

ET's and UFO's

Searching for "Intelligent Life" in the Universe

*By Mike Harris*

Science fiction writers have had a ball with this topic. Since I look at myself as a pragmatist, not a believer in what my mind and practical nature can or cannot conceive, hobgoblins, ghosts, and little green men, do not take up much of my time. This is the challenge and the assignment.

Mythology was the forerunner of science fiction. With no real basis in facts, a runaway imagination can wander to places that do not exist, and situations that are nothing but impossible. Go ahead, create your own make believe creatures and environment, even play at being the "Creator" supreme and safe that none can say you "nay!"

Since all progress is made and fostered by need, the UFO's, are likened to the explorers of our planet. When the needs of our planet became huge explorers ventured on to the oceans, the universe, and the very bowels of the earth, and the unknown. Because we are finding uninhabited and unexplainable matter in space, we are assuming that these objects are probes that may be sending back to some home base whatever information they seem to accumulate, much the same as we send probes to Mars and other planets, before we send live people to explore further.

After many years, we have decided to close our Space Station. It is logical to assume that a similar situation might have occurred somewhere in the vast Universe. If we accept this hypothesis, it allows us to assume that an intelligence exists and is making logical decisions. Well, that is one answer to the UFO's.

Then there is another possibility. Let's say that there was a collision of two or more bodies of matter in space, and the UFO's are the debris of the resulting accident, and there really is no intelligence out there. All our exploratory efforts have not revealed any planet that has an atmosphere that would remotely support life as we understand it, so an accident and the resulting matter is also a logical answer. This leads to why we chose to close our expensive Space Station. To the best of our knowledge there is no life that we can detect that exists that is similar to that which exists on earth.

The money we have spent has not returned enough of value, so we are abandoning further expense. It is like drilling for oil and coming up with a dry hole. This leaves us with a lingering suspicion maybe there is oil but not at this location.

Me, I am willing to let intelligence in outer space make itself known. I would like to spend just a minimum to keep an alert eye out for any incoming clues, mainly because I do not care for surprises. The extra money not spent on drilling dry holes could better be used on solving the problems of the have not's and so eliminate or lessen the forty one wars that now are raging on

this planet. Solve our own problems, yet keep an eye open and be aware and not asleep at the switch.