

# A Unified Approach

## to the UFO

**B**Y NOW, every serious student of the UFO mystery must be well aware of the factual basis behind present-day research. Therefore, let us first approach the problem in a spirit of open-minded rationality, rather than in a daze of mingled superstition and personal dogma. The flying saucers may, or may not, conform to our pet theories of the Universe, but this is not the critical issue.

What is important is that flying saucers do exist. Exactly what they are and where they come from is still open to conjecture, but of their *existence*, there can be no doubt.

As the interplanetary answer is so emotionally satisfying, so conveniently adaptable to present-day ideals, critical thinkers are naturally suspicious of the objectivity of such a theory. The critical faculty is extremely valuable in issues such as this, and is not to be confused with orthodox dogmatism.

We are faced, then, with two major problems. First, the interest and attention of the masses must be aroused, and the veil of authoritarian secrecy removed once and for all. Second, every endeavour should be made to increase our knowledge of UFO activity, with a view to eventual contact being made.

The first of these problems is one that demands constant, intelligent effort, the more concerted the better. Each UFO stalwart can help the campaign by discussing the subject with friends and colleagues, laying emphasis on the *facts* supporting the case, rather than overdoing the philosophical implications; while the philosophical aspects and possibilities of the flying saucers are vast, we must remember that it is the saucers that are on trial, not the religious ideals of individuals. By keeping this in mind, we may attract many fellow investigators who would otherwise be repelled by our particular notions of the "Cosmic Plan." This is particularly applicable to propagation by the printed word. Philosophical

opinions should certainly be expressed, but only when clearly intended as possibilities, and not as ultimate law.

Representation to the Press and Government departments demanding release of all data relevant to the UFO mystery would also result in a greater public interest. *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* recently called for efforts in this direction, and such steps would certainly meet with results.

by **James Inglis**

The second problem is really a diversity of problems, presenting as it does a horde of setbacks. It appears to be generally accepted that the initiative of first contact must rest with the visitors. While this is obviously true in the last analyses, it is equally obvious that the occupants of the UFO are waiting for *something*. What this may be is in anyone's guess. It is possible that they are awaiting a change in the international situation, or perhaps man must first cross the space-threshold, before their code permits them to reveal their identity and their purpose.

It is equally possible that they are awaiting some sign of public readiness and interest. It is surely the duty of earth, as the host, to prepare for the visit?

The possibility of telepathic communication seems to be a popular one. Personally, I believe that such a method may be quite possible. Extrasensory perception is an established fact, and it is perfectly reasonable to postulate that UFO crews may have developed this faculty. However, that is only one possibility, and even if such communication does exist, it will, in all probability, present many practical problems. For that reason, other forms of communication should be attempted, in the hope that, some day, one or other may prove successful.

In passing, I would like to suggest that some form of signalling be devised to attract the atten-

tion of any UFO in the vicinity. This could be in the form of geometric symbols depicting astronomical patterns, or flight between worlds and other subjects likely to convey the desired impression. These could be constructed in open areas all over the world, and, where possible, the co-operation of the authorities would be extremely helpful. As our store of knowledge concerning UFO activity increases, we may well find that sightings occur in particular circumstances, in particular areas at particular times. Such foreknowledge would be invaluable in the preparation of some form of signal. The mysterious and apparently purposeless symbolic structures which have puzzled students of ancient history for many years, may have been early attempts at attracting the attention of "messengers in the sky."

Other means of contacting the UFO will no doubt be devised, e.g. radio signals broadcasting on various frequencies, and it is to be hoped that those with the technical skills required, together with serious-minded investigators, may organise working parties to effect such communication. I would be pleased to carry these possibilities a stage further if a sufficient number of people are interested.

### Scientific Enquiry

Many such opportunities exist for active participation in UFO investigation, and we must surely try them all? The flying saucer is an unknown quantity, and we cannot afford to ignore any possibility. The scientific method, if it is truly scientific, must explore every avenue of inquiry relevant to the object of research. If this were done on a national, or an international, scale, the results, if not immediate, might prove spectacular.

Or they might not.

Every scientist must be prepared for failure in his tentative attempts at discovery and invention. It is by trial and error that humanity lifted itself from the caves, and the same must be true of its elevation to the stars.

The many books published on the subject and the objective evidence presented in certain of the periodicals concerned with UFO research have already provided the world with a deeper insight into the problem. We know enough to justify an intensive investigation of flying saucers, but we do not know enough to sit back and wait for things to happen. For perhaps *we* are holding up the eventual contact between two worlds.

Then, of course, there is the more fundamental matter of man's moral development. Although contact with the visitors would quite probably

result in a happier spiritual outlook, such contact may well be deferred until we show some better signs of maturity. The inheritance of the stars is not for squabbling tribes, and scientific savages are no better equipped for such elevation than illiterate ones. Therefore, by keeping a keen and independent eye on world affairs in general, and the actions of our own nations in particular, and doing what we can to diminish the evils of nationalism and race hatred, we will be demonstrating the ability of man to raise himself above the disgusting and impossible debasements of war.

This, then, is the general picture of the UFO mystery in relation to the world we live in. The proposals have been deliberately loose and general, for the foundation must come before the finer points of architecture.

### Greatest Danger

The greatest danger to UFO research lies within its own ranks. We must recognise the simple fact that human psychology is inclined to allow the emotionally desirable to become reality before the known facts justify general acceptance. That is why I consider the scepticism of thinking people quite valid. So many people have made so many wild claims throughout history, that today the average person regards anything that smacks of esoteric super-knowledge with frank distaste. Far be it for me to deny the possibility and even the likelihood of "supernatural" happenings. For the term "supernatural" really means that which is not understood. Thunderstorms and rainbows were once supernatural phenomena, just as psychic happenings are thought supernatural today. But, tomorrow, they will all be a part of nature. This, however, will be in spite of the cranks and egoists who seem easily attracted to such borderline fields of science and morality, perhaps because of the absence of truly objective, critical adherents.

The destiny of the human race, like the destiny of the individual spirit, remains something of a mystery. But nothing is more certain than that we are on the threshold of discovering the potential of man, the dynamic of the soul.

Life beyond earth. Life beyond the grave. These two questions have perplexed and haunted the human race from its beginnings in the first mists of time, somehow inseparably linked.

It is possible that UFO may be the culmination of these instinctive inquiries. Perhaps mankind will soon be ready for the answers.

If those concerned with the moral and philosophical questions raised by the UFO attempted

(Continued on cover iii)