



VERBATIM RECORD (PARTIAL) OF THE 36TH MEETING\*\*

Chairman: Mr. PIZA-ESCALANTE (Costa Rica)

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AGENDA ITEM 126: ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGENCY OR A DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR UNDERTAKING, CO-ORDINATING AND DISSEMINATING THE RESULTS OF RESEARCH INTO UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS AND RELATED PHENOMENA

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The meeting was called at 3.45 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 126 (continued)

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGENCY OR A DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR UNDERTAKING CO-ORDINATING AND DISSEMINATING THE RESULTS OF RESEARCH INTO UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS AND RELATED PHENOMENA (A/33/141, A/33/268, A/SPC/33/L.20)

Mr. FRIDAY (Grenada): As we resume the debate on this item this afternoon, I should like, for the benefit of the representatives here, to read a very informative document sent to the Grenada delegation by the very distinguished astronaut, Mr. Gordon Cooper, who was supposed to have been here with us today as a member of the Grenada delegation and to have made a **statement** but who, unfortunately, was not able to come. I should like to read the substance of his letter which has a direct bearing on the matter that we are discussing.

"I believe that these extraterrestrial vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets which obviously are a little more technically advanced than we are here on earth. I feel that we need to have a top-level co-ordinated programme to scientifically collect and analyse data from all over the earth concerning any type of encounter and to determine how best to interfere with these visitors in a friendly fashion. We may first have to show them that we have learned to resolve our problems by peaceful means rather than warfare before we are accepted as fully-qualified universal team members. This acceptance would have tremendous possibilities for advancing our world in all areas. Certainly then it would seem that the United Nations has a vested interest in handling the subject properly and expeditiously.

"I should point out that I am not an experienced UFO professional researcher. I have not yet had the privilege of flying a UFO nor of meeting the crew of one. I do feel that I am somewhat qualified to discuss them since I have been into the fringes of the vast areas in which they travel. I also had occasion in 1951 to have two days of observation of many flights of them of different sizes, flying in fighter formation, generally from east to west over Europe.

(Mr. Friday, Grenada)

"They were at a higher altitude than we could reach with our jet fighters of that time.

"I would also like to point out that most astronauts are very reluctant even to discuss UFOs, because of the great numbers of people who have indiscriminately seen fake stories and forged documents abusing their names and reputations without hesitation. Those few astronauts who have continued to participate in the UFO field have had to do so very cautiously. There are several of us who do believe in UFOs and who have had occasion to see a UFO on the ground or from an airplane. There was only one sighting from space of what may have been a UFO.

"If the United Nations agrees to pursue this project and to lend its credibility to it, perhaps many more well-qualified people will agree to step forth and provide help and information."

That letter is signed by L. Gordon Cooper, Colonel, United States Air Force, Retired, Astronaut.

It gives me great pleasure at this point to introduce another speaker who has joined the Grenada delegation to make a statement to this Committee. I am referring to Mr. Stanton Friedman, who is a California nuclear physicist. He has a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in physics from the University of Chicago and 14 years of industrial experience in the development of a wide variety of advanced nuclear and space systems. His former employers include General Electric, Westinghouse, General Motors, TRW Systems and Aerojet General. Mr. Friedman is the only space scientist in North America known to be devoting full time to UFOs. Since 1970 he has lectured at more than 400 colleges and professional groups in 47 States and four Canadian provinces on the subject "Flying saucers are real". Mr. Friedman belongs to numerous professional groups of space scientists as well as several ufologist groups and speakers' groups.

It gives me very great pleasure to invite Mr. Stanton Friedman to make a brief statement to this Committee.

Mr. FRIEDMAN: A most important thing that we can all recognize today and that is obvious once one accepts UFO reality is that we all in this room do have something in common. We tend to forget it with all the differences we air: we are all earthlings. That is an important thing to remember.

(Mr. Friedman)

For myself, after 20 years of study and investigation, I am convinced that the evidence is overwhelming that our planet earth is being visited by intelligently controlled vehicles from off the earth, in other words, some UFOs - some - are somebody else's spacecraft. The evidence is in the form of eyewitness testimony from responsible, respectable people from all over the world, physical trace cases producing changes in the environment observable long after the UFO has left, radar cases, radar visual sightings, photographs, abductions of earthlings apparently by aliens and the subsequent return of the earthlings. We do not know about the cases where they do not bring them back. Every large-scale scientific study of UFOs has provided a substantial number of cases in which the observations clearly indicate that we are dealing with a manufactured object behaving in ways that we cannot duplicate with the things we manufacture on this planet. Hence the conclusion that we are dealing with somebody else's spacecraft.

The ability to move up and down and back and forth at thousands of miles an hour, typically without visible external engines, wings or tail, and to make right-angle turns, all of this together says that they were made somewhere else.

There are several questions which have not been tackled today that I would like to deal with briefly, because these are the things that bother people when the subject of flying saucers is raised. It is not only that they are not familiar with the evidence - and most people are not - but that they want answers to these questions. One question is: why come here in the first place, if it is not to talk with us at such a session as this one? What is happening on planet earth that could possibly be of interest to an advanced alien civilization? Probably many things are happening here that would be of interest to graduate students doing their thesis work, for example, on the development of a primitive society - us. But there is one thing happening here that is absolutely guaranteed to be of interest to another civilization in our neighbourhood, that is, that soon, meaning less than 100 years, which is nothing in a cosmic time-scale, we earthlings will be going to the stars. I have personally worked on staged fission or fusion propulsion systems. These systems are capable of getting us to nearby star systems in reasonable time. It would be obvious to any alien in the neighbourhood that within 100 years we shall be going out there.

(Mr. Friedman)

If we assume that other civilizations are concerned about their own survival, we would certainly expect them to keep tabs on other civilizations just beginning space travel so that there would be no surprises out there. At the end of the Second World War, with nuclear weapons, rockets and electronics, it was clear that earthlings would be going to the stars. I think that at that point we became of interest to others with time to get data - and that is what they have been doing. They do not seem to be here to help us or to hurt us, but for their own purposes - a kind of galactic federation intelligence agency, if you will.

Another question that comes up is: Why do they not make contact? In the United States, we say: Why do they not land on the White House lawn? In other countries, it is: Why do they not land at the Kremlin? Why not land at a whole bunch of other places? There are numerous jokes about "Take me to your leader". What is funny about all those jokes - and this is certainly the appropriate place to say this - is that there is no leader to be taken to. From an alien viewpoint, this is a primitive society whose major activity is tribal warfare. Read the newspapers, listen to television, and the conclusion is inescapable. It would make no more sense to expect an alien civilization to talk to individual countries than to expect the United Nations to deal with individual cities. Surely, the smallest sensible political unit on a galactic neighbourhood basis is a planet or a solar system.

The significance of flying saucers is something that, again, seems to bother people. At the press conference today the question was raised why, with all the other problems in the world facing us today, with concerns about peace, survival and hunger, why in the world should anybody be seriously concerned with flying saucers or UFOs. The best answer I can give is that our very survival may depend on taking an earthling orientation. The easiest way to get that orientation is to try to see ourselves as others must see us. From up above, coming into planet earth, there are no boundary lines. I have found that the younger generation, which was not alive when there was not a space programme, has no great difficulty at all in accepting the notion of an earthling civilization. That is what we have. Acceptance of ourselves, all of us, as earthlings is something that will happen naturally as we all get to recognize that planet earth is being visited.

(Mr. Friedman)

There are some practical aspects too, of course. What would it mean to this planet if we had a mode of propulsion that would enable us to get from place to place without airports, without railroad tracks, without highways, without the expenditure of valuable resources which we burn and throw away, to be able to move food from where it is grown to where it is needed without building a road or an airport? What would it mean if we had new and better means of producing energy? It seems clear that aliens have solved these problems in ways which we have not yet used.

Furthermore, it would also appear that planet earth might well have some things of interest for export to alien civilizations. If you wonder what they could be, I shall answer that the earth is, for example, the densest planet in the solar system. There are more heavy metals here than any place else in the neighbourhood. Heavy metals tend to be valuable in a larger scheme of things. We have all kinds of plant life, all kinds of other things that in an in-depth study one would find to be of interest to aliens.

One other thing I should like to get into is the question of perspective. Modern astronomical notions dealing with the possibility of contact with extraterrestrial intelligences frequently assume, because it is easy to do, that all other solar systems in our neighbourhood are in the same sort of isolation we are in. The nearest star to the sun is, after all, more than four light years away. However, to change the perspective, let us recognize that within our own little galactic neighbourhood, within 55 light years, there are about 1,000 stars of which 46 are very similar to the sun and might well be expected to have planets and life, some of which would be much older than we are. Within our own little neighbourhood, there are two sunlike stars that, instead of being separated by several light years, are only three light weeks apart - Zeta I Reticulae and Zeta II Reticulae, for those members interested in the names of certain stars. Concerning these two stars, whose existence became known from research relating to unidentified flying objects, if one were looking from a planet revolving around one star at the other star, that other would be one hundred times brighter than Venus and visible all day long. From a planet revolving around one looking at the other, one could directly observe planets around that other star - something we have no hope of doing from the surface of planet earth.

(Mr. Friedman)

One might very well expect that when one's nearest neighbour is only three light weeks away there would be earlier interstellar travel and communication than in our isolated situation. We cannot see the smoke from the next civilization's chimney. Zeta Reticulans have next-door neighbours. There have been three recent professional publications indicating that probably our entire galaxy has already been colonized. So we need to look at things from a larger perspective than our own isolation and the very short life as a technological civilization that we have had.

Perhaps most important of all is that we have to recognize that the next generation will grow up in a drastically different situation from that of our own generation. Unless we do something to stop it - and I say this as a nuclear physicist - another dozen more countries will have nuclear weapons, and the world will be divided into ever more different groups instead of becoming an earthling civilization. I have a young child; I should like to see her grow up into a world in which we do all state our identity as earthlings.

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