

to say a few words on this interesting subject. I am not sure if Mr. Priest is aware that a consequence of Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity is the Time Dilation Effect. As a spaceship and its crew approached the speed of light all physical processes and time aboard the ship would slow down, whereas outside the ship, e.g., the Earth, all physical processes and time would continue at their usual rate. The crew would not be aware of this retardation as their metabolism is also effected.

This means that space travellers moving at high relativistic velocity would find on return to Earth that hundreds or thousands of years, or more, had passed. But to them it would seem only days, weeks. Thus, this would be time travel into the future. I have read of a theory (not the mathematics of it) which says that if it was possible to transform matter completely into energy, so that a space-time ship could attain 72% speed of light, it would be theoretically possible to travel into the past or future. Cases where UFOs materialise and dematerialise, or disappear like a T.V. picture, may be exhibiting a form of relativistic phenomenon. They could come from any region of Earth's past or future, and be of alien or human origin.

By being observed, or by actual physical intervention, "they will change past or future events due to the cause and effect relationship. This whole business becomes very complex as I am sure all readers will appreciate. Yours sincerely,
Sidney G. Brighton
36 St. Hughs Green, Gorleston-on-Sea,
Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk.
August 5, 1977.

An infinitely all-embracing view?

Dear Editor: Here are my reflections on the UFO phenomenon:

Space is infinitely multidimensional, time is infinitely multidirectional, and the flow rate of time is infinitely variable. The UFO and paranormal phenomena are linked to the infinitely complex structure of the multispatio-temporal universe.

Yours sincerely,
Julian H. Kaneko,
9, Crêtes de Champel,
CH-1206 Geneva, Switzerland.
September 29, 1977.

The Villa Santina Case

Dear Sir,—I am aged 51 and have long been fascinated by the still unsolved mystery of the flying saucers, the reality of which I accept as more than merely possible. As my thirteen-year-old daughter is also interested, I

recently bought for her here in London (where I have lived for the past eleven years) a copy of *The Humanoids*, in which, to my great astonishment, I read the account (p. 187) of the experience of Professor R.L. Johannis at Villa Santina, Italy. I must emphasise that I know nothing about him and have read none of his science fiction books which you mention.

The fact is that I was myself born in Udine. Re-reading the story more carefully, I was even more amazed to see that the date was August 1947!

In that month I was living at Caporiacco, in the municipality of Colloredo di Montalbano. I don't recall the precise date, but it was certainly in August, and certainly before August 15. I feel pretty sure it was August 12. With my mother and a friend I had been to the cinema at Fagnagna to see Vivien Leigh in the film of Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*. Cars were a luxury in those days, and we had to walk to and from Fagnagna (about 4½ kilometres each way).

We were returning home at about 11.00 p.m. It was a beautiful, warm night, and the sky was full of stars. Suddenly, from behind us there came a vivid yellowish-orange light and what seemed a ball of fire shot over our heads at a terrific speed and carried on north towards the mountains ahead of us, on a dead straight, horizontal course, and lighting up the whole area around. For a brief moment you could have read a newspaper as well as in broad daylight. No sound whatever accompanied the sight. For a few moments we stood there without moving, without saying a word, and quite scared.

Over the years my mother and I had often spoken of the experience and speculated as to what it might have been. Lately, we had even discussed the possibility that it might have been a flying saucer. But of course in those days, in 1947, who had even heard of jet or supersonic planes, not to mention saucers!

Is it possible that what we saw has any connection with Professor Johannis' experience, which took place in that same part of Italy on the morning of August 14?

As I am not sure whether the address of the Italian UFO Study Group in Turin (*Centro Studi Clip-eological*) is still the same, for *The Humanoids* was published in 1969. I am sending this letter to Mr. Gordon Creighton for onward transmission if possible.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. Mirella Emery,
18a Market Square, Waltham Abbey,
Essex, England.

made the foregoing precis translation from the Italian): *As we are not even sure whether Signor Gianni Settimo's Centro Studi Clipeologici in Turin still exists, and as it is many years since we last saw an issue of their journal Clypeus, I telephoned Mrs. Emery and suggested that this be treated as a letter to FSR, and she gave her approval. We hope however that, if any of our Italian readers have knowledge of Signor Gianni Settimo's whereabouts, and if he is still interested in UFOs, they will bring Mrs. Emery's report to his attention. (As regards Professor Johannis, I seem to remember having read some years ago that he had died and so was no longer in our world.)]*

"Moon machinery" etc.

Sir,—There are many good reasons for suspecting that there was more than a grain of truth in all the rumours, not merely that many astronauts had seen UFOs in their journeys in Space around the Earth or near the Moon, but that indeed some of them actually saw *machines or devices* of some kind on the Moon's surface. Nevertheless, it is decidedly unfortunate that this subject was aired in such a fashion recently.

All this particular hullabaloo about the Moon seems to be based upon the spectacular revelations allegedly imparted to the world in the book *There is Somebody Else on the Moon*, by George H. Leonard. (Published by David McKay Co. Inc., New York, 1976, and W.H. Allen, London, 1977.)

Mr. Leonard has crammed his book with more than thirty good close-up photos of the Moon's surface, said to have been supplied to him by no less a body than NASA. (Nor can one doubt for one moment that they are from NASA.)

The crunch comes, however, when Mr. Leonard assures us that these pictures clearly show all manner of constructions, machines, manufactured objects, and so on. My own eyesight is far from poor, and the photos reveal nothing of the sort to me, not even with the aid of a powerful magnifying lens.

(*Who is so foolish as to imagine anyway, for one moment, that, had the photographs shown anything of the sort, NASA would have made them available to Mr. Leonard or to any other member of the public?*)

I can quite see that this is a perfectly good way of making a few quick bucks, but it will certainly do nothing to advance our cause.

And, incidentally, the visual and aural media in this country are not exactly renowned for their scrupulously fair conduct when it comes to

[NOTE by Gordon Creighton (who