

COSMIC REFLECTIONS

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WINTER/SPRING 1990 VOLUME 3, NO. 1

THIRD PLANET NEWS

CHICAGO FAULT LINE: What are we to conclude about the events in Chicago? Some are weeping, wailing and gnashing their teeth. Others are rejoicing. I guess it all depends on your view of reality. I have come to a few conclusions that I wish to share.

The Foundation serves a much needed purpose, and that is to prevent people from mis-using or mis-representing the information in The URANTIA Book. The Foundation's challenge is to maintain the delicate balance between adequately protecting the copyright and becoming so over-protective that legitimate uses of the book are discouraged. It takes an amount of wisdom rarely found among mere mortals to maintain this balance. Because the Foundation is not answerable to any mortal group but itself, there is great danger of unbridled authoritarianism and abuse of power. We can hope however that the trustees of the Foundation seek and are responsive to spiritual wisdom.

The Brotherhood, either by intent or natural evolution, has apparently grown beyond the boundaries that the founders envisioned. There seems to have been a gradually increasing tension between the Brotherhood and the Foundation in recent years over this issue. The recent split has reduced some of the tension by separating the organizations. The split has also created both opportunities and problems. The Foundation has had to create another organization to perform the functions previously performed by the Brotherhood. The ex-Brotherhood has gained freedom to pursue some programs that it didn't feel free to pursue as the Brotherhood. Unfortunately, the price of the new freedom has been the loss of the identity it had with the use of the name and symbols, so it must now create a new identity both internally for its members and externally for the world at large. It will be interesting to see how the Fifth Epochal Fellowship uses its new found freedom.

No doubt everyone hopes that good will prevail and that a creative and even friendly relationship can be built between the Foundation and the Fifth Epochal Fellowship. It seems appropriate for leaders of the two groups to begin subjugating their personal antagonisms in favor of the good of all.

There is the temptation to read the movement of spirit into the events of the past year. Whether spirit initiated or not, you can be sure that the Father and his spiritual assistants will use it for good.

FOOTNOTES: Many thanks to you folks who supported this journal with words and/or money this past year. ** I hope everyone's holidays were full of love and your New Year will be fulfilling. *AD*

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 THE MEASURE OF MORTALS
 Words by Dick Bain, Music by Paul Herrick

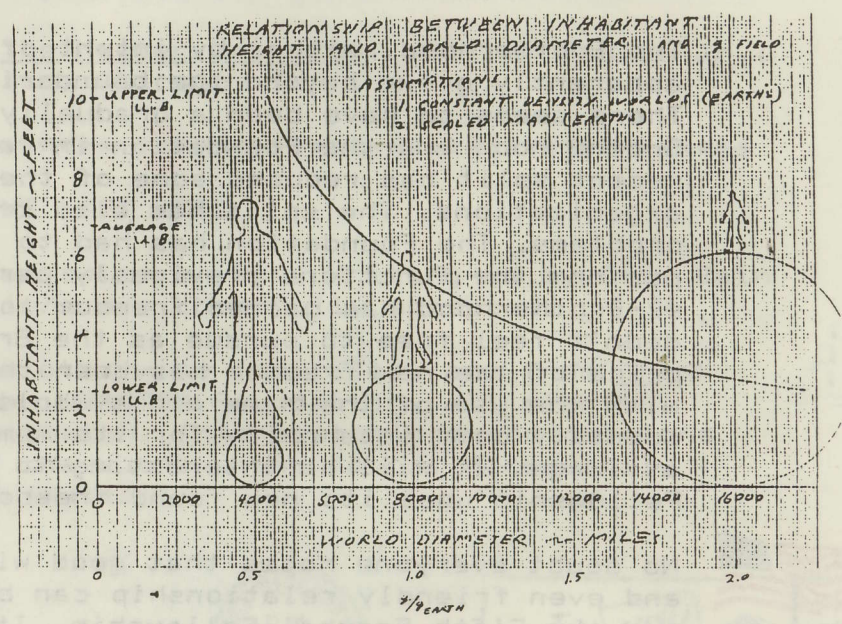
On page 562B of The URANTIA Book, we are informed that the mortals on the various worlds of the local universe of Nebadon range in average height from two and one half feet to ten feet. It is possible to take this information, make a few reasonable assumptions, and calculate on what size worlds these mortals live. Paul Herrick has done just this.

Paul's calculations assume that the density of mortals on other planets is the same as our density, and that the density of their planets is the same as that of Urantia. The calculations show the size of the mortal is inversely proportional to the radius of the planet on which the mortal lives. The graph below shows how mortal height varies with the diameter of a world.

The Table I. shows how tall mortals would be on the various planets of our solar system-if they could live there. Notice that the size does not follow quite the same relationship as the previous graph shows. This is because the density of the planets varies; Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are not nearly as dense as Urantia, hence their surface gravity is much less than expected for their size.

TABLE I. SIZE OF MORTALS ON THE PLANETS OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

Planet	Surface Gravity	Mortal Height
Mercury	.37	15.0Ft.
Venus	.88	6.3Ft.
Earth	1.00	5.6Ft.
Mars	.38	14.7Ft.
Jupiter	2.64	2.1Ft.
Saturn	1.15	4.8Ft.
Uranus	1.17	4.8Ft.
Neptune	1.18	4.8Ft.



CHARIOTS OF LESSER GODS

If you have never seen one, you might scoff at the gullibility of those who claim they exist. If you have seen one flying and turning like an intelligently controlled vehicle, it would be tough to convince you that it's just your mind playing tricks, or a weather balloon, or a very bright planet Venus that you are seeing. UFO phenomena have been with us for quite some time, but it was only after the Second World War that UFO'S began to be sighted in large

numbers. Some of the sightings were later identified as hoaxes and some as misperceptions of natural phenomena. Even if you are in the camp that says all of the sightings are natural phenomena, you would honestly have to admit that a lot of reliable people have seen some things that are difficult to explain as tricks of nature. In August of 1965 for instance, thousands of people in many states saw such objects, according to a book by commentator Frank Edwards¹. A book by Ronald Story² relates ten UFO incidents that have no easy explanations. There have been attempts to explain the sightings as various non-natural objects.

Several possibilities have been suggested by various people to explain the UFO sightings. The first is that our government or another have secret technology they will use only in the event of a war. Considering that UFO's were seen by fighter pilots during the Second World War and the Korean War but didn't participate in any air battles, this idea seems without merit.

A second hypothesis, and the most popular, is that the UFOs are piloted by beings from some other planet, probably in another solar system. Some facts in The URANTIA Book might seem to lend support to this idea. The book tells us that there are numerous inhabited planets in all parts of the Milky Way galaxy. It is difficult to know how close a planet might be that had technology advanced enough to engage in spaceflight, but considering that the nearest solar system, Alpha Centuri, is about four light years away, I would estimate that a space faring planet would lie between 10 and 20 light years away. But no matter how advanced they are, they would face some formidable difficulties in reaching our solar system.

If our interstellar visitors were from a planet 10 light years away, light from their star would take 10 years to get here. If our neighbors could travel at the speed of light, they could also get here in 10 years. At three times the speed of light, they could make it in 3.3 years. The problem is that no material object can reach the speed of light in a vacuum. As a material object gets close to the speed of light, its mass begins to increase rapidly. If there were an infinite amount of energy available to accelerate an object, that object would have an infinite mass by the time it reached the speed of light. Since our neighbors don't have an infinite amount of energy, they are limited to perhaps 95% the speed of light, so it would take them about 11 years to make it here. There is one other small problem. They can't accelerate instantly to 95% the speed of light; they would be smashed by the acceleration. If they accelerate at the start of the trip with a force of one G, the force of gravity on our planet, and decelerate with a similar force at the end of the trip, they would add about a year to the length of the trip. So a one way journey takes about 12 years; the round trip takes 24 years. One obvious problem is finding some folks who would like to volunteer 24 years of their lives to make the trip. Another problem is finding a compact source of nearly limitless energy to provide acceleration for one year and deceleration for one year for a complete round trip. And there are many other problems that need to be solved before a flight like this can be undertaken, such as providing food for a 24

year journey, shielding against micrometeorite impacts, waste management, etc. The difficulties are immense, but if a civilization were willing to devote a major portion of its resources to such a project, and they possessed the technology, they could eventually get to our planet. The point is, though we might have been visited a few times in our history, this would hardly account for the large number of sightings over an extended period of years. But there is an easier way that these other mortals could visit us.

The U.S. and U.S.S.R. governments have both sent probes to other planets. Several of the U.S. probes (Pioneers 10 and 11, Voyagers 1 and 2) that visited the planets are on the way out of our solar system. Perhaps someday we will deliberately send a probe to the nearest star to look at its planets. At the speeds that we can achieve now however, we won't get back answers for several thousand years. Likewise, our interstellar neighbors might have sent a probe towards us to see who has been sending out all the radio noise for about the last 70 years. The nice thing about probes and robots is they do not need food, light, oxygen, waste management, and they don't care how long the trip takes. The electricity to them can be turned off till they are needed. We are now developing computer artificial intelligence for use in autonomous vehicles that will explore the surface of Mars and other planets, so we will soon have the technology to remotely explore planets around other stars. It seems more likely that we have been visited by automated probes than by other mortals. However, there are some beings from other worlds that The URANTIA Book tells us visit here, and frequently.

Our planet is host to a large number of both spirit and morontia beings. Apparently we can not see most of the visitors and permanent residents such as angels, midwayers, etc., but what of the morontia beings? Can they be seen? On page 2023 of the book, we are informed: "By the aid of certain morontia auxiliary personalites, the morontia form can be made at one time as of the spirit... while at another time it can become discernible and contactable to material beings.." So the answer is: Sometimes we can see them. If the morontia persons wished to interact physically with the planet, then they would have to be made material, and we could see them. I suppose that the beings in authority would try to prevent our encountering the morontians, but accidents do happen. After all, they do have to be able to interact with matter, or how could they smell the roses?

Certainly the morontians come here for something more serious than recreation. In fact, they are students; we are one of their courses of study! On page 546A, we read, "Student visitors are allowed on all inhabited worlds, even those in isolation." Urantia must be a destination much sought after by these students. After all, it is the planet on which Christ Michael, our local universe sovereign, incarnated, lived and died as a mortal. So there are morontians here but how does that relate to UFOs?

We are told in the book that the higher orders of beings can move from place to place by tapping into the energy systems of the

universe, but not so with some of the morontians. On page 521 the authors tell us, "The air mechanisms of the Material Sons travel around five hundred miles per hour. Material and early morontia beings must utilize these mechanical means of transport..." It seems obvious that some of the morontia students will need some way to get about while they are here in order to complete their assignments. Could it be that some of the UFO's seen could be vehicles transporting morontia students? Whether or not they could be seen depends on the material that the vehicles are made from.

If the vehicles used by the morontians are built of the sort of matter that we are familiar with, then we could probably see them. I am sure the midway creatures or others are competent to build such vehicles. Obviously, they would need the ability to fly faster than any of our fighter planes and be able to outmaneuver them in order to avoid being shot at or they would have to avoid areas where they might contact our aircraft. Another possibility is that the morontians' craft might be made of morontia materials that are not visible to us, and could only be seen if they were made visible to us accidentally or on purpose. In any case, I would think that the pilots of the morontian "taxis" would try to avoid detection by the mortal inhabitants of this planet, unless of course we are permitted to see them for a specific reason. There is a very interesting account on page 438 of how a transport angel appears when made ready for departure. The fascinating statement is made, "Human beings have sometimes been permitted to observe transport seraphim that were being prepared for transport service..."

Many of the objects sighted do not seem to be morontian shuttle craft. According to The URANTIA Book, there are present on our planet some entities that control energy. These are beings such as mechanical controllers, energy transformers and energy transmitters. They are described as semi-material beings. Unfortunately, we are not given a description of these beings so we can't say whether they are like some of the things that have been seen or not. We are also not informed whether these beings can be seen by mortals. If so, it may be that some of the UFO sightings could have been these beings going about their business of controlling energy on our planet.

There is another possibility that suggests itself to me. Is it possible that our unseen spiritual friends are deliberately exposing us to these sightings to test our reaction to such things? Or perhaps we are being desensitized to such things in anticipation of some future events? We are searching very hard for signals from other planets. What happens if we finally make contact? Will we react rationally, or will some react with paranoia and fear?

While the foregoing speculation doesn't provide any definite answers, it may highlight some of the possibilities of what people have seen in the sky that they couldn't explain. One thing I think we can conclude is that whoever it is, they are benign. If it does happen that our visitors are beings from another planet, since they are likely to be far in advance of us both technically and spiritually, I would expect them to be rational and reasonable mortals. With their

advanced technology, it would be reasonable to assume that they could destroy our fighter planes if they chose to. It appears to me that they have more to fear from us than we do from them. After all, compared to them, it may be we are the barbarians.

1. Flying Saucers-Serious Business, Frank Edwards, 1966, Citadel Press
2. UFOs and the Limits of Science, Ronald D. Story, 1981, William Morrow & Company, Inc.

THE SIZE OF THE OUTER SPACE LEVELS

The URANTIA Book gives enough information to directly determine the thickness of the superuniverse level, the first outer space level and the quiet zones between the first three levels. Unfortunately, it does not give the size of the other three outer space levels or the remaining two quiet zones, but it may be possible to deduce these sizes.

According to the description in the book, the various levels appear like concentric toruses or doughnuts. In Figure 1. the cross section of one side of these five concentric levels can be seen. The thickness referred to in this article is the diameter of one of the circles that represents a space level.

In one of his books¹, Bill Sadler Jr. uses the information given on page 130 of The URANTIA Book to deduce the thickness of the remaining three outer space levels. Bill assumes that each succeeding level is larger than the preceding one, and that the ratio from one level to the next further out is the same as the ratio of the first outer space level to the superuniverse level, which is a ratio of 100. The following table shows the sizes he derives this way:

SPACE LEVEL	THICKNESS RATIO	THICKNESS IN MILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS*
Superuniverse	1	.5
Primary	100	50
Secondary	10,000	5,000
Tertiary	1,000,000	500,000
Quartan	100,000,000	50,000,000

*A light year is the distance light travels in a year at 186,000MPH

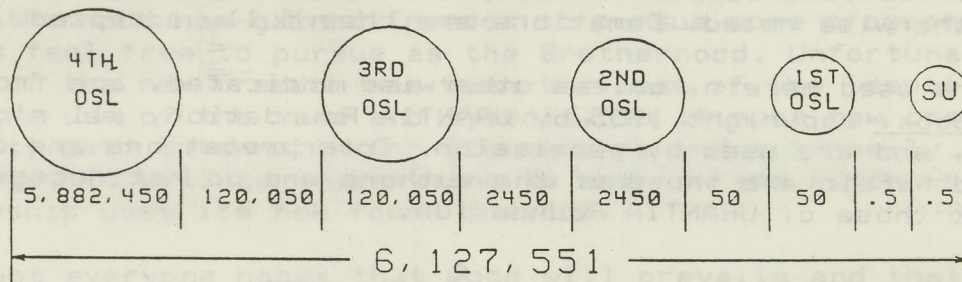
There is some information in the book that would seem to indicate a considerably smaller answer for the last three outer space levels than Bill calculated. We are informed on page 351 that the number of Architects of the Master Universe increases from 7 for the superuniverse level to 24010 for the quartan outer space level. The ratio of Architects of the first outer space level to those of the superuniverse level is ten. Ten squared is 100, which is the ratio of the diameter of the first outer space level to that of the superuniverse level. The ratio of the number of Architects between

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any two of the four outer space levels is seven, and seven squared is 49. From this, I conclude that the secondary outer space level is 49 times larger than the primary one, the tertiary is 49 times larger than the secondary, and so on. The following table shows the relationship:

SPACE LEVEL	ARCHITECTS	RATIO	SQUARED	THICKNESS IN MILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS
Supruniverse	7	1	1	.5
Primary	70	10	100	50
Secondary	490	70	4900	2,450
Tertiary	3430	490	24010	120,050
Quartan	24010	3430	11,764,900	5,882,450

If the preceding figures are correct, we are almost in a position to determine the radius of the Master Universe. With the space levels and quiet zones determined, only the size of the Havona system is in question. Figure 1. shows a representation of a cross section through the space levels of the Master Universe using the thickness data from the preceding table. The actual sizes are not in proportion; it is impossible to show the true size relationship of the various levels on a reasonable sized piece of paper. The quiet zone between two levels is considered to be the same size as the inner-most of the two levels, which is in keeping with the relationship of quiet zone size to space level size for the superuniverse and primary levels. Though not shown in Figure 1., the average radius of the Havona system is assumed to be about 7 million light years, based on some previous calculations done for an article in The Messenger newsletter. The Master Universe would have an estimated radius of 6,127,558 million light years, or about 6 quadrillion light years.



NOTE: ALL DISTANCES ARE IN MILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS

FIGURE 1. CROSS SECTION OF FOUR OUTER SPACE LEVELS AND SUPERUNIVERSE LEVEL

How does my proposed radius compare with that assigned to the universe by our astronomers? According to a recent article in Science News magazine, the current estimate of the size is from 6 to 16 billion light years, depending on the value of the Hubble constant assumed. The size comparison must take into account that the size estimate of the astronomers is based on the furthest object that can be seen with telescopes. According to The URANTIA Book, there is no activity in the third and fourth outer space levels, so the most

distant object that we could see would be at the outside edge of the second outer space level. This is 2,550 million light years from us, or about 2.6 billion light years. Even if we choose the astronomers lowest size estimate, there is at least a two to one size disparity. How can we account for the difference?

The URANTIA Book informs us that a part of the red shift observed in the light from distant galaxies is due to "angles of observation and other time space distortions" (Pg. 134B.) Distant galaxies are in fact moving away from us due to the effect of space respiration (Pg. 123), but evidently the speed is in the range of 16 to 43 percent of that calculated from the apparent red shift.

When speculating, there is a danger that a relationship thought to exist does not exist. We are then only building castles in the air (or space.) Nonetheless, if the information in The URANTIA Book is generally reliable, then the castles are a lot more substantial than that edifice known as the Big Bang, constructed on the foundations of the apparent red shift of distant galaxies. If astronomers determine the true red shift is only half of the apparent red shift, the Big Bang theory will predict a universe younger than the age of Urantia. Now wouldn't that be interesting!

1. Appendicies to A Study of The Master Universe, William Sadler Jr., The Second Society Foundation, Chicago, IL

THE LAST WORD

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