

We Are Prisoners Of Fire

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That was the title of an article which implied space travel would not be possible because the temperature of the atmosphere increased with altitude... if you went up to the stratosphere.

Well, I just picked up the latest Scientific American at the newsstand. Apparently, the danger of cosmic rays means that humans will never explore space to any significant extent.

Well, if it **is** impossible to send a space capsule to Mars... we could always build an O'Neill colony, and go there slowly.

Of course, years ago, I was told by a space medicine expert who spoke to a meeting of a local astronomy club that O'Neill colonies were impossible because of cosmic rays. And I came up with a design to prove her wrong... which only much later came to my web site at

<http://www.quadibloc.com/science/spaint.htm>

Of course, when I mentioned it here recently, it was noted that the danger from cosmic rays wasn't really bad enough to make such a design necessary. That may well be true; I'm not qualified to get into that part of the debate.

But, of course, my point is – even **if** the problem is as bad as the pessimists claim, it does not bar humans from space. Period.

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<http://www.quadibloc.com/index.html>

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