

UFOs Unmasked

The Story of an Unfolding Cosmic Put-on

Are our skies haunted by an invisible parallel reality?
What sinister forces materialize, frighten and misguide the human race?
Will aerial phenomena and UFO entities interfere directly in world events?

John Keel, UFO Investigator
Author: Our Haunted Planet

The phenomenon [UFOs] is dependent on belief, and as more and more people believe in flying saucers from other planets, the lower forces can manipulate more people through false illumination.

I have been watching, with great consternation, the worldwide spread of the UFO belief and its accompanying disease.

If it continues unchecked we may face a time when universal acceptance of the fictitious space people will lead us to a modern faith in extra-terrestrials that will enable them to interfere overtly in our affairs . . ."

Jacques Vallee, UFO Investigator
Author: Messengers of Deception

I have written this book because I am concerned with the changes which would be triggered by the belief in an outer-space invasion, real or simulated. . .

I continue to regard this phenomenon as a manifestation of a reality that is larger and more complex than a simple visit by interplanetary travelers . . . I believe there is a system around us that transcends time as it transcends space . . .

The UFOs are a physical manifestation that cannot be understood apart from their psychic and symbolic reality. What we see here is not an alien invasion. It is a control system which acts on humans and uses humans.

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by Sidney Reiners

Hollywood turned its attention in the early 1980s to the ultimate frontier, the universe. Following the intergalactic cops and robbers of *Star Wars*, but not a spin-off or imitation of it, came *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, a movie and novel about a man who sees a UFO and, in spite of the government's best efforts, arrives at a secret landing site and hitches a ride with spacemen who look like raw bread dough. The thinly plotted story follows the popular theory that UFOs are vehicles controlled by intelligent beings from other planets.

Search for the Truth

But is this the truth behind UFOs? If so, are the occupants friendly, or are they technologically superior badniks about to enslave us and demolish our culture, as happened in Africa and America under the impact of European civilization?

Although the history of UFOs is filled with cases of burns, assaults, emotional disturbance, and even death, *Close Encounters* sought to allay our fears. When the spaceship lands, the "ufonauts" show themselves to be very peaceful and friendly, returning unharmed some pilots who had been missing since World War II. (They hadn't even aged. How much friendlier can you get?)

But is that what those shimmering craft and glowing globes really are? Are they run by beings, friendly or otherwise, from outer space, or could there be a completely different explanation? And is there an even closer encounter - of the fourth kind?

Solving the Mystery

John Keel, investigator of UFOs and related phenomena, believes we will solve the mystery, not by tracking those elusive disks in the sky, but by studying the contactees - not the obvious lunatics, but those perfectly normal men and women who, while commuting to work or mowing the lawn encounter the ufonauts.

Take, for example, Elaine Thomas, forty-eight; Louise Smith, forty-four; and Mona Stafford, thirty-five, all of high moral character and apparently conventional living. The night of January 6, 1976, they were traveling from Stanford to Liberty, Kentucky, where they live. At 11:30 PM they noticed a large, disk-shaped object with a glowing white dome and colored lights. Mrs. Smith lost control of the car as it suddenly sped to eighty-five mph and then was dragged backward. The women passed out.

The next thing they knew, they were driving to Louise's home, but instead of being about midnight, it was 1:30 AM. Louise said her neck hurt. Mona looked and saw a strange red mark like a burn. Elaine's neck had the same type of mark.

Some time later, under hypnosis, the three ladies recalled a horrifying experience in which strange beings had conducted painful physical examinations of them. Detective James Young of the Lexington, Kentucky, police department administered lie detector tests and concluded that "these women actually believe they did experience an encounter."

This wording is significant. In recent times several contactees have passed psychiatric and lie detector tests while solemnly stating that the UFOs are from Clarion, Zomdic, Thythan, Blaau, or a large number of other planets with science-fiction-type names, or, even more incredibly, from Venus, Mars, and Jupiter.

Who's Lying?

Who's lying? Somebody - or is it everybody? - is wrong but believes he is right. The contactees may not be liars, but someone is. Could it be the ufonauts themselves?

Recently some of those mysterious space beings in their flying machines have abandoned their vehicles and appeared directly. One lady was lying in bed when they supposedly entered, painlessly opened her cranium, and gave her an "implant" that enables her to receive communications with them. Many others claim to have had a similar experience, resulting in changes in behavior and greater "cosmic consciousness." One man who says he has had an implant relates that when he hears a beep he can go outside and see UFOs over his house. Although many implant victims have been examined, even X-rays fail to show anything material. What is going on?

The Ultra-terrestrials

Mr. Keel's intensive study of contactees has led him to a startling conclusion. Although he remains an atheist and skeptic, he has become convinced that UFOS are not from other worlds but from Earth - and not from a secret base under the North Pole, either. He believes flying saucers are not machines at all, but materializations of beings he calls ultraterrestrials. He feels this is the only explanation that deals with all the various aspects of the phenomenon: flying at astounding speeds with no sonic boom, apparently being metallic and yet transparent, changing shape, making nearly right-angle turns at fantastic speed.

The phenomenon, he believes, receives overall guidance from "a great

intelligence." and "it makes itself visible from time to time . . . It can take any form it desires, ranging from the shapes of airplanes to gigantic cylindrical spaceships. It can manifest itself into seemingly living entities ranging from little green men to awesome one-eyed giants. But none of these configurations is its true form."

Demonopoly

"The UFO phenomenon," he says, "is actually a staggering cosmic put-on, a joke perpetrated by invisible entities who have always delighted in frightening, confusing, and misleading the human race." That is quite a description for someone who doesn't believe the Bible, isn't it? We would say he is describing demons.

But is he right? Is there an occult connection? Notice the comments of Miss Lynn Catoe, of the Library of Congress, who read hundreds of UFO articles and books during the compilation of a bibliography for the air force. "A large part of the UFO literature is linked with mysticism and the metaphysical," she says. "It deals with subjects like mental telepathy, automatic writing, and invisible entities."

Merging Evidence

More and more serious students of the problem are turning to what Christians would call a spiritual explanation (in the sense of 1 Timothy 4:1, 1 John 4:1, and Revelation 16:14), but in our age of disbelief in the supernatural it is expressed in scientific terms. The late Dr. J. Allen Hynek, consultant for *Close Encounters*, who has been called the Galileo of scientific ufology, believed UFOs may be part of a "parallel reality" that inhabits our planet, undetected by us except as it chooses otherwise.

Astronomer Jacques Valle says, "We are not dealing with successive waves of visitations from space. We are dealing with a control system. . . I suggest it is human belief that is being controlled and conditioned."

Kenneth Arnold, who originated the term "flying saucer," stated in 1955 that he believed the "saucers" were not necessarily mechanical but a form of living energy. The list of serious researchers holding a similar opinion is growing.

The Changing Game

There are several aspects of the UFO phenomenon that make investigators doubt the "spacemen from other planets" or extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH). One is the way it has manifested itself over the years, for it is not just since World War II that UFOs have existed. Reports have occurred for centuries. A considerable number were sighted in the 1800s, and the form they took then was far different from what it is now.

French engineer Henri Giffard built the first controllable dirigible in 1852, powered by steam and plodding along at seven MPH. IN 1897 David Schwarz flew a few miles when a gas leak brought him down. However, while earthlings were struggling to develop the first dirigibles, the ufonauts were making close encounters of the ludicrous kind in complex, speedy "airships" that looked as though Rube Goldberg had designed them. At that point they didn't claim to be from other planets, but some of the navigators looked Oriental (still a frequent feature of the mysterious visitors).

The construction of the machines and the conduct of the navigators were as varied, inconsistent, and absurd as today. Reliable witnesses claimed to have run into them while the spacemen had landed for repairs, or they saw them drop a wheel, a newspaper, a potato. The crew of one low-flying airship was heard singing "Abide With me"! And all this before 1900, when Count Zeppelin flew three and a half miles at 18 mph in his first airship.

Then, just as the Wright brothers began experimenting with flight, the UFOs began appearing as graceful, speedy (for the times) airplanes. On August 30 and 31, 1910, a long black object flew over Manhattan, accompanied by the sound of an engine. Hundreds of people saw it, complete with red and green lights, as it circled the Metropolitan Life Building several times and swooped so low over Madison Square that "it seemed to brush the top of the trees," the New York Tribune of the date reported. In 1910 there were thirty-six licensed pilots and fewer airplanes. None of the few pilots in the New York area was up that night. In fact, they avoided hazardous Manhattan at any time.

After World War II, with man's tremendous advances in air engineering, UFOs began taking the form we now see, being, as always, close enough to present technology to be conceivable but advanced enough to be bewildering. and the "plastic" qualities seem to have increased. Occasionally they have changed shape before the eyes of witnesses, in some instances becoming transparent or turning into what appear to be conventional craft, leaving the observer self-doubting and embarrassed.

From Other Worlds?

Indeed, this marvelous malleability is another difficulty in the ETH. Suppose for a moment we adopt that viewpoint, excluding all theological considerations. Suppose life has just evolved. The chances of its happening once, anywhere, place it in the realm of the virtually impossible, but just suppose. How often would life evolve elsewhere? we can unhesitatingly give a mathematically valid answer: never. But just suppose it did. And suppose some of those civilizations somehow conquered space. The chance that they would stumble across our little speck in the universe is so remote it probably cannot even be calculated. But if they did,

out of the numerous sightings of their craft we would surely expect to see some basic patterns emerge.

But after analyzing 434 descriptions, the air force was unable to find one single basic uniformity. Even ETH advocate Wendelle Stevens, who has collected over a thousand UFO photos, admits, "There seems to be an almost infinite variety." Evidently the humanoids never encountered Henry Ford!

The Occult Connection

The ufonauts are equally facile at varying their own appearance. Some have skin like fish scales; others are furry. Some have eight-fingered hands; others no arms. Their messages are also diverse, contradictory, and cultic. UFOs are closely tied to poltergeists, reincarnation stories, supernormal knowledge of languages, automatic writing, "prophecies," and communication with the supposed spirits of the dead,

Israeli psychic Uri Geller believes his paranormal abilities began at age three of four after being knocked unconscious by a silvery mass of light from the sky. He now claims to have extensive contacts with the space beings.

Whether or not UFOs or their occupants exist as real objects or are the result of hallucinations, either self-induced or imposed by a deceiving intelligence, the most significant and irrefutable fact is that thousands of persons are being influenced, even dominated by the phenomenon. A closer encounter of the fourth kind may be the possession or obsession of the mind by these beings. And the experience is essentially religious, with obvious elements of the occult.

For his book *Revelation: The Divine Fire*, researcher Brad Steiger interviewed scores of psychics, would-be prophets, and contactees. He found that whether they were in communion with what they believed to be spacemen, God and angels, or the dead, the information they received was essentially the same. This is true even of specific bits of information.

Central Control

For example, in 1967 mediums, psychics, and contactees around the world, many of whom did not even know of one another's existence, all made the same prediction, even phrased the same in different languages: about midnight, December 24, a bright light would appear in the sky, and then - worldwide holocaust.

It is obvious, the world did not end that night. But this is one of the beings' favorite games: set people up by giving them accurate predictions and then slip

them the big one, the end of the world. Of course it doesn't happen, and millions become even bolder in their disbelief in any day of reckoning.

Commenting on this particular situation, in which he was deeply involved, Keel says, "the UFO contactees received the same identical messages as the trance mediums communing with spirits. . . .It was now clear (to me anyway) that all of these people were tuned into a central source."

Ripe for Belief

The religious nature of *Close Encounters* has impressed many viewers. Jay Gould Baum, reviewer for the *Wall Street Journal*, says, in the February, 1978, issue of *Science Digest*, "*Close Encounters* is filled with a familiar religious awe, and infused with a belief in the actuality of UFOs . . . that is tantamount to faith. And this faith - wondrous and thoroughly spiritual - is registered in nearly every frame, reaching a climax in its messianic ending. For here we are shown the actual landing of a UFO which, descending like the Star of Bethlehem, bathes the world in heavenly light and emits musical tones that swell into a liturgical chant. . . . We are being offered nothing less than epiphany."

Mankind, unbelieving and self-willed, has largely destroyed faith in God and belief in the supernatural through what he calls "science." But gazing awestruck into the heavens, we feel the crushing need to know "we are not alone" (the motto of *Close Encounters*).

Return of the Gods

The morally ambivalent gods of mythology died many centuries ago, being edged out of the cosmos by God's revelation of Himself in Jesus Christ. But now we are devoted to excluding Him from our concept of truth and reality (i.e., mathematics and physics).

However, man's need for the spiritual, impelled by his intuitive belief in something greater than himself, continues. And so the gods have returned, not now clad in royal vestments and hurling thunderbolts from Olympus but dressed in laboratory style and darting laser beams from multicolored vehicles, bringing us little green (or is it tall blue?) men to assure us the universe really is a place of life - and maybe even of love.

These superior beings have conquered time, death, war, space, and nearly every other limitation and defect. All this they claim to have done without the crudity of a cross, the sweat and blood of a dying sacrifice, the guilt and humiliation of being found sinful in ourselves, and without the repentance and self-denial of the gospel. An so it has ever been since Eve, the first contactee, held communion

with an extraterrestrial intelligence speaking through a serpent at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden of Eden.

Formula for Deception

Will UFOs and their charioteers play an important role in end-time events, or will they continue as just one of the many paths seeming right to man but ending in death? While we cannot be sure, the fact that the entire phenomenon has been so carefully cultivated for decades on a worldwide scale indicates it is a major ingredient in Satan's formula for deception.

There are, for example, several ways it could support the rise and reign of antichrist. By appearing as a menace to all life on Earth, it could precipitate a rush toward world government, with democratic principles being lost in the panic. On the other hand, friendly ufonauts could very persuasively advise us to follow them if we want to solve all our problems as they have. And though he will not be able to duplicate Jesus' glorious return, Satan, the counterfeit Christ, must arrive somehow.

Will he simply appear one day, or will he arrive in a "chariot of the gods"? (At least one national Christian magazine has seriously suggested this as the way Jesus may return and set up a Kingdom on Earth.) We don't know yet, and although quoting the ufonauts is a little like quoting the mugger who yells help when the police arrive, may there not inadvertently be much truth in the comment of one contactee who claims he was told, "My friend, this earth is the battlefield of Armageddon, and the battle is for men's minds and souls"?