

SWITCHING ON THE COSMIC CONNECTION

ARE WE READY TO JOIN AN INTERPLANETARY COMMUNITY?

Scientific and technological progress, particularly in the last few decades, reflects the influence of new knowledge systems and notions of reality that are forcing us to gradually discard some of our most cherished religious and epistemic concepts while reviving some long forgotten myths and traditions. The evidence that we are part of a very complex and probably densely populated universe shows that we must reorganise our institutions and change our frames of reference in order to move on to the next evolutionary level as a planetary species, related to the Cosmos at large.

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The history of mankind reflects, albeit, through a glass darkly, a spiral dynamic of expanding consciousness, from the tribal and local to the global and planetary. It is a millennial process of dissemination of holistic or cosmic awareness, reached early by a few enlightened souls and later among ever larger sections of a fast expanding population. Such a gradual, scalar but often hesitant and reversible evolution has manifested in the transformation of scientific knowledge through the induction of the general from the particular and by the discovery and description of ever greater biotopic and political wholes—from the individual to the species, from the village to the universal empire and from local space to the galaxy and beyond.

Each time the realisation of belonging to a wider community has dawned upon certain members of a human group, it has led to a revolution in socio-economic organisation, which inevitably engendered considerable resistance within the

established order. The Copernican–Galilean Revolution of the Renaissance removed the Earth from the centre of the physical Universe and the advent of relativistic–quantum physics, forced a drastic revision of the Newtonian scheme of things. The beginning of the Space Age has likewise triggered a quantum leap in our understanding of the Universe, even if the implications of that fundamental change are still not clear. It is customary for these momentous transitions to spread over one or two generations at least before they are digested by society, particularly its influential sections. Our sense of self as human beings, is still for most of us heavily dependent upon our belief that we are unique and preeminent beings in an “anthropic” Universe, endowed with the exceptional gift of intelligence in its highest form (i.e. discursive reason) and that an empty or at least largely barren cosmos is all around for us to conquer, just as the *Bible* told us that we inherited the Earth.

SOME OFFICIAL REPORTS

The alternative theory, to wit, that we are one of many species which proliferate in a densely inhabited, ancient cluster of Universes and that there may be at least as many life forms and “races” more advanced than ours that lie beneath in the scale of evolution has slowly dawned on the mental horizon of our more enlightened scientists, spiritual leaders and policy-makers, whereas it is still dormant, in a virtual state, in the collective consciousness. Yet, an increasingly weighty, well-established and widely coordinated body of hard evidence forces us to admit that not only are we not alone in this local world but that we are not even the dominant power on “our” own planet. There are many things and beings above and beside us. Religions have taught this fact of life but in the modern age their messages have generally been regarded as solely mystical and moral musings or as instructions devoid of provable, factual certainty and even scientific relevance.

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A few government-commissioned studies that have established the reality of an alien presence are the 1953 Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA's) *Robertson Panel Report* and the 1960 *Brookings Institute Report*. Both recommended keeping the evidence secret, in order not to trigger a global panic, by invoking the rather questionable justification that unidentified flying objects (UFOs) did not pose a threat to national security. Yet the United States (US) *Fire-fighter's Manual* includes instructions on precautions to be taken with UFOs to avoid radiation, burns and other hazardous effects of close proximity. Other significant documents are the *OSS World War Two Foo Fighters Reports*, the April 9, 1947 *CIG Intelligence Report* on "ghost rockets" seen in Sweden by military personnel and the July 29, 1952 memorandum from Deputy Director for Intelligence, Robert Amory Junior to

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Ralph L Clark, Acting Assistant Director of the Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) attesting to the formation of the Special Study Group by the CIA, linked to both the OSI and the Office of Current Intelligence. The United States Air Force (USAF) Project Saucer (later re-baptised Project Sign) also concluded that an extraterrestrial origin of UFOs

was likely. With regard to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the most significant piece of evidence is the 127-page report provided in 1991 to Cosmonaut Pavel Popovich by General Major Nikolai Sham, then Director of the KGB. The "Blue Files" compiled by the official joint investigative commission set up by the Soviet Union were reportedly sold for a pittance to a Western buyer in the troubled 1990s.

Contributors to this issue provide details of French, British, Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean and other governmental investigation results disclosed so far. In China, the National Society of UFO Studies, founded in 1982 and funded by the government is open only to scientists and engineers and one-third of its members work for the State. Some Chinese officials have openly professed the conviction that extraterrestrial people (*waixingren*) live on Earth and more than fifty thousand Chinese belong to

the many UFO volunteer research associations that exist throughout the land. We are therefore dealing with a globally acknowledged reality.

A major milestone was the 1964 *NATO-SHAPE Assessment*, still kept secret but detailed by US Army Command Sergeant Major (Retd) Robert O Dean, who was privy to it in his role on the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander for Europe (SACEUR). The assessment, subtitled “An Evaluation of a Possible Military Threat to Allied Forces” was ordered by Air Marshall Thomas Pike (Royal Air Force), Deputy of the SACEUR for General Lyman Lemnitzer, his superior and later Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff. The three conclusions submitted by the report, which included descriptions and photographic records of crashed UFOs and retrieved bodies and material, were:

- The Earth has been spied upon by several extraterrestrial civilisations, possibly for thousands of years.
- These civilisations appear to be peaceful since they are so advanced that they could easily have taken our planet, had they wished to.
- The visitors are increasing contact as part of the gradual unfolding of a plan, by which they will eventually interact with us.

INDUCTIONS AND INFERENCES

Some of the articles in this issue detail many of the undeniable records of non-human, possibly extraterrestrial or “alter-universal” presence and activities and techniques of communication—successful or still enigmatic—with members of our species. This essay draws some conclusions and succinctly spells out implications of the demonstrated state of affairs with regard to the comprehension of our origins and history and a view of our likely or possible future, moving from the most obvious to the less provable assumptions.

- 1) The technological sophistication demonstrated by “alien” visitors (this widely used, universally accepted designation is kept, as it is free of favourable or negative prejudices that might betray a particular position) is manifestly so superior to ours that it denotes a much higher degree in the ladder of intellectual and “civilisational” evolution. Specifically, the ability of their flying crafts to reach tremendous speeds in the air, sea or space and to break through the speed of

light barrier implies the faculty to manipulate space–time in ways that we can only begin to comprehend. This in turn entails mastery of matter–energy that constitutes reality. Much of that prowess still lies in the realm of the “supernatural” as far as we are concerned and it puts the visitors in the same category as gods and other prodigious beings described in the mythologies of ancient cultures who are often invoked by the Occult Sciences such as Astrology, Alchemy, Magic and other esoteric disciplines. Our modern “rationalistic” worldview must, in the light of this realisation, be drastically reviewed.

- II) Any direct public contact between human leaders and governments and aliens is fraught with problems and perils, especially due to the earlier induction. The rationale, psychology, motivations, desires and goals of much higher life forms may be inscrutable or least logically inadmissible from the human standpoint.

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It is also possible, though less likely, that our own interests, goals and fears will be enigmatic to them (at least to those who have not been observing us for long) despite the general principle that “the superior encompasses the inferior”, because what is too different may not have any language or even notion in common with us. This fear of subjection

or even annihilation explains the prevalent attitude in military and national security circles, which remain to this day mainly interested in learning about alien technology to meet the visitors and if need be fight them on an equal level, or at least with a chance of success. Until then, according to this line of reasoning, contact with the visitors should be discouraged or even banned outside specialised military agencies. The Joint Army Navy Air Protocol–146 (JANAP 146) Regulation is meant for this purpose.

- III) This leads to the third induction from the vast numbers and varieties of alien crafts and beings that have been observed in the course of several decades by multiple reliable witnesses, often supported by hard proof (official crosschecked reports, material traces and debris, authenticated photographs and films, radar and theodolite trackings, *et al*). A wide variety of intelligent species have been

visiting the Earth (or our space–time continuum), regularly or occasionally and interacting with its animal and human denizens in diverse manners (close approaches, collection of organic samples, abductions, anatomic and genetic tests, exchange of signs and symbols, triggering visual, auditory and psychic phenomena, injecting subcutaneous implants, resorting to remote interventions on our behaviour and physiology, etc). Certain sources from within the Pentagon claim that more than fifty different “species” of intelligent life forms have been recorded by certain specialised

services of the American Government, comprising the CIA, the National Security Agency (NSA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) the National Reconnaissance office (NRO) and

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other more shadowy agencies, reportedly under the aegis of the elusive Majestic Special Study Group. Some aliens, like the Nordics look similar to *homo sapiens* to the point of mingling with us undetected. Three possible explanations can be given for this:

- The human form is widespread or least exists in various parts of the Universe, having appeared and evolved independently along parallel or convergent lines, in keeping with certain natural laws. Hence, *homo sapiens* are members of a larger closely related family.
- Those “people” are genetically akin to humans, either because the latter came from another planet (or Universe) or because we have spread to other areas of the cosmos in the past, by our own devices or “transplanted” by others.
- We are being harvested and seeded into other planets, as foetuses, children or adults or through cloning or hybrid insemination (mixing human and alien genes). In this regard, the scientific hypothesis that the human gene sequence could have been artificially engineered or modified is looking more plausible.

Researchers Grazyna Fosar and Franz Bludorf have published a paper entitled “Vernetzte Intelligenz” quoted by Mary Rodwell (*The Canadian*, July 30, 2008) in which they argue that the “human DNA is a biological internet” which can be influenced and reprogrammed through words and specific electromagnetic

frequencies. It is a data storage and communication system and the genetic code is regulated like all human languages while chromosomes are compared to holographic computers using endogenous deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) laser radiations to operate.

Other aliens look quite different from us though they have the same general body structure. The commonly observed “grays” (also known as “slants” or “zetas”), the “great whites” and the various kinds of “reptilians” belong to this general category of more exotic creatures. Among the grays, multiple testimonies describe some as

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being cybernetic clones or “cyborgs” (sophisticated organic computers) while others are fully alive, biological beings that either genetically modified themselves or were “re-engineered” by another intelligent life form for various possible reasons, such as life extension and adaptation to long or permanent existence in artificial environments in space. They fit our definition of “androids”. Credible sources, such as the late, legendary Colonel Philip J Corso, who served on the US National Security

Council and in various other highly sensitive positions (in charge of “foreign technologies” at the Pentagon, under General Arthur Trudeau) assert that grays are so closely related and connected to their spacecrafts that they actually exist in symbiosis with them.

The “saucers” and other vehicles are biologically grown, not built like our machines and are attuned to the mental field of their crews so that they can be operated without any external mechanical control and guidance system. Similar properties characterise the clothes and other implements which seem to be organic, “intelligent”, almost indestructible and yet biodegradable. A major branch of modern technology is developing along these lines, beginning with the silicon chip, which is “grown” like a living cell and extending into futuristic, intelligent, self-maintaining, self-repairing clothes and machines that are already on the drawing board of certain

research laboratories. Many of these advances are evidently inspired by alien technologies recovered and analysed by military related research teams in the US and other countries.

IV) The issue of alien technology and its potential for the material upliftment of mankind is becoming ever more important, as new confirmations are found for the thesis that special departments, or corporations, usually associated undercover with the US Government or at least the military–industrial complex, have been working on certain aspects of it for at least half a century. It appears that even before World War Two the Axis powers—Germany and Italy—were attempting to understand and duplicate the propulsion technology of UFO crafts, which were then often alluded to as Martians. Various reports on German secret research groups like Thule and Vrill and their alleged contacts with extra-planetary entities are at the origin of the long-standing legends, which make flying saucers the vehicles of survivors of the Third Reich hiding in underground bases located in Antarctica and South America. Though such stories seem unproven and implausible, they reflect the belief that there was an “exopolitical” awareness within certain ruling Nazi circles.

A debate is raging on whether the bits and pieces retrieved over the last decades were stolen or covertly gifted by their owners. It may be argued that—like Robinson Crusoe on his desert island, who finds himself the beneficiary of an unexpected cargo left by an unknown ship—we may never know if these precious goods were indeed intended to fall into our hands by their original possessors. The question is whether we are abandoned on our island planet or simply marooned and secretly assisted by someone out at sea who for some mysterious reason, may be more interested in us than we suspect.

One Specific Instance of Extraterrestrial Technology

One of several intriguing cases was reported by “Isaac”, an anonymous former researcher at a Silicon Valley company, set up like many others by the US Defense Department under a civilian cover to duplicate some recovered “foreign” implements (available at, <http://isaaccaret-fortconnecting.com>). Isaac who, for obvious reasons, in particular the various non-disclosure and confidentiality pledges he had to enter

with his employers says he worked at the Palo Alto CARET Laboratory. The Commercial Applications Research for Extraterrestrial Technology was part of a wide-ranging, top priority undertaking to analyse and duplicate material, tools and processes. Though he was given access only to a narrow, specific range of “foreign” samples on a strictly “need to know” basis, he writes that what struck him most was the fact that the devices carried series of symbols which had intrinsic physical properties as if they constituted a computer language that automatically executed its own instructions in the presence of certain force-fields, partly because of the material they were etched on. He concludes that the hardware is a solid holographic computational “substrate”, conceivably the outcome of a non-linear group input

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in which each particle or bit is in fact a cybernetic entity. To quote, “the language of the symbolic inscriptions is a functional blueprint, in which each sign is related to the other in an indissociable pattern so that the meaning of the whole is extremely context-sensitive”, reminiscent of certain pictographic

languages such as Chinese. Isaac further points out that the glyphs do not merely represent but indeed contain data “literally”. This merger of symbols and meaning is characteristic of magical formulae or *tantric mantras* (syllables and phrases) and *yantras* (diagrams). It is also tantamount to a fusion of semantics and semiotics (signifier and signified) because it is non-subjective (it does not need an audience to comprehend its meaning and activate it) and hence does not require cultural convention and training to become significant.

Physics or Metaphysics?

These disclosures match many other reports, some coming from sources as weighty as Corso, on the technologies discovered aboard the craft that crashed near Roswell in 1947. They include, among others the high-energy laser and laser-directed microwave and electromagnetic pulse energies, fibre-optics, silicon chips, night vision goggles and direct mind-to-machine feedback interactions through sensors

that pick up mind waves and translate their commands into electromagnetic impulses. One implication of this psychotronic technology is that pilots have to send steady, highly-controlled mental impulses, corresponding to the “theta or delta” range detected in human brains in a state of deep meditation. Either intensive psychic–spiritual training or genetic modification would be needed to achieve such a condition over the long-term and some modern scientific studies state that human brain evolution has accelerated considerably in the ongoing Holocene Era, that is in the last 10,000 years (latest study by Gregory Cochran and John Hawks reported in *Future Pundit*, March 28, 2007). It is alleged that the rate of generation of positive selected genes has increased at least a hundredfold since forty thousand years ago and is forcing a drastic reappraisal of the conventional Darwinian thesis. In the September 9, 2005 issue of *Science* geneticist Bruce Lahn and colleagues concluded that two genes directly related to brain size were rapidly evolving in humans. The assumed cause was the “self-domestication” of humans resulting from the gradual development of civilisation—but could not an external, intelligent factor be at work as well? In any event, as anthropologist Jeffrey McKee puts it, “every species is transitional”.

V) Accordingly, the technological development of mankind to an equivalent level is inseparable from spiritual growth into the realm of what the great Indian visionary philosopher Sri Aurobindo called the “supramental”. This field is investigated by the discipline of Transpersonal Psychology through such techniques as Assagioli’s Psychosynthesis, which seek to promote and explain what is often described as exceptional human functioning, furthered by traditional holistic soul–mind–body disciplines like *yoga* and *tai chih ch’uan*. There is little doubt that at least some of the alien visitors, master technologies that operate simultaneously at the psychic, mental and spiritual levels of existence, affecting living beings on many layers of reality.

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There is evidence that crafts and their crews can change appearances by affecting our perception and the sensing parameters of our instruments (radars, sonars, *et al*). They do so by morphing or modifying their shapes and sizes from outside or by seeming to be larger inside than they outwardly look or by abruptly appearing and disappearing and so on. They harness the laws of the Universe to tinker with and “reset” space–time—affecting local conditions and moving backwards and

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forwards in it—to duplicate themselves instantly or dematerialise (by jumping into parallel dimensions or Universes) through what has been described as a “warp-drive accelerator” or “wormhole generator”. The conceptual foundation for these abilities is now scientifically understood and accepted by physicists, mathematicians and even engineers as shown in William F Alschuler’s book *The Science of UFOs* (New York: St. Martin’s Griffin, 2002) and in a few

other “serious” scientific studies. Although according to current official consensus, they are still far from being practically duplicable, there is hope that other sensorially non-perceptible dimensions may be made manifest by the new neutrino detector “IceCube” being installed near the South Pole. In the September 2007 issue of *Physical Review D*, a paper by Matthew Johnson and two colleagues from the University of California in Santa Cruz, points to some possible astrophysical traces of other “bubble” Universes that might coexist with ours after emerging from the energy field that we mistakenly call the intergalactic vacuum.

VI) According to empirical evidence, if past interventions have catalysed, caused or influenced the current state of our evolution, it is possible and likely that it is being influenced and reshaped even now and oriented towards the next stage. People in other continents were periodically visited and (re)discovered by Europeans in the last one or two millennia. Periods of exploration and exchange were followed by long interludes during which there were few or no communications. Our situation *vis-à-vis* visitors from outer space may be

similar—ages of colonisation separated by quieter eras. We have entered a stage of intense alien activity since the middle of the last century possibly caused by our technical progress in sensitive fields such as nuclear fission and fusion, with a heavy military focus. Our space programmes have also been intensely watched and monitored since their inception,

VII) The progress of the “new” Techno Sciences, mainly Biology, Genetics, Nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence, Electromagnetics, (Quantum) Computer Science, Environmental Sciences and Bioelectromagnetics directs us toward an increasingly complex, space-travelling and dwelling form of civilisation, developing a virtual reality to supplement and sometimes replace the outside “imposed” reality. Life’s creative joust with entropy is leading us to expand into ever higher forms of organisation. The increasing ability to modify external circumstances according to his needs and desires denotes man’s rising power to produce Spinoza’s *natura naturata* out of *natura naturans*, not just conceptually but factually.

VIII) This evolution depends upon the full comprehension of the nature of the mind and consciousness, which has so far been ignored by science as it could not be mastered or even grasped through current research methods and prevalent scientific notions. In a recent article published on *American Chronicle*, Niara Isley, a former USAF officer and long-time exopolitical researcher writes, “Even in the physical form that the ETs have, they may exist primarily on higher octaves of vibration rather than the “dense” vibrational rate of our 3-D world. So contact with at least some ET races may take place in an overlapping area ...” (available at, www.americanchronicle.com). The role of the ancient spiritual teachings of India, China, Egypt, Pre-Columbian America and other regions is crucial for the next stage of science to emerge, as many pioneering investigators like Oppenheimer, Heisenberg, Bohr, Josephson, Bohm, Prigogine, Pribram,

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Sheldrake *et al* predicted. The gradual disappearance of the elusive but dogmatic frontier between the “natural” and the “supernatural” signals the return of Magics, as Jacques Bergier and Louis Pauwels announced in their far-sighted book *The Morning of the Magicians*, (New York: Dorset Press, 1988).

An Infinite Ladder of Being

IX) Certain unexplained cosmic phenomena are at the origin of radiations whose regular periodicity may indicate an intelligent source. It could be that living intelligent organisations or systems extend across the potentially infinite scale of dimensions, from the infinitesimally minute (the nanosphere) to the inconceivably large. Thus the Universe itself might be a “superior intelligent being ... a great thought (and thinker all in one) rather than a great machine”, to paraphrase Sir James Jeans. British astronomer Sir Frederick Hoyle wrote a visionary science fiction novel entitled, *The Black Cloud* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1957) in which he described living, “intellectual” structures of super-stellar magnitude. Hoyle was haunted by the notion of an intelligent Universe and gave the title to one of his books in 1983, after co-authoring with C Wickramasinghe a noted paper on “Panspermia” (1982) which spells out a theory of evolution from space in which life originates with viruses dropped on the Earth by comets. This theory received a major boost from Queen’s University’s (Belfast) Patrick McCafferty’s study published in the January 21, 2008 online edition of the *International Journal of Astrobiology*, following the analysis of the mysterious “red rain particles” collected in Kerala, South India from July to September 2001, after the fall of an asteroid. A study by Godfrey Louis and A Santhosh Kumar from Mahatma Gandhi University, also states that the red specks were found to be “cell like” though devoid of DNA but still capable of reproducing in high temperature.

As described by Raymond Ruyer in his classic *La Gnose de Princeton* (Paris: Fayard, 1974), the cosmos might consist of multiple, overlapping layers of “conscious” organisation, each made up of an infinite number of living components, at once individual and collective in nature. Indeed, some of our visitors reportedly interact and “communicate” with the “noosphere” of our planet, which some mystics

have called the Earth's soul and which contemporary environmental scientists equate with Gaia, in the wake of James Lovelock's trail blazing theory. The psychic dimension of the Earth, if indeed there is one must be intimately linked, if not consubstantial, with the collective consciousness of all life forms that dwell on it, including ours. Peter Russell's book *The Global Brain* (Los Angeles: J P Tarcher Publishing, 1983) presented a vision of the globe as a living being of which the human species is a part and an offspring destined to raise its home planet to ever-higher levels of evolution by means of a constant interdependent interaction. In the wake of books such as Roger Penrose's *The Emperor's New Mind* (Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 1989) and Robert Paster's *New Physics and the Mind* (Charleston, South Carolina: BookSurge Publishing, 2006) a growing trend in scientific circles is to admit that consciousness is non-local to the brain and lies at the intersection of relativity and quantum theories, as the sole gateway to the discovery of Unified Field Physics.

In this regard we should at least consider the possibility that mankind's rapid march towards full electronic connectivity through the Internet and our ever more powerful and fast computers might lead us to a point in the future, when the entire energy–resource–knowledge–logistical command system for the planet will be consolidated into one network that could conceivably be operated by few “people”—if any—and that could be hacked into and “remote controlled” with equal ease. The major intelligence and security agencies the world over have already warned against the dangers of disruption and sabotage at the hands of criminals or terrorists, which make our economic and survival structures increasingly fragile. Though there is little doubt that certain predominant powers, in particular the US, see this state of affairs as an opportunity to assert “full spectrum dominance”—if only to pre-empt potential rivals—there is an even greater possibility of a more powerful entity hacking into and overriding our control systems or rendering them inoperative, if the human race is perceived as a threat. Coincidentally, the US Federal

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Government has recently announced major plans to fight a global info-war to protect its computer infrastructure and disable those of its enemies. In 2007, the US Cyber Command was inaugurated at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana to coordinate the Pentagon's Global Information Grid and civilian infrastructure networks such as the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, which operate and control power plants and grids.

Though the preparations are said to be directed against potential Earthly rivals, there is a substantial body of evidence behind allegations that the US and other countries have on occasion at least taken aggressive action against alien ships and their crews while steadily building up an array of high-technology weapons that could be used against outer space visitors. One such report has been written in a

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semi-fictional format entitled *A Matter of Destiny* (Exposure Publishing, 2007)

by former USAF officer Nancy Williams who was stationed for years at McGuire Air Force Base, near Trenton, New Jersey. In her interview with journalist and investigator Paola Harris, Williams comments on the well-known fire that raged on the grounds

of Brookhaven Laboratories, in Long Island, New York in 1992. The incident, which was never publicly explained, was investigated earlier by J B Michaels based on testimony from over 200 known witnesses. It appears that on that particular day four UFOs hovered over Brookhaven and that they were fired upon with a "Quark Gluon Plasma Beam" under the control of the US Department of Energy. Two crashed down and set the woods on fire while two others shot up into space and escaped. The decision to treat the crafts as hostile was apparently made on the ground though no ostensibly hostile move had been observed on the part of the visitors. The precedents of nuclear missiles being disabled in various cases by hovering UFOs probably motivated the government to act for the protection of the Brookhaven tandem of particle accelerators and collider systems.

The photographic and video evidence collected by astro-photographer John L. Walson on the huge unidentified platforms orbiting the Earth; some of which may

be secret military satellites and others alien spaceships, (available at, www.rense.com) tends to confirm some of the data mined on the Pentagon and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) computer networks (US Space Command) by British hacker Gary McKinnon which refer to “non-terrestrial officers”, “fleet to fleet transfers” and names of flying vessels that are not recorded in publicly available records of the USAF and satellite lists. McKinnon’s case was widely reported in the media, including the *BBC* and the *Guardian* when the US Government moved to have him arrested and extradited from the United Kingdom for extraordinary breach of national security. At the time of this writing, he is still fighting extradition.

X) Progressive evolution seems to take place through the selection of a few outstanding or at least successful samples out of a Universe of lower level life forms. Eddington’s famous metaphor is that it takes many acorns to make one oak, just as a human being springs from one spermatozoid out of millions. If our *homo sapiens* ancestors emerged in small numbers out of a vast population of pre-hominids, by the same logic, a few of our offspring may be destined to beget a space-faring, “trans-human”, interplanetary lifeform, thus fathering—mothering a new species.

XI) The frequently asked question about the real origin and nature of the visitors loses some of its relevance once we admit that they are, most probably, of different kinds and that some at least exist on a level of “unified field” reality which encompasses various dimensions and hence “Universes”. Thus, several seemingly contradictory accounts of their nature and original home may all be true. Does an ocean-faring sailor live in his country of origin, on his ship or on the seas? All three responses are at least partly accurate.

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XII) In light of the above inferences, we are justified in regarding alien visitors as embodiments of our future “in real time”. If life on Earth has not appeared and evolved in isolation, it ensues that our planet has been in contact with the outer

Universe since its creation. All of our sciences and accounts of history will have to be reviewed keeping that data in mind. In particular, the theory of relativity is in need of fundamental revision even though, as City University of New York physicist Michio Kaku points out, Einstein's relatively restrictive and increasingly inadequate general theory allows much "wobble room" since it is "full of wormholes". The next steps in our journey upwards will lead to a merger between the conventionally separated "human" and "divine" conditions, as the relativistic equations between space and time and mass and energy are complemented by the equation between nature (physis), mind (psyche) and soul (nous) as the master-key to a holographic or rather holonic "non-local" Universe, evoking the theo-cosmology enshrined in neoplatonic metaphysics which remained, during more than fifteen centuries the motherlode of both Philosophy and the Natural Sciences in Europe and West Asia.

THE RELIGIOUS DILEMMA

The existence and nature of non-human intelligent life in the Universe poses a peculiar challenge to religions. Whereas oriental "mystical" traditions such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, Taoism and others explicitly acknowledge that the cosmos is full of life and "supernatural" creatures, both inferior and superior to men, the revealed creeds from the Near East tend to justify a more restrictive position among their followers. Christianity in particular, if interpreted literally, rests on the

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belief in a finite world existing in linear time in which man, made in the image of the Creator, is the highest mortal being. However, traditional Christian teachings, in the footsteps of Judaism, affirm the existence of many kinds of angels as well as devils dwelling in other

spheres of existence but often present in our dimension. It was the rationalistic materialism of the so-called Enlightenment that dismissed those beliefs, at least amongst "sceptical" or secular Christians—contradictory terms but which describe the upbringing of most Westerners. The peculiar dogma of salvation through Jesus

Christ, the only son of God, is anyway an enigma in logical terms and meets with additional difficulties if the Universe is full of intelligent beings, presumably endowed with souls. The answer might lie in one of two propositions—either humans alone committed the original sin and required salvation or else the “salvific Christ principle” is present in all places and times in the Universe, under any name and form it chooses. This spiritual, ecumenical interpretation of the Gospel’s message is in tune with most mystical teachings and can reconcile agnostics with the religious teachings of the New Testament. It is quite perceptible that the attitude of many of our leaders—religious, military and political—and of a large number of ordinary people is similar to the notions that Europeans of the Renaissance had about the indigenous denizens of other, previously unknown continents. They tended to regard them as devils, good to kill if they were sophisticated and powerful, or as beasts fit to be enslaved if they were materially primitive.

Many informed persons are concerned about the possibility that conflict may erupt not as a result of deliberate hostility or predatory behaviour on the part of the aliens but rather through our own leadership’s ignorance, paranoid fears and aggressive propensities.

THE RISK: SPACE WAR

We are faced with the sobering prospect of intermittent or continuous hostilities breaking out between at least some outside visitors and the leading military powers on Earth—the US and its North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies and possibly Russia. This prospect has been evoked over the last six or seven decades by a number of illustrious civilian and military figures, including General Douglas MacArthur, President Ronald Reagan and more recently former Canadian Defence and Deputy Prime Minister Paul Hellyer. Many informed persons are concerned about the possibility that conflict may erupt not as a result of deliberate hostility or predatory behaviour on the part of the aliens but rather through our own leadership’s ignorance, paranoid fears and aggressive propensities. It is also quite possible that such a conflict would lead to many human casualties and even

to the annihilation of mankind and of much or all life on our planet, in view of the immense technical abilities and destructive powers possessed by the visitors, not to mention our own, proliferating and already bulging nuclear and non-conventional weapons of mass destruction stockpiles. In many instances it appears that UFOs have acted to disable our nuclear weapons, thereby protecting themselves and us as well from our own destructive tendencies, which are ultimately self-destructive.

However if we go back a few decades, there is an impressive amount of evidence, brought to light by the meticulous researcher and journalist Billy Cox, (in articles published in the *Sarasota Herald Tribune*, such as “US Skies were as Deadly as

From 1951 to 1956, the USAF alone may have lost as many as 185 warplanes, with the pilots as casualties in many cases, in encounters, chases or dogfights with alien crafts.

Korea”, February 18, 2008) that numerous conflicts took place, between some countries’ aerial forces and UFOs. From 1951 to 1956, the USAF alone may have lost as many as 185 warplanes, with the pilots as casualties in many cases, in encounters, chases or dogfights with alien crafts. Though this

painstakingly hidden record (brought to light by Frank Feschino in *Shoot Them Down!—The Flying Saucer Air Wars of 1952*, Lulu.com, 2007) seems to fly in the face of the allegation that UFOs pose no threat to us, one cannot conclude that the visitors have demonstrated hostile intentions—rather they appear to have generally acted in self-defence.

Could our rulers and their military cohorts actually precipitate a disastrous confrontation leading to mass casualties and ecocide? Human history enshrines many discouraging object lessons showing that states and organisations tend to take recourse to avoidable, self-defeating violence against one another in preference to peaceful dialogue and compromise. Shall we again hear the claim that there is no alternative to war for the sake of our security and well-being? This time the stakes will be higher than ever before, because those who make that call will be dragging the entire human family into a potentially fatal encounter with other, vastly more advanced intelligent groups.

CONCLUSION

The mere awareness of the reality of an “outside presence” is powerful enough to change human behaviour and gradually lead to a transformation of the species by revealing a “New Science of Life”, to paraphrase Rupert Sheldrake’s title for his description of morphogenetic fields. Thus, our awakening to the cosmic connection goes far beyond the factual recognition that there are alien “lights in the sky”. Remaining fixated on those observations without drawing the necessary conclusions would be tantamount to missing the wood for the trees. The extraterrestrial presence is about to become a matter of global attention and concern, like the issue of global warming and climate change has in the last few years. Both inescapably confront us with the reality and challenge of planetary human unity and with our destiny as denizens of at least one of many Universes. ❧