

Paul Hellyer Speaks

Paul Hellyer, the former Defense Minister of Canada, announced in a September 25, 2005 speech at the Toronto Exopolitics Symposium that he had finally come to the conclusion that there is a truth to the reality of UFOs, their presence on our planet and in our airspace, and the interaction between governments on earth and the extraterrestrials who have navigated them here.

Although he concedes that he was not familiar with the work and the opinions of Wilbert Smith, the Canadian scientist who revealed that the United States government had a top secret UFO project from the late 1940s through the 1960s, Mr. Hellyer says that subsequent to his tenure in office and after seeing what he described as compelling eyewitness testimony on such shows as the late Peter Jennings special *Seeing is Believing*, the subject of UFOs needs to be brought out into the open for debate.

It is not that he is a true believer, Mr. Hellyer said in an interview with *UFO Magazine*. Rather, he believes that skeptics are too quick to rule out the reality of UFOs without accounting for events that defy conventional explanations. Both the French COMETA report and the Laurance Rockefeller Pocantico Hills conference chaired by Peter Sturrock are examples of compilations of anecdotal data and evidentiary substantiation that have yet to be explained away. If there are conventional explanations for seemingly bizarre and paranormal events, what are they? If science cannot explain them away, then paranormal causation should not be irrevocably ruled out.

If the world's governments have been in communication with extraterrestrials, there are larger political issues at stake as well, Mr. Hellyer suggests. The world's populations have as much right to know what our governments have learned from the extraterrestrials as the government officials who have dealt with them. On a larger scale, rather than keeping secret our interaction with alien races, we should be preparing the world for extraterrestrial contact. If governments have established or mutually worked out protocols for the transfer of information between alien cultures and Earth, those protocols should be public knowledge and not the exclusive property of secret bureaucracies.

In his speech, Defense Minister Hellyer endorses the theory of exopolitics proposed by Alfred Webre and, until the Pentagon stepped in and shut down the research, endorsed by President Jimmy Carter in 1978. Jimmy Carter was the first president to promise that once he was elected he would reveal the truth to the American people about UFOs. Exopolitics, a term coined by Yale Law School graduate Alfred Webre, who was working with the Carter administration in 1978 to study the implications of extraterrestrial contact, involves the creation of public policy and the establishment of governmental agencies specifically to facilitate the communication between extraterrestrials and human beings.

Currently, the dealings between extraterrestrials and human governments are primarily within the purview of the military. This, Minister Hellyer suggests, is a problem because not only do most of the world's military agencies consider ETs hostile, there is a larger policy issue in that the military is, in fact, making policy for the world's governments rather than the democratically elected legislative representatives. Accordingly, as a prerequisite for disclosure, but as an integral component of it, the world's governments need to establish for their respective constituencies political protocols that will enable them to deal, not only diplomatically, but administratively with representatives of extraterrestrial cultures.

Following is a complete transcript of his speech, delivered on September 25 at the 2005 Toronto Exopolitics Symposium.



Why would they all say what they did if they didn't believe what they were saying?

I would like to thank the organizers of this symposium for giving me the opportunity to speak on a subject which, I must admit, was not of major interest to me until quite recently. True, when I was minister of national defense 40 years ago, I received a report of sightings of unidentified flying objects; some of which were listed as natural phenomena, while others were simply listed as source unknown.

At that time I was far too busy trying to streamline the armed forces, improve morale, and save the taxpayers money to let any natural curiosity concerning the subject of UFOs lead me on what I would probably have considered to be a flight of fancy.

Even when I was asked to dedicate Canada's, and probably the world's, first flying-saucer landing pad in the small Albertan town of St. Paul on June 3, 1967 I didn't consider the structure anything more than a highly imaginative centennial project by a town that had more centennial projects than any other place in Canada.

About the closest I have come to an alleged encounter with a UFO occurred at Arundel Lodge, a small tourist resort in the Muskoka Lakes District north of Toronto, that my late wife Ellen and I ran for 45 years. One night a few of our guests met around a campfire on a big flat rock known as Fernrock. The object was a little song and chatter.

Naturally they had taken the precaution of bringing a little firewater to lubricate the vocal cords and ward off the chill of the night. On that occasion Jack Daniels bourbon was the poison of choice. A couple of hours later a bright light appeared in the southern sky directly across the lake. It could have been an airplane, but it zig-zagged across the horizon in a very erratic fashion. Some thought it might be an airplane while others insisted that it was a UFO.

The following morning some positions had shifted, with the consensus being that it must have been the Jack Daniels that had been responsible for the zigging and zagging. There were a couple of holdouts, however, who had had nothing at all to drink. Their conviction remained unshakable.

I included their story in a little book I wrote entitled *Arundel Lodge* because the number of sightings in the '80s and '90s led me to conclude that the probability of extraterrestrial travel was greater than I had thought. Perhaps it was presumptuous of us earthlings to assume that we were the center and leading edge of the intellectual universe. Later, since the turn of the century, I have met some ufologists who have sparked my interest in the subject and provided me with significant research material.

Among other things, I was asked to watch a 2-hour television special put together by the late Peter Jennings for ABC News. I found it quite compelling. Commercial airline pilots, United States Air Force pilots, policemen, and other public officials all swore that they had had personal encounters with UFOs. Some witnesses alleged that they had been abducted. Why would they all say what they did if they didn't believe what they were saying?

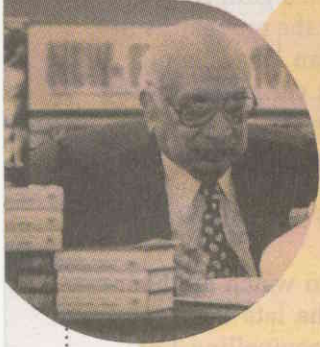
I concluded that anyone with an open mind would have to be convinced by what they saw and heard. What I didn't know until I was checking some sources last week was that, before he died, Peter Jennings told Larry King on CNN that he was convinced that UFOs were real.

It may have been that program that encouraged me to read a book that had been on my shelf for a couple of years. It is titled *The Day After Roswell*, and was written by Lieutenant Colonel Philip J. Corso, a U.S. Army intelligence officer who had been a member of President Eisenhower's National Security Council and later head of the Foreign Technology Desk at the U.S. Army's Research and Development Department. It was one of the most fascinating books I have ever read. It is the unimpeachable source of what I am going to say to you today.

The long-time intelligence officer confirms beyond any shadow of doubt the long-circulated rumour that on or about July 4th, 1947 a UFO crashed not far from Roswell, New Mexico. And although the colonel was not actually present at the crash site, he subsequently saw one of the bodies recovered from the wreckage while it was en route for autopsy.

Even more significant, 10 years later, he was put in charge of a pile of scrap collected at the crash site and stored by the army for a decade until Corso, under instructions from his friend and commander Lieutenant General Arthur Trudeau, was given the task of doing something with it. His assignment was to feed the alien technology, which was decades in advance of our own, into the U.S. industrial system for the benefit of the U.S. military.

The secrecy involved in all matters pertaining to the Roswell incident was unparalleled. The classification was, from the outset, above top secret, so the vast



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majority of U.S. officials and politicians, let alone a mere allied minister of defense, were never in the loop.

Furthermore, when the alien technology was fed to U.S. industry, at no time was the source revealed. Colonel Corso had the perfect cover. It was foreign technology that he was providing—ostensibly something picked up from the Soviets or the Germans. No questions were allowed and no explanations given. And, as you might expect in a country with three separate military services, the Army, Air Force, and Navy did not share their secrets. Each held their projects very close to the vest.

The U.S. Army's projects, initiated by Colonel Corso, resulted in reverse engineering that led to developments that included today's integrated circuit chips, fibre optics, lasers, and super-tenacity fibres. These are all developments that have had a profound impact on our lives as earthlings.

Two or three of my friends have asked me if I didn't think that *The Day After Roswell* could be just some brilliant work of fiction. My answer was no. Not even with the imagination of someone like Yann Martel, author of *The Life of Pi*, could anyone fake it. The book is replete with too many real names, real places, and real dates to be fiction.

Last summer when I was reading it at Arundel Lodge I shared a few of the contents with my nephew, Philip. Not having read the book, he was more than a little skeptical. A couple of days later he phoned a retired United States Air Force general of his acquaintance to ask him about the book. "Every word of it is true, and more," the general told him. That was enough to satisfy Philip, who could hardly wait to get his hands on a copy of the book.

Last Tuesday I decided that it would be good to hear that assurance first hand. So I phoned the general who Philip had introduced me to at an aviation exhibition a few years ago. He seemed pleased to hear from me so I asked him about the quote concerning Corso's book. "Every word of it is true, and more," he repeated for my benefit. We then spent 20 minutes or so discussing the "and more" to the extent he could without reveal-

ing classified material. What he said was just as fascinating and compelling as the book.

UFOs are as real as the airplanes flying overhead. That is my unequivocal conclusion.

But that conclusion alone would not have been enough to convince me to speak out today. Others will be saying the same thing, and saying it better. The reason I am going public today is because there are profoundly important policy issues that must be addressed, and I am a policy wonk—someone who paints with a broad brush.

A Problem for Earthlings

There is a problem for earthlings. Within hours of the crash at Roswell, U.S. General Nathan Twining designated the visitors as "enemy aliens." It appears from his book that Colonel Corso agreed with that assessment and that it has remained as official U.S. policy ever since. At that time, however, it was an enemy about which the U.S. could do nothing because the visitors were so technologically superior.

That led to the recommendation that the discovery be treated with the utmost secrecy to the point that the crash at Roswell didn't happen and that UFOs don't exist. The rationale was that ordinary people couldn't cope with the news and might easily panic. Reference was made to Orson Welles' Halloween broadcast depicting a Martian invasion, which had been so realistic that a sort of panic had ensued. The best way to prevent a recurrence was to keep the public in the dark and unaware. This policy resulted in what has probably been the greatest and most successful cover-up in the history of the world.

But much has happened in the more than half century since that policy was adopted. The most important change has been in U.S. military capability. The U.S. has developed the alien's own weapons—lasers and particle guns—to the point where they can be used against the visitors from space.

In his book Colonel Corso makes it clear that the Reagan Administration's Strategic Defense Initiative—appropriately dubbed Star Wars—was primarily designed for use against the alien intruders. Its contemporary successor, the anti-missile missile defense system is also being designed with that as one of the principal objectives.

It is true that a case can be made for attempting to provide a shield against the Russians and the Chinese, although everyone knows that the Russians are not going to embark on a policy which would result in their total destruction. It is equally true that they, too, are aware of the visitors and know that the perceived threat from the visitors has been a major consideration in the planning of the system. Particle guns, for example, are not only useful against missiles; they have the potential to

destroy the electromagnetic propulsion and navigation systems of the space vehicles just as lightning was considered the likely cause of the crash at Roswell.

The policy question is this: Is it wise to be spending so much time and money building a capability designed to rid the skies of alien invaders? And what are the possible consequences in the event we should shoot down a few of them?

A related question is: "To what extent are they really an enemy?" What crimes have they committed against humanity? They have certainly upset the military by flying over their most secret installations, by shadowing their planes, and buzzing their astronauts. But these are all things one superpower would do to another given the capability. Beyond that, the aliens have mutilated some cattle and allegedly abducted a few people and frightened them badly. But to the best of my knowledge they have never killed anyone. So are they really enemy or merely legitimate explorers from afar? These are extremely important questions, but with few answers due to lack of information.

It seemed highly ironic that as I sat down to begin writing this a week ago today, I broke for supper and turned on the radio. The first news item I heard was that NASA plans to go back to the moon in 2018. Instantly I said to myself that the Bush Administration has finally agreed to let the military build a forward base on the moon which will put them in a better position to keep track of the goings and comings of the visitors from space, and to shoot at them if they so decide.

The plan was originally devised by Arthur Trudeau, Colonel Corso's boss, in the 1960s. He prepared a highly detailed blueprint which rated a whole chapter under the heading "Project Moon Base" in the colonel's book. It seems that once again the military view has ultimately prevailed and the project will go forward at an initial cost of \$100 billion. That is a lot of money—enough to save the lives of millions of earthlings dying from malnutrition and lack of medical treatment. Which is the higher priority?

Reviewing the developments of the last half-century, it is obvious that the military has often been frustrated by the slow response to their requests to meet the perceived threat from the aliens. But they ultimately succeed when they get through to an overworked president who doesn't have enough time to read and think and who may be more in awe of military experts than some civilians with more time for reflection and assessment.

The point is that there has been no public input, and there should be. The time has come to lift the veil of secrecy and let the truth emerge so there can be a real and informed debate about one of the most important issues facing our planet. Forgive me for stating the obvious; but it is quite impossible to have that kind of an informed debate about a problem that doesn't officially exist.

From Reality to Hypothesis

Let me close by switching briefly from the real to the hypothetical. Last Christmas I had the pleasure of reviewing a delightful little book entitled *Exopolitics: Politics, Government and Law in the Universe* by Alfred Webre. Webre postulates a universe that includes many planets sustaining life more advanced than our own, and all subject to universal governance based on the rule of law.

Earth, he suggests, is an exception. Rather than being the center of the universe as our ancestors believed, we are the black sheep of the interplanetary community. We have been quarantined and isolated from the "highly organized, interplanetary, intergalactic multidimensional universe society," presumably because our culture has been strongly influenced by rogue planetary leadership personified in the story of the Garden of Eden.

To end the quarantine, Earthlings must advance morally and spiritually while re-establishing the connection with interplanetary society. Until recently we didn't have the technology to do the latter, but increasingly we do. Meanwhile, visits from our interplanetary neighbours present opportunities for peaceful communication and collaboration.

People who believe in God, as I do, will find nothing in Webre's thesis inconsistent with their beliefs, although I admit it is a mighty mind stretch. His proposal, I think, is worth considering. He calls it "A Decade of Contact." He proposes an era of openness, public hearings, publicly funded research, and education about extraterrestrial reality. Who knows? That could be just the antidote the world needs to end its greed-driven, power-centred madness. UFO

Paul Hellyer is the former Canadian Minister of Defense. He has had a long and distinguished career with particular emphasis on national defense. He held a number of positions culminating in his appointment as Minister of Defense under prime Minister Lester Pearson. He is a long-standing opponent of the weaponization of space and is a supporter of the Space Preservation Treaty.

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