

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

The Devils

Dear Mr. Creighton, — As you stated in *A Brief Account of the True Nature of the 'UFO Entities'* (FSR 29:1), Christian writers have opted to steer clear of any appraisal of the devilries masquerading as UFO phenomena. Exceptions there are — notably *Encounters With UFOs* by John Weldon & Zola Levitt (1975) and *UFOs and the Christian* by Rev. Eric Inglesby (1981) — but such rarities are not found on the UFO shelf in general bookshops, and Christian bookshops tend to have no UFO shelf.

Apart from simple ignorance, there may be some positive (if largely unconscious) reasons for this reticence on the part of those who might be expected to have most to say. Those whose lives have been renewed in Christ feel less inclined to advertise the mechanics of demonic bondage than to spread the good news that brings release; while it would be clearly irresponsible to expose the

'deep things of Satan' to persons (including many nominal 'Christians') who are not 'reborn in the Spirit'.

The explicit references made by St. Paul to the '*demons of the air*' and the '*elemental spirits of the universe*' seem to have been tempered by such considerations. When he wrote, '*We have to struggle not with blood and flesh but with the angelic Rulers, the angelic Authorities, the potentates of the dark present, the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly sphere*', he did not go on to relate juicy encounter and abduction cases but immediately drew up a strategy of defence: '*So take God's armour, that you may be able to make a stand on the evil day*' (Ephesians 6:12-13). Paul knew that only the sealing of the Holy Spirit provides an effective shield against the terrors and allurements of the 'powers'. '*For I am certain that... neither angels nor principalities... nor powers of the Height or of the Depth... will be able to part us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord*' (Romans 8:38-9).

Why not? Paul claimed to have once been 'caught up into the third heaven' and wrote that *the risen Christ is established 'in the heavenly sphere, above all the angelic Rulers, Authorities, Powers and Lords'* (Ephesians 1:21). Christ shares his perspective with his faithful and enables them to see the 'powers' as they often are: '*gods who are really no gods at all*', '*weak and beggarly elemental spirits*' (Galatians 4:8,9).

All this seems to have been understood perfectly well by the filling-station attendant in the Brazilian 'Rat-Faces' encounter (FSR 29:1) when, overwhelmed by the enthrallment cast upon him by the UFO, he '*knew that God would help him*'. (The two principal witnesses had no such faith and were severely tampered with. Do we who pore over these accounts subtly expose ourselves to any lesser danger, and do we have any greater defence?)

Alongside your quote from C. S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters* there

might stand another passage that sheds an alarming prophetic light upon the moral dilemma of Ufology. The senior devil Screwtape gloats over the diabolic plot against mankind: 'I have great hopes that we shall learn in due time how to *emotionalise and mythologise their science to such an extent that what is, in effect, a belief in us will creep in while the human mind remains closed to belief in the Enemy.*' (Here 'the Enemy' = God.) These words were written (by a Christian exercising his imagination along the divine perspective) in 1941 — six years before Kenneth Arnold's sighting and eleven years before Adamski's first encounter!

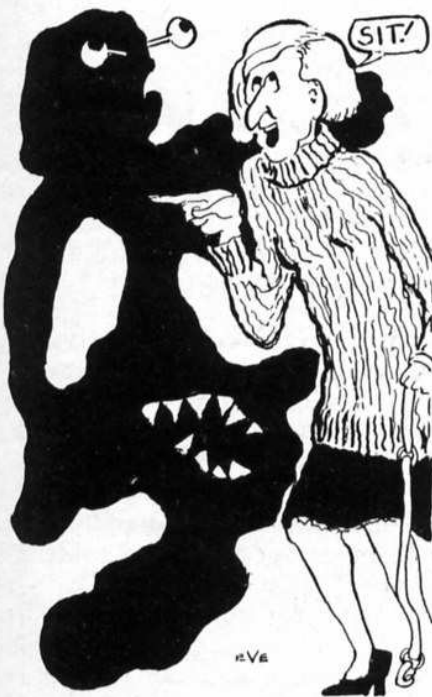
Yours sincerely,
Malcolm Dickson,
29 Hey Street,
Sawley, Long Eaton,
Nottingham NG10 3HA.
October 24, 1983

N.B. New Testament quotations are from *The Moffatt Translation*, which follows the original Greek. Malcolm Dickson.

Note by Editor, FSR

For years the *Moffatt Version* of the New Testament (1913) certainly stood quite unchallenged as the best English rendering of the original Greek. However, I think the *New English Bible*, issued in 1961-1970 by the Joint Committee on the New Translation of the Bible, is marginally even better. For example, see their rendering of the crucially important passage in *Ephesians*, Chapter VI, verses 12 and 13, for which Malcolm Dickson has given the *Moffatt* version above. This New Translation reads:-

"For our fight is not against human foes, but against cosmic powers, against the authorities and potentates of this dark world, against the superhuman forces of evil in the heavens. Therefore, take up God's armour; then you will be able to stand your ground when things are at their worst..."



The famous passage is the one that everyone knows so well and that was rendered in the *Authorised King James Version of the Bible* as:-

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore . . ." etc.

It has long been my contention that this vague and totally anodyne rendering, with *"against spiritual wickedness in high places"* instead of *"super-human forces of evil in the heavens"* (i.e. *"in the skies"*!) for the Greek words

πρὸς τὰ πνευματικά τῆς πονηρίας ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις

was nothing less than a perfectly deliberate COVER-UP of the crucial fact that there are evil and demonic creatures constantly cruising around in our skies.

For what do the words *"wickedness in high places"* convey to the average person? Surely they will always be taken as nothing more than a suggestion that there is corruption and infamy of some sort or other *among the human social and political ruling classes!* The *King James Version* carried no hint whatsoever of the truth about the existence of the demons.

Incidentally, the Catholic Church's *Latin Vulgate* version, although it purports also — at any rate in my Oxford (Clarendon Press) edition of 1911 — to be based on the *King James Version*, nevertheless seems to have had it right. For it has, instead of the weak and unsatisfactory *"cover-up"* phrase *"against spiritual wickedness in high places"*, quite correctly, *"contra spiritualia nequitiae in caelestibus"* (*"against the spirits of wickedness in the skies"*) so you couldn't get it more right than that. — G.C.

"Paranoia"

Dear Sir, — I am sorry to see that your offices have become infected with one of mankind's oldest afflictions: xenophobic paranoia, the all too human instinct to fear anything different to ourselves, and to judge strangers by the worst, rather than the typical members of their group.

How else can we explain the Editorial in FSR Vol. 28 No. 4? It insinuates, without the slightest evidence, that *"something out of the Pit"* is conditioning our film-makers to portray

likeable aliens. As evidence of the aliens' hostility we are told of Felipe Martínez, who was felled by a paralysing weapon when he rushed towards a UFO shouting: *"Amigo! Amigo!"* (which the aliens were expected, of course, to understand).

In the Kelly-Hopkinsville case, you might remember, the first *"goblin"* advanced with its arms above its head, a gesture commonly used among humans to mean: *"I am unarmed and come in peace."* It was promptly given two barrels of a shotgun. When the goblins finally left, two hours and 200 shot-gun rounds later, their *"victims"* raced to town and spread the story about how malign aliens had been harassing poor, inoffensive human beings.

Vol. 28 (1) carried the headline: *"Extraterrestrial Dwarves Attack Farm Worker"*. What nasty creatures these E.T.s are — to stun a person with a ray gun merely because he'd thrown a cane-knife at them!

Just what have the ufonauts done to warrant all this acrimony? The above-mentioned Editorial talks of *"terrifying experiences with utterly unprepossessing and non-human creatures."* In other words, they don't look like us, so people who see them tend to get scared out of their wits. Savages have been known to display the same reaction to their first sight of white men. This is a defect of human nature, not the fault of the aliens. Very rarely has any rational basis been recorded for the fear.

The ufonauts' greatest sin is their insensitivity (or is it ignorance?) regarding the possible psychological effect of their temporary abductions, but the abductees are never physically harmed, and they are often granted the relief of an artificially-induced amnesia.

If there is one theme that runs through the annals of Ufology it is that UFOs make most of their appearances far away from human habitation, in the night when few humans are abroad, and that violence is practically never offered to the natives they meet. There are a few exceptions, of course, but the record shows that the ufonauts have a better control over the rogues of their own society than ever we did over ours. Or have we forgotten the deplorable history of the contact of civilised and uncivilised races on Earth?

Finally, may I suggest that we stop

greeting our visitors with shotguns and cane-knives. One of these days one of those E.T.s will be carrying something more powerful than a stungun.*

Yours sincerely,
Malcolm Smith,
7 Twenty-third Avenue,
Brighton, Brisbane,
Queensland,
Australia.
July 24, 1983

[*We don't doubt it one bit! — ED.]

That "E.T." Film

Dear Sir, — The ultimate impact of these two movies, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *"E.T."*, has been to destroy all public interest in the subject of UFOs. Apparently Mr. Spielberg succeeded in convincing everyone that the UFOs are extraterrestrial and quite benign. Having accepted these *"answers"*, the public has gone on to thinking about other things . . . namely trying to survive the steadily disintegrating economic situation.

Magazines and books on the subject of UFOs no longer have any audience here, and the various UFO conventions held annually no longer attract members of the general public . . . no matter how much publicity they receive.

With a couple of multi-million-dollar motion pictures Mr. Spielberg has managed to achieve what the U.S. Air Force debunkers and Menzel and Sagan and Co. had been unable to achieve after thirty years of effort.

Yours sincerely,
John A. Keel,
334 West 85th Street,
New York, N.Y. 10024,
U.S.A.
August 17, 1983

Canadian Cover-Up

Dear Sir, — FSR Vol. 28, No. 5 contained two items that caught my attention, namely the Editorial and the letter from Mr. J. Philip Jay. The former deals with every citizen's *"need to know"* all State secrets. The latter refers to an apparent (organised?) movement, aimed at getting rid of evidence relating to UFOs, or at hiding it.

I thought that you might be interested in a recent experience of mine concerning these matters.

Being the northern neighbour of

the United States, we frequently adopt customs and legislation that they initiate. (Need I add that not all of it is welcome?)

A year ago, the Canadian Government, in its democratic wisdom, saw fit to cease debate and to pass into law a "Freedom of Information Act". However this was held in abeyance for one year "so that Government departments might adjust to it". (You are free to place your own interpretation on that statement!)

This summer the long awaited documents became available. I arrived at the library to find three publications containing 727 pages in all. Being simple-minded, I looked under headings such as "Flying Saucers," or "UFOs". As you can well imagine, nothing was listed.

Feeling certain that the Canadian Government had to have SOMETHING, SOMEWHERE, if for example only Wilbur Smith's recorded work at Shirley Bay, I pondered methods of locating it. Available choices being ESP, witchcraft, and dowsing, I chose the latter as being provenly most reliable.

After a few brief attempts we zeroed in on the *National Research Council* in Ottawa (*Information Act*, section 780). Then the pendulum hovered over *Planetary Sciences*... "the section carries out basic research on physical processes and phenomena occurring in the upper atmosphere and Near Space "... EUREKA!... A magnificent total of nineteen lines is given over to the various divisions within *Planetary Sciences*.

In due course the requested material arrived, I having filled out a form that demanded specific information concerning such things as dates, names, publications, authors, etc. Presumably, if you haven't anything to start with, you won't get a solitary item, despite the obligatory small accompanying contribution to Government coffers.

So far several items are noteworthy. The obtained material was placed in the custody of the Canadian National

Research Council in June 1982. Much of it is originally from Police, military, naval, Air Force, and Air Traffic Control sources, also civilian reports are included. Much of this information goes back to 1965.

One authoritative document stated that the Steve Michalak file is the most extensive and complete, containing between 125-150 pages. I accordingly sent off for this (*Non-Meteoritic Sightings* #345... #670-200) requesting EVERYTHING. When the collection of documents arrived, it contained 113 pages only. This much-travelled path and rehashed tale, still makes interesting reading in the original state. But what is missing evokes even more intriguing speculation. So much, then, for "Freedom of Information" Acts!

I discussed all this with a friend who is also interested in UFOs. When he asked whether any of his own reports were included in the material I had received from the National Research Council and I replied in the negative, he said: "I wonder then where they are hiding all OUR stuff? Because we are sending in to them bucketsful of UFO material each month!"

Our own sources advise us that the Canadian Government is systematically collecting UFO material and related information, each and every day, from various groups that are orientated to receiving it.

Clearly the material released to me by the Canadian Research Council is simply a case of "tokenism".

I just wonder which warehouse they are storing all the really good stuff in!

Yours sincerely,

G. Conway,

11102 River Road,

Delta,

British Columbia, V4C 2S4,

Canada.

August 24, 1983

**The UFO phenomenon is not
amenable to scientific study**

Dear Sir, — Dr. Pierre Guérin does

not seem to realise that there is no comparison between the UFO phenomenon and the meteorites (FSR 28-5).

The meteorites are fragments of interplanetary debris, i.e., mere physical/material objects that are perfectly amenable to scientific study. They do not interact with the human psyche. As such, they could be accepted by the scientific community.

The UFO phenomenon, on the contrary, is of a totally different and infinitely more complex nature. Its physical/material aspects, however undeniable they may be, are merely an infinitesimal fraction of the Paraphysical Whole. Our physical science, equipped to deal only with the physical, will NEVER be able to cope with the paraphysical.

As for the distinguished European physicist whose letter you published in the MAIL BAG of FSR 28-5 and whose identity I can easily guess, he does not appear* to have grasped the paraphysical nature of the UFO phenomenon, either. But, as a physicist, i.e., physical scientist, he can only deal with the physical. The paraphysical is entirely beyond his domain. In fact, it will forever remain beyond the scope and ken of any human, whatever the level of his or her intelligence.

The famous Fátima affair — the joint apparition of the so-called Virgin Mary and a UFO (dancing Sun) at Fátima, Portugal on October 13, 1917 — provides an indisputable clue as to what lurks behind the UFO and other paraphysical/religious phenomena. The trouble with humankind (including most UFO buffs) is that no one, except a handful of enlightened ufologists, attaches any importance whatsoever to the Fátima apparition and its ufological implications, although it is by no means unique.

Yours sincerely,

Julian H. Kaneko,

18, rue Le Corbusier,

CH-1208 Geneva,

Switzerland.

July 18, 1983

[*Who's being dogmatic now?]