

History of UFO sightings

1600 B.C.: Egyptian Pharaoh Thutmose III mentions circles of fire that dominated the sky but left a terrible order.

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th centuries B.C.: many Romans like Pliny, Seneca, Tacitus & Livy reported UFOs. Pliny spoke of a fiery shield in the sky in 85 B.C.. Livy spoke of phantom ships, like sailing ships.

329 B.C.: Alexander the Great & his troops were frightened by large, luminous shields that spit fire around the rims & buzzed & frightened them as they attempted to cross a river.

There were very few sightings reported in the 1st 500 years of the Christian era. UFO activity abated until the start of the Dark Ages in the 6th century.

583 A.D.: Gregory of Tours, the 1st French historian, mentioned globes of fire that moved about in the sky.

During Charlemagne's reign (742-814 A.D.), 4 people were nearly stoned to death because they were seen falling or floating down from aerial ships. These were Frenchmen who said they were carried away by supernatural beings who showed them strange & unknown things. Bishop Agobard of Lyons managed to save their lives by convincing the judges that the event never really happened.

In Japan on Sept. 24th, 1235 A.D., General Yoritsume & his troops watched strange lights circling and moving in loops in the sky. This went thru the night until dawn.

On August 13th, 1491, Facius Cardan, a respected Italian Renaissance lawyer & mathematician, reported an encounter with 7 men who suddenly appeared to him. They claimed to be made of air, denied the immortality of the soul and denied that God had made the world for all eternity. They seemed interested in theological matters and they described a system where God is constantly re-creating the world and it would cease to exist the moment it incurred God's displeasure. While this disagrees with the origins of the universe at that time (and now), some philosophers were circulating similar ideas. They were dressed in togas and armor. Their life spans were 300 years. When asked to reveal their knowledge, they said there was a special law that would penalize them if they did.

Before the Machine Age arrived, the UFOs remained as natural phenomenon, describable without recourse to mechanical terms. The Egyptians saw suns, the Romans saw fireballs & shields. These were within their powers of description. But with the advent of the Industrial Age, the sightings were of flying machines rather than fire balls or luminous clouds. It appears the show is always a little bit beyond the capabilities of those observing it.

A good example of this is the airships of the late 1890's, with their propellers, porthole windows, antennae and submarine like appearance. There were hundreds of such sightings. On April 11, 1897 a photograph was taken. Today we would say it looks like a sailing ship with masts, propellers, porthole windows, etc. Hundreds of people saw it as it lazily floated above Chicago, not worried because it knew we couldn't pursue it as flying hadn't been invented yet. One was also observed above San Francisco.