

dangers that they might represent come from General MacArthur and President Ronald Reagan.

While he had already touched on the problem in 1955, in a conversation with the mayor of Naples, Achille Lauro, General MacArthur said in an address at West Point Military Academy in 1962:

"You now face a new world, a world of change. The thrust into outer space... marks a beginning of another epoch in the long story of mankind... We deal now, not with things of this world alone, but with the illimitable distances and as yet unfathomed mysteries of the universe... of ultimate conflict between a united human race and the sinister force of some other planetary galaxy."

[French translation of the quote from General MacArthur's address]

General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, for his part, revealed during a private discussion at the 1985 summit conference that President Reagan had told him that if earth had to confront an invasion by extraterrestrials, the United States and the Soviet Union would join forces to repel that invasion.

In addition, at the end of a speech before the 42nd General Assembly of the United Nations on September 21, 1987, President Reagan affirmed:

"In our obsession with the antagonisms of the moment, we often forget how much unites all the members of humanity. Perhaps we need some outside, universal threat to make us recognize this common bond. I occasionally think how quickly our differences worldwide would vanish if we were facing an alien threat from outside this world."

[French translation of the quote from President Reagan's speech]

7.2.2.2 However, for political leaders, just as for scientists, to be officially interested in UFOs and extraterrestrials is firstly to risk ridicule before commentators and the media, who regularly use omission, destructive irony, and even lies.

7.2.2.3 But other elements should be taken into consideration. Although a significant number of U.S. citizens seem to accept the existence of UFOs of extraterrestrial origin, some political leaders might hesitate to call for resources to research this subject, because they might fear they would then be accused of incurring expenses for one of the most hazardous of subjects.

7.2.2.3.1 Under these circumstances, if we advance the hypothesis that political leaders at the highest level in the United States possess unambiguous information attesting to that existence, their situation would be particularly uncomfortable. The armed forces have officially reiterated for fifty years that this phenomenon does not threaten the security of the country, which does not mean that the phenomenon does not exist.

However, there have been disturbing sightings such as visits above secret installations and missile bases, intense electromagnetic effects, military aircraft shadowed (as in the RB-47 case) or the object of mock interceptions. In reality, faced with the impossibility of countering this type of threat, the authorities may have thus far been tempted to affirm that it does not exist.

In the absence of a direct threat, and even though there never truly was any attack in the past, the potential threat itself can appear overwhelming in the eyes of the authorities (and especially the military).

"They" come from the stars, "their" craft watch us and seem to taunt us, "they" have perhaps been on earth for thousands of years, and we don't know "their" intentions. "Their" science and "their" technology, thus "their" power, are incomparably superior to