

Time, Saucers and the Fourth Dimension

By Charles Bowen

This article is frankly speculative, and it has been prompted by views expressed in a recent issue of the *Review* suggesting that the mystery of the UFOs was even deeper than many of us suspect. It is offered in the hope that it will prove controversial.

MAY I make some observations about Luis Schoenherr's interesting article "UFOs and the Fourth Dimension."

Could there not be a link between the time-traveller theory and the type of UFO or saucer which appears at points along straight lines on the Earth's surface? Mr. Schoenherr suggests that the visitors could be Earth-folk using a fourth dimension to journey back to our times from the relatively near future. As he says, this would be a feat requiring exceptional navigational accuracy, in that travellers in such a dimension would need to stay on or near the Earth's surface to avoid shooting off into space.

Perhaps this is an explanation why certain UFOs materialise at points along clearly-defined lines around the globe, and why they return along the *same* lines from time to time. In other words, materialisation can take place only along these lines, or routes, where their four-dimensional space impinges on our three-dimensional world. These lines would also be chosen carefully to preclude the possibility of collision.

This thought leads directly to what I can only imagine are new and surprising ideas.

Shock on Contact

Among the sightings quoted by Aimé Michel in *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery* were a number of the contact variety. Shock was experienced by the contactees, and no attempts were made at communication. This behaviour may seem unreasonable, but it is unlikely that time-travellers would want to say or do anything calculated to upset or unbalance that time in *our* future in which *their* society exists in three-dimensional surroundings.

The beings involved in the more widely pub-

licised contact claims are generally similar in appearance to Earth-men and understand a number of man's languages. In fact, these are the very types one would expect to come back from our future, but according to Adamski, Allingham and others, the visitors, who have "messages" for us on Earth, claim to have come from Venus, Mars, Saturn, and so on.

Maybe some people derive a measure of comfort from these "evangelical" contacts, but no comfort can be found in a new development arising from some of the recent news from Italian contact claimants. In some of these we are presented with statements that there is a condition of war in inter-stellar space, and if these are to be believed we are left with some shattering possibilities. If the beings responsible for shock contacts are merely visitors in our accustomed dimensions, then they may well be denizens of the other side in the "war." If, however, they are time-travellers manifesting at points along fixed geographical lines, perhaps they are aliens who at some time in our future have defeated our descendants!

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