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U F O HYPOTHESIS AND SURVIVAL QUESTIONS

It is the purpose of this monograph to consider briefly some of the human survival implications suggested by the various principal hypothesis concerning the nature of the phenomena loosely categorized as U F O (1).

1. ALL UFO'S ARE HOAXES: From the time when hoaxes were first noted in history, they were characterized by infrequency of occurrence and usually by a considerable restriction of their geographical extent. Rarely have men of science, while acting within their professional capacities, perpetrated hoaxes. The fact that UFO phenomenon have been witnessed all over the world from ancient times, and by considerable numbers of reputable scientists in recent times, indicates rather strongly that UFO's are not all hoaxes. (2) ^{rather than diminishing,} If anything, the modern trend is toward increased reports, from all sources. In one three month period in 1953 (June, July, and August) Air Force records show 35 sightings whose nature could not be determined (3). If UFO's, contrary to all

(1) All flying, sailing or maneuvering aerial objects whether glowing, pulsating, or of a constant metallic hue, whose shape is somewhat circular or cigarish.

(2) Anatomy of a Phenomenon, Jacques Vallee, Henry Regnery Co. Chicago, 1965. p 9-17. (Vallee has degrees in Astronomy and Physics and is currently consultant to NASA's MARS MAP STUDY.)

(3) United States Air Force Projects Grudge and Bluebook Reports 1-12 (1951-1953) National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena. Washington June 1968. p 216.

(2) Visitors from Outer Space, Sputnik, (condensed from the almanac on Land and Sea) Vyacheslav Zaitsev, p 164-161.

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indications and expectations, are indeed hoaxes - hoaxes of a world-wide dimension - hoaxes of increasing frequency, then a human mental aberration of alarming proportions would appear to be developing. Such an aberration would seem to have serious implications for nations equipped with nuclear toys - and should require immediate and careful study by scientists.

2. ALL UFO'S ARE HALLUCINATIONS: People, of course, do hallucinate. Although groups of people hallucinating is rare, it has been known to happen. Machines have their own form of hallucination; the radar, in particular, "sees" temperature inversions. But a considerable number of instances exist in which there are groups of people and a radar or radars seeing the same thing at the same time; sometimes a person and a guncamera confirm each other's testimony⁽⁴⁾. On occasion, physical evidence of a circumstantial nature was reported to have been found to support witnessed sightings⁽⁵⁾. A continuing high percentage of reports of unusual aerial objects are being reported by people in responsible positions in science, government, and industry.⁽⁶⁾ The sum of such evidence seems to argue strongly against all UFO's being hallucinations.

In spite of all the evidence to the contrary, if UFO's did turn out to be largely illusionary, the psychological implications for man would

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(4) *ibid.*, p 203, 192, 149, 146

(5) *op. cit.*, Vallee, p. 70, 71, 74.

(6) The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, Edward J. Ruppelt, Doubleday, New York 1956. p 242. (Ruppelt was Chief of the Bluebook Study at one time.)

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certainly bring into strong question his ability to distinguish reality from fantasy. The negative effect on man's ability to survive in an increasingly complex world would be considerable - making it imperative that such a growing impairment of the human capacity for rational judgment be subjected to immediate and thorough scientific study - so that the illness could be controlled before it reaches epidemic proportions (7).

(For comments on mass hysteria and UFO's see source 8 below which contains a statement by Dr. Robert L. Hall, a social psychologist formerly with the AF Personnel and Training Research Center and the Program Director, Sociology and Psychology, National Science Foundation.)

3. ALL UFO'S ARE NATURAL PHENOMENA: If this hypothesis is correct the capability of air warning systems to correctly diagnose an attack situation is open to serious question.

(→ 24)a. Many UFO's have been reported by trained military observers to behave like high speed, high performance, high altitude rockets or aircraft. The apparent solidity and craft-like shape of the objects have often been subject to radar confirmation (9). If such objects can appear to trained military men as rockets or air craft and if such objects

(7) op. cit., Ruppelt p 237 (Dutch Liner, Rome, Italy)

(8) Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects (Second Session).

July 29, 1958. nr 7 (House Committee on Science and Astronautics).

(9) [→] op. cit., Project Grudge, pp.192, 149, 146.

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should come over the Arctic from the direction of Russia on the United States, they could trigger "false reports of missile attacks". (10)

b. Many responsible military officers have developed a mental "blind spot" to objects which appear to have the characteristics of UFO's. (10) Such an attitude is an open invitation to the enemy to build a replica of the phenomena in order to penetrate the "hole" in his adversaries' defenses - Was this the purpose of the lens shaped reentry vehicle tested by the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and recently featured in the Washington, D.C. Evening Star, dated 24 September 1968, page A4?

c. Sometimes the phenomena appear to defy radar detection and to cause massive electromagnetic interference. Surely it is very important to discover the nature of these objects or plasmas before any prospective enemy can use their properties to build a device or system to circumvent or jam our air and space detection systems - Any nation certainly could use a system or device to penetrate enemy defenses. (11)

4. SOME UFO'S ARE SECRET EARTH PROJECTS: The above referenced U.S. Air Force reentry vehicle and an often publicized Canadian "saucer" project (9) leave little doubt as to the validity of this hypothesis.

Undoubtedly, all UFO's should be carefully scrutinized to ferret-out such enemy (or "friendly") projects. Otherwise a nation faces the very strong

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(10) Flying Phenomena, Sovietskaya Latviya, No. 287, 10 December 1967, p 3, Col 1-3, by R. Vitclniyak (Director of the Station for the Radio Observation of the Ionosphere and Artificial Earth Satellites).

(11) ibid., Project Grudge.

UFO's and the Colorado Project, Encyclopedia Brittanica Book of the Year 1968, p 123.

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(5) A national eagerness to learn everything possible about the other culture - its technological and cultural strengths and weaknesses. This often involves sending selected groups and individuals to the other's country to become one of his kind, or even to help him in his wars against other adversaries.

(6) Adopting as many of the advantages of the opposing people as you can, and doing it as fast as possible - while still protecting your own identity by molding each new knowledge increment into your own cultural cast.

6. COMMENT: Although this paper has hardly exhausted the possible hypotheses related to the UFO phenomena, those mentioned above are the principal ones presently put forward. All of them have serious survival implications. The final answer to this mystery will probably include more than one of the above hypotheses.

Up until this time, the leisurely scientific approach has too often taken precedence in dealing with UFO questions. If you are walking along a forest path and someone yells, "rattler" your reaction would be immediate and defensive. You would not take time to speculate before you act. You would have to treat the alarm as if it were a real and immediate threat to your survival. Investigation would become an intensive emergency action to isolate the threat and to determine its precise nature - It would be geared to developing adequate defensive measures in a minimum amount of time.

It would seem a little more of this survival attitude is called for in dealing with the UFO problem.

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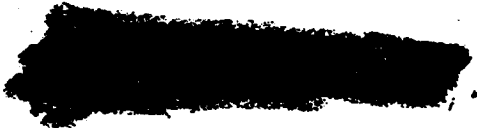
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Observations of chimpanzees while in a captive environment have shown that the animals tend to become confused and disoriented. Since they do not usually have adult chimps to teach them how to be good apes, they are not even sure of their behavior. Often their actions are patterned after human behavior and would have virtually no survival value in the wild. Lacking the challenge of environmental adaptation, the bodies of the animals atrophy and become subject to many diseases - mostly unknown in their wild counterparts. Reactions to stimuli usually become less responsive and suitable. Sex often becomes a year-long preoccupation instead of a seasonal madness.

Do the captivity characteristics of modern civilization cause a similar lessening of man's adaptive capability, of his health, of his ability to recognize reality, of his ability to survive?

Perhaps the UFO question might even make man undertake studies which could enable him to construct a society which is most conducive to developing a completely human being, healthy in all aspects of mind and body - and most important able to recognize and adapt to real environmental situations.



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