies and remote viewing. But these guys may have taken it even further, to where they even have the ability to build and use things, "UFOs", for instance, constructed for use outside the everyday boundaries.

Anyway, I think a lot of what goes on in "abductions" a) isn't abduction at all, but voluntary at a fundamental portion of the "victims" will (even so, such events are extremely disturbing and even destructive to the victims at levels of ordinary consciousness- a real problem I think for all concerned), b) takes place at some blending-zone between various "astral" planes and this physical plane, c) probably have an extraordinary amount of "disinformation" associated with them. Why the latter? Because while the "victims" are willing at one level, their biological consciousness is very, very unwilling most of the time... and it is standard practice, as I see it, to do anything to try to a) ease or direct the stress of that awareness, and b) try to expand it's awareness to mesh with deeper levels of awareness.

But 'just active imaginations?' No. Even after you rule out the misidentifications, the hysteria, the hoaxes, etc, something is up there. Whether it's spy devices, an unknown natural phenomenon of some kind, or spaceships/ dimension portals, I don't know. But something's going on up there.

I wish all skeptics were so allowing.

And you can't rule out the possibility of aliens. You can't ESTABLISH it - but you can't rule it out, either.

But my point in all this is that at the level at which aliens appear to operate, we can't really establish anything- most of where these "abductions" takes place is in an incredibly fluid and malleable reality, which only leaves the faintest impressions on the physical one we normally operate on.

This ng, generally, does a poor job taking a serious look at the question, becoming more a battleground for zealots from both extremes, or forums for looney toon sci-fi plots. But I'll keep looking in, anyway. 'Cause something's

going on - and it's got me hooked.

Well, it's a newsgroup. If you are really interested, books are the way to go- but avoid the zealots- generally any author pro-or-con that has given over their career to "proving." Because they have too much emotionally at stake in what they do- they get caught in details, lose sight of the big picture. Good authors for UFO: Paul Hill, Richard Thompson, William Buhlman, maybe Jacques Vallee- though he get's caught up in theories, and gets somewhat pompous about being a scientist sometimes. The recent bestseller Cosmic Voyage is actually great, but the average debunker would probably like to see it banned, I imagine.

The bottom line is that I think proving in some "rigorous manner" whether aliens exist or not is not only laughably irrelevant, it probably is not even possible given the circumstances that we're the watched, not the watchers. We're really the ones in question- not them. When we as a culture do finally achieve the level where we actively reach out to communicate- and not something as half-hearted as SETI, which still doesn't say we're ready to meet anyone- at that moment we'll actually be major players in the real game around the universe, we'll have graduated. Until then, we might as well be unusually environmentally destructive caribou. They know we're not idiots, and give us tidbits to keeps us at least "looking up in to the sky", but they can't accelerate our readiness much more than that. I think a lot of older cultures have been waiting in some small way for us to "graduate", probably since our origin. But we have to prove we're the ones ready to accept them. We clearly are not ready now, though we are getting closer- but right now we can't even see a duck for a duck at this stage, because that duck doesn't fit our preconceptions.

The thing I always come back to is the fact that, well, we are here. Anybody who thinks we're so special, so amazing, such a miracle, that we could possibly be here alone in this vast universe... that is an illogical, preposterous, utterly absurd presumption. Obviously, if one must presume, one should logically presume the opposite. In fact, until recently in our history, most cultures did make this presumption- it seems to be the

advent of the religion of technology that we're so bent on being "God's only children."

Anyway, I take the opposite view- I take the cartesian-like "we're here, so they must be too." The question is, could they get here from there? With our understanding of physics now, it seems we're just opening the door to a whole different non-newtonian perception of the universe. We as a culture worship our technology, which is still definitely primitive as compared with our scientific understandings of reality... but we've gone to the point where electron tunneling isn't just a bizarre theory, it is real, it makes technology, it "makes toys"- it can be worshiped. It is obvious that a culture with not just 100 years of experience with quantum mechanics, but rather, 200 million years with quantum mechanics... probably did take advantage of not just electron tunneling, but also of time travel, parallel/probabilistic universes, non-linear travel... and lots more stuff that WE haven't even come to discover yet. In short, yes, they most likely can get here from there.

So why can't we believe our eyes when we do see something that appears to be alien? Seems to be a pompous reaction, mixed with a phobic one. There is no rational reason why we should deny there are aliens here- if we had such proof that caribou were here, we'd just go on the assumption that was true- it makes no sense not to. But we're caught up in "proving" they're here... that goes nowhere. It will always go nowhere. Because we don't want to prove they're here- were not ready. We still like the illusion that we're alone in God's grand playground, his Special ones.

**From:** wyndav@tarecording.com (Wyn Davis)

**Subject: Re: Corso's humanoid aliens (was Roswell, the debate that leads nowhere)**

**Date:** 30 Sep 1997 04:29:52 -0400

In article <idB3mjB4ILK0EwNS@sid-away.demon.co.uk>, Sherilyn@sid-away.demon.co.uk says...

In article 19970924051601.BAA09577@ladder02.news.aol.com>, RONCRAFT roncraft@aol.com> writes Also, numerous technical errors have emerged in Corso's book, and the tale of technologi-

cal seeding is much harder to believe than the alternative: that we developed night sights, silicon chips, fiber optics and whatnot without any help from crashed alien spaceships.

do you mean you can't accept the possibility of alien spaceships, or you don't believe in technological seeding?

I can accept the possibility of both, but humanoid aliens are unlikely and the technological seeding was both \_unnecessary\_ and reverse engineering an entirely alien technology would have been a slow way to "upgrade" a civilization—something that visibly hasn't happened, in any case, for all the technological jumps cited are entirely consistent with the theory that preceded them by some decades.

Precisely where do you think the conceptual structure of chips originated, ie tunnel diodes as an example?

Quantum theory. Unless you think Einstein, Dirac, Schroedinger etc were aliens, the tunnel diode is an earthly idea.

This isn't a flame, I'm just curious about your thoughts re: conceptual origins of technological breakthroughs.

None of the physics of any of it is out of the ordinary. If this were fifty years earlier, we'd be arguing about radio and Maxwell's equations.

— Sherilyn

For the Snark was a Boojum, you see.

I find that, generally, people who promote the existence of aliens, technological seeding, governmental conspiracies to exploit alien technology and other similar notions usually have never worked in the technology sector and certainly have never participated in the development of breakthrough technology. An original thought (and this is NOT a flame) is an unusual thing for these folks. Even fairly reasonable people take it for granted that things "just happen" and, see the development of new technologies as inevitable. For the past 80 years, particularly in the U.S., we have gone from the most rudimentary stages of flight to a world where trips beyond the earth's atmosphere are commonplace. Many folks simply just don't realize that technological breakthroughs are the result of incredibly intense



effort, (sometimes at the sacrifice of everything else in their lives), by people who specialize in a few extremely specialized fields of study. In the "old" days people accepted the introduction of new technologies more easily. The world was filled with "inventors".

People with names we knew who got direct credit for the work they did.

Today much of that same kind of work is accomplished inside private industry and, the folks who do the actual inventing are known only to a handful of their colleges working in the same field.

Some people find it difficult to conceive of how someone, or even a group of someones, could formulate the idea for the tunnel diode or high order binary coding or the silicon wafer or many other technological breakthroughs.

Many times these people don't realize they are putting forth the same argument as biblical literalists. They simply can't believe these things could happen without intervention, a hidden hand, magic or whatever. If I were not lately of a very charitable mind set I would feel VERY insulted at some of these "it was given to us by aliens" theories but, in truth I understand that many people never have the opportunity or pleasure to watch a great technological innovation go from idea to working model to everyday use. If they did have this privilege they would be much less willing to negate the struggle, frustration and eventual victory of the people who toiled to help make these "miracles" happen.

Wyn Davis

**From: I'm@home.here (DrPostman)**

**Re: Pat Robertson Advocates Stoning UFO Buffs**

**Date: Thu, 02 Oct 1997**

Though I haven't heard him advocate anything as stupid as Pat Robertson has, Jack Van Impe is telling his audience on his weekly newscomedy show that aliens are angels of the Devil. On his web site he advertises a book that explains the evils of ET. This site was until just recently advertised on Art Bell's site.

**Pat Robertson is Anti-UFO**  
by Dean Estes

He's just got the UFO bongs mixed up with those who understand intelligent life elsewhere is likely. He doesn't

## Robertson Advocates Death By Stoning for UFO Enthusiasts

by Skipp Porteous, Freedom Writer Magazine

In a recent pronouncement, television evangelist and Christian Coalition president Pat Robertson advocated death by stoning for UFO enthusiasts.

Freedom Writer magazine disclosed Robertson's statement in its July/August issue. Freedom Writer is published by the Institute for First Amendment Studies, a group that monitors the right. Robertson used the news of the July 4th Mars landing to promote his extreme beliefs. A segment on the July 8, 1997 broadcast of The 700 Club featured news of the Mars Pathfinder mission. Employing the historical event as a starting point, the program delved into the possibility of the existence of UFOs and space aliens.

While Robertson viewed the space program with suspicion, on a more serious note, he launched into a diatribe against those who entertain the existence of space aliens and UFOs. In a rambling discourse, he said that if such things exist, they are simply demons trying to lead people away from Christ. According to Robertson, the threat is so serious that people who believe in space aliens should be put to death by stoning — according to "God's word."

"The Bible says the Earth belongs to man, but the heavens belong to the Lord," Robertson said. "He has given us the Earth. He also warned, way back when Moses was writing down not only what is the Ten Commandments, but Deuteronomy, which is almost the Second Law.

"Here is what he said to the children of Israel about this whole matter:

"If there is found among you, within any of your gates which the Lord your God gives you, a man or a woman who has been wicked in the sight of the Lord your God, in transgressing His covenant, who has gone and served other gods and worshipped them, either the sun or moon or any of the hosts of heaven which I have not commanded you, and you hear of it, then you shall inquire diligently. And if it is indeed true and certain that such an abomination has been committed in Israel, then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has committed that wicked thing, and stone to death that man or woman with stones.' (Deuteronomy 17:2-5, NKJV)

"Now, that's what Moses said to the children of Israel about those who worship the sun and the moon and the hosts of heaven, because these things, at best, are lifeless nothings, or, if they are intelligent, they're demonic. And, yes, there is a host of heaven. There are angels and there are fallen angels. There is no question about it.

"Can a demon appear as a slanty-eyed, funny-looking creature? Of course he can, or it can. Of course they can deceive people. And if they can lead somebody away from the true God, or away from Jesus Christ, anyway it happens, it doesn't matter, you will lose your salvation. It doesn't matter how they get you. The question is, did they get you, and under what guise?

"This is man in rebellion against God, who refuses to take God's Law. And God says, 'My covenant says you won't do this. And if I find anybody in Israel,' — "which is his pure nation" — 'If I find anybody in Israel that's doing this sort of thing, then I want you to take him out and dispose of him.

"It's a clear violation of God's word." ■ ■ ■

understand that UFO's have no connection with intelligent life anywhere.

Correct, but the REAL problem is that there are "mentally unbalanced" religious bigots out there who hang on his every words like it's a proclamation from the proverbial holy mount. While I would classify Robertson as one of the more moderate televangelists out there (..if you really want to hear some downright DANGEROUS talk, try the domestic shortwave radio stations like WWCR, WRNO & WRMI, who carry programming by groups, among others who believe that they are the "chosen race" by virtue of being caucasian and of northern european decent and say that jews and others should be "eliminated"... This kind of stuff is being broadcast RIGHT NOW in some places on the dial...) Robertson nonetheless has a hold on some people who will interpret such as a license to go out and "kill" someone just because they express an interest in esoteric science or topics. This is FREAKIN SCARY.

In closing, I will tell you that I have been monitoring "right wing" media on radio and television since 1982. I knew that after the Branch Davidians went and immolated themselves that there would be radical voices on some outlets (primarily domestic shortwave radio..) who would call for some act of "revenge" against the institution of the U.S. Government, who they believe perpetuated the Waco tragedy. That very night, I monitored no less than three programs on shortwave which directly called for, or gave a platform to those who called for a direct act of "revenge" against the U.S. Government....

2 Years later, to the VERY DAY, the Murrow Federal Building in OKC was blown up by an organized group of right-wing radicals who had direct ties and connections to domestic subversive groups.

It CAN happen again...and people like Robertson should full realize the implications of suggesting any acts of non-civil behavior by their adherents. And, I may add, should be held civilly and criminally responsible for any acts resulting from the same, if people can not or will not take personal responsibility for their individual actions, which seems to be the alarming trend today.

Pom E Granate (dis-mounting soap-box) Thank you.

**From:** sts48@ix.netcom.com(Donald Ratsch)

**Subject: Re: APOLLO 16 SAUCER FOOTAGE**

**Date:** 1 Oct 1997 14:34:22 GMT

In <60rmg8\$05e@dfw-ixnews9.ix.netcom.com> Donald Ratsch <sts48@ix.netcom.com> writes:

Apollo 16 onboard 16mm footage, April 1972, File roll 9361 shows the moon to the right (Apollo not quite in lunar orbit) and a saucer shaped object with a dome on top located in space to the left of the moon. Saucer is near the Apollo. Camera pans to the right toward the moon. Saucer now not in view. Camera pans left picking up the saucer again but now saucer has moved into the distance. First heard of the film from friend who viewed it via F.O.I.A. request. The movie action and still can be viewed at:

><http://personal.netwrx.net/xalium/chapterhouse/apoll16/apollo16.htm>

I sent this same message to: sci.space.shuttle and James Oberg, NASA debunker responded in a sci.space.shuttle posting dated Oct 1, 1997 03:37:55 GMT. I was shocked and surprised that big Jim just rolled over and couldn't explain away the saucer in the film. He responds this way, "The NASA film tech said the image was of the earth, and without checking I quoted him in an unpublished scene list I put together in 1979. Recently it has been claimed the image couldn't have been the earth. I checked the view, identified craters on the lunar limb, and confirmed that it cannot be earth— it's in the wrong direction. I stand corrected. Whether its a window reflection or another spaceship is up to the viewer, but the image sure hasn't been 'secret', even if UFO buffs didn't find it for twenty five years!"

**From:** "Shroom" <me@home.com>  
**Subject: Tremors/Sonic Booms in SW Alabama & NW Florida - Nov. 1, 1991** Date: Thu, 02 Oct 1997 01:47:23 -0700

This may not seem like a UFO related topic but it does concern a series of unexplained tremors which startled residents of the central Gulf Coast from SE

Mississippi to NW Florida. I don't know if they were the result of military exercises over the Gulf of Mexico or the result of something a bit more paranormal. What I do know is that most "experts" attributed these vibrations, some lasting well over two minutes, to sonic booms resulting from an Air National Guard exercise called Operation Century Mudbug, which began on Wednesday, October 30, 1991 and ended the following Sunday. There were about 50 jet fighters involved in the exercise, belonging to National Guard units based in Oklahoma, Texas, Nebraska, Louisiana, & Alabama. A US

Marine Corps squadron based in S. Carolina was also participating. Although I could give a long & detailed description of the phenomena, I will not because I cannot put into words just what it felt like. I guess you just had to be there.

If anyone out there knows what this ANG exercise was all about, I'd appreciate it if you could post the information to this newsgroup. If the tremors were really the result of sonic booms then so be it. I'm not a physicist or an atmospheric scientist so I can't really argue against the orthodox explanation. Nevertheless, I've heard sonic booms before and I know how they sound; I live in Mobile, AL and Pensacola NAS is only an hour's drive away. Keesler AFB is an hour's drive in the other direction. I even heard a sonic boom from the Space Shuttle once.

I've done as much research as I could considering the limited resources available to me here in the rectal sphincter of the Southeast US. As best I can tell, no branch of the military ever accepted the blame for the tremors, some of them so strong they shook doors nearly off their hinges. The National Earthquake Center in Golden, CO reported no seismic activity in the area, nor did a geology professor at a local university which is equipped with a seismograph. Also, there were no permits granted for seismic oil exploration in the area when the tremors were felt. In fact, the only people who suggested sonic booms were meteorologists working for the National Weather Service. Representatives from several nearby military bases, including Pensacola NAS stated that they had no idea what was causing the earthquake-

like shaking. Of course I don't seriously believe they would admit it if they did know, but I recall seeing the Pensacola NASA spokesman on television and he seemed to be visibly perplexed by it all.

I was perplexed too, and I still am.

So, if anyone out there has information regarding Operation Century Mudbug or the strange tremors around Mobile, please post it here!!

Also, If you have info regarding a US Navy project centered around a ship called "Aegis", which was equipped to produce powerful electromagnetic pulses similar to those which result from nuclear explosions, please post that also. I lost track of the project sometime in the late '80s and I have no idea what became of it, but I'm wondering if it was related to the tremors and the ANG exercise. From what I understand about the ship it seems to have been designed as a sort of floating HAARP.

I can't be sure that "Aegis" and "Century Mudbug" were related, and to be honest I don't think they were, but the possibility exists and needs to be explored.

Some of you may wish to reply to this message by telling me to post it in one of the conspiracy newsgroups, since it seems to be centered around a possible military coverup. If you know your UFOlogy well, you'll certainly know that unusual sonic events are often associated with UFO sightings, so please try to post constructive replies rather than bitch-out comments. I like this group a lot and I've been lurking here for months. As far as the conspiracy groups are concerned, most of the ones I've visited have been taken over by Nazis and other shit-head white supremacist types; I don't want to know what they have to say.

If you know anything, post it, please!! Don't try to E-mail me since my mail server has been schizo for the last few months. Just post it here.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Shroom



## PHOENIX SIGHTINGS UPDATE

I have two items of interest to those who have followed the story on the Phoenix sightings of March 13.

1) I have finally received the statement published in *Tucson Weekly* on those A-10s from Maryland.

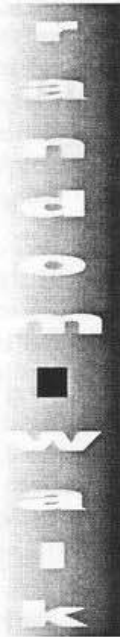
"Lt. Keith Shepherd, public information officer at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, confirms that an eight-plane squadron of A-10 fighter-bombers from the 175th Fighter Wing, based in Baltimore, Maryland, landed at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base at approximately 8:30 p.m. on March 13, returning from the Phoenix area. The Baltimore unit was in Arizona to conduct training exercises."and" Shepherd says an initial check at Davis-Monthan revealed that all of the planes permanently stationed at the Air Force base had landed before 6 p.m. on March 13. It was a recent report from a Marana Air National Guard unit that inspired a deeper look at the records." (Tucson Weekly Vol. 14 No. 21 July 24-30, 1997)

When this was published in the Arizona Republic, some facts got changed including the time of landing. This caused some skeptics to proclaim that the videos of the Phoenix Lights taken close to 10 p.m. that night were the flare drops from these A-10s that had landed an hour-and-a-half earlier! These flare drops, accomplished before 8:30 p.m. on that night, do not account for the horizontally moving formation of lights seen over Phoenix at around 8:30 p.m. We are back to "unidentifieds".

2) One of the sightings on March 13 was of a formation of amber lights (more than a mile in span) that was seen by a retired airline pilot, Trig Johnston, at about 10:20 p.m. moving south above Scottsdale Blvd. A second witness, named Curtis, has now come forward and given the same description as Trig from a different viewing location. This second witness claims to have videotaped those moving lights from his roof. He says that he was going to deliver this tape to City Councilwoman Frances Barwood after talking to her on the phone. The day he grabbed the tape to go to the post office with it, he heard a knock on the door. He says, two men dressed in black suits, black ties, black business hats and wearing sun glasses were at the door stating they had come from Barwood's office. They collected the tape, saying they would deliver it for him. When they went to walk away, one turned asking Curtis if he had made a copy for himself, and Curtis replied that he did not whereby the MIB said, "good"! Was Curtis telling the truth about this incident? We do not know yet. His recounting of the sighting matches our pilot witness, but the bizarre MIB element has finally reared up on this case. Why he did not make a copy of this tape is something we cannot answer at this time.

If any MIBs out there have this tape, we would appreciate a copy please and would also like you to correctly identify yourself. (FAT CHANCE).

*Sincerely, Bill Hamilton, Exec Dir., Skywatch International*



*This is ParaNet's news column. It's called Random Walk after the mathematical concept in which the direction of each successive move in a sequence of movements is determined entirely at random. In other words, this is a random assortment of interesting news tidbits culled from the WorldWide Web, news wires and magazine stories.*

#### UFO NEWS.

by Joseph Trainor  
(used with permission)

#### **TRIANGULAR UFOs SEEN IN OHIO AND UTAH**

On Wednesday, August 20, 1997, at 12:40 a.m., a woman driving on Route 53 in Hardin County, near Kenton, Ohio (population 8,576), spotted a triangular UFO overhead.

The witness told Tri-States Advocates for Scientific Knowledge (T.A.S.K.) that she "observed a triangular-shaped object with three white lights in a triangle configuration. The sighting lasted for one to two minutes as the object moved from the northeast to the southwest. The object moved at a steady pace slightly faster than an airplane. The object's altitude was bordering the cloud ceiling (8,000 feet), the lights occasionally dimming as it was obscured by clouds. There was a light rain falling at the time of the sighting." (Many thanks to Kenneth Young of T.A.S.K. for this report.)

On Saturday, September 6, 1997, at 5 a.m., two men driving on Interstate Highway 15 in Clearfield, Utah (population 17,982), about 30 miles (48 kilometers) north of Salt Lake City, sighted "a triangular craft with white lights at each point and a red light on top." The UFO was flying over Hill Air Force Base, a salt desert area just west of the Wasatch mountain range. (Many thanks

to Ed Adcox, Utah state director of Skywatch International for this report.)

#### **STRANGE FIREBALLS SPOTTED IN REDDING, CALIFORNIA**

On Sunday, August 3, 1997, at 2 p.m., Ted Toal was standing on the deck of his home in Redding, California (population 41,995) with his 12-year-old son and the son's 8-year-old friend "when we saw a very bright fireball" rising in the southern sky at "maybe 60 degrees elevation." The UFO "moved across a good portion of the sky (maybe 80 degrees), passing roughly straight overhead." As the fireball reached a point "maybe 45 degrees elevation" in the northern sky, "it suddenly disappeared."

"My son said that it appeared to him that the object had exploded because he saw streaks of light coming from it in all directions the moment it happened," Ted reported.

"About five to ten minutes later, a second very bright fireball streaked across the sky, this time from the north-northeastern portion of the sky to the western portion, moving roughly at a 100-degree angle and reaching an elevation of 70 degrees. Its trajectory was roughly at right angles to the first fireball." "As it reached the western portion of the sky, I could no longer see it because of a hedge near me that blocked it, but my son and his friend could still see it. They saw it suddenly turn at a 90-degree angle to the right and streak off. They are certain of that." (Email Interview)

#### **UFO SHOWS UP AT THE GARTH BROOKS CONCERT**

Thursday, August 7, 1997, saw the Garth Brooks outdoor concert at New York City's Central Park, which drew a capacity crowd of 300,000. But a handful of country music fans spotted something else in the area.

"A few of us noticed a strange object in the sky to the east of Central Park," J.D. reported. "Right after Billy Joel played his first song, I glanced at the sky and saw a yellow or amber light over the trees to the east. It seemed to be staying still so I watched it a little longer. I noticed a light that seemed to sparkle or flare downward. At that point, I pointed it out to the people I was with. From

then on, we all watched it move up and down in the sky. It also seemed to hover behind the trees."

"At one point, it seemed to change color to a light green, then back again. Soon after this, it rose in the sky and then zigzagged back down again at the same time" a light blue UFO appeared. The newcomer "seemed to come from behind, then disappeared to the left. At 9:15 p.m., it went below the treeline and stayed there. Before we left, we noticed that it was still visible in the sky but was hard to see with the lights from the concert." (Many thanks to Mike Broussard of CNE for forwarding J.D.'s report.)

#### **UFO HOVERS OVER TOWN ON THE BERKSHIRE-SURREY LINE**

On Saturday, August 30, 1997, at 7:50 p.m., residents of Sunningdale, Berkshire, UK gathered on Cobham Common to watch a bright light hover over the nearby town of Camberley, Surrey.

"Its altitude was at cloud level (10,000 feet or 3,030 meters—J.T.)," one witness reported. "The sky was broken cloud and dry at the time." The UFO "appeared as a very bright, magnesium-white cylindrical object of about the same size and speed of an aircraft. It was far too bright to be a conventional aircraft. It was pointing at 45 degrees going down and travelling north. It then changed shape and elongated to over twice its original size."

The UFO continued its northward descent and then "began stretching until it formed a crescent moon shape—like a C." After that, it disappeared. (USENET report.)

#### **ROTATING BLUE UFO STARTLES COUPLE IN IRELAND**

On Saturday, August 30, 1997, at about 1 a.m., Chris Maher and his wife were driving from Kenmare to Rosslare on Highway N72 in County Kerry, Eire when they spied a UFO. Kenmare is near Eire's Atlantic Ocean shore, 125 miles (190 kilometers) southwest of Dublin.

"Shortly after passing Rathmore on the road to Mallow," Chris reported, "I began noticing an array of hexagonal-shaped lights which appeared to be

between 400 and 600 feet (off the ground—J.T.). The lights were first observed to the right of the road and then passed over the road, hovering for a few minutes over the centerline. They then passed to the left of the road over open country" and paced the Mahers' car on a parallel course.

Chris said he wanted to stop, but his wife, who was terrified by the UFO's appearance, insisted that they continue on to Mallow. Chris pointed out that the night sky was clear with unlimited visibility. He described the UFO as "the array, whitish/light blue in color, seemed to be rotating in an eccentric pattern on two or more levels."

Unknown to the Mahers at the time, the newspaper Irish Mirror had reported a sighting of glowing "flying crucifixes" over Kerrystown. (See the Irish Mirror for August 30, 1997. Many thanks to Chris Maher for letting UFO ROUNDUP quote from his report.)

### **UNUSUAL METEOR RAISES A FLAP IN CENTRAL ITALY**

On Sunday, September 7, 1997, at 12:20 a.m., a fireball flew over central Italy and was seen by hundreds of people. Witnesses described it as a "bright light" in the sky, which changed into "a column of light, bluish white in color." Although the description is typical of a bolide, or detonating meteor, no sound was reported by the witnesses. The object was seen in the provinces of Liguria, Emilia, Toscana, Umbria, Marche and Campagna. The case is being investigated by the Centro Italiano di Studi Ufologici (CISU).

(See the newspapers La Nazione, Il Tempo, Corriere Adriatico, Corriere di Arezzo, and Gazzetta di Palma for September 8, 1990. Grazie a Edoardo Russo of CISU for this report.)

### **UFOs SIGHTED AT DESERT ARMY BASE IN CHILE**

During August, a daylight disc visited a base operated by the Ejercito de Chile (Chilean Army) in the Atacama Desert, not far from Antofagasta, the site of last month's UFO encounter.

According to Agrupacion de Investigaciones Ovniologicas (AION), the well-known Chilean UFO group, a Chilean Army platoon went on patrol in

the afternoon and left one man behind on sentry duty. When the patrol returned, they found the soldier "scared to death."

While the platoon was gone, the unnamed soldier "saw a metallic oval-shaped object about 100 meters (330 feet) away and suspended about two meters (7 feet) from the ground. The object was 10 meters (33 feet) in diameter."

AION is also investigating the reported crash of a UFO at Osorno in southern Chile in January 1997. "Some farmers and cowboys saw a bright object fall from the sky. At first they thought it was a meteor, but when it slowed down and made a movement like a falling leaf, they started doubting. The object landed and could be seen with binoculars. The object was bright and metallic-looking."

The following day, however, when a curious witness tried to reach the site, he was halted by a fully-armed Chilean Army patrol about one kilometer from the spot. According to AION president Rodrigo Fuenzalida, the platoon "told him to leave and said that they had orders to shoot, if necessary."

For the next two days, people in Osorno reported seeing many helicopters fly over the town, heading for the reputed crash site. "The retrieval operation took two days to clean up whatever was there." (Muchas gracias a Luis Sanchez Perry para esas noticias.)

### **BLACK HELICOPTERS VERY ACTIVE DURING AUGUST**

Black helicopters were very active during August, and one of them even intruded upon your editor's vacation in the USA's upper Midwest.

On Friday, August 29, 1997, at 3:30 p.m., a black helicopter was seen flying low over Albany, Oregon (population 26,546). According to an eyewitness, Mrs. Robert Walker, the machine had a strange-looking antennae array on its nose and flew over West Albany High School.

Another witness, Lee Wise, described the chopper as "a praying mantis." Others identified it as a CH-54 Sky Crane. (See the Albany, Oregon Democrat and Herald for August 30, 1997.)

On Saturday, August 23, 1997, at 3:25 p.m., your editor was walking down Lake Avenue in Duluth, Minnesota (population 90,000). Right in front of the Subway sandwich shop, I heard a loud helicopter sound and, turning to my left, spotted a charcoal gray helicopter hovering at an estimated altitude of 500 feet above the building across the street. Although the sky was overcast, the chopper had no running lights and no identifiable insignia.

It was not an American chopper. I know the configuration of all USA military helicopters, from the UH-1 to the AH-64 to the MD-520, and it wasn't any of those. The helicopter coming closest to the one I saw is the German MBB BO-105, but the fuselage was a bit longer than the BO-105, and its skids were a bit longer, too. The helicopter hovered in place for a full three minutes, and then it took off at high speed in a northeasterly direction, heading for the Hunter Park section of the city, with me kicking myself for leaving my Olympia camera back at the motel.

On Thursday, September 4, 1997, at 8:53 p.m., I was driving south on County Road 4 in Beaver Bay, Minnesota (population 300), on the north shore of Lake Superior. This time I had my fully-loaded camera in my jacket pocket. The sky was clear and cloudless, and the quarter-moon was just about to set. Only the planets were visible—the lingering sunset glow obscured the stars.

Suddenly, a strange greenish-white light exploded in the sky about five miles (8 kilometers) north of me. The flash was approximately 20 degrees above the forested horizon. Immediately I pulled over to the side of the road. As I opened the car door, a second flash—identical to the first—exploded on the southeast horizon. This flash was right over Lake Superior, about ten or fifteen miles south of Shovel Point in Tettegouche State Park. As you can imagine, my heart was really pumping. Hands quivering with adrenalin shock, I aimed my camera at the horizon and waited. And waited. And waited. Forty-five minutes went by, and the phenomenon did not repeat itself. (Aaaaarrgh!—J.T.)

A few days later, I talked to a woman at the Dewitt-Seitz Marketplace in Duluth.

She told me that she had seen a black helicopter on Saturday, August 23, at 12:15 p.m. She had been taking her grandsons rollerblading in the municipal park/beach at the southern end of Park Point. The black helicopter came out of the southeast at a very high rate of speed, she said, flew over Park Point Beach, crossed St. Louis Bay and then "went like a bat out of hell over the ridge" in the Piedmont Heights section of the city. Her sighting took place three hours before mine.

On Monday, September 8, 1997, at 4:50 p.m., James D. and his girlfriend, Lillian R., were driving south on Post Road, aka Route 1, in the Davisville section of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, when they saw a black helicopter fly from east to west over the highway. Jim described the chopper as "a Huey" (UH-1), and Lill said its color was "coal-black."

The helicopter made a 90-degree turn southward after crossing the highway, Jim said. It then flew for "a half mile or so" in that direction, made another 90-degree left turn, and flew due east toward the old Quonset naval base. "We lost sight of it when we stopped for a red light," he added.

### **MUFON IOWA INVESTIGATES SIOUX CITY SIGHTING**

MUFON Iowa is currently investigating a UFO sighting that took place in a rural area near Sioux City, Iowa, 200 miles west of Des Moines, the night of August 7, 1997.

Three people were involved in the sighting— a 50-year-old woman, her 22-year-old son, and her 11-year-old grandson.

At 9:30 p.m. on August 7, the boys were driving home when the younger one spotted a triangular UFO in the sky. "The first triangle was 500 feet away and about 200 feet (in) altitude," Beverly Trout, Iowa MUFON state director reported, "and moved parallel at about 20 miles per hour. The 60-foot triangle moved in a generally easterly direction for about two miles, as the boys drove through Stone Park, a heavily wooded area of hills, deep ravines and winding roads. Eventually it

## **NOSTRADAMUS PREDICTED DI'S DEATH AND FUNERAL**

Like everyone else, your editor was shocked and saddened by the death of Princess Diana and her friend, Emad (Dodi) al-Fayed, in Paris two weeks ago.

While most modern psychics seemed to have missed the boat on this tragedy, I wondered how the Babe Ruth of prediction, Nostradamus himself, had made out. Turns out the Old Master has hit another home run.

Check out this item—Century 2, Quatrain 28 "La penultieme du surnom de prophete Prendra Diane pour son jour et repos Loing vaguera par frenetique teste En deliverant un grand peuple d'impos."

("The last son of the man with the Prophet's name Will bring Diana to her day of rest. At a distance they wander in frenetic grief Delivering a great people from ruin.")

The father of Dodi al-Fayed, the owner of Harrod's department store, is named Mohammed, the name of the Islamic Prophet. The rest of Nostradamus's prophecy is self-evident.

It's strange how his prophecies always become perfectly obvious after the event.

(See the book NOSTRADAMUS—COUNTDOWN TO APOCALYPSE by Jean-Charles de Fontbrunne, Owl Edition, Henry Holt & Co., 1985, page 418.)

crossed the road just behind the vehicle and headed back to the west."

When they turned onto the road leading to their farmhouse, a "strange animal" bumped into the car's passenger door. "The boys described it as reminding them of a hyena."

Arriving at home, the boys told their mother/ grandmother. She responded that there were "no such things" as UFOs. "Just then," Ms. Trout added, "the 11-year-old pointed to the southwest of their house, and there was another triangle about 300 feet in size about 3/4 of a mile (1.2 kilometers) and only about 500 feet (in) altitude, moving

very slowly." The UFO hovered for 15 minutes. To the west of the house, the family noticed an "amber-colored globe of light" in the sky, "with an apparent size of a little less than a full moon, from which three globes emerged (same size as the original globe), darted around, then re-merged with the original, then faded."

Since the sighting, the younger boy has had repeated dreams featuring "large

heads with no faces." Also, the boys did not arrive home until 10:45 p.m., after what should have been a 15-minute drive.

The case is being investigated by Beverly Trout, Irene Barnes, Dr. Lawrence Lacey and MUFON consultant.

*Robert Lyon.*

### **(UFOs SIGHTED IN AND NEAR ROSEBURG, OREGON**

On Saturday, August 23, 1997, at 1:30 p.m., eight people, including an officer of the Oregon State Police, spied a daylight disc hovering over the Green district in Roseburg, Oregon (population 16,644).

Roseburg is 178 miles (285 kilometers) south of Portland, the largest city in Oregon.

"The residents stood out on the street and watched a large silver disk floating directly overhead," reported Autumn Shepperd and Bob Williams of ProjectLink. "When one of the residents

looked at the object through a scope, he could see colors moving around on the bottom of the disk—yellow, red, blue, green.”

“The object made small rapid movements from side to side but stayed directly overhead for approximately 30 minutes. The witnesses claimed that it looked like it was ‘jumping back and forth’...When the craft left, it streaked away at a very high rate of speed and faded out of sight.”

Two weeks earlier, on August 11, 1997, two hikers camping out near Red Butte, near Three-Finger Jack, in the Cascade Mountains reported a UFO sighting at 3:30 a.m. One hiker saw a “weird-looking” bright “star” on the eastern horizon. “He pointed it out to his friend. The light was greenish-red in color and eventually moved up, left, down and then dipped below the horizon. He said that the light appeared to be 50 to 75 miles away, and he calculated it to be north of the city of Bend (population 17,263), out in the desert.”

On Sunday, August 31, Autumn and Bob set up their own skywatch at Cottage Grove Lake, north of Roseburg. “We chose a clearing that would offer a clear view of the night sky and the horizon and set up the tent. At exactly 8:59 p.m., a red light appeared 300 to 400 feet above the horizon to the west-southwest. Bob, my partner, looked at it through the binoculars,” Autumn reported. “I turned the camcorder on it. It remained stationary and pulsed, changing colors from white to red and back again, then to blue and finally to green. Finally, it blinked out and was gone.”

Autumn added that she and Bob spotted two UFOs at Cottage Grove Lake in 1995. (Many thanks to Autumn Shepperd and Bob Williams of ProjectLink for this report.)

### **UFOs APPEAR OVER TOWNS IN SOUTHERN COLORADO**

On Friday, August 22, 1997, at 8:30 p.m., people living in Mesita, Colorado (population 900) reported “watching several lights of some craft” flying over the South Pinyon Hills, along the Rio

Grande River, just north of the New Mexico state line.

Three witnesses saw two bright lights, “like huge car headlights, with one intermittently visible to the west in a ‘large thunderhead’ (cloud). “Then they watched a golden light that appeared low to the south, near the Colorado/New Mexico border.”

On Thursday, September 4, 1997, at 8:30 p.m., two Mesita witnesses “observed two large craft, each with a row of six whitish-orange lights, slowly drifting around over the South Pinyon Hills.” The UFOs moved in unison and were described as being “a little larger than a (U.S. Air Force C-131) transport plane.”

“After traveling north for about ten miles, they slowly began drifting west across the San Luis Valley between Antonito (population 1,103) and Romeo (population 308). At no time did the objects travel faster than an estimated 40 miles per hour. The sighting lasted about 40 minutes.”

On Friday, September 5, 1997, at 11:30 p.m., two witnesses at the Baca Grande development, about 90 miles (144 kilometers) north of the New Mexico state line, claim to have seen “a large craft hovering over the center of the San Luis Valley. They described unblinking red and green lights that seemed to be arrayed around the object.”

On Saturday, September 6, 1997, at 3:30 a.m., a man resting in his car on County Road T near Crestone “was awakened by a roaring sound that sounded like an old train.” At first he thought it was a jet flying over. But when the sound did not diminish, he rolled down his car windows, hoping to get a fix on the source. The noise, which he described as “clanking sounds,” seemed to be coming from the southwest. But he saw nothing but open range in that direction. (Many thanks to UFO author/researcher Christopher O’Brien and Mike Lindemann of CNI News for this item. These stories originally appeared in CNI News, volume 3, number 14, part 2 for the date September 16, 1997.)

### **TWO UFOs SIGHTED OVER DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

On Saturday, September 6, 1997, at 9:30 p.m., Van D. was sitting at home in the Morgan Park section of Duluth, Minnesota (population 92,811), watching a wrestling match on TV. “I looked out the window,” Van said, “And all of a sudden, I saw this triangle-shaped aircraft. It had bright white lights at the end of each of the corners. And in back of the aircraft, it had red lights, sort of like the engine. So I watched it fly across the sky not far from my house.”

“I heard nothing, absolutely nothing, no noise or anything. So then I turned and saw this other aircraft, more like the flying saucer type. It had bright red lights encircling the craft, and a bright white light on top. So I watched it fly across, too. No sound at all.”

Van ran upstairs to get a telescope. But, by the time he returned, “the spaceships seemed to have disappeared.” Then, about 20 minutes later, he “saw the saucer-shaped object flying far beyond my backyard, but it was moving too fast for me to see anything with the telescope.” (Email Interview) ■ ■ ■

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# The Book of Revelation: Angels or Aliens?

by Brian Wood

Third in a Series

*The following excerpts are from an unpublished book that I wrote a few years ago. I spent about a year studying the Bible, the Koran and other religious works throughout history with an eye toward making sense of them in terms of UFO landings rather than visions. The commentary that follows is meant to stimulate your imagination, not to discredit Christianity. It's one of many possibilities. . .*

*The section presented below is a colorful picture of dragons, serpents and a pregnant woman. It could actually be a description of the space shuttle...*

## Woman, Child and Dragon: Space Shuttle

**12:1-17** And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her

