

Did Atom War Wipe Out People on the Moon?

By PATRICIA CLARY
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Beverly Hills, Cal. (U.P.)—A new theory was advanced today for why nobody lives on the moon.

A young research worker believes people there fought a giant atomic war thousands of years ago and wiped themselves out. "This is not as far-fetched as it sounds," declared Arthur Louis Joquel II.

"Some astronomers believe life exists throughout the solar system," he said. "The moon, being smaller than the earth, cooled off faster, and they got a head start on atomic research."

California Institute of Technology, which gets the world's best looks at the moon through its Palomar telescope, said Joquel's theory was "such sheer fantasy" its astronomers wouldn't comment.

There's always room for a new idea, replied the reaction research society, of which Joquel is director.

The amateur astronomer begins with the assumption that life evolved faster on the moon than on the earth because it was cooler. Moonmen could have reached the study of nuclear physics ages ago.

"The evidence seems incontrovertible that the moon once had a good supply of air and water," Joquel said. "Some astronomers believe life could have existed there."

"It is not impossible that the beings who once lived on the moon discovered the secret of nuclear fission, just as we have done here on earth, used the power for a giant atomic war, and completely destroyed themselves and their world."

"This hypothesis not only reconciles a number of conflicting theories about the moon," the society said, "but suggests them by solving problems they left unanswered."

The moon's atmosphere might have been burned away in a chain reaction from the atomic explosions, Joquel said. Or else the war was fought early in the moon's life, before the body's low gravity allowed the air to escape.

Some of the craters which make the face of the man in the moon might have been caused by atom bombs, he added. Some craters obviously were caused by volcanoes, he said, but the volcanoes might have been set off by the atomic explosions.

Mrs. Rask Returns From Iowa Visit

Silverton—Mrs. Mary Rask has returned from several weeks' stay in Shambough, Iowa, to be with her 83-year-old mother, Mrs. Martha Dickey who is now recovered from a recent illness. Enroute home Mrs. Rask visited at the home of a cousin Mr. and Mrs. Clate McReynolds in Indianola, Iowa, whom she had not seen for more than 35 years, and stopped for a few days in Forsythe, Mont., at the home of a son, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burnes and Lee and Bobby.

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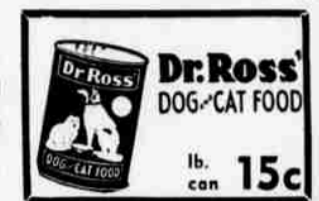
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