

ANCIENT SKIES

"Come Search With Us!"

Official Logbook of the Ancient Astronaut Society

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THE PALENQUE VEHICLE

BY O.M. WEISS*

With the discovery of the Sarcophagus Cover (See figure 1) in 1952 at the Temple of Inscriptions, Palenque, Chiapas, Mexico, additional weight was added to a new chapter of the coming of the space age - the existence of spaceships in ancient times. The now famous "Palenque Slab" is a relic of an ancient flying machine which almost proves the hypothesis that somebody was roaming through the ancient skies.

"Space Traveller," it is called by Erich von Daniken (author of "Chariots of the Gods?") and the Soviet writer Kazantsev, followed by others who have suggested that the carving may resemble a jet rocket. Not quite so. The Palenque Vehicle, despite its somehow rude-looking appearance, resembles a craft far beyond rocket technology. "How," someone will ask, "is such possible?"

Traditional science is hampered by the dogma that ancient astronautics is nothing but a theory, mainly for the reason that spacecrafts which are usually highly sophisticated machines are unthinkable without an industrial society. It is argued that numerous relics of primitive cultures have been found, but none that would offer just the slightest indication of the existence of an ancient proto-civilization. The most intricate obstacle became the intact condition of our power and raw material resources - basically, fossil fuels. If ancient astronautics was a real thing, then who managed to succeed with a technology far beyond ours? Were we contacted by extraterrestrial intelligence (ETI)?

The evidence gathered on ancient space activity speaks heavily against ETI. Chariots, or more precisely "Vimanas," once were built on this earth. They were not built by stranded aliens in the sense of rebuilding their lost or damaged crafts, but rather as simple vehicles of a quite rude mechanical structure as viewed by traditional science, which has tried to explain such vehicles by comparison with the results of our own space technology - Rocket Flight, with the latest UFO prototype; over-looking, however, that even the most sophisticated UFO originated from a most simple design still known as the "Flying Carpet." Ancient space activity cannot be explained without being aware that the mythological "Flying Carpet," "Vimana," and "Chariot" are the same as today's UFOs.

The argument of the absence of any industrial (Continued on next page)

*Mr. Weiss studied mechanical engineering in Germany and was a designer of light-weight rocket engines during World War II. He also was involved in the development of total combustion thrusters and a co-designer of a flying disk.

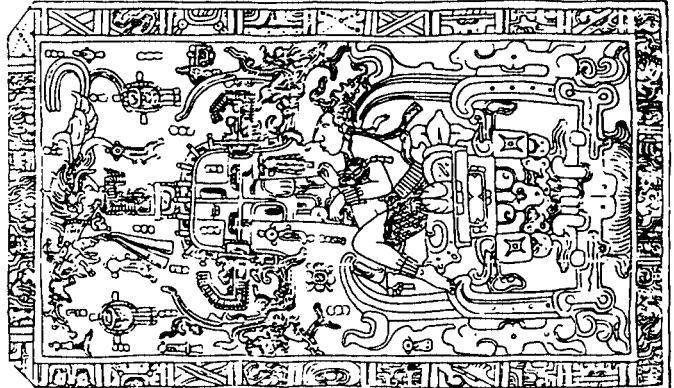
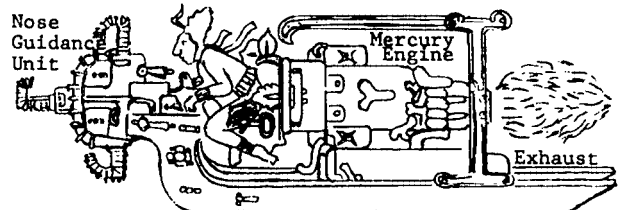


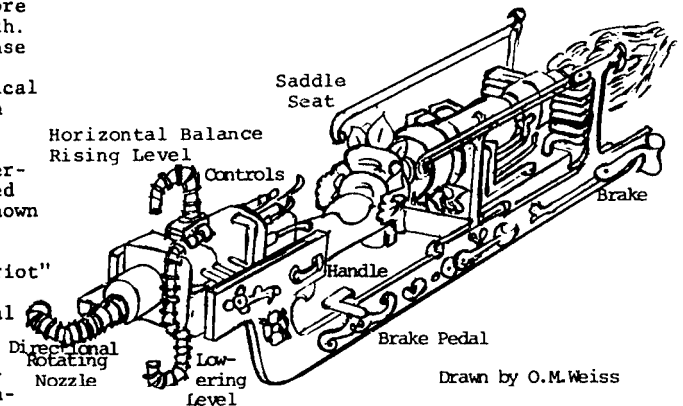
FIGURE 1. Sarcophagus Cover, Temple of Inscriptions, Palenque, Chiapas, Mexico.



Drawn by O.M. Weiss

Skid Gear Structure

FIGURE 2. Side view of Palenque Vehicle as conceived by the author, based upon main details given by the Mayan artist.



Drawn by O.M. Weiss

FIGURE 3. Frontal, three-dimensional view of Palenque Vehicle, showing details of nose guidance unit and mercury engine.

(Continued from first page)

civilization in ancient times bears no weight on ancient astronautics at all. All pre-history vehicles were built by skilled workers who produced nothing more than a society of craftsmen, which eventually was wiped out by tyrannical over-lords who realized the great advantage of the "Chariots" for their diabolical schemes and who, many believe, have remained ever since among us as a secret society. Super civilizations, by standards of science fiction, do not exist. All that the "super-beings" had and have going for themselves is an energy source different and more advanced than ours.

The energy source involved in the ancient propulsion methods indeed is most extraordinary, and the 1908 explosion in the Tunguska region of Siberia is quite an impressive example of the type of nuclear conversion which is still a mystery to us. Even with the great advances in our knowledge of the structure of matter, the only condition known to us under which nuclear energy can be released is the disintegration of heavy atoms. Noticeably for the last thirty years, in spite of spending astronomical funds for nuclear research, there is no further significant progress. The reason should be obvious - nuclear disintegration has only nuclear disintegration to offer. The conversion under which nuclear-like energy was released at the Tunguska explosion derived from a process of "nuclear activation" rather than "nuclear disintegration." "Nuclear activation" offers an energy release tremendously more powerful than nuclear fission.

Ancient propulsion has no ties with modern chemical propulsion technology and neither the Palenque Vehicle nor the "vision" of Ezekiel, are explainable by rocket technology. The spaceships of the "Gods" are not projectiles and do not depend on ballistic principles. Instead, they are capable of performing space flight at any velocity.

What the Palenque Slab depicts is one of the earliest ancient crafts, much older than the craft witnessed by Ezekiel, and an improved version of the "Flying Carpet," built and used by a group that pre-dated the "Gods." This type of vehicle was designed as a skid-gear vehicle, using loose sand and gravel runways as those found at Nazca in Peru. The arrangement of the propulsion unit, which the Mayan artist disclosed well, indicates the main characteristics of the mysterious and legendary mercury engine. It shows that the artist did not have any technical engineering knowledge, and the carving is the result of an observation, comparable to the eye-witness account given by Ezekiel in the Bible. The engine, one of the unrefined units spitting "thunder and fire," provided the main lift or thrust, while the vehicle itself was nose-guided and balanced by a secondary unit in front of the pilot. By our standards this is somewhat of an unusual way of flying, but once the propulsion principle and the guidance method are understood, it amounts to a simple flying machine - just a different mode of locomotion. (See figures 2 and 3). Down through the centuries, the engine was refined but the basic propulsion principle remained unchanged. It is clear that technical evolution did spread over a great period of time, a process very human-like, in fact too human-like, since even the modified versions of the "Chariots" maintained certain particular mechanical characteristics that lasted until the late 1920's and then drastically changed with our jet propulsion age, which seems to be leading us to a dead-end insofar as space travel is concerned.

Ancient astronautics was, and still is, for real, and Palenque was part of it.

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EXTRATERRESTRIALS RESCUE THE LEGIONS OF ROME

By W. RAYMOND DRAKE

In the year 73 BC the Consul, Lucullus, led the Roman legions against Mithridates of Pontus, who was laying waste Asia Minor. Mithridates, once boastful and pompous, had reorganized his forces in the Roman fashion, he disciplined the Barbarians into a well-drilled phalanx, replaced their rich trappings with armour and ships formerly decked with canopies and concubines now stored with missiles and munitions of war. The King's immense array of 120,000 footmen, 16,000 horsemen and a hundred scythe-bearing four-horse chariots strained to hurl themselves upon the 35,000 infantry and 2,500 cavalry of Lucullus, eager to smash the invaders into the ground. Mithridates glanced proudly at his vast hordes, the sun glinted on their armour, men yelled and brandished swords, horses neighed and pawed the ground with impatience. The King smiled; Rome itself was besieged by its own rebellious slaves under Spartacus, outnumbered four to one those silent legions awaited slaughter. He raised his hand to signal the attack. But then, in the graphic words of Plutarch:

"As they were on the point of joining battle, with no apparent change of weather, but all of a sudden, the sky burst asunder, as a huge flame-like body was seen to fall between the two armies. In shape it was most like a wine-jar, and in colour like molten silver. Both sides were astonished at the sight and separated. This marvel, as they say, occurred in Phrygia, at a place called Otryae." (near the Dardenelles, not far from Troy) Life of Lucullus.

Astounded at this wonder from heaven, Mithridates avoided battle and fled with his hordes northward and sought refuge in Armenia.

More than one hundred years after that dramatic confrontation between Lucullus and Mithridates, Plutarch, whose writings inspired Shakespeare, marvelled at the astounding apparition of the "huge flame-like body like a wine-jar and in colour like molten silver" in eloquence worthy of the Bard himself. What prodigy from the heavens could possibly terrify proud Mithridates in the midst of his immense army ready to achieve his crowning ambition of driving the Romans into the sea? What miracle saved the legions from certain destruction?

In 73 BC spacemen were monitoring Lucullus' campaign, and a Spaceship burst down through the sky breaking the sound-barrier, its thunder and radiance paralyzing the armies of both sides, now hushed at the wonder between them. Even from a distance the unknown reporter was visibly thrilled; his account, alas, lost, but impressed Plutarch, who a century later, recounted the exciting story, as it still excites us today. The Spaceship won the day for Rome and from that hour Mithridates toppled to destruction.

ZURICH GROUP FLIGHT TO RIO CONFERENCE

Arrangements are completed for the Society's group flight from Zurich, Switzerland to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil for the Fourth World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society. The flight leaves Zurich on June 15, 1977 and returns on June 30. Over thirty persons have already signed up to join the flight, including world-famous author Erich von Daniken. Anyone wishing to join this exciting trip may write for details to AAS, 8906 Bonstetten, Zurich, Switzerland.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1976 marked the Third Anniversary of the Ancient Astronaut Society. With over 1,000 members in thirty-five countries of the world and forty-five of the United States, the Society looks forward to continued growth and expansion.

WHO GAVE US OUR IDENTITY-CARD?

By ZDZISLAW LELIGDOWICZ*

In 1975 a book appeared in Poland by the well-known traveller, writer and physician, Dr. Waclaw Korabiewicz, entitled Sladami Amuletu (On Amulets). Dr. Korabiewicz gives an account of his long and arduous studies concerning the cross and its origin. He presents proof that a cross as the so-called "anch" (see figure 1) was known and adored in Egypt in remote ancient times. The word "anch" meant the "key of life:", "life", "eternal life". The "anch" sign is prevalent on most Egyptian reliefs and papyrus. The stem of the "anch" still exists in many contemporary languages; for example, "ancla" in Spanish, "l'ancre" in French, "Anker" in German, and in English, "anchor", all with the same meaning, anchor.

Another design of the cross was known in Egypt, but also in many other regions of the earth, including North America. This pattern Dr. Korabiewicz calls the "Pachomius Cross" (see figure 2), because the sign was introduced in the Fourth Century BC into Christianity by Pachomius, a former soldier of Constantine the Great, and later the founder of the first Christian orders in the Middle East. Previously, the sign of Christianity was a fish.

Dr. Korabiewicz further shows that all patterns of the cross in the Middle East regions always had and still have loops on their arms, like the anch, and he recalls the "Huzul Cross" (see figure 3), as a good example of such crosses. Huzuls are people living in the eastern Carpathian Mountains.

The Orthodox Church cross is a further modification of the Huzul Cross, with an additional slanting arm above the horizontal arm. (see figure 4).

In the popular Polish science monthly "Problemy" (Problems), 1975, Number 7, Professor Waclaw Gajewski of Warsaw University, in an article entitled "Kod genetyczny a ewolucja" (Genetic Code and Evolution) according to the Nobel Prize winner Crick and Orgel, gives the schematic pattern of tRNA (transcriptional ribonucleic acid) that guides all protein syntheses in all living beings. (see figure 5). While the discoverers of tRNA call the design a "clover leaf", it is easy to see the Huzul Cross, the Orthodox Cross, and the Anch, which now means more than ever, the "key of life."

It is obvious that the ancient Egyptian priests could not have known tRNA, or how it was constructed. They know only what they had been taught by higher intelligences who presented to them the genetic code-our identity card. The priests adored the sign with fear and admired it as a "holy" sign from "God", as the contemporary Ethiopians still do today.

Who gave the ancients the symbol of the genetic code, and told them that it was the "key of life"?

*Mr. Leligdowicz is an engineering graduate of the Polytechnical School in Lodz, and was a chemistry teacher at the H. Pedagogic School in Gdansk. Now retired, Mr. Leligdowicz spends his time gardening and translating at his home at ul. Wynalazcow 2a/1, 58-500 Jelenia Gora, Poland.

SOCIETY TO CO-SPONSOR TASSILLI EXPEDITION

The Ancient Astronaut Society will co-sponsor an expedition to the Tassilli Range in the Sahara, Northern Africa, in December 1977, or Spring, 1978. The expedition is being organized by Mr. Stephen Woolley, of the Huddersfield Examiner, in Yorkshire, England, and Mr. John Sissons, of the Huddersfield Polytechnic. Mr. Sissons is a fellow of both the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Anthropological Institute. The purpose is to examine the mysterious petroglyphs first reported by Henri Lhote. Anyone interested in joining and helping to finance the expedition should contact the Society office.

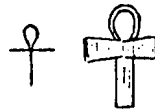


FIGURE 1. ANCH

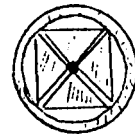


FIGURE 2. PACHOMIUS CROSS

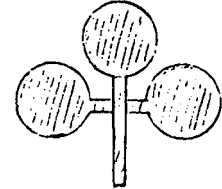
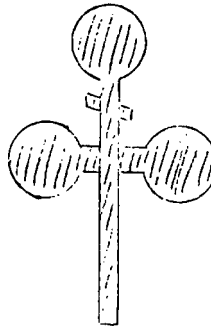


FIGURE 3. HUZUL CROSS

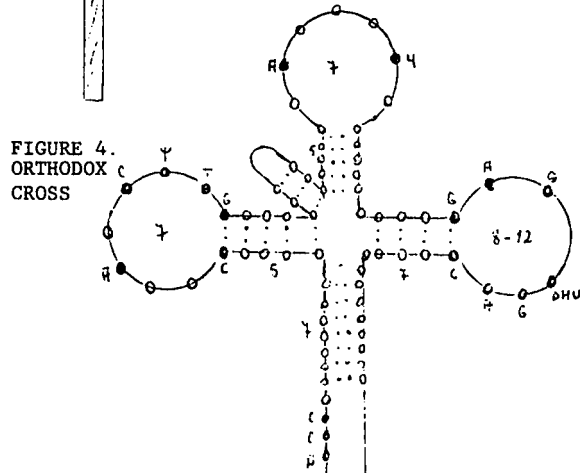


FIGURE 4. ORTHODOX CROSS

FIGURE 5. (t)RNA

VIKING NOT OF THIS WORLD?

Viking I landed on the surface of the planet Mars on July 20, 1976. Figure 1 shows how the vehicle looked moments before contact with the ground. Now it is very interesting to compare the Viking photo with a cave drawing in Cougnac, Payrignac, Dep. Lot, France which dates back to 15,000 B.C. (See Figure 2). Did beings from another planet somewhere in the universe send a "Viking" to the Earth thousands of years ago? Johannes Fiebag, Seesener Landstr. 13, 3410 Northelm, West Germany.



FIGURE 1.



FIGURE 2.

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BOOK REVIEW:

DANIKEN INTIM By PETER KRASSA
Hermann Bauer Verlag, Freiburg, Germany

Peter Krassa's Daniken Intim: a good book by a good man about a good man, and some of the good people around him! The book attempts to do two things, and is successful in both. It presents to the reader a pleasing full-length, life-full portrait of dynamic, dapper Erich von Daniken, and of Elizabeth, his brave and beautiful wife (and, incidentally, also of Willi Dunnenberger, his efficient, quiet super-secretary). But it also deals with a matter that will be unknown, or practically so, to most of the adherents of the Ancient Astronaut Theory (as it was also to me): how a bunch of obscure public pettifoggers tried to undo Daniken, and achieved the very contrary.

What Daniken was accused of at the very beginning of his career was merely a general practice of the ruling capitalist system, connived at by "law" and its casual application, of working with borrowed money and postponing the payment of taxes: a practice which actually only the workingman or employee, whose only capital is his personal working capacity, and who is taxed "at source" without any delay, is exempt from.

In connection with this peculiar "Daniken case" a whole gallery of arrant shysters in public legal positions is presented in sharp focus by Krassa - as well as in a remarkable, clear characterization by Daniken himself in an excellent special chapter - partial men who for obscure reasons pounced upon Daniken the business man to nip Daniken the rising scientific genius. Though he paid every filthy franc and every ruddy rappen that he had owed to private creditors and to the fiscal authorities, plus interest and fines, he was arrested under humiliating circumstances and eventually sentenced to a term of imprisonment: a sorry affair, altogether. It was, to all intents and purposes, a clear case of summum iniuria.

However, it was perhaps just that period of being forcibly withdrawn from the barren world of business that gave Daniken the leisure to review, revise, verify, and arrange ideas that had already been in his mind for some time, and to formulate and establish firmly the basis upon which the Ancient Astronaut Theory rests. Otherwise, he might possibly have become just another writer of mere science fiction.

When Daniken published his first books they were at once successful in every way. For us, the members of the Ancient Astronaut Society, our Daniken evolved then: the one that really matters. The Swiss fiscal authorities now started at once, without a word of thanks, to rake in huge heaps of tax from Daniken's royalties - without compunction, and certainly without any attempt at public rehabilitation. (The Swiss are said to have a reputation for being unfeeling and "dense".) In every civilized country there is such a thing as quashing or annulling a sentence and rehabilitating the victim of the summa iniuria resulting from the summum iniuria of a miscarriage of justice. Not in Switzerland?

Is there no Swiss Zola to sound the clarion of a "J'accuse"? Now at least an intrepid Austrian, Krassa, has had the courage to do so! Thanks to him.

It almost would seem that there is a lobby of scientific old-timers that is able to retard any attempts of public rehabilitation in Switzerland (in the rest of the world we regard Daniken as cleared), by means of occasional periodical attacks in the press, and publishing oblique books, poor attempts of opposing Daniken's ideas.

For us, the international Ancient Astronaut Society, whether active scientists and researchers, writers or publicists, or the rank and file of interested followers, the oddities and flaws of Swiss law and its soul-less application, are, to repeat, of no interest whatsoever. We are concerned only with the

new outlook upon the rise of terrestrial humanity with the aid of higher intelligences from the stars, an outlook made possible for us through the Ancient Astronaut Theory by Erich von Daniken!
Hans Schindler Bellamy, A-1050 Vienna, Austria,
Blechturm-gasse 23-5-10.

AUTHORS AND BOOKS:

ERICH VON DANIKEN's book Miracles of the Gods is now available in paperback in the United States, published by Dell, New York. His latest work, Beweise (Proofs) will be published soon in Germany by Econ Verlag, Dusseldorf.

W. RAYMOND DRAKE's latest book, Gods and Spacemen in Ancient Israel has been released in paperback by Sphere, London.

FEDERICO KAUFFMANN DOIG, Peru's leading archaeologist and a member of the Ancient Astronaut Society, has just published his latest work in the field of archaeology, entitled El Peru Arqueologico. The most complete treatise on the subject yet published, the work deals with pre-Inca civilizations in Peru and the Altiplano of Tiahuanaco (Bolivia) over the past 10,000 years! Published in Spanish by Kompaktos Ediciones G.S., Lima, Peru.

PETER KRASSA's Daniken Intim was launched by the publisher Hermann Bauer Verlag, at the Frankfurt (Germany) Book Fair in September, with both the author (Krassa) and the subject (Daniken) present for the press conference. The book currently is available only in German. Publication of Krassa's first book, When the Yellow Gods Came, scheduled for release in English last Spring, has been postponed by the New York publisher.

FREDE MELHEDEGAARD's lecture at the Third World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society in Yugoslavia has been published in pamphlet form under the title The Past is the Clue of Our Future (Fortiden Er Noglen Til Fremtiden) in both English and Danish. The pamphlet is available from the author at Stadil, DK-6980 Tim, Denmark. The price of US\$3.00 includes postage and handling.

RICHARD E. MOONEY's new book Gods of Air and Darkness has been published in paperback by Fawcett, NY.

DR. LUIS E. NAVIA's first book A Bridge to the Stars has been published in Germany by Econ Verlag, Dusseldorf, under the title Unsere Wiege Steht Im Kosmos.

GEORGE SASSOON and RODNEY DALE have secured a publisher in England for their book The Lord of the Manna, to be released in 1977.

DR. PASQUAL SCHIEVELLA is completing his biography of Erich von Daniken, which will be the first English biography of the world-famous author and it will clarify many aspects of Daniken's life which have been erroneously portrayed by American journalists.

ANDREW TOMAS' new book Shambhala, Oasis de Lumiere has just been released in Paris by Robert Laffont. The English edition, Shambhala, Oasis of Light, is scheduled for 1977 by Sphere, London.

COLIN AMERY's book The Secret of the Sphinx is now available from Regency Press, London. Mr. Amery is now in New Zealand to further his research for a new book on the lost continent of Lemuria.

OTHER NEW BOOKS:

Die Chronik von Akakor, by Karl Brugger
We Called Them Gods, by J. S. Hatem
Footprints on the Sands of Time, L. M. Lewis.