

## **'The Martians' Project – Strategy Bullet Points**

- For 12 years have built a factual possession of land on Mars. This is known as 'The Martians' project.
- This claim arises from our recurrent/persistent targeting of Mars, using very powerful lasers, whilst aligned to astronomical telescopes (with auto-tracking mounts).
- Safety is paramount – we have strict standard operating procedures.
- Our claim is of early factual possession ... NOT ownership (which is not yet legally possible).
- All of the significant legal experts in this field (International/Space law) are aware of our project.
- We requested formal reports from three of the most respected legal experts. We have two independent reports from Professor Frans Von Der Dunk and Dr Philip De Man – published in our website legal section. We also publish an email critique from Professor PJ. Blount. They have effectively validated our claim of early factual possession and suggest we have created a provisional legal foothold on Mars (provisional, because the law needs to evolve to tolerate such property rights for ownership purposes). Our actions are considered (in the legal report) to be more impactful (slightly) than symbolic acts such as planting of flags or dropping national insignia onto the claimed land.
- The legal assessment states that if the law were to evolve to tolerate such property rights, our claim should be “first in line” for consideration of ownership.
- We acknowledge that the “possession” would almost certainly need to get stronger (for future ownership purposes).
- We consulted expert astrophysicists about our science base (assumptions, calculations, approximations etc). Some provided brief assessments by email, but we commissioned a full report from Professor Paul Sutter (highly respected US astrophysics professor with a growing media presence on science/Discovery/Weather Channels).
- Professor Sutter broadly agreed/validated our assumptions and approximations. Our optimal prediction for photons impacting Mars did align with his calculations. He reminds us that the resultant effect on the surface of Mars is very small (amongst other effects, the CO<sub>2</sub> release is currently too small to measure). We agree with that, and the lawyers understand this.
- We aim to raise funds by launching a commercial phase of this venture (to date, most members/co-claimants have joined on a cost-free basis).
- We shall invest these funds into strengthening the ‘possession’... we initiate this process through funding annual scholarships in STEM/Space Studies for successful student applicants within our members’ families. We shall create subject matter experts who are also advocates and influencers for ‘The Martians’ project. Some of these will progress into space industry and perhaps become part of the early missions to Mars.
- We will reward the first 10 members to get to Mars: potentially a \$1M reward to each.
- Representation of our membership within those early settlements/mining installations will be invaluable. If we can achieve a small presence in the four quadrants of Mars then we shall have completed the establishment of factual possession of all land on Mars – and thus be in the most commanding position if property rights become tolerated (as we fully expect them to be – maybe in 50-100 years when such human settlement is feasible).

- We can maximize the opportunity to have members within the first missions by agreeing an early Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with space industry partners ... perhaps a space transportation company and/or a space mining corporation.
- We shall lobby space industry representative and national/state delegations to the UN committee (COPUOS). This should be conducted outside the UN, addressing each delegation one at a time. We need to awaken the political and commercial appetite for the amazing solution (we say it's an elegant "flat-packed solution") that our project brings to the legal challenges awaiting space commerce. Lawyers indicate it is feasible for states to individually register provisional acceptance of our claim in order to avail of the huge commercial benefit (see below: Article I, Outer Space Treaty).
- Our solution not only creates ownership title for All Humankind (to be held in trust by the UN) and beneficial title for our membership (which is a faithful, equitable representation of all humankind, from all 195 nations) ... it also deals elegantly with the single biggest hurdle still facing space commerce .... that being the obligations imposed on them by Article I of the Outer Space Treaty. This must be our most commercially valuable Unique Selling Point (USP).
- Our solution deals with Article I seamlessly, thus allowing space mining companies to keep ALL their profits (without sharing). They need only pay a reasonable ground-rent to the affected landowner (one of our members). It is the affected member who then part shares that payment with all other members (who in turn pay tax on this to their parent nations). The sharing of the benefits of space commerce (mining etc) is beautifully delivered. Not only does our project deliver on the tricky obligations of Article I... it honours the "Province of Mankind" phrase with a gift to humanity of legal ownership title (title to all land on Mars).
- Although not entirely necessary for the realisation of this elegant solution, we also wish to see the formation of a pro-business Space User Group (only those nations with companies mining/using the land on Mars). This group will have commercial governance responsibility... but we say that representation within this group is only available to those space faring nations that sign/ratify a new "top-up" agreement which will enhance the OST 1967 – strengthening it against aggressive weaponization, permitting vibrant, responsible commerce, and managing waste/debris.
- Thus, we offer an ethical solution that favours vibrant space commerce and delivers a huge Benefit to all Humankind.
- We have applied all this to Mars via the smart use of a Mars Land Claim. The UN could do the same for the Moon (a very similar model could be created ... indeed, the "Envoys of Mankind" have already visited the Moon several times ... so declaring/awarding legal title of the Moon for All Humankind should be relatively straightforward. It then requires an equitable lottery for the award of beneficial title to people of all nations. Resolving Article I obligations now will prove vital for investor confidence in near future commercial missions to the Moon. It should sit elegantly with existing law/agreements such as OST 1967, US Space Act 2015 and the Artemis Accords.

Dr Philip Davies

Aug 2022