

VISITORS FROM TIME — THE SECRET OF THE UFOS.

AUTHOR: MARC DAVENPORT

By W. Ritchie Benedict (Calgary, Canada)

We publish below an interesting review of this new book, which we have received from Mr. W. Ritchie Benedict, author, researcher, and lecturer, together with a covering letter describing some of Mr. Benedict's own researches in the weird field with which we are all so preoccupied. I have asked Mr. Benedict for a further article in due course outlining the results of some of those researches, particularly as regards the question of early abductions (19th century), mysterious disappearances, and references in the Canadian newspaper archives to sightings of strange craft during the 19th century and early years of this century.

The theory of "Time-Travel" is of course a hoary old chestnut, and one that has been touched upon often enough in the nearly 40 years of FSR's existence. Personally I do not believe a word of it but like many other theories that we have seen, it needs to be looked at. Editor To The Editor, Flying Saucer Review, Dear Sir: I have wanted to get in contact you for some time, but a letter from U.S. author Marc Davenport afforded me the opportunity as he supplied me with the correct address. I did a review of one of his books about a month ago, and he wondered if I would mind submitting it to you. I am a freelance writer and I lecture on a regular basis for the Calgary Public School Board on the topic: "UFOS and the Unknown", and my writings have appeared in such publications as: *Fate, Strange, Info, Wildfire, Mufon Journal*, etc.

During the past year, I have engaged in some extensive research in the back microfilm files of Canadian newspapers, from Victoria to St. John's, concentrating on the 19th Century and early 20th Century. My original purpose was to collect material for the Canadian author/researcher John Robert Colombo, but I have found so much of a remarkable nature on all manner of phenomena, that I am seriously contemplating assembling a book of my own in early 1994, tentatively entitled: "*Strange Tales From the Past*".

I am enclosing several photocopies I think might be of interest to you. I have located at least three articles that appear to suggest UFO abductions, one as early as 1858: Briefly, I found a news item in an 1886 Winnipeg newspaper that tells of a 44-foot wide circle with a 2-foot rim that appeared in a

field near Marion, Ohio. A news reporter questioned the local people and learned that such circles had appeared at least twice previously - in 1872 and 1858. In 1858, a local man disappeared and nothing was found but a blood-stained belt in the centre of the circle. Several of his friends were arrested and later freed due to lack of evidence. The article cites a more detailed story that appeared in a specific newspaper of the period. I am endeavouring to find out more information, if I can, by writing to the University of Ohio early in the New Year. Another oddity found involves the disappearance of an entire farm family in Kansas in 1885, with the exception of a five-year-old girl.

I believe I have new data on two classic cases that have been reported by Charles Fort and others. One concerns the story of Charles Ashmore who vanished while getting water from a well, leaving only footprints behind. The story has long been regarded by some experts as a fiction. However, I found a piece in a 1901 Regina newspaper that quotes it as having happened "some years ago" in the village of Steyning in southern England. Interestingly, the same article also tells about a farmer named Williamson who vanished while crossing a field "forty-odd years ago" (presumably 1861) near the village of Haslemere which is not all that distant.

At any rate, I hope you will find the copies and the review interesting and will be able to utilize them. I hope to locate some more when I return to my research in a few weeks. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly

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December 31, 1993.

BOOK REVIEW: VISITORS FROM TIME — THE SECRET OF THE UFOS, BY MARK DAVENPORT,
PUBLISHED BY: WILD FLOWER PRESS, P.O. BOX 2300893, TIGARD, OREGON 97281-0893, U.S.A., 1992, 280 pages, \$16.95 (U.S.A.) (Higher in Canada), ISBN 0-926524-19-4 Reviewed by: W. Ritchie Benedict, No. 12 — 401 Grier Avenue N.E., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2K 5S7.

If the UFO mystery is truly an artifact of human imagination, then one would expect it to have gradually faded away in the years since the first modern wave of sightings in the summer of 1947. Instead, it has deepened and become ever more complex, with apparent abductions of large numbers of humans, implants, geometric crop circles in fields world-wide and rumours of the possession of alien ships by the U.S. government. In actuality, what we may have is a failure of human imagination — our inability to examine every possible hypothesis no matter how fantastic it may seem. The author of this book takes an extremely wild explanation, and builds a careful well-documented case for it step by step, until, at the end, you are completely convinced that it is the only logical answer. Virtually every page has a footnote to enable the reader to look up the original source.

The key to the entire enigma may lie in something that all of us take for granted — the nature of time. John A. Keel, the noted researcher and author, was one of the first to suggest that this element was a puzzling feature in many sightings. *If ghosts are "memories of the past", might not UFO and humanoid encounters be "memories of the future?"* Quantum physics has shown that time is not the stately linear progression we assume it to be. In fact, there may be a limitless number of universes and potential states surrounding us that are ordinarily quite invisible to the human eye. UFOs have been known to turn transparent and fade away, while abductees often report missing periods of time from their lives. Davenport says the electrical failures often associated with UFOs may be caused by their capacity to induce a time-warping field. No one has ever been able to understand why sensitive electronic components do not melt or vaporize if the interference is caused by a conventional (but extremely powerful) electromagnetic field. This time-altering capacity may also help us to comprehend how these objects are able to travel at such speeds within the Earth's atmosphere. The Doppler effect (to non-physicists, this is the change in light and sound waves when an object approaches the observer and then speeds away) indicates that the characteristics demonstrated by many UFOs can only be explained by some sort of shift through time. UFOs have been known to change shape, color, hover in a "falling leaf" pattern, and fade into invisibility on a radar screen. Davenport demonstrates that all of these effects are consistent with known scientific principles.

He goes on to say that it is highly suspicious that any humanoid occupants are seemingly at home in our

atmosphere and gravity and are apparently able to interbreed with normal human beings. He speculates that they may come from a future where a considerable amount of tampering with human genetic structure has taken place, and the hybrids some abductees have reported may represent attempts to restore the integrity of the original form.

There are a number of very strange, well-documented cases that look as though someone somewhere was test-driving a time-machine. In March 1966, an electronics instructor named W.E. (Eddie) Laxson was driving on Highway 70 near the Oklahoma/Texas state line. He got out of his car to stare in amazement as a landed silver UFO with the identification markings TL-41 or TL 4768 on its surface blocked passage on the roadway. A man dressed in "G.I. fatigues" was using a flashlight to inspect the underside of the craft. He wore a baseball cap, or something similar. It is suggested that the "T" features in the insignia might conceivably stand for "Time". I have often wondered about this case myself after coming across it in other books. I might even go a bit further and theorize that the second letter: "L" stands for "Line" and numbers represent coordinates giving the location of the home world/universe. Davenport mentions a second fascinating case that was previously unknown to me. An oval army-green UFO some 16 feet long, with the letters "UN" and some numbers imprinted on it, shone a light beam at Haskell Raper Jr. while he was driving along a highway near Provencal, Louisiana, in November 1957.

In his books, American writer Charles Fort documented a number of instances of artifacts and footprints found in eons-old rock formations. Could such artifacts be discards left behind by time-travellers, similar in nature to the debris left behind on the Moon by the Apollo expeditions? Davenport notes that the "Men in Black" who often threaten UFO witnesses seem curiously anachronistic, using outmoded jargon, and driving new automobiles that are 20 years out of date. He says they may be secret agent types from the future, trying to cover up the true nature of UFOs. It would also be in their own best interests to implant suggestions about avoiding nuclear war and ecological catastrophes. Contactees have for many years claimed to have taken trips to the ufonauts' home planets in time to get home for lunch, which we know is utterly ridiculous considering the distances involved. However this could be neatly solved by postulating a quick trip through time to the future (or past) point of origin parallel to our own! Spacesuits worn by UFO occupants might be necessary as their atmosphere (or ours) is so polluted as to make the transition extremely uncomfortable for them otherwise.

In other hands, the subject matter of this book could have been treated in a sensationalistic manner with little regard for detail. Instead, Marc Davenport has produced an exhaustively researched book on one of the more unusual explanations for UFO events. I suspect it is much closer to the truth than most people believe. It provides a fresh approach that leaves you wondering. I liked it a lot, and I am sure you will as well. Very convincing and intellectually stimulating. ■

"TRIANGLE" ACTIVITY CONTINUES OVER THE BRITISH MIDLANDS

© By Omar Fowler, Phenomena Research Association,
Derby. FSR Consultant

A British Airways *Boeing 737* had a close encounter with a triangular craft over the Pennines on January 6th this year. According to national press reports, "terrified" fliers Captain Roger Willis and First Officer Mark Stuart "ducked down" in the cockpit as the British Airways jet headed for a midair collision.

The plane was en-route from Milan to Manchester, when the brightly lit triangle suddenly appeared ahead of them on a collision course. It flew directly towards them, passing close down the right-hand side of the aircraft. According to local Air Traffic Control the *Boeing 737* was the only aircraft in the area and nothing else had been seen on the radar. The Civil Aircraft Authority (CAA) has now launched an enquiry.

This incident is only one of many that have been taking place in the East Midlands area in recent months. The Phenomenon Research Association of Derby sent a fax message to Manchester Airport Air Traffic Control on the 5th October 1993, warning them of "Flying Triangles" in their air space, but received no response. There has been a marked increase in 'triangle' activity in the East Midlands so far this year:-

January	3 incidents
February	7 incidents
March (to 6th)	3 incidents

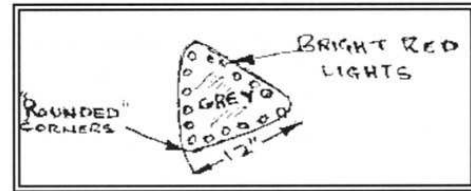
Elsewhere in Britain, it is understood that two triangles were observed following each other over Hayling Island, Hampshire, at 16 45 on 2nd February, and that a triangle was seen over Waterlooville, Hampshire, at 03 00 on March 5th this year.

A study of local 'Flying Triangle' events has produced some interesting data:-

- They always appear in darkness. (This can be as early as 6 pm and extend through to 7 am).
- Initially they appear to travel from East to West, returning in the opposite direction up to two hours later.
- They usually travel slowly (30 mph) and low (approx. 800 ft). They may perform slow turning manoeuvres over a built-up area.
- At times they produce a low humming noise, although a 'roar' has been heard on occasions.
- When travelling low over the countryside, they may shoot down a beam of light like a searchlight.
- Their appearance (and possibly departure) is preceded by a flash in the sky, similar to 'sheet lightning'.

A TYPICAL "FLYING TRIANGLE" REPORT FROM THE EAST MIDLANDS.

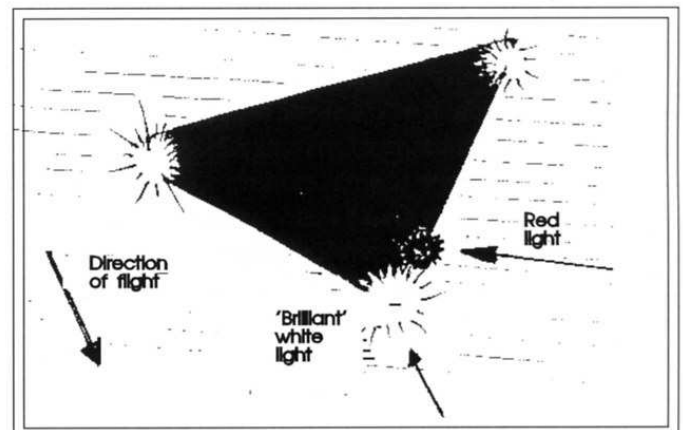
This huge triangle was observed over Derby by a 38-year-old woman and her twin daughters, aged 10, at 10 55 pm on Saturday 21st January 1995. "It had bright



lights all round the edges, and was hovering" She estimated the breadth of the rear side of the triangle at twelve inches (apparent size at arm's length).

Five minutes earlier (10 50 pm), triangular lights were seen passing eastwards over the coast near Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire... by Peter Gregory of the 'Skywatch UK' group ... could this have been the same craft?

Below: Witnesses have frequently referred to a red light situated next to the leading white light. The lighting sequence may vary, with triangles being lit up "like an Xmas tree" ■



THE CEREALOGIST (The Crop-Circles Journal)

published three times yearly,

Editor: George Wingfield.

Single Copy: £2. 80. Annual Subscription £8.40
(US\$21) inc. p. & p.

Cheques and p.o.s made payable to:
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