

Charles Darwin stated that, given the time taken for human evolution, the human brain had not had sufficient time to develop to its present level of complexity and capability. Throughout the course of human history; certain men have appeared, men such as Buddha, Moses and Jesus, whose presence and influence profoundly affected the course of human development, and whose appearance was considered by people as divine, for they could find no rational explanation for it. Researchers such as Charles von Daniken have theorized that human evolution has also been aided by periodic visits by advanced beings from other worlds...

SAGA OF THE STARGUN

The ship, a standard Alliance Survey Probe, exited hyperspace seven thousand kliks inside the orbit of Neptune. In a very short time, the small water-rich third planet was identified as the only one in the system capable of sustaining intelligent life. A recon of the surface revealed rudimentary industry had been developed by the prevalent species.

“This is the planet,” queried Control, “no mistake?”

“Affirmative” answered NavCon, “That scrap of crystal has had ten runs through membank and the read-out is constant. The population is 72.4 points past recontact parameter.”

“Incredible, to be isolated for so long,” said Control, “and second-degree humanoids at that; the potential for mischief is incalculable. Commtec, put all reconbeams on full sweep; let us see what use has been made of this free time.”

NORAD began tracking the bogie as it passed the asteroid belt on a course toward earth. The radar operators could not believe that anything that size could move so quickly. They contacted NASA and asked for visual confirmation by the Hubbell Telescope. The Allied Probe reconned the telescope before it could be deployed and shifted its visible spectrum. NORAD’s screen went blank.

“It’s gone, sir,” said the radar operator, “must have been a mile across and it just winked out.”

“Call NASA and see if they got a picture,” said the OD.

“I did, sir, they said the coordinates showed only empty space.”

“Then enter it in the log as a glitch, we don’t need brass crawling all over us.”

“So noted and logged, sir,” said the operator, making the appropriate entries.

“It’s difficult to grasp,” put forth Control, “there is a remarkable degree of technical development but practically no moral unity. The destructive capability with which they threaten one another for the pettiest of reasons is incredible. The systemic mischief these humanoids manifest has taken a strongly suicidal bent. Opinions, my colleagues, how do we augment Recontact?”

“They appear to worship violence,” said Commtec, “they vie constantly on all vari-group levels, from the nuclear family to the nation-state. We might do well to terminate this strain and write it off as a loss.”