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2002 06 07 Friday Phillip H. Krapf The Verdants

PHILLIP H. KRAPF

Twenty-five (25) years as an editor on the Metro copy desk at the Los Angeles Times [newspaper]. He shared a Pulitzer Prize in covering the Rodney King riots. Later he was abducted onto an alien spacecraft and experienced a fascinating new world. He wrote up an account of his experience in *The Contact Has Begun*, the true story of a journalist's encounter with alien beings – the Verdants.

PHK: If any nuclear bombs are used, "the Verdants will be leaving the environs of Earth. ... At that point, we will consider the human race a lost cause and not worth monitoring any longer in the hopes of one day nurturing it so that it could take its place among the intergalactic community of enlightened beings."

"The statement came to me directly from an official representative of the Verdants, not from a human intermediary, and has been sanctioned by the Intergalactic Federation of Sovereign Planets and I was given authorization to release it immediately."

AB: "When you listen to the tone of what is presented here, it doesn't sound optimistic."

PHK: "It could be just a warning, a wake-up call, trying to shake us up ..."

AB: A lot of people – particularly Americans – think if nuclear war threatens, aliens will swoop down and prevent it.

PHK: "I can only speak for" the Verdants. "They have made it quite clear that they have *not* come here as our Saviors. ... When you come right down to it, what you get is a species that's looking out for Number 1."

"They don't want an aggressive warlike species going into space that would threaten the peace or threaten our planetary neighbors."

"They felt we were on the road to rehabilitation. ... Once the cold war ended, for the first time in world history, we really have a chance for world peace."

"Mankind's destiny is in mankind's hands. This is not just a practical policy, but I think there's some religious belief behind this."

AB: "Oh really?"

PHK: "Yeah. ... They have great respect for people's religions. They themselves are religious." ... One of the reasons they don't interfere is that "they feel God has a plan for every species. They don't know what that plan is."

AB: "You cannot imagine how interesting that is. You're suggesting they believe in a creative force."

PHK: "Yes, they do."

AB: "How did you discern that from them?"

PHK: "We had discussions. ... I don't remember if I put it in the book"

AB: "That would be a big one to miss."

PHK: "I remember the conversation quite frankly."

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PHK: Per the Discovery Channel, 99.99% of all species that have ever existed on Earth are extinct.

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AB: Phillip Krapf's story is "a pretty wild story by straight news standards, but since when did we ever adhere to those here?"

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PHK: I was a mainstream guy. Did not believe in aliens and UFOs. Retired from the LA Times in 1993. In 1997 I had an experience with aliens [the Verdants]. I became a believer.

AB: "What happened to you?"

PHK: "I was taken aboard a ship as many thousands of other people have been ..."

AB: "Taken from your bed?"

PHK: "Well, yeah ... from my bedroom, right."

The difference between me and other abductees is that most of them have not written a book about their experiences.

I was to help establish diplomatic relations between this species of aliens and us.

The Verdants have *not* made a prediction or prophecy of nuclear war here on Earth.

AB: (agreeing). "Not true. Not true."

Do you think there is any chance that they would deem us not fit to go into deep space? "And they would have to prevent us from leaving our little contaminated island here ...!"

PHK: "I think they made that pretty clear that's exactly what they do." If we're going to pose a threat by taking weapons into space to our interplanetary neighbors, they simply don't allow it. "They don't use weapons themselves, and they don't get involved in violence, and they don't hurt people, but they have ways of setting science back several hundred years if they have to."

"Quite frankly, I don't think we're going into deep space unless we pass muster, and we do establish diplomatic relations with the intergalactic community of enlightened beings."

AB: "Did they suggest to you at any point, how common is life everywhere?"

PHK: "You know what ... I don't remember discussing that with them at all, [but] they did say that there are 27,000 member species in their organization."

AB: "That's pretty big ..."

PHK: "That's actually not very many at all."

AB: "Still a lot more than the UN [United Nations] ..."

PHK: "Yeah, that's true."

"Also, the Cosmos is a very, very large place." ... So they would not be able to explore more than a very, very small portion of it.

AB: What are the odds of us getting into the intergalactic federation?

PHK: They did not give any sense of this – but about two hundred (200) species are isolated or quarantined now from going into space even though they have the technical ability to. They also said "there were a number of members who had been quarantined or isolated at one time." ... "But then they got their act together and had proven themselves worthy of being accepted."

AB: "Oh!"

PHK: "Most of the problems in the world today are as a result of intolerance.

One group being intolerant of another group's belief. ... An intolerance for diversity of beliefs."

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AB: "Everybody goes to war with the saying: 'God's on my side!"

PHK: Admits my credentials do help open doors.

AB: "Maybe that's what the Verdants thought ... why not pick somebody whose voice will be heard?"

PHK: "I think they figured it out." Of course, I'm only what they call a 'deputy envoy,' the important people are called 'ambassadors.' "I do know the ambassadors are more in direct contact with the aliens than I am. I've tried to establish communications and have not been very successful. When they have information, somehow they've been able to get it to me."

If a nuclear weapon goes off, PK thinks the aliens would stop all contact with us, but continue to monitor us to make sure we don't go out into space.

AB: "During your contact, were there ever dire warnings from them?"

PHK: "There are factions [within the Verdants] who believe that we [Earthlings] are not ready."

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