

lower atmospheres of other planets. Also, papers have been written on the great difficulties we should expect in interstellar travel, but these are all based upon present-day scientific knowledge (existing physical laws) and technology. They are also based upon the "foreseeable" future, and Edward Purcell of Harvard is an example of one who has tried to demolish such hopes in a devastating manner.¹⁵ To say that UFOs cannot be space ships because of physical limitations is no argument. It is like saying the Egyptians could not have built the pyramids. Even though engineers today admit they cannot duplicate them, they were built. If extraterrestrial races are so highly advanced over us, and be capable of feats so advanced that we are not yet able to foresee them because our scientific foresight is based entirely on known physical laws. It was Dr. Clyde Tombaugh, discoverer of the planet Pluto, who said:

"It is absolutely impossible for us on earth, with a technology barely a couple of centuries old, to visualize a technology 50,000 years ahead of ours. They would have discovered power sources, laws of physics, chemistry and medicine which in our present state, are simply impossible for us to imagine."¹⁶

By admitting the possibility of yet unknown laws, the shackles of our present thinking are immediately loosened.

29. UFO witnesses among the general public are accused by scientists of jumping to the unwarranted conclusion that their sightings were of space vehicles or the so-called "flying saucers". However, apart from a few "cultists", the public does not react this way to sightings. The normal first reaction is that they saw an airplane, a balloon, a satellite, a flashing light on an emergency vehicle, or some such conventional object. Only when the witness realizes, after more careful observation, that there was action or performance

is an obstacle to the advancement of science and a major change in attitude is required in order to cause the collapse of this barrier.

Apart from the scientific aspects, the possibility of UFOs being interplanetary (or interstellar) vehicles should not be rejected on philosophical grounds. The actions of any such intelligent beings should not be judged in relation to our own reasoning.

Humanitarian considerations should be the real objective of all scientific advance, otherwise there is no point to scientific inquiry. The advantages, or otherwise, to the human race on Earth, are vital and sufficient reasons to solve the UFO mystery at the earliest possible date. Investigations over a period of twenty-one years have got us nowhere, but the problem persists.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

1. That the Government immediately recognize UFO phenomena as being of major scientific significance and deserving of serious study, in an effort to remove the stigma attached to scientific and public discussion of the matter;
2. That the Government recognize that the UFO mystery has remained unsolved due to inadequate investigations, and not due to the non-existence of unknown objects in our skies;
3. That complete factual information be released in which the public can have confidence, to reduce the confusion and misunderstanding. Such an act will also encourage people to report their sightings for scientific analysis, instead of keeping them to themselves as is more often the case;
4. That Canada take the lead in UFO investigation by establishing a thorough and fully-objective study of the phenomena, not limiting this study to a few narrow scientific fields as has been the case. Many fields of science,