Pursuit®

'Science is the Pursuit of the Unexplained'

Have You Ever Seen a Monster Like This One?

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

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SITU (pronounced *sit'-you*) is a Latin word meaning "place." SITU is also an acronym referring to THE SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED.

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- You don't have to be a professional or even an amateur scientist to join SITU.

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The Society's journal *Pursuit* is published quarterly. In each year the Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall issues are numbered respectively 1 through 4 and constitute a volume, Volume 1 being for 1968 and before, Volume 2 for 1969, and so on. Individual and gift memberships in SITU at $10 include subscription to *Pursuit* for the calendar year. Reduced-rate subscriptions to *Pursuit*, without membership benefits, are available to public libraries and the libraries of colleges and universities at $8 for the calendar year.

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THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE

Pursuit

SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

'SCIENCE IS THE PURSUIT OF THE UNEXPLAINED'

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Cover: 'George' photographed *in situ* by Jim Masten

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Authors in *Pursuit*

From time to time in this space it will be a useful pleasure to present some of the salient qualifications of *Pursuit* authors. Our purpose is more than to satisfy casual curiosity about people who write about phenomena. SITU, dedicated as it is to the Pursuit of the Unexplained but without the funding to provide a staff of "investigative reporters" must rely heavily on author-authentication. Since pure objectivity nowhere exists, it is always interesting and sometimes important to know the nature and extent of an author's subjectivity in order to understand what he or she is writing about. Indeed, the careful reader tends to evaluate not only the circumstances, evidence and testimony presented by the author, but also the author's background of education and experience against which opinions, conjectures and contradictions are postulated.

JOSEPH W. ZARZYNSKI, who wrote the cover story for this issue, is a teacher in the public schools of Saratoga Springs, New York. He hired on there after receiving a B.A. from Ithaca College and doing some time at Chinese University of Hong Kong through the American Institute of Foreign Studies. In 1975 he took a M.A.T. degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton.

Joe has devoted many of his thirty years to an avocational search for the Lake Champlain Monster, fondly known as "Champ." The drawing reproduced above from his (Zarzynski's, not the Champ's) business card is just one man's idea of what the Champ may look like. However, investigator Zarzynski is quick to warn the discounters that "the search is like a giant puzzle. Little by little the puzzle is being put together. When the

Anatomy of a Hoax

One area of investigation shunned by some SITUans and approached in gingerly fashion by others is that of the proved and certified hoax.

Of what use is it to re-review a body of factual and circumstantial evidence when an event or condition once thought to be impenetrably cloaked in mystery is found to be a reasonable and explicable happening well within the course of day-to-day human experience?

Three words clue the answer: *practice, precedent* and *prejudice.*

Only by constantly reviewing facts evidentiary to past investigations can the investigator learn the techniques of successful investigation. By practicing, the investigator contributes to precedent: Each new generation of investigators gains a step upward for a more knowledgeable start on the next examination of similar phenomena. In humankind's never-ending quest for complete understanding of itself and its environment the individual investigator, whether amateur or professional, is engaged in a constant fight with prejudice—his own and that of others; he must learn to love facts and hate fiction, and always be armed with the wisdom to tell the difference.

While all proved hoaxes may be described as mysteries solved, all solved mysteries are not necessarily hoaxes. For example, the Red Sweat Mystery which plagued employees and management of a nationwide air transport system early this year turned out to be a rather simple problem with a simple solution, so we are told. The doctors in the case needed and got a hard shove to their prejudice, which for some weeks leaned toward welcoming a new member into the ever-growing family of fashionable diseases. Much to their credit it was the non-scientists who did the shoving. (See page 124.)

The "designed hoax" is worthy of study, too. The facts and circumstances of the Lake George Hoax described in our cover story by Joseph Zarzynski may suggest a different perspective than that usually taken in the Case of the Loch Ness Monster, for instance. Or, it may not. Don't buy it until you've tried it!

Two other known hoaxes-by-design are discussed in this issue. Charles Fort, the patriarch of the Unexplained, recounts in his Notes the remarkable story of "Princess" Caraboo who perpetrated a huge (and for her, very profitable) hoax way back in 1817. (See pages 126-128.) Then, coming forward to present time, there's the Case of the Oily Ooze which affords on pages 124-125 a splendid overview of one more indecisive battle in the war between people and their bureaucracies—surely the most fearsome monsters of our day.

So here's to a thoughtful pursuit of the hoax—hopefully with time to spare for the more serious and consequential matters discussed in these pages. Read carefully, for some of them could change the course of your life.

—Fred Wilson

---

puzzle of the Champ creature is finally completed, we will witness one of natural history's greatest specimens." And yes, he sees enough common ground (or water) between Champ and Nessie of Scottish fame to have made four visits to Loch Ness between 1975 and 1979.

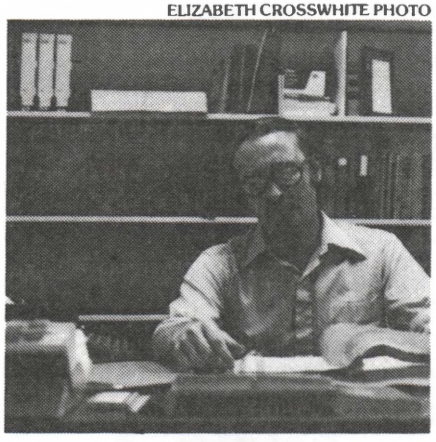
Zarzynski has derived some fascinating fringe benefits from his investigation of water denizens. In June 1979 he assisted Jim Kennedy, of Rochester Engineering Laboratories, in the sonar discovery and diving identification of the 146-foot-long wreck of *Phoenix,* one of the first steamboats on Lake Champlain, launched in 1815 and sunk in 1819. And in 1978 he coordinated a "monster cruise" aboard the 80-foot schooner *Richard Robbins,* Lake Champlain's only windjammer.

Atop the crystal ball of Zarzynski's future is a book recounting the life and times of the Champ he knows best—the Lake Champlain Monster.

GEORGE M. EBERHART has compiled the two most exhaustive, most useful and least original works in the entire literature of the paranormal.

Last year he published his 60-page index of material printed in the pages of *Pursuit* from 1967-1978. The subject index classifies phenomena according to four categories and twenty-four sub-categories. The geographic index relates the "what" to the "where" by global region and

ELIZABETH CROSSWHITE PHOTO



George M. Eberhart

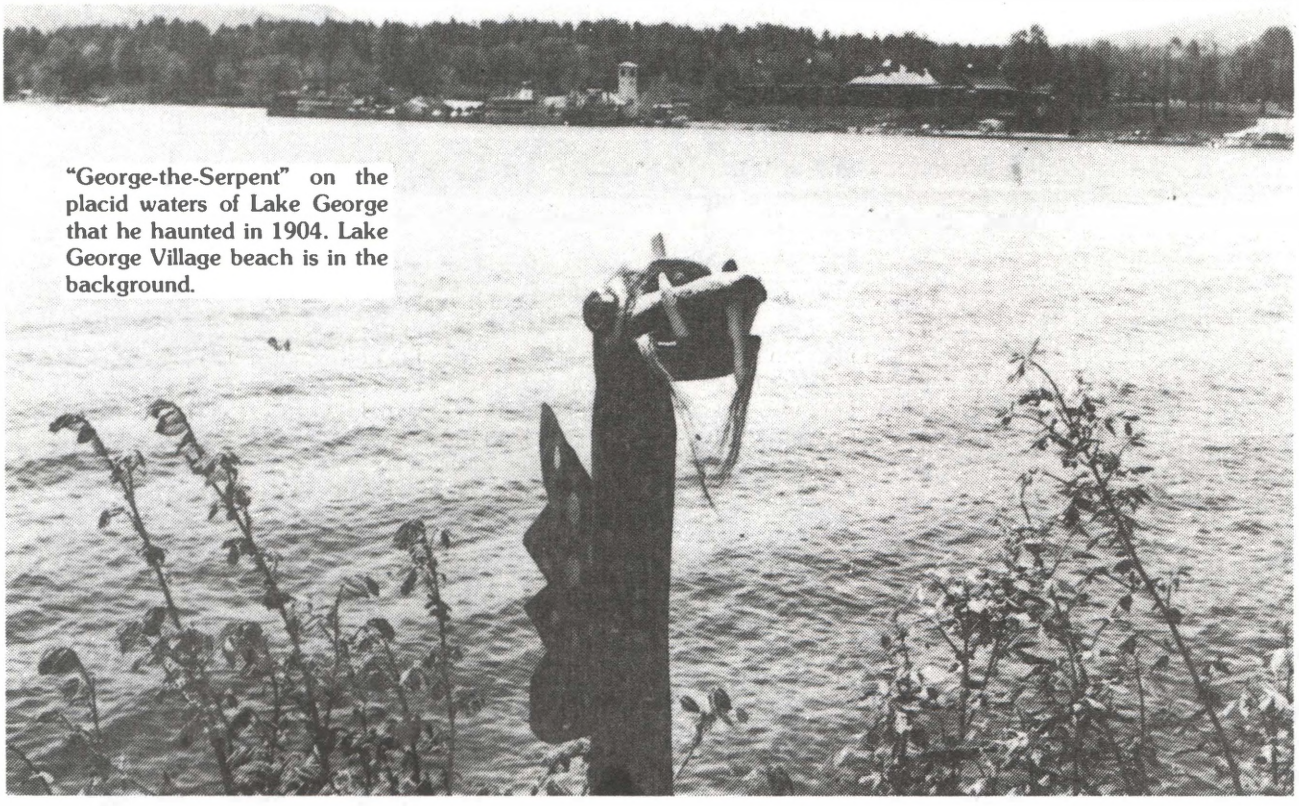
continent, then by country, state or province and county, right down to municipality, as each applies. Also included are a species index, author index, book review index, obituary index, even an "index of Fortean irony." (If you haven't yet ordered your copy, it's still available at a bargain $1.50. Send money to SITU/PURSUIT, P.O. Box 265, Little Silver, NJ 07739 USA.)

Now the *Pursuit* index has fathered, in spirit and method, a similar project of wider, almost cosmic dimensions. Eberhart's 1160-page reference work *A Geo-Biography of Anomalies* is subtitled: *Primary Access to Observations of UFOs, Ghosts, and Other Mysteries.* Production was in the final stages as this issue of *Pursuit* went to press, and a review by Steve Hicks appears on page 130.

George Eberhart is a librarian by education, vocation and, especially, motivation. He graduated Ohio State in 1973 with a B.A. in journalism and earned a master's degree in library science at the University of Chicago in 1976. Since 1977 he has been serials/reader service librarian at the University of Kansas Law Library in Lawrence, Kansas. His attitude toward paranormal phenomena is broad-gauge, inquisitive and tolerant, and if he has a preference, it is "bibliographic verification of alleged anomalous events." (He translates this from educationalese as "tracking down elusive sources.") Most recent stage in the Eberhart evolution is his appointment, announced in July, as editor of *College and Research Libraries News,* a journal published by the Association of College and Research Libraries in Chicago.

Pursuit's editors wish it were possible to biograph all authors in this and every issue. Since space and budget limitations stand in the way, we are doing what seems next best. We will print one or more resumes in each forthcoming issue until our readers have had an opportunity to become better acquainted with all the fine people who work hard and well to make possible the contents of SITU's journals.

JIM MASTEN PHOTO



"George-the-Serpent" on the placid waters of Lake George that he haunted in 1904. Lake George Village beach is in the background.

The Lake George Monster Hoax of 1904

*H*IDDEN behind a clump of bushes on shore, I watched as the launch approached, and just as it was about ten feet away from my trap, I released my monster. It came up nobly, the head shaking as if to rid itself of water, and I will say that to several people in Col. Mann's boat it was a very menacing spectacle.[1]

—Harry W. Watrous

by Joseph W. Zarzynski

With the tug of a lever, famous American artist Harry Watrous launched a water-monster hoax that was the talk of Lake George in 1904* and for years after. The usually placid waters of the 32-mile-long lake hid Watrous's effigy until he gave his fabrication aquatic life by activating the pulley system that controlled it.[2]

What reasons motivated one of the foremost painters of the day to deceive area residents and unknowing vacationers? And what happened to the cedar-pine log that in the hands of two artisans became the fearsome "sea-serpent" head and neck of the Lake George Monster?

Oftentimes history offers a choice of conflicting accounts, and the Lake George Monster certainly enjoyed a lifetime of controversy. Eventually the hoax revealed itself as made of simple stuff, but it was perpetrated against the glitter of the then high-toned Lake George summer society, and none of the natives on the scene were ignorant or superstitious.

Harry Watrous had a home at Hague, on the west shore of the lake. With the help of a local builder he fashioned his gargoyle-like hoax to enact one of the tallest "fish stories" ever. Historian Clifton West tells it like it was:

> Harry Watrous, the eminent artist, lived on the property next to the Island Harbor hotel. Col. W. D. Mann had a summer home on Waltonian Island. Both were trout fishermen. Col. Mann conceived the idea that he could exhibit a trout of great size calculated to astound Watrous and show the result of his superior ability. Someone made for him a reasonable replica of a huge trout of wood. This he held up in his boat, at a distance, to show Watrous. No one got a close inspection. Now Watrous knew it had to be a fake, so he decided to go Mann one better. He'd make a monster and so rig it that it could surface at a time when the Colonel might be near in his canoe.[3]

Both Watrous and Colonel William D'Alton Mann were members of Lake George's elegant social circle. Watrous held various offices and received many honorary titles reflecting his fame in the field of American painting. At one time he was president of the National Academy of Design. He received a bronze medal at the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo for distinguished services, and he won the Special Commemorative Gold Medai of the Universal Exposition at St. Louis in 1904.[4]

Colonel Mann was the editor of *Town Topics,* "a sort of scandal sheet covering New York society's goings-on."[5] The whisker-faced Mann was also a veteran of the Civil War and an inventor.[6] There were frequent friendly wagers between the two neighbors as to which angler would catch the biggest

*Some historians say it happened in 1906.

fish in Lake George. It was one such bet that sparked Watrous to construct a monster denizen of the deep to lampoon his fishing rival.

Watrous described his serpent-headed creature in these words:

> . . . I got a cedar log and fashioned one end of it into my idea of a sea serpent or hippogriff. I made a big mouth, a couple of ears like the ears of an ass, four big teeth, two in the upper and two in the lower jaw, and for eyes I inserted in the sockets of the monster two telegraph-pole insulators of green glass.
>
> I painted the head in yellow and black stripes, painted the inside of the mouth red and the teeth white, painted two red places for nostrils, and painted the ears blue.[7]

The rough work on the cedar log was done by Jim Leach, a local guide and builder. Watrous added the ultimate monstrous qualities by installing the dentures and painting the serpent.[8]

The contriving Watrous was now ready to give life to his creation. The hideous wooden noggin was situated underwater somewhere off Bill Mann's island, Waltonian. The mechanism was operable by Watrous from concealment ashore. At just the opportune moment the monster broke the surface and so scared Mann, who was boating from shore to his home, that he dove overboard and free-styled frantically to the nearest land.[9] Colonel Mann presented a contradictory version of the skirmish, insisting that he had stepped on what he thought was his planked dock; instead, it was a shadow, and that's why he fell into the water![10]

In time the veteran soldier learned of the fakery and joined with Watrous to frighten other folks. But the summer tourist business thereabouts was so hurt by George's successes that property owners forced the genre artist to retire his most terrifying work of art.[11]

Another famous encounter with Watrous's monster involved a pair of honeymooners. The couple, mesmerized by their new bond of marriage and the soft color of the twilight, were out canoeing near Watrous's house. As the husband was paddling in and out of quiet coves, mighty George suddenly surfaced, and the ensuing maelstrom caused total havoc. The newlyweds tumbled overboard and the bridegroom, letting discretion win over valor, swam for the closest island, leaving his bride to the mercies of the onrushing water dragon. When the lady finally reached sanctuary ashore, "she expressed gratitude to the monster for showing her that her husband was also a monster, whereupon she bustled away and got a divorce."[12]

The famed monstrosity continued to provide thrills and gossip for the Lake George populace until it gradually slipped into oblivion years later. George, however, escaped limbo when Louis Spelman of Silver Bay on Lake George rescued him from one of the buildings on the Watrous estate that was being demolished.[13] Spelman kept the hippogriff in his cellar and more than once contemplated burying it and the legend in the local dump.[14]

In 1962 Walter Grishkot of Glens Falls, New York, rediscovered the monster in Spelman's house. Mrs. William Baily, a resident of the Virgin Islands and at one time a Lake George vacationer, heard of the beastie and asked her husband to purchase it for her as a birthday gift.[15] Spelman parted with his longtime house-guest for a paltry $25, which Mrs. Baily acknowledged by cable, saying: "Thank you, O Prince among ex-monster owners. You will always have visiting privileges and be welcomed with open arms by us and open jaws by George."[16]

On November 18, 1962 George was honored at a Lake George testimonial banquet attended by 165 "George-the-Serpent" patrons. A citation read at the ceremony bade the monster a fond farewell as he departed to take up his new residence with the Bailys in the Virgin Islands:

> George, a monster of proven skill in subtle serpently art of sub-marine scarefare, is hereby cited and commended for his legendary contributions to the lore of the world's most beautiful lake. Be it further recorded that in appreciation of the whimsical delights he has wrought along our scenic shores, the people of Lake George, New York, do bestow upon him an honorary haunting licence which shall remain in effect for the rest of his supernatural life.[17]

But the story doesn't quite end there. George, born to fresh-water conditions and homesick besides, returned to his old spooking grounds in 1971. Walter and Joan Grishkot, while on vacation in the Virgin Islands, persuaded the Bailys to part with their wooden pet.[18]

Today, after a "plaster surgery" facelift, the fanged monster rests in peace with its caretaker, the Lake George Historical Association. One can only wonder if on some humid, full-mooned night the ghost of the Lake George Monster will again terrify an unsuspecting boater or two from the shadowed waters of picturesque Lake George.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author wishes to thank the following for their generous assistance in the research and writing of this article: John Ray, Clifton West, Donald Fangboner of the Lake George Historical Association, the Lake George Historical Association, Jim Masten for his photography, and of course, "George."

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14. Ibid., "It's Monstrous, 'George': Public Invited To Bid Farewell To The Monster of Lake George."
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16. Ibid., "Famous Lake George Monster Moves to the Virgin Islands."
17. Ibid., McKeown.
18. Ibid., Hall.

Sooner or Later You Too May Have ESP

by T. B. Pawlicki

ONE morning I awoke with a hit tune running through my mind. When I turned on the bedside radio the same tune was being broadcast. What a coincidence, I thought.

The following night I slept alert to any mental image which might be indicative of receiving a radio signal from the local wake-up station. In the middle of the night I awoke from a dream about a family being held in a house during a military invasion, and as I turned on the radio a segment of "The Night of the Trifids" came on almost like a replay of my dream. The story was of a family trapped in a house by an invasion of aliens.

Coincidence?

Resolving to investigate the matter, I selected a number of acquaintances to ask whether they had ever had the experience of hearing a tune "in their head" as they were about to turn on a radio, then became aware that their mental apparatus had been "pre-tuned" and was already receiving the broadcast signal.

Two of three among the respondents seemed certain I was crazy. (I had not included my psychiatrist in the acquaintance selection because the professional codex has a listing for people who believe their minds are being interfered with by radio signals.)

The remaining third of the respondent group also thought I was crazy, but these already had fears for their own sanity and were relieved to learn that they were not the only folks around who had received radio broadcast signals "in the mind."

The reason ESP is believed so widely is neither irrational hope nor superstition. Everyone who experiences ESP believes in it, but most everyone is reluctant to say so. Before Freud, women were afraid to mention orgasm because they feared a psychiatric diagnosis. Unfortunately, there are a number of widely shared human experiences which some members of the Establishment neither admit nor disavow but simply refuse to discuss. More than a few of these have been heard to mutter something about "security reasons." Only once in a while does it come out that the mention of security has nothing to do with the national defense; what is meant is *job* security.

When the inhibitions are breached, many "thinking people" switch channels on their attitude control and say that biological radio reception is nothing extraordinary. "Everyone knows" that tooth fillings amplify radio signals like the old-fashioned crystal radio receivers. Indeed, dentists are sometimes asked to change fillings to tune out the daytime programs. (My employer's experience tends to cloud the issue; he received Radio CKWX from 100 miles away despite having no teeth in his head at the time.)

A radio technician setting up a loudspeaker system in an auditorium was surprised to hear a radio program sounding within his own body. Singularly equipped with electronic testing devices and the training to use them, he asserted that his heart was the organ of his body that tuned to the local broadcast signal. This was no freak show; he related his story in a nationally broadcast interview.

When the post-WW II generation became prosperous enough to afford swimming pools in all those backyards the 60-cycle alternating field in the wires leading to night lighting was found to be amplified by the water in the pools. As patients wearing electronic heart pacers have learned, radio fields can interfere with heart rhythms. A number of California personalities suffered heart problems in their pools, so the building codes were amended to require shielding on pool wiring.

Every radio technician knows that human bodies, and all other living organisms, function as electrical capacitors, and a resonating capacitor is the essential element in a radio circuit. You can test the sensitivity of your body's radio resonance by touching the ground or antenna of an old-fashioned radio circuit, whereupon the volume will noticeably increase. Some sets you need only approach to hear the volume increase (everyone knew this 50 years ago). Where there is no material contact, the increase in volume is due to an induced resonance of electromagnetic waves between the radio circuits and your body. In pre-television days, this effect was enhanced by means of an induction coil, a commercial accessory purchased at small extra cost to improve radio reception.

Thus the reception by the brain of a program to which the radio was tuned before the set was turned on is probably due to the induction effect between the cold radio circuits and the body.

Ever since radio was discovered scientists have tried to show that ESP is a radio phenomenon. But when ESP proved to reach half way around the world and even into sub-lunar space, the scientists concluded that such a violation of the square-root law governing all radiant energy suggested that ESP must be fundamentally different from radio waves. Besides, ESP was able to penetrate electromagnetic shielding. So the respectable researchers abandoned the subject to the lunatic fringe with an incredibly contradictory denial of the very phenomenon they had just experimented with, and the freaks began to hypothesize "forces" they called bioplasmic energy.

The published research on ESP is one of the most glaring examples of professional incompetence, if not downright falsification, since hired scientists were found adjusting the data on environmental pollution.

All physicists know that the 7½ Hz.

FRNM Continues Dr. Rhine's Work

Readers whose inclination is toward further study of parapsychology, including sub-areas such as ESP, telepathy, clairvoyance and precognition, may wish to know more about The Institute for Parapsychology.

The institute operates under the aegis of the Foundation for Research on the Nature of Man (FRNM) established in 1965 by ESP pioneer J. B. Rhine and promoted by him until his death last February. (See Spring 1980 issue of *Pursuit,* page 56.)

Publications available from the institute include a periodical, the *Journal of Parapsychology,* and a number of books, most of them by J. B. Rhine and Louisa E. Rhine.

Dr. K. Ramakrishna Rao is the present director of the institute. His mail address is Box 6847, College Station, Durham, North Carolina 27708.

A Reader's Guide to Parapsychological Literature

NOTE: The following questions are intended to aid the reader in critically appraising writings on parapsychological topics, although they are not confined to that field. A critical attitude is especially important now because of the current deluge of poorly controlled research.

Ask yourself these questions when reading:

1. Who is the author? What are his qualifications and educational background? (Remember: education does not guarantee competence.) Has he thoroughly researched his topic? Is he an objective reporter or has he a theoretical ax to grind? (The Soviets seem obsessed with "proving" the physiological origin of psi phenomena, no matter what the facts are.)
2. Is the author presenting experimental or anecdotal evidence?
   A. *Experimental*—Who did the research? What was the nature of the experimental controls? Do the conclusions follow from the data? Has there been follow-up research? By whom? Did the follow-up research confirm or contradict previous research?
   B. *Anecdotal* —— Who had the experience? Was a written report prepared? How soon after the incident was the report made? Is there corroborative testimony? By whom? And finally—very important—does a normal psychological explanation apply?
3. Do references made to other books and articles contain complete bibliographic information or are names and titles vaguely referred to in passing?
4. Is the tone of the report sober, factual and objective, or is it largely conjectural and imaginative, even "sensational"? Does the author make assertions unsupported by factual evidence and testimony?

Suggested reading:

Barry F. Anderson, *The Psychology Experiment.* Belmont, California: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company, 1971.
Elzey Freeman, *A First Reader in Statistics.* Belmont, California: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company, 1967.

radio frequency is carried around the world with no loss of signal strength by geophysical resonance, and broadcast out into space. Furthermore, this planetary field generates induced currents through radio shielding. That's what the United States Navy uses to keep in constant touch with its submarine fleet ranging under the world's oceans. And all neurologists know that the human mind is tuned to 7½ Hz. in theta consciousness, theta consciousness being the state in which ESP is most likely to be experienced.

The objection to accepting long-wave radio signals as the medium for ESP is the fact that the amount of information a radio wave can carry varies exponentially with its frequency. Global waves are so long that it would take many minutes to transmit the amount of information a psychic medium receives in a flash. This was a valid objection until the laser was discovered. Since then, holograms have been commercially developed for computer memory banks, retaining reels of taped data within a small, semi-crystalline cube. The tuning of the reference signal is all that is needed to release the stored information. Research published several years ago in *Psychology Today* showed that the human brain can function as a hologram. All it takes to stimulate a specific kind of information is a tuned reference signal, and by fine-tuning the phase of the signal, specific bits can be released from the imprints already preserved in the molecules of the brain.

Psychic phenomena show that no one ever receives information-bits not already known by the receiver; the ESP message is never more than a composite of the bits already in the brain. The ESP signal can be compared to a code that opens a book in a library; the contents of the book are at the receiving end and do not have to be transmitted. Because the information possessed in the memory bank of the sender, there is bound to be a lot of distortion and missing parts of the message in ESP.

Despite the technical problems, some people have developed their "radio reception" to a very high degree. The moderator of a nationally broadcast radio program told how his grandfather in the British Indian Army had used psychic fakirs to transmit military information because these "human radios" of the 19th century were so much faster than mounted dispatch riders (besides, telegraph lines could be cut by enemy action). When a commander entrusts military orders to ESP communication lines, a high level of reliability is suggested.

Adamski on Trial

by Diane E. Wirth

REMEMBER George Adamski? I was young and impressionable when I read *Flying Saucers Have Landed,* and I followed his ideology for many years. Now that I know better, I thought I'd share my finding with SITU, albeit this in no way destroys my belief in UFOs.

One of the more unique pictures in the aforementioned Adamski book was printed on the back of the jacket—a photographic negative inscribed with a strange "symbolic message" given to him by a Venusian. This fascinated me and I stored the image of this picture somewhere in my memory bank. More than twenty years later I had instant recall of this drawing when I saw its near-double in another book.

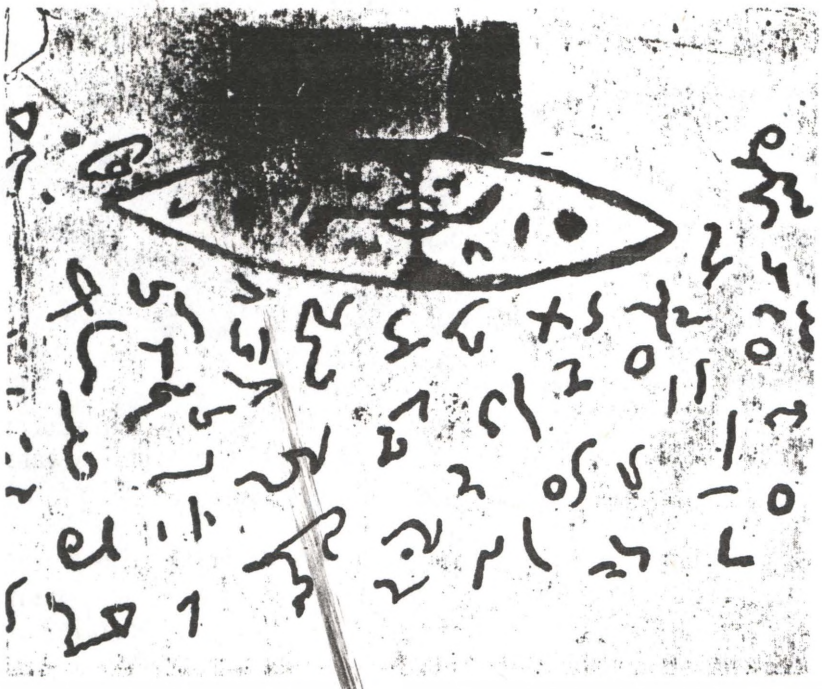
The works of Marcel Homet fascinated me since by this time I was deeply involved in archeological research, and especially petroglyphs that are hieroglyphic in nature. Dr. Homet and I corresponded frequently in 1977-78. While reading his *Sons of the Sun,* a book on his explorations in remote areas of the Amazon, I came across Adamski's Venusian doodle—a petroglyph from Brazil.

Without delay I wrote a letter to Professor Homet. When did he find this particular petroglyph? Adamski claimed to have received the negative on December 13, 1952. If Homet's discovery was after that date, Adamski could not possibly have known of its existence.

But alas, the professor quickly set me straight. His expedition to Brazil took place in 1949-50, before Adamski's claim; moreover, Homet and Adamski were personally acquainted. In 1963 they were joint presidents of a conference in Fredericia, Jutland (Denmark), where there were in attendance some 800 authors. On three occasions the two dined together and not once, Homet wrote, did Adamski bring up UFOs, Venusian inscriptions, or anything related to the subject. He spoke only of women and tobacco; this notwithstanding his knowing Professor Homet as an expert in translating ancient inscriptions.

Not only is the general design of the two "writings" nearly identical; many of the individual glyphs are alike. It appears that Adamski picked up the "design" for his version when one of Professor Homet's petroglyphs was published in a newspaper, which was done quite frequently during the early 1950s in Europe.

Why did you do it, George?



WRITINGS FROM ANOTHER PLANET

A brief technical account of flying saucers and their working method of propulsion.

This symbolic message, given to the author by a visitor from outer space on December 13, 1952, has not been fully deciphered. Several scientists are working on it and on deciphering the markings of the footprints described in this book.

BRITISH BOOK CENTRE

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ABOVE: Jacket illustration and text reproduced from *Flying Saucers Have Landed,* by Desmond Leslie (Book 1) and George Adamski (Book 2), The British Book Centre. New York, 1953. BELOW: Portion of page 185 reproduced from *Sons of the Sun,* by Marcel F. Homet, Neville Spearman Ltd., 112 Whitfield St., London W1, 1963.

greatest variety: they could no longer understand what they heard among themselves after they came to Tulan. Here also they were divided up: there were those who set out in the direction of the rising sun, and many of them came here.'

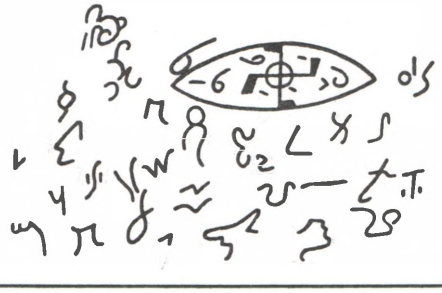

Fig. 19. *The secret of primitive letters.* A few of the thousand characters which were discovered during Homet's expeditions (see p. 13).

Is Teleportation the Macroscopic Analog of The Quantum 'Barrier Penetration' Effect?

by Morgan D. Eads

HAS MODERN PHYSICS unwittingly stumbled across an atomic form of teleportation?

Can teleportation be mathematically described by a second order differential equation of a "nonphysical" wave attribute of matter?

These are two of the questions to be pondered in the following article. But first, let me digress for a moment into the recent history of physics.

In the early 1920s a curious new theory on the nature of matter came to fruition. This was the Quantum Mechanical theory of matter as embodied in the Schrodinger equation. The Schrodinger equation was an expansion and an extension of the ideas of Louis de Broglie: That upon some fundamental level of nature, particles of matter emit a wave field that can dramatically alter their behavior. Particulate motion, i.e., Newtonian motion, could now be understood to act in a very un-particlelike fashion. For instance, nuclear particles such as the proton, neutron, and the electron could be found to undergo the phenomena of diffraction and interference, both distinctly wavelike behaviors.

As de Broglie and Schrodinger saw these waves, they were actual field extensions of the particle with the same claim to reality as water waves or waves in a string. However, a later interpretation of these waves was to push them into a deeper level of abstraction: The Schrodinger/de Broglie waves of matter were no longer physically "real" waves but only probability waves, i.e., a purely mathematical, and statistical, and even mental construct by which physicists could predict the mass behavior of large numbers of interacting particles. It is the mathematically determined interactions of these waves of probability that give rise to most of the curious predictions of quantum mechanics.

One of these predictions is that of *barrier penetration,* sometimes called the "tunnel effect." This is roughly described by saying that you can't keep a nuclear particle within an atomic box forever; the particle will eventually leak out of its confinement by some mysterious means, to end up either in free space or in some other box.

The Schrodinger equation doesn't "explain" how this is physically possible, other than to inform us that the waves of probability which restrain the possible locations of the particle do not go to zero when the particle reaches a wall.

If a tiny electron is confined within the "box" of an atom, then at any moment the electron may suddenly appear within the confines of another atom without having used the energy necessary to pull free from its parent nucleus.

If this sort of phenomenon were to occur on a macroscopic level, we would instantly classify it as a teleportation event. Instead of an electron for an apport, we might have a baseball or a rock that suddenly vanished from one location only to reappear at another.

Barrier penetration may be an odd quantum prediction, but it is not simply an unverifiable hypothesis. The tunnel effect has been found to be one of the basic underlying mechanisms by which the physical world operates. In 1928, George Gamow was able to use the barrier penetration concept to explain how an alpha particle could escape from a radioactive nucleus during radioactive decay.

Technology is also about to benefit from the barrier penetration effect. Very soon, the world's fastest computers will be tiny mini-brains that are supercooled and relay their messages via Josephson junction switches. The tunnel effect is the underlying mechanism behind the Josephson switch.

Most Fortean thinkers are probably aware that poltergeist-type phenomena are often accompanied by mysterious disappearances and possible instances of teleportation. Should the enlightened Fortean suggest that tiny ghosts are the secret perpetrators of quantum effects? Probably not.

However, a free-spirited physicist, if he is something of a visionary or a Fortean, might suggest that a few of the events in the Fortean catalogs of observation might represent a sort of macroscopic quantum effect.

A macroscopic teleportation might be used as evidence for a higher level of probability/matter wave. For convenience, we might label this higher order of probability wave the Macro-Matter wave. The concept of the Macro-Matter wave should be useful for describing the limitations of activity available to tables and chairs, cars and trucks, and perhaps even people and planets. With the possible exception of planets, all of these objects have at one time or another been obliged to take the Fortean route via the alleged agency of teleportation.

How may we develop a Macro-Matter wave equation?

First hint: The Macro-Matter wave equation will have the same general form as the Schrodinger equation. The general form will be a partial differential equation of the second order. This is the basic form for all wave equations and the Macro-Matter wave equation will probably not be an exception.

Another hint, and a very restricting one, is that two of the most common phenomena associated with wave activity (i.e., wave interference and diffraction) must be repressed, or at least expressed in some hidden manner. This restriction is so formidable that it might make an elegant and simple wave equation unobtainable. As an illustration of the problem this could create, consider the following scene:

Suppose a Mr. Charles Fort is riding his bicycle down the sidewalk of a nice metropolitan boulevard. Just as he reaches the corner of the First National Bank, he suddenly finds himself moving down the alley that should have been on his left side. What has happened? Has Mr. Fort been zapped by a humanoid? No. Mr. Fort has simply been diffracted around the corner. This would be a typical wave effect if Mr. Fort's associated Macro-Matter wavelength was on the order of a yard or so. This is simply an effect that does not seem to occur on the macroscopic level. We don't diffract around corners. Similar problems might occur if we tried to walk through doorways or maneuver our car in heavy traffic.

On the other hand, these effects might not be so noticeable if Mr. Fort's wavelength were only a centimeter or a tenth of that. In general, the associated wavelengths of macroscopic matter would heed to relatively small things to prevent such annoying phenomena from occurring.

Whether we describe teleportation by use of a Macro-Matter wave or by some other means, the barrier penetration effect provides a startling analogy to macroscopic teleportation events.

The 1909 Mystery Airships In the Irish Papers

by John Hind

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AN historical approach to the UFO phenomenon carries with it advantages and disadvantages. If we study a period going back six decades or so, we can be reasonably confident that no startling new revelation about our subject will come to light as some general, politician or scientist publishes his memoirs, or as some document is declassified. In other words, we can be reasonably sure that the source material for the time is complete. The other side of the coin is, of course, that we have to rely almost totally on records and can do no useful investigation work; one cannot interview dead witnesses.

A particularly interesting body of UFO-related data dates from the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first fourteen years of this century. These reports, today dubbed "phantom airships," differ in one important respect from the modern UFO phenomenon: they were interpreted at the time, by those who took them seriously, as *air ships* (powered lighter-than-air craft) constructed by either a "foreign power" or a "secret inventor."

Like the modern UFO phenomenon, the airship reports seem to occur in geographically localised waves. The waves isolated so far (it seems likely that present research has only scratched the surface) are: 1896 in the U.S.;[5] 1909 and 1913 in Britain[1,3,4] and 1908 in Denmark.[2] The reports are also similar in profile to the modern UFO data, consisting of large numbers of reports of strange lights in the sky and a few stories of encounters with craft and their occupants close to or on the ground.

The "close encounters" invariably describe human occupants and "Heath Robinson" mechanical constructions with wings, propellers, sails, etc. For those readers not familiar with aviation history, it is worth noting that there were no airships operating in any of the countries with the exception of Britain at the time of the sightings. The first British airship was the *Nulli Secundus* (first flight in 1907), and two others, *Beta* and *Gamma*, were flying by 1913. These blimps were low-powered, non-rigid craft capable of only short flights under ideal conditions. The first rigid airship was flown in Germany in 1900 and by the time of the First World War, such craft were capable of carrying out bombing raids on Britain with limited success. The first known airship flight in the U.S. was not until 1915. The short heyday of the airship as a luxury passenger-transporter on trans-Atlantic routes began with the first Atlantic crossing by air carried out by the British *R-34* in 1919 and ended in 1937 when the German airship *Hindenburg* was destroyed by fire in the U.S.[7]

In the early part of this century, Germany, due largely to its chemical industry, was one of the richest countries in the world and used its wealth to build up its navy. Britain, then one of the most powerful of nations, had long felt secure behind the natural barrier formed by the English Channel and the North Sea, and this security was threatened by the increase in German naval power. An arms race had developed in the construction of battleships, and respect for German scientific and engineering capability was justifiably high. A body of rumour developed, in parallel to the Establishment fear, that Germany would overcome Britain's sea defence by naval power, and that Germany had developed some method of rendering sea defence obsolete. In the early part of 1909 there were rumours to the effect that the Germans had tunneled under the North Sea and had a "fifth column" already concealed in England.

The Irish News
AND
BELFAST MORNING NEWS

BELFAST, FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1909

MORE "INVASION" HYSTERICS

Ridicule may kill in France, but it has no power over the temporarily befogged intellect of English scaremongers and their victims. Most people thought a few days ago that the Spalding story had terminated the remarkable career of the vagrant German "airship" which had been observed by midnight watchers playing "fantastic tricks" under the high heavens in various parts of the South of England.

No complete survey of the 1909 Airship Phenomenon is yet available, though at least one researcher is working on it.[6] The author set out to sample the coverage given to the "flap" at the time by the Irish newspapers for which copies at that date were available.

Three newspapers were searched for the month of May, 1909: the *Belfast Telegraph,* a broadly Unionist-oriented evening paper published in Belfast; the *Irish Times,* a non-politically oriented daily published in Dublin; and the *Irish News,* another Belfast-published daily having a largely Nationalist readership.

The *Irish Times* treats the airship flap only very briefly and without editorialisation, but the paper takes a much less parochial view than the other two, reporting German reaction to charges that the airships were German military craft. Both Northern papers report the flap quite extensively, but there is

a striking difference in the character of the reporting and in the editorial attitude taken to the phenomenon.

The *Belfast Telegraph* opens the coverage in the Irish papers on Saturday, May 15 under the headline

AMAZING AIRSHIP STORY

It is now understood the War Office is attaching importance to the mysterious airship reported flying by night over the eastern counties. An attempt was made at first to indicate the reports as to people having seen the strange navigator in the air, but opinion is coming round to the view that the airship is, indeed, actually the airship that was first sighted nearly two months ago.

There then follows a section which itemises the sightings by witnesses, location and, in some cases, date. This data along with the rest of the factual data from the Irish papers is summarised in Table 1. Two reports are given in some detail, those by Peterborough Police Constable Kettle and by a "Southend lady." The article closes by noting that:

Two opinions on the mysterious airship prevail. One is that it belongs to an English inventor who is conducting his experiments at night in order to keep his secret; the other that it may have been a German airship released from some warship in the North Sea.

The *Telegraph* has more to say in its May 17 edition. However, not to be outdone, the *Irish News* jumps into the foray with the headline:

MYSTERIOUS AERO THAT STOPPED OVER LONDON FOR A FILL OF TOBACCO:

A Queer Story Told to a Newspaper By a Couple of Strollers

The story goes on to quote from the London *Star* a story related to that paper by Messrs. Grahame and Bond.

"We were near the middle of the common on a fairly open space 150 yards from the wood," said Mr. Grahame, "and I said to my friend, Mr. Bond, 'sit down a minute. I find I have a stone in my shoe.'

"We sat down on the grass and I suddenly heard a *soft buzzing sound* behind me. I thought it was a motor car in the distance and I could not understand it. Then I suddenly saw it come creeping along the surface of the grass. The moment they saw us (sic) the first man, who was clean-shaven, and looked like a Yankee, swung a searchlight right round on us, and there he was doing that over and over again, blinding us with its glare, evidently so that we should not see too much of the shape of the airship.

"The second man, who stood in the middle of the airship, looked like a German and was smoking a calabash pipe. The German spoke first. He said: 'I-am-sorry. Have-you-any-tobacco?'

"I just happened to have an ounce or two in my pouch and I gave it to him saying: 'Help yourself. Here is my pouch.'

"I could see the shape dimly. I am not an artist, but it appeared like a collection of big cigar boxes with the ends out. It must have been 200 feet, or 250 feet long.

Mr. Grahame roughly sketched the aeroplane with three propellers and a big swing searchlight. He proceeded:

"There were two men on the aeroplane. The first man who was near the forepart seemed to be in a sort of steel-wire cage, and he had a row of handles in front of him like handles of a beer engine only thinner."

Mr. Bond at this point mentioned that the "German gentleman" had a cap and beard and a map in front of him. It was fastened on a board and there were red discs as though they had been stuck into the map with pins.

Mr. Grahame told the end of this adventure:

"We saw the tall man pull one of the levers down—just like the beer engine only thinner—and then he switched the light off, and the aeroplane went without either of the men saying goodbye. It disappeared in ten seconds, and was gone before we could see where it had gone to. It was a very dark night."

Monday 17th, *Belfast Evening Telegraph:*

MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP FLIES OVER BELFAST:

A Nocturnal Visitor: Is It from Germany?

The inhabitants of the peaceful Belfast suburban districts of Malone and Balmoral are wondering today whether they have been favoured with a visit from the mysterious airship.

An *Evening Telegraph* representative visited the district this afternoon, and interviewed a number of persons who witnessed the passage of the nocturnal visitor across the sky. Their accounts agree substantially, and it appears that at about ten o'clock a brilliant light was observed in the sky in the direction of Colin Mountain. The aerial visitant was thousands of feet high, and came steadily on in the direction of the city, occasionally dipping towards the ground but always keeping at a great altitude.

The night was fairly dark, and it was impossible to distinguish clearly what the light came from, but when it came over the Lisburn Road and across the various residential parks between that thoroughfare and the Malone Road it was just possible to distinguish in the gloom a long-shaped object, and no doubt was left in the minds of those who saw it that it was an airship.

It was utterly impossible to distinguish the construction of the ship or the forms of its passengers owing to the great height, but that there were persons on board was evident from the fact that a red light was seen on several occasions flashing from it ...

When it got about a mile past the mountain it appeared to slacken speed somewhat, and its flight for some time became rather slow. Then it finally rose to a very great height, and disappeared rapidly in the darkness in the direction of the Lagan.

After a long section comparing this visitation with the airship seen in the eastern counties of England and a discussion of German military airship activity the *Telegraph* concludes:

... it seems rather incredible that a German airship should get to Ireland unobserved, but against that must be taken into consideration the fact that Germany leads the way in aerial navigation and the skill and daring of her aeronauts knows no bounds.

On Tuesday 18th the *Irish Times* briefly mentions several of the English and Welsh sightings and carried a (separate) article on German airship technology. The *Irish News* carries a letter signed "Wide Awake" and apparently intended seriously, which warns of the danger of the (supposedly German) airships. The letter closes:

I am however, sorry to say that the rulers of these countries have closed their eyes to the threatening presence of this monster of the air. Now that it has surveyed the main coasts of England, I am almost certain that it will next turn its attention to Ireland, and I would advise loyal subjects to keep their eyes fixed upon the heavens these nights. If it appears, a report should be promptly sent to the headquarters of the Belfast Boy Scouts, so that ample and effective preparations might be made to cope with the dangers which are most certainly to be apprehended.

The editor of the *Irish News* notes briefly: "The above letter was delivered yesterday morning, several hours before it was announced that Belfast had actually been honoured by a visit from a 'monarch of the air'."

On Wednesday, the *Irish News* carries an item apparently

SIGHTINGS REPORTED IN THE IRISH PAPERS

1 Robert Westlake and some men working on the steamship *Arndale:* cigar-shaped, lit object making whizzing noise: Cardiff docks: *Telegraph* 19.5.1909.

2 Lethbridge: cigar-shaped object on ground with occupant: Caerphilly Mountain, Wales: *Irish News* 20.5.1909.

3 Messrs. Grahame and Bond: complex airship on ground, occupants: Teddington, London: *Irish News* 17.5.1909 quoting *London Star.*

4 Mr. & Mrs. Egerton S. Free: cigar-shaped craft, hovering. Artifact found: Clacton: *Irish News* 17.5.1909: *Belfast Telegraph* 20.5.1909.

5 Thomas Murphy, Frank Kerr: cigar-shaped, lit craft, at distance: Belfast: *Belfast Telegraph* 17.5.1909.

6 Anon: No details, an airship: *Belfast Telegraph* 17.5.1909.

7 Police Constable Kettle: object seen 23.3.1909: Peterborough.

8 Mr. A. J. Banyard, Mrs. Mary Daly: 25.4.1909: March, Cambridgeshire.

9 Police Constable Hudson, Mr. J. O. Smith: object seen 24.4.1909: Ipswich.

10 Mrs. Amy Rush and son: object seen 9.5.1909: Bury St. Edmunds.

11 Miss H. M. Biville: object seen 9.5.1909: Southend-on-Sea.

12 Mr. Cole: object seen 9.5.1909: Stamford.

13 Mr. Deacon: no details: Wisbech.

14 Mr. C. W. Allen, Mr. Brown: no details: Market Harborough.

15 "Two labourers": no details: Kings Lynn.

16 Mr. Strange: no details: Peakirk, near Peterborough.

17 Mr. Kelt: no details: Northampton.

18 "Royal servants": no details: Sandringham.

(Items 7-18 from *Belfast Telegraph* 15.5.1909.)

TABLE 1

unrelated to the airship mystery, but the connection will not be lost on sociologically aware readers. In the newspaper's House of Commons report:

> Sir John Barlow will today ask Mr. Haldane whether he has any information showing that there are sixty-six thousand trained German soldiers in England and a quantity of rifles and ammunition in a cellar within a quarter mile of Charing Cross.

"A prophet finds no honour in his own country," begins a flippantly intended letter in the same issue of the *Irish News:*

> Already i am looking into the future with eyes as keen and undimmed as those of the male eagle when he fearlessly stares upon the sun; and I see a bright vision of a grateful and loyal nation gathering around me and proclaiming the glory of the man who spoke the words of warning that saved the people of Belfast from a dreadful fate.
>
> A year has been added to the roll of time since I first told my neighbours that aerial warships would hover over the Northern capital (Belfast) and threaten its inhabitants with the doom of the unwary. One has already appeared; it was seen by several people. including members of the staff of the *Belfast Evening Telegraph.* These observers saw it with their eyes; they saw the airship with its glaring lights spinning twixt earth and heavens; they saw several things besides, but this fearful vision dwelt on their memories, and they justified my prophetic instinct by recording the result of their patriotic midnight vision.
>
> But they did not see all that might be observed that night. I have been making preparations for the appearance of this airship ever since the autumn. The powerful telescope which procured for purposes of military observation when I vainly hoped that our Lodges (Orange Lodges: a Loyalist Masonic-type organisation) would undertake the conquest of Connaught remained in my possession; so I fitted onto it an apparatus which enables me to see objects within five miles distance as plainly on the darkest night as the ordinary man can observe them in broad noonday.
>
> Sir, though I waited until independent testimony could precede my statement, I saw that airship before it entered within the range of vision, or into the imagination of the number of *Belfast Telegraph* staff. I brought my refractifying, specially-patented black-midnight telescope to bear upon it; and as it hovered over the Lisburn Road, I distinctly noticed the German Emperor and Mr. Patrick O'Brien MP (at this time Ireland was unpartitioned and under British rule; Patrick O'Brien was a local Irish National MP at Westminster) standing side by side; while just behind them was a well-known member of the local United Irish League and A O H (Ancient Order of Hibernians, roughly the Republican equivalent of the Orange Order), pointing out to them the strategic places which should be occupied by an invading army.
>
> At the same moment I placed to my ear another instrument which attracts any sound uttered nearer than five miles, as a lightning rod draws into itself all the electricity within the radius of its influence; and I heard the German Emperor distinctly say—he spoke in fairly grammatical English, though his accent was not that to which we are accustomed—"In my opinion Belfast will be ours when our fleet drops 250,000 men and 1000 cannons on to the Shankill Road."
>
> Whereupon Mr. Patrick O'Brien MP said: "Sire, I entirely disagree with you. We may succeed in capturing the Shankill Road, and filling every public house, tobacco shop and con-

fectionery store in it with Uhlans; but Belfast will never be ours until we drop 500,000 men in Sandy Row."

Whereupon the local Leaguer and Hibernian said, in an accent that fell gratefully upon my ears: "That's all very well; but when ye have the Shankill and the Bog Meadows, what the David Porter will you do about Ballymacarrett?" (Shankill Road, Sandy Row and Ballymacarrett are all Loyalist areas of Belfast).

They were still cogitating over this problem when the engines "whirred" and the dread machine swept away across the Lagan and sped on at the rate of 87 miles an hour towards the Mull of Kyntre. I was not at all astonished to read in next morning's paper that the German Emperor had arrived home: I am sure he must have felt tired.

Yours faithfully,
An Anxious Orangeman.

Those familiar with the 1909 airship scare will need no introduction to the Lethbridge case which is extensively reported in the *Irish News* on the Thursday. "INVADED!" scream the headlines, "Foreigners, an Airship and a grim message in French. What a Showman Saw and Others Verified: Fearful Scares."

The Lethbridge story is then told, in much the same manner and with the same details as in the extracts quoted by Carl Grove and Paul Screeton. However, the paper does explicity link the airship with other strange occurrences. Under the sub-headline:

WORSE AND WORSE!

A Colchester telegram states that although the stories that have been circulating as to German military airships hovering over Colchester are dismissed as canards, serious attention is being paid in the garrison town to the continual reports that are received by the police and other authorities as to the presence of foreigners whose sole business seems to take notes of cross-roads and buildings in the neighbourhood of Colchester. Several instances of this practice have been lately noted by the police.

The *Belfast Telegraph* of the same day quotes the *Daily Express* on the "Airship Fender" found by Mrs. Egerton Free of Clacton.

On Friday, May 21 the *Irish News,* no longer able to resist the temptation, scores political points against the English by editorialising on the subject of "Invasion Hysterics." The editorial starts by noting several hoax-airship reports and disparaging the fact that the mysterious table discovered by Lethbridge turned out to be instructions on the use of a motor-tyre valve. "We know why the Brothers Wright have returned to their native country," comments the editor sarcastically, "their miserable mechanical makeshifts . . . are merest toying and fancies of children when compared with the marvellous German invention which can alight on lonely mountain roads with the ease of a 'carrion crow' and disappear towards the stars with more dexterity than a champion cyclist mounts his machine at the start of a race."

Commenting on the note-taking foreigners in Colchester: "Wild stories indicate the hysterical fear that has taken possession of the majority of the British people."

With the end of the week, we come to the end—with a few isolated exceptions—of the coverage in the Irish papers of the airship scare.

The author's motive in presenting this data is primarily antiquarian, as well as to bring it to the attention of other researchers. However, although much more research is necessary to bring in all the data on which a useful theory could be based, he feels that some comments may be made at this stage:

1. Since none of the established histories make any mention of extensive airship testing or operation over the British Isles before the war, it is extremely unlikely that genuine airship activity accounts for more than a handful of the sightings.

2. The airship phenomenon shows profile similarities with the modern UFO phenomenon. These similarities include the description of Light in the Sky and close encounter reports, the occurrence of spatially and temporarily localised "wave" and "flap" phenomena and in the them-and-us interpretation (the airship was seen as a manifestation of an alien—in the old sense of the word—technology).

3. At least one type of hoax can be identified in the data: the newspapers use the phenomenon as a vehicle for political satire. The excellent example in the Irish sample is the *Irish News* "Anxious Orangeman" letter.

4. The phenomenon is well adapted to contemporary cultural specifics. The best example is probably contained in the varying attitude taken to the phenomenon by the two politically oriented Irish newspapers. The Unionist *Belfast Telegraph,* for which the cultural specific of German invasion is relevant, treats the reports seriously; but the *Irish News,* for which the cultural specific is largely irrelevant, does not.

Synthesizing: Due to the antiquity of the reports it is probably no longer possible to come to a useful conclusion about the physical stimuli behind the reports. However, we can suggest two tentative hypotheses about the phenomenon as a whole. The first is that the phenomenon was simply a form of contagion; of mass hysteria. If this is the case, then the phenomenon shows an amazing propensity for manufacturing compelling, specific evidence for itself. The second is that the phenomenon may be of the collective unconscious, analogous to a dream-premonition in the individual unconscious. After all, airships were used over Britain by the Germans during the First World War.

In conclusion, the close analogy between the airship phenomenon and the modern UFO phenomenon suggests that study of the former could help in the understanding of the latter. It is to be hoped that more complete surveys of the source literature on the airship phenomenon will soon be available.

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Photocopies of the original newspaper items on which this article is based are available for consultation at the Irish UFO Research Centre library. The original newspaper files consulted are stored in the Shankill Road branch of Belfast Public Libraries, and the author would like to thank the staff for their help and patience.

Part II
The Bermuda Triangle et al: A Natural Phenomenon

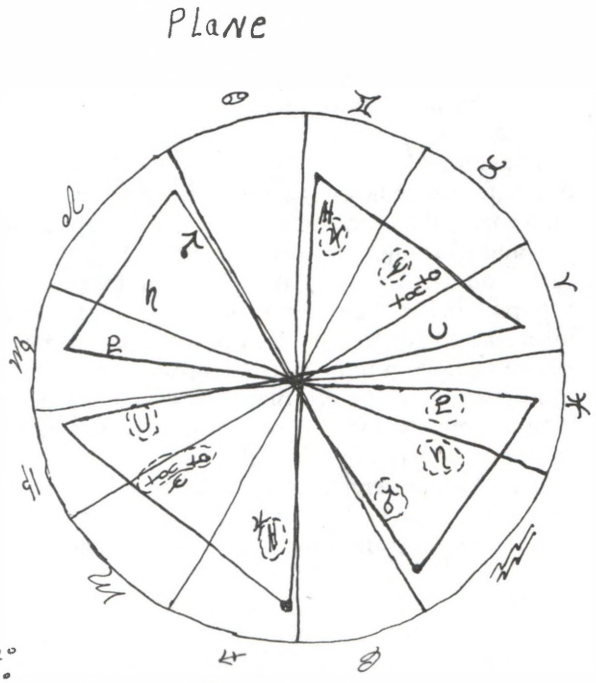
by LeVonne K. Angelo

(Continued from Pursuit's *spring issue 1980, Vol. 13, No. 2)*

A NUMBER of years ago the government sold some old ships to Japan. In the area known as the "Devil's Sea," between the Straits of Japan Sea and Guam, the ships got into a depression resembling a "deep dish," around which they sailed for hours. This type of "hole" or whirlpool may be as deep as one hundred feet below the normal ocean level. Submarines have been able to pass directly under these depressions without experiencing any difficulty, nor do their instruments register anything out of the ordinary. Whirlpools aren't unusual, they are simply rotary ocean currents whose interactions of rising and falling tides can produce large-scale eddies. Currents of opposite behavior are called "kolks," or "boils," and are created by an updraft. Whirlpools exhibiting central downdrafts are called vortices. They appear where coastal and bottom jointures provide very deep, narrow passageways.

Some of the famous whirlpools known are: the Charybdis of Southern Italy along the Calabria coast; the Strait of Messina between Sicily and Italy's peninsula; the Maelstrom off the coast of Norway in the Lofoten Islands. The Hebrides and Orkney Islands have a few, and another famous one is located in the Naruto Strait connecting the Sea of Japan and the Philippine Sea. Those mentioned fall either on, or just to the sides of, the vortices in their respective areas.

This brings us to another puzzle connected with these vortices—lights and light wheels. We have the famous light in Bimini that our astronauts remark seeing as they leave Earth. Pilots of planes and ships' captains have long remarked about light wheels which extend out as far as a mile and some of which radiate out from a central "hub" as far as fifteen to twenty miles. According to an article entitled "Light Wheels and Holograms That Use Acoustical Radiation," by Robert J. Durant, in *Pursuit* (Vol. 5, No. 1, January 1972), there are three distinct types of light wheels: 1) the eight-spoked, 2) the nine-spoked, and 3) the twelve-spoked variety. By checking with any map, we find these lights follow the lines of magnetism stretching outward from one vortex to the other. Fault lines and deep crevasses mark the earth's crust at these points.

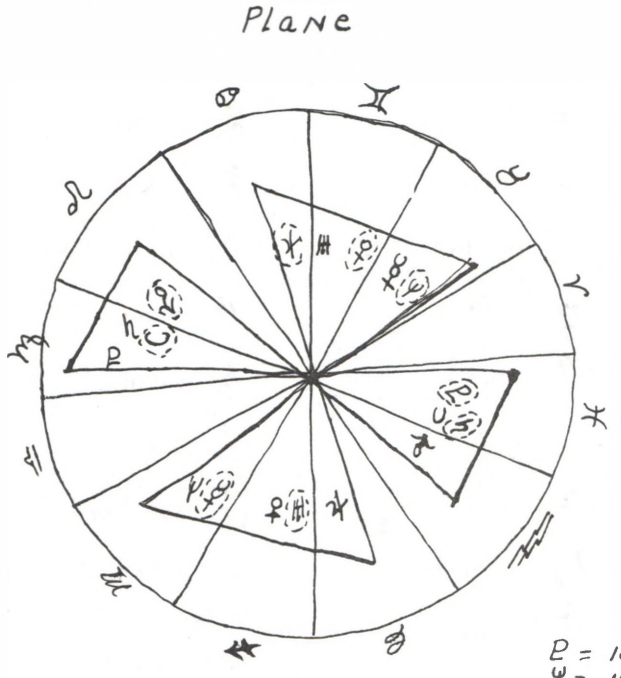


♇ = 14°
♆ = 13°
♓ = 23°
♑ = 22°
♄ = 15°
♂ = 7°
♀ = 10°
☿ = 9°
☽ = 15°

Star Tiger

1948, 1-30

Figure 6



♇ = 16°
♆ = 15°
♓ = 28°
♑ = 6°
♄ = 11°
♂ = 27°
♀ = 15°
☿ = 22°
☽ = 5°

Star Ariel

1949, 1-17

Figure 7

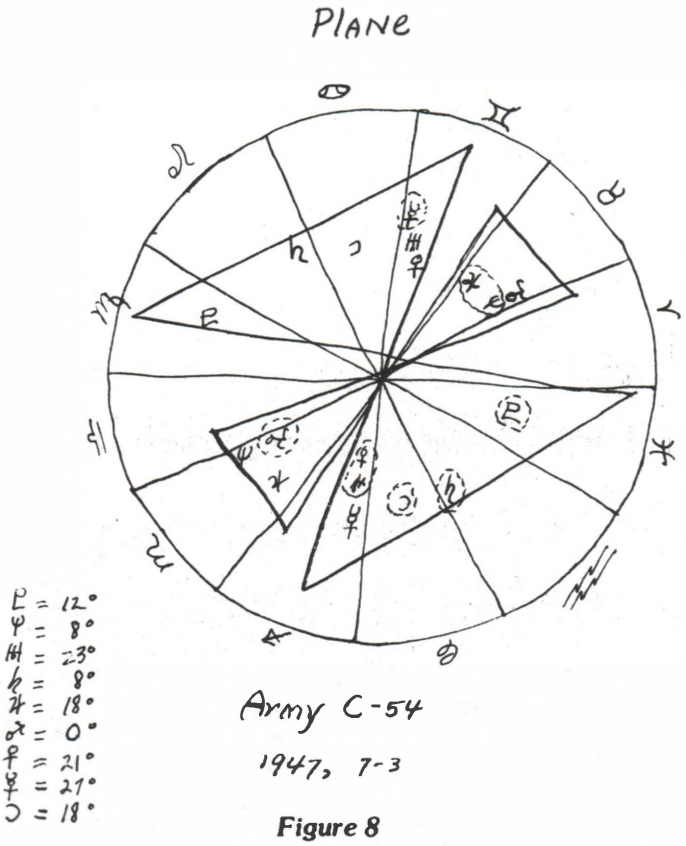


Figure 8

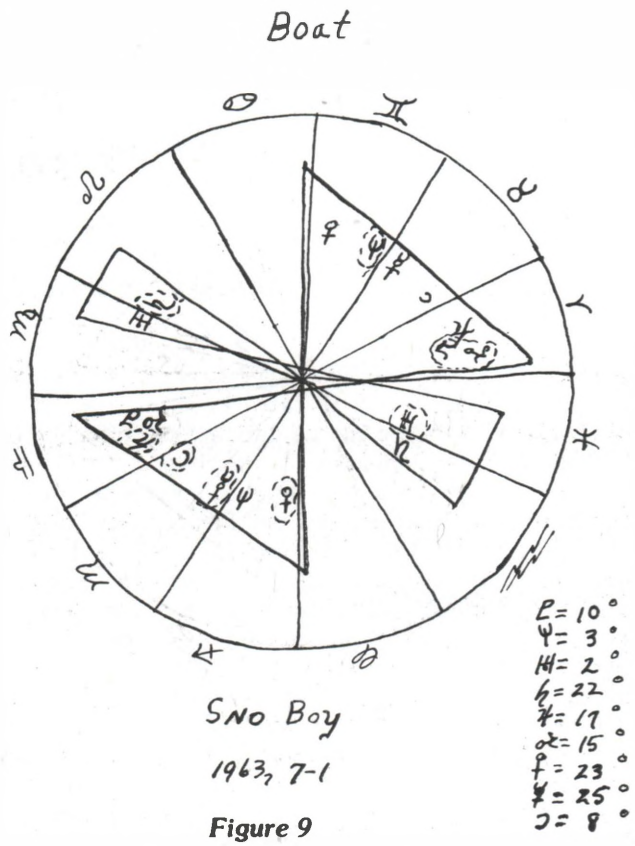


Figure 9

Another strange effect that light wheels and vortices have in common is they consume the energy of anything near them. Batteries and generators have been drawn upon to the point of exhaustion in the Bermuda Triangle. Light wheels viewed from the deck of a ship may result in depletion of bodily energy. It appears that the electromagnetism of the vortices and light wheels seeks out the electromagnetism of the cells. There are certain materials that put forth an emission of "cold light." These materials can transform invisible energy forms into visible light when enough of the material has absorbed energy from either ultraviolet or x-ray radiation, electron beams or chemical reactions.

TWELVE CONSTELLATIONS	EIGHT PLANETS
♈ ARIES	☿ MERCURY
♉ TAURUS	♀ VENUS
♊ GEMINI	♂ MARS
♋ CANCER	♃ JUPITER
♌ LEO	♄ SATURN
♍ VIRGO	♅ URANUS
♎ LIBRA	♆ NEPTUNE
♏ SCORPIO	♇ PLUTO
♐ SAGGITARIUS	**SATELLITE**
♑ CAPRICORN	☽ MOON
♒ AQUARIUS	**OPPOSING FORCE**
♓ PISCES	⊂⊃

The line of trajectory from one constellation to the opposite constellation passes through the earth and its sun on a forty-five degree angle. Times of disappearance in the Bermuda Triangle usually coincide with late afternoon or early hours of the morning. We are sadly ignorant of what is happening in the other vortex areas because of a lack of information concerning disappearances in those areas.

The following ten charts (figures 6-15) relate to famous disappearances of both planes and boats. I have grouped them by month and day rather than year, as the year isn't as important as the particular *time* of year to reveal the pattern I am referring to. (See legend for meaning of the symbols used.) In figures 16-19 the reader will note that some complete disappearances almost became "people only."

I feel that the electromagnetism varies in intensity. At one point it may be only strong enough to "transmute" flesh only; given enough strength it will transmute items such as boats and planes. The electromagnetic waves rise and fall in much the same manner as a curtain. As they come closer to the earth, planes are caught; further down, boats and people are caught.

The famous plane *Star Tiger* lost between January 29 and 30, 1948, and her sister ship *Star Ariel* lost on January 17, 1949, are shown in figures 6 and 7. The pattern, with

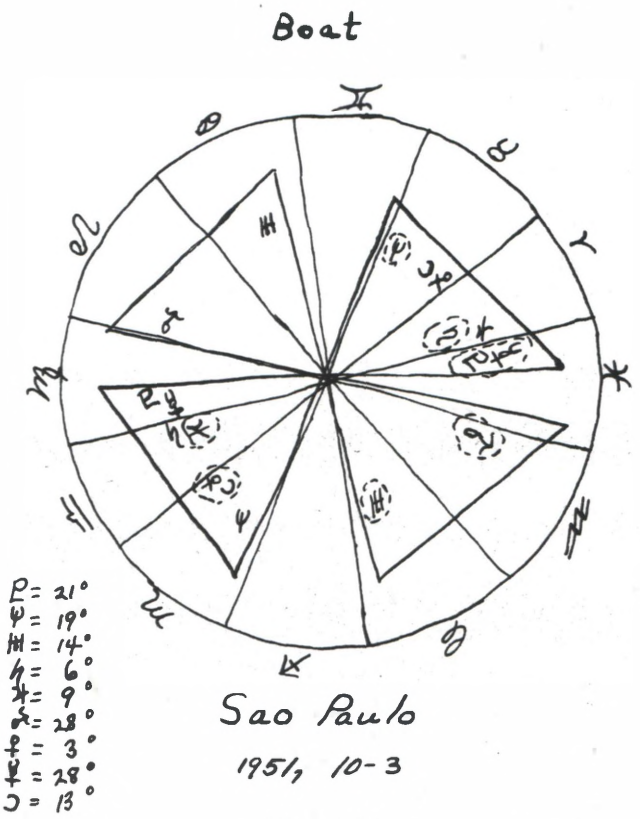


Figure 10

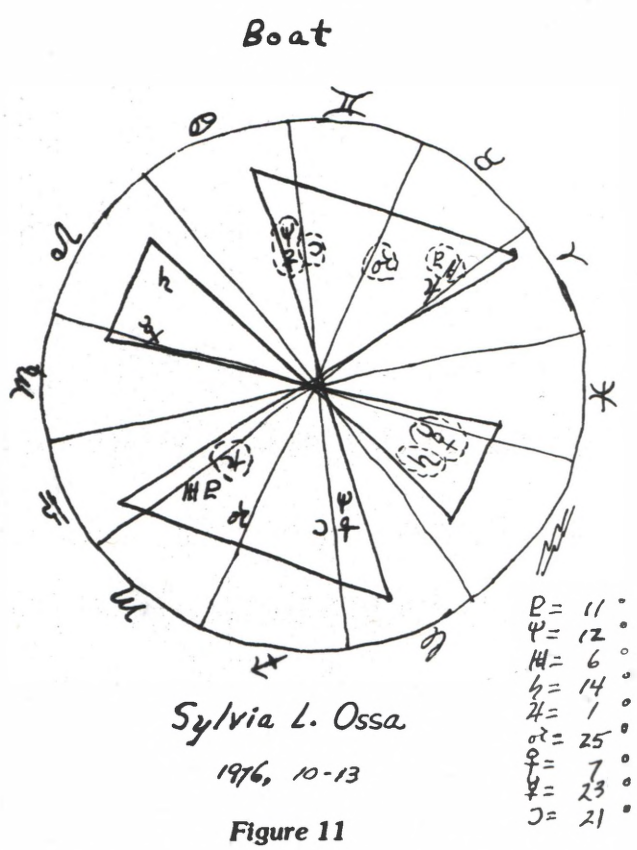


Figure 11

the exception of being reversed due to planetary changes, is identical. The patterns in figure 8 (for the Army C-54) and in figure 9 (for the boat *Sno Boy*) are also identical, but reversed due to a sixteen-year span. Figures 10, 11 and 12 show, respectively, that the patterns for the boats *Sao Paulo, Sylvia L. Ossa* and *Ithaca Island* are all identical, although the *Ossa* very nearly became a "people only" due to the narrowing arm. Another "almost" was figure 13, a DC-3. Figure 14 represents the loss of the *Revonoc,* which disappeared with its owner, Mr. Conover, on or about New Year's Eve. Last but not least, figure 15 represents the loss of the *Marie Sulphur Queen.* Although all such disappearances can be charted, to do so would be a waste of time, money and the reader's patience.

Short-term geomagnetic fields over the earth have daily variations of intensity. In the Northern Hemisphere these intensities decrease toward midday, while in the Southern Hemisphere they begin to increase—thus showing us that the sun's position controls these variations at the observation point. According to Gauss's analysis, we divide our magnetic field into two sources, an outside and an inside one. It has been discovered that two-thirds of the daily variation originates in the earth's lower ionosphere (65 to 80 miles in altitude) caused by horizontal electric currents flowing through this region. The other one-third is felt to be a by-product of the primary outside source by producing an electrical current which flows into the earth's electrically conductive interior through the process of electromagnetic induction.

Since the geomagnetic dipoles are opposite one another (north and south), why couldn't the vortices be of the same order? In other words, a northern vortex opposed to the southern vortex? When the sun is active we have large-scale magnetic disturbances. The magnetosphere becomes compressed and contracted. When the solar wind's kinetic energy increases, sudden pressure causes the magnetosphere to be compressed toward the earth. This in turn causes an increase in the magnetic field. The westward movement of electrically charged protons is

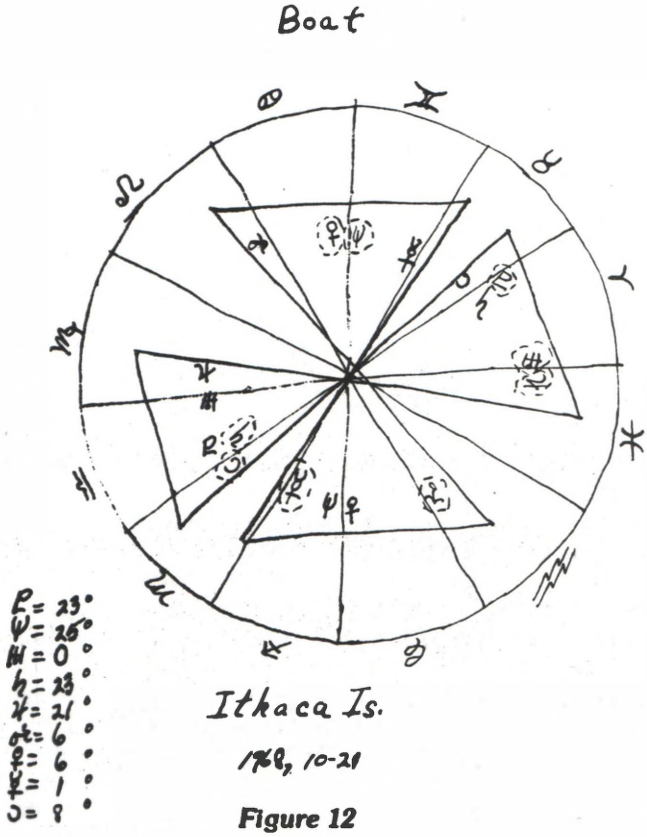


Figure 12

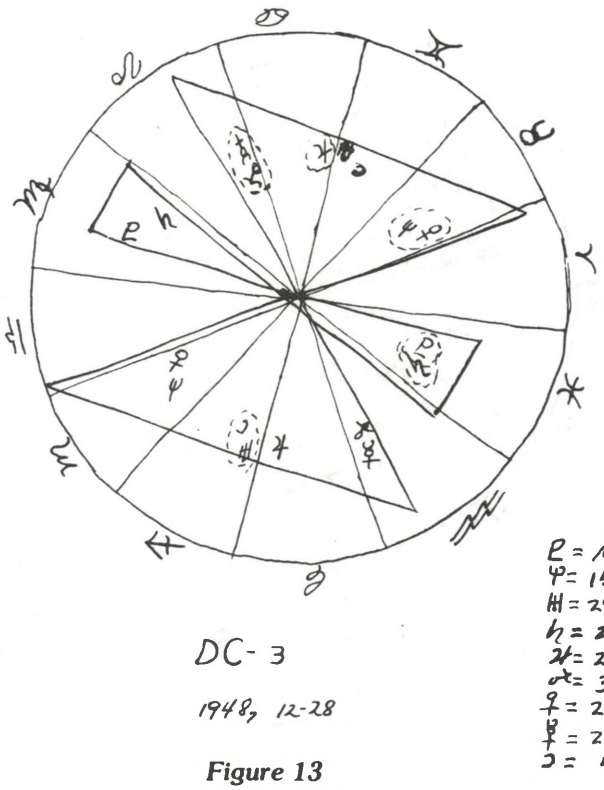


Figure 13

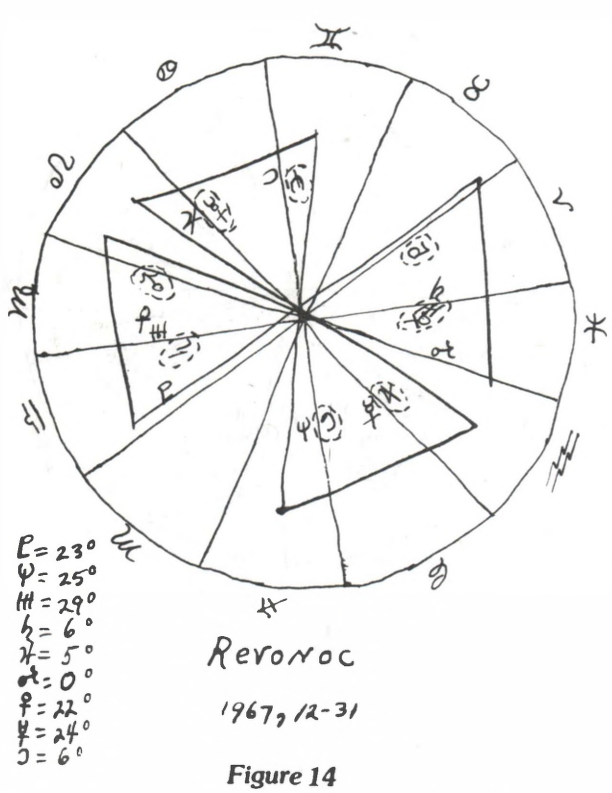


Figure 14

called the equatorial ring current and is maintained by the energy of solar wind. As the solar wind's kinetic energy returns to normal, the equatorial ring current is no longer maintained and the magnetic storm ceases.

During a magnetic storm, the north and south poles display a phenomenon referred to as 'an aura that is oval in shape.' Also at this time, the geomagnetic field near these ovals increases in magnitude. These disturbances are called polar magnetic substorms. While these substorms are in progress other electromagnetic phenomena can be noticed: the emission of x-rays, low-frequency radio waves, and in increased density of electrons throughout the ionosphere. Polar storms usually occur around local midnight, and the duration varies from between a half hour to three hours.

Physicists now agree there is velocity greater than the speed of light. A British research group from Oxford University has concluded that the electromagnetic fields found in the Crab Nebula of the Constellation of Taurus move with speeds of 375,000 miles per second! The vortices would not operate on the speed of light, but in electromagnetic speeds. Subatomic particles such as tachyons, luxons, and tardyons operate in the dimension of antimatter, and so do the vortices. Depending upon how much energy is being generated, most persons and vehicles entering these time-less zones disappear *permanently!* Please refer to figures 16-19. Humans were missing on the Cuban cargo ship *Rubicon,* found adrift October 22, 1944, thirty miles southeast of Key Largo, Florida. Only the ship's dog was on board. Note the wide expanse of the top and bottom fan in figure 16 in contrast to the small fan containing planets Pluto and Jupiter. Note the identical pattern in figure 17 for the *Witchcraft.* Position has changed, of course, but not the pattern. *Witchcraft's* owner and passenger disappeared on December 24, 1967. The *Southern Cross* (figure 18) was discovered adrift ten miles northeast of Cape May, New Jersey, on November 4, 1969. The *V. A. Fogg* (figure 19) was found sunken on February 14,

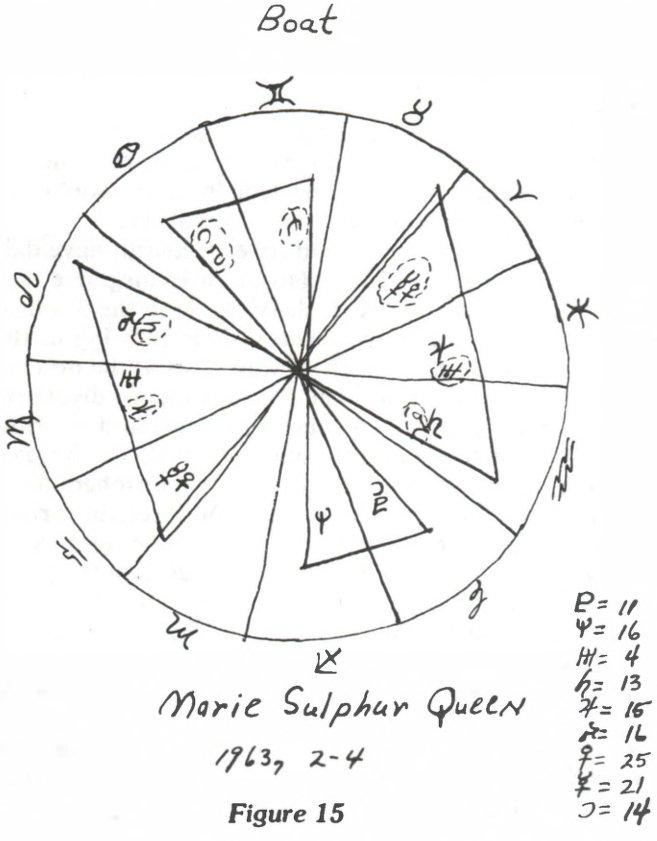
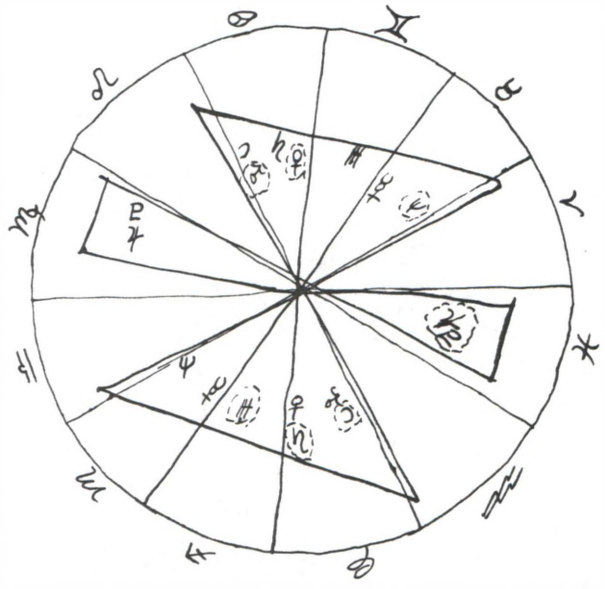


Figure 15

Boat



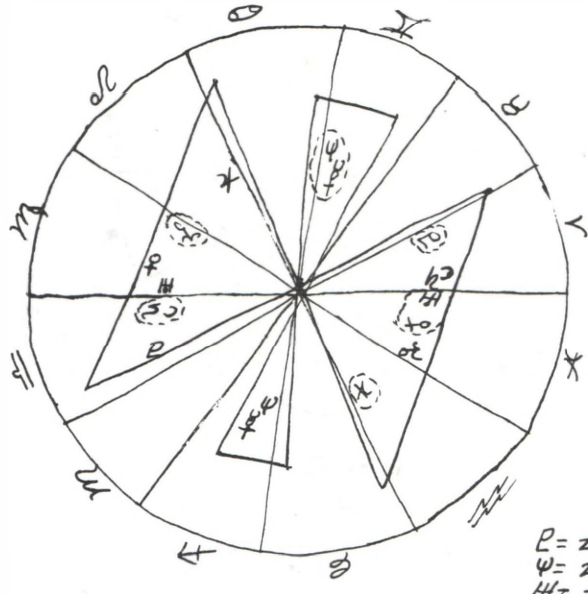
♇ = 10°
♆ = 4°
♅ = 13°
♄ = 10°
♃ = 14°
♂ = 22°
☿ = 4°
♀ = 24°
☽ = 28°

Rubicon (people missing)

1944, 10-22

Figure 16

Boat



♇ = 23°
♆ = 25°
♅ = 29°
♄ = 6°
♃ = 5°
♂ = 0°
☿ = 22°
♀ = 24°
☽ = 6°

Witchcraft (people missing)

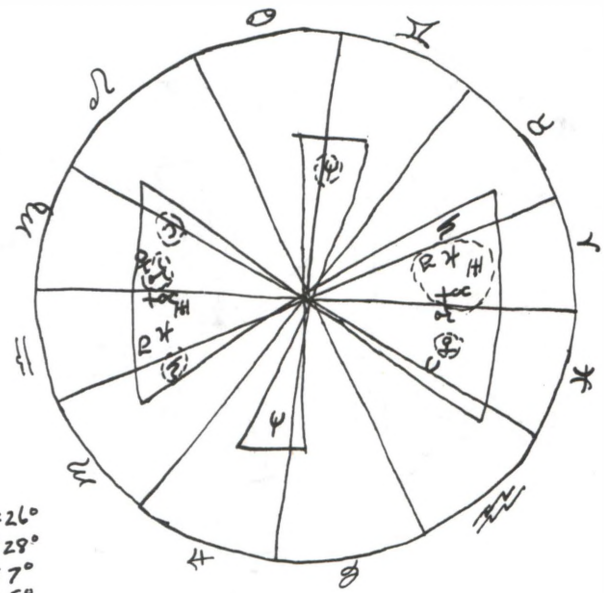
1967, 12-24

Figure 17

1972. Thirty-eight of the 39 men were gone. If it had foundered before this time, it wasn't too many days prior to this date. Change in the pattern is slight. Although the planets change, the pattern appears for the disappearance of persons and also for spontaneous human combustion.

Parrots are the only nonhuman item that disappears also. Cats, canaries and dogs are left behind. Parrots have unique brains. Unfortunately, little information can be

Boat



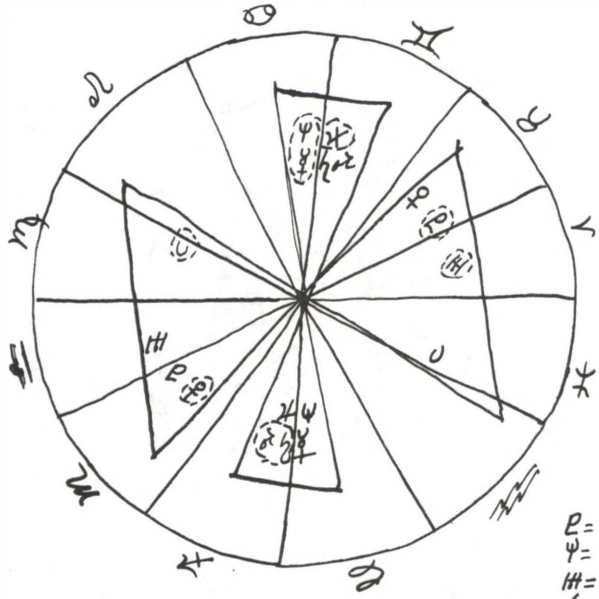
♇ = 26°
♆ = 28°
♅ = 7°
♄ = 5°
♃ = 22°
♂ = 28°
☿ = 19°
♀ = 0°
☽ = 0°

Southern Cross (people missing)

1969, 11-4

Figure 18

Boat

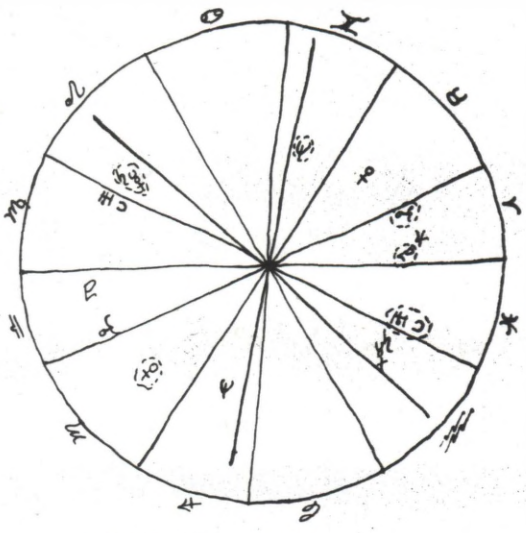


♇ = 2°
♆ = 5°
♅ = 18°
♄ = 29°
♃ = 29°
♂ = 24°
☿ = 19°
♀ = 1°
☽ = 6°

VA Fogg (people missing)

1972, 2-2

Figure 19

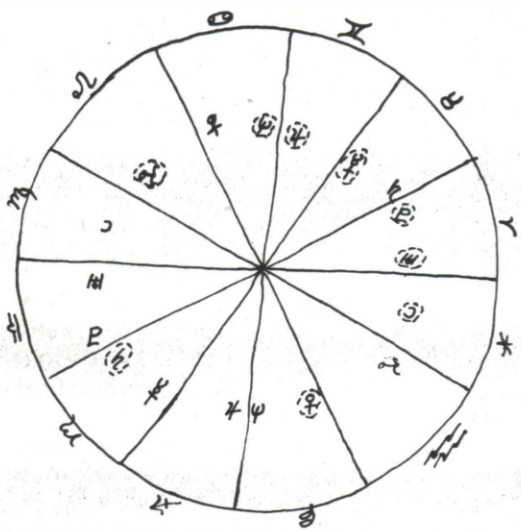


U.S.S.R. Vostok IV

1963, 6-14

☿ = 10° ♌ = 2° ♃ = 15° ♀ = 16° ☽ = 6°
☿ = 14° ♄ = 23° ♂ = 29° ♅ = 21°

Figure 20

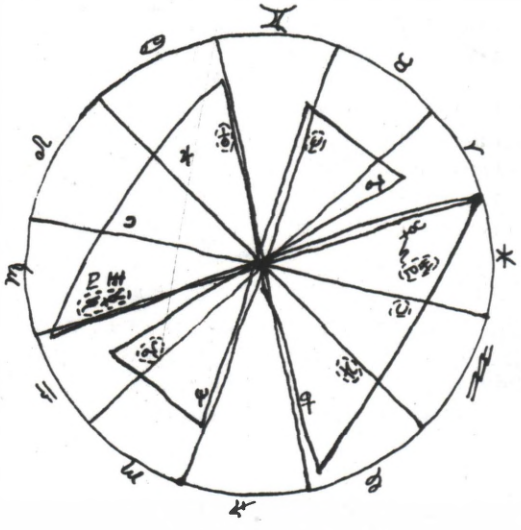


U.S. Apollo 15

1971, 7-26

☿ = 27° ♌ = 10° ♃ = 27° ♀ = 29° ☽ = 17°
☿ = 1° ♄ = 2° ♂ = 21° ♅ = 21°

Figure 21

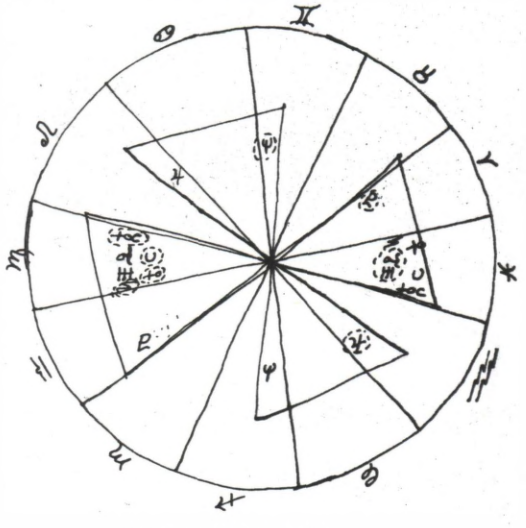


Gemini 8

1966, 3-16

☿ = 11° ♌ = 15° ♃ = 21° ♀ = 4° ☽ = 28°
☿ = 25° ♄ = 19° ♂ = 24° ♅ = 28°

Figure 22

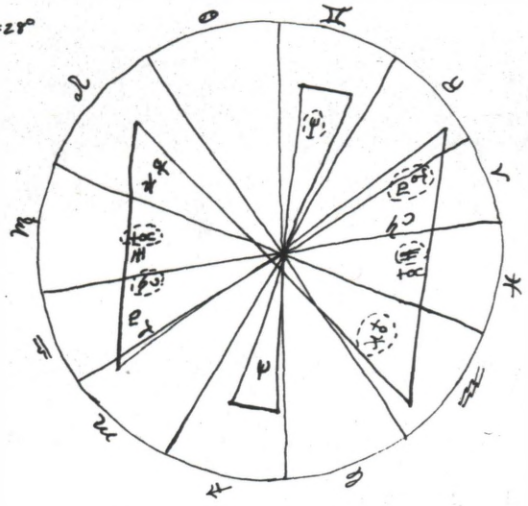


Astronauts burned on ground.

1967, 1-27

☿ = 21° ♌ = 25° ♃ = 2° ♀ = 23° ☽ = 12°
☿ = 24° ♄ = 24° ♂ = 14 ♅ = 1°

Figure 23



Soyuz I 1967, 4-23

☿ = 19° ♌ = 22° ♃ = 25° ♀ = 15° ☽ = 7°
☿ = 24° ♄ = 3° ♂ = 29° ♅ = 13°

Figure 24

found on parrot brains. Parrots and humans have much in common in behavioral patterns. They respond to music and certain colors. Parrots mate for life and are intelligent to the point of deducing the outcome of a repeated act. Although the disappearance of parrots may appear, on the surface, to be intelligent selection, it may instead have something to do with their spinal column, which is more erect than other fowl. Or, the vocal area may perhaps be more humanlike in its vibrational characteristic. Whatever the reason, we may discover that their disappearance is probably due to their close connection with humankind. I feel that all these anomalies—magnetism, lights, magnetic storms, earthquake and volcanic activity—exist because of the action of the main vortex, and are not independently produced.

The U.S. has been most fortunate with the space program. The Soviets didn't fare as well in their endeavors in the beginning. Our worst disaster was the explosion and fire on the ground, January 17, 1967. The thing that intrigues me is the timing that both countries use in sending missions into space. After several accidents plus some touch-and-go situations, they seem to have learned to pass up dangerous dates.

The term "launch window" couldn't be more correct. According to the charts, there are open areas (figure 20). The areas may also have a diffused appearance, as in figure 21. In contrast to the charts with open areas, we have those where something occurred . . . a mission cut short, or sudden accidents. The flight of *Gemini 8,* after docking with *Agena Target,* was cut short. In figure 22, the arm of the cross is taking shape. Two tragedies befell the missions for both sides in 1967. On January 27, three astronauts were killed by an explosion and fire (figure 23). Kamarov crashed the *Soyus* (figure 24) . . . the pattern is there. *Soyus XI* orbited for 23 days, and the cosmonauts were found dead upon return to earth. I am not saying that the pattern could be true in every situation, but it *does appear,* and until enough of the scientific community will work together to experiment and try different ideas—no matter how bizarre they may seem—we'll never know for sure.

I bring one more phenomenon into the picture because I believe that it belongs there, and that is spontaneous human combustion (SHC). The cases of SHC have been recorded for several centuries. Like the mysterious Bermuda Triangle disappearances, it has only been in the last 25 years that decent records have been kept. Most of them read like a litany: bluish flames are noted; there is often an odd sweetish smell; soot and ash sometimes are scattered on walls and floors; there may be burned flesh lying about. Most victims are reduced to nothing but ash, or sometimes to the proverbial grease spot. Usually nothing but flesh and bones are destroyed. Clothing, bedding and chairs remain untouched. Bodies not completely destroyed show signs of *internal burns!* As the magnetic waves move over the land, people too may somehow get caught in them. One researcher found a coincidental pattern between the fires and periods of severe magnetic flux. The months of the year are the same as those listed for the Bermuda Triangle anomalies; the differences are the days—indicating a lowering or raising of the energy flow. This flow reaches its peak approximately toward the last two weeks in the month or the first two weeks; the time period seems to alternate.

Some scientists lament the basic discoveries have all been found. I have attempted to show that the age of basic discoveries is *not finished; indeed, we have only just begun.* We may be on the verge of *rediscovering* a great energy that has always been with us, one which if properly used can help us achieve a long-sought-for independence.

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Bigfoot Alive and Well: Reports Persist of Prints And Sightings in Asia, Canada and U.S.A.

Chinese Plan Search For an 'Ape-Man'

PEKING—China's ape-man sounds vaguely familiar. He lives in a high pine-covered mountain range. Reddish-brown hair covers his whole body.

No one has ever taken his picture or captured him, yet Chinese scientists will soon launch a major expedition in the snow-capped peaks of the Shennongjia forest region to try to capture a "wild man."

Updating the 'Peking Man'

More than 30 sightings of the "ape-man" have been reported in the last two years, say researchers at Peking's Academy of Sciences, and this expedition is to be the most ambitious undertaken to date.

Reflecting the new interest in a Chinese "Bigfoot," the academy has published a letter describing an encounter with a female creature and its breast-fed child.

"It would be very valuable to find a 'wild man' that is possibly a cross between a man and an ape," said Huang Wanpo, a researcher who speaks with missionary zeal. "Perhaps he would establish man's next of kin in the evolutionary line."

Bigfoot's Chinese Cousin?

Yuan Zhexin, another scientist at the Institute of Paleoanthropology and Vertebrate Paleontology, believes the "wild man" is an ancestral relative of America's Bigfoot, the legendary creature that supposedly roams the forests of the American Northwest.

During an earlier expedition, the two researchers found traces of the "ape-man" and numerous eyewitness accounts describing him. A 33-year-old commune leader told them: "He was about 7 feet tall, with shoulders wider than a man's, a sloping forehead, deep-set eyes, and a bulbous nose with nostrils slightly upturned. His cheeks were sunken, he had ears like a man's but bigger, and round eyes also bigger than a man's.

"His jaw jutted out, and he had protruding lips. His front teeth were as broad as a horse's. His eyes were black. His hair was dark brown and more than a foot long and hung loosely over his shoulders.

Hardly Handsome

"His whole face, except for the nose and ears, was covered with short hairs. His arms hung down to below his knees. He had big hands with fingers about a foot long and with thumbs only slightly separated from the fingers.

"He didn't have any tail, and the hair on his body was short. He had thick thighs, shorter than the lower part of his legs. He walked upright with his legs apart. His feet were each about a foot long and half that broad—broader in front and narrow in back with splayed toes. He was a male. That much I saw clearly."

While the earlier expedition uncovered samples of hair that does not match any known man or bear common to the mountain region, Huang theorizes that the creature may be a descendant of the giant ape, an animal whose fossil remains date back more than 200,000 years.

Significantly, says Huang, the Shennongjia region is also the home of the giant panda, whose ancestors also date back to ages long before man.

"People have been talking about the hairy man for at least 4,000 years," said Huang, who studied the Fangxian County records in Central China.

Chinese scientists hope to find the long-sought 'ape-man' in the Shennongjia forest in Hubei province.

Chicago Tribune Map

High-Altitude Trail

"It's a very good environment," said the man who will lead a team of 20 specialists and scores of commune members armed with tranquilizer guns. "It's at a very high altitude (about 10,000 feet). There are deep valleys, and the area is dotted with caves from 9 to 10 feet high."

A "hair-man" is depicted on a tomb carving from the Han Dynasty more than 1,700 years ago. Even before that, the Chinese poet Che Yuan wrote about a "mountain ogre," calling it "a creature like a human being. He likes to smile, and he is shy. He drinks spring water. His hair is very long, and he sits under the pine and cypress trees."

While much of rural China remains heavily influenced by superstition, the traces of hair and feces and the unexplained large tracks have persuaded the Academy of Sciences to continue its research.

All the reports of close encounters with the "ape-man" described a creature hunched over, with hair all over his body, walking upright, and with a foul smell noticeable more than 80 feet away.

"But we haven't captured him yet," said Huang, "and, like your Bigfoot, he remains a mystery."

SOURCE: *Chicago Tribune*, March 30, 1980.
CREDIT: Nancy S. Paulsen.

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Pennsylvania Prints: Bigfoot or Snowjob?

TOWANDA, Pa.—Giant footprints in the snow have been reported in southern Bradford County by loggers and hunters, but police and game officials are taking a wait-and-see attitude.

"It looked just like human footprints,"

SITUations in the NEWS

This section of *Pursuit* is devoted to the reporting of fairly recent unexplained events. Members are asked to send in newsclippings and responsible reports that they feel should be included here.

Remember, *local* newspapers often offer the best (or only) information concerning some events. Please be sure to include the source of reference (name of newspaper, periodical, etc.), the date the article or report appeared and your name (or membership number only, if you prefer to be credited that way).

SPIDERS INVADE JOHANNESBURG

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa—Hundreds of thousands of spiders whose bite can be fatal have invaded Johannesburg, and health officials say there is no known antidote for the venom.

"The spider appears to be spreading rapidly after an accidental introduction into the mines around the city," one health official warned. "The situation is serious."

"There must be hundreds of thousands of them in the city now, and they present a real danger," said Gerry Newlands, a researcher at the South African Institute of Health.

Can Be Fatal

Warnings have been circulated all over the city about the danger posed by the violin spider, a tiny brown and orange creature less than half an inch long. Hospitals have reported a few cases of spider bites but none has yet proved fatal. Officials warned, however, that even a healthy adult can die from the spider's bite, and that small children are almost certain to die if bitten.

Newlands said the spider's bite is painless and the agonizing effects only begin to be felt hours later. More than 90 percent of the bites occur when the victims are sleeping and inadvertently press spiders caught in clothing against their bodies.

"It causes immense suffering and is similar to but more dangerous than the Brown Recluse Spider found in parts of the U.S., and there is no known cure" for the spider's venom, which causes hemorrhaging and deep lesions in the skin.

"The species has been known to exist in Zululand and Botswana but never near Johannesburg. A worker could have carried it into the mines, and from there someone brought it, or its eggs, into the city," Newlands said.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch Dec. 16, 1979. CREDIT: O. Oltcher.

Karoo Desert Cycle Ghost Rides Again

UNIONDALE, South Africa—The motorcycle ghost of the Karoo Desert is said to be a woman who died in a motorcycle accident more than 10 years ago near Uniondale. She (or it) badly frightened cyclist Andre Coetzee who was breezing along the highway on Good Friday.

"I was riding near the Baramadas turn-off (site of the fatal accident a decade ago) when I felt my hair stand on end inside my crash helmet and someone or something put its arms around my waist from behind," the shaken 20-year-old reported. "There was something sitting on my bike."

The frightened motorcyclist said he accelerated to 80 miles an hour to get away, but the ghost hit him three times in the helmet to get him to slow down. "The blows were vicious," Coetzee said. When he reached 100 mph, he said, "the apparition disappeared," and he made tracks to a local cafe at scarcely reduced speed.

"He could hardly speak when we asked him what had happened," said Jeanetta Meyer, owner of the cafe. "But gradually it dawned on us that the woman ghost had appeared once more," she said.

There have been several reports in recent years of motorcyclists picking up a blonde woman hitchhiker at Uniondale only to find that she had vanished from the back seat after a few miles.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch in *The Trentonian* (NJ), April 11, 1980. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

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said Dale E. Vester. Vester, a Towanda logger who saw the prints after two hunters pointed them out, said: "If it was a practical joke, the guy must do it for a living."

The prints turned up for about 100 feet along a road near New Albany, said Charles "Busty" Kellog, who also saw the trail. The prints disappeared into the woods near a spring alongside the road, he said.

Jack Baker, general manager of WTTC radio, saw the footprints and said they had five toes and were flat, indicating that the foot had no arch.

The prints measured 17 inches from heel to toe, Baker said, and the distance between them measured 4 feet, 9 inches.

The tracks turned up about a quarter mile from where he had been working, Vester said. Asked if he was concerned about meeting "Bigfoot" in the woods, he said: "I go out there every day. It doesn't bother me. If it's been out there all this time, it certainly hasn't been a problem."

Kellog also said he wasn't worried about meeting whatever made the tracks.

Ed Gallew, a state game conservation officer in Bradford County, said the only information he had on the prints came from news sources. "It never was officially reported to me at all by anybody," he said, adding that the area of the sighting, near the town of New Albany, is "quite a remote area, really rugged country."

State Game Commission spokesman Ted Godshall was skeptical about the sighting. "Every once in a while, we'll get reports of people finding animals that have been extinct for years—and so on," he said.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in *The Morning News*, Wilmington, Del., Jan. 7, 1980. CREDIT: H. Hollander.

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Polish Team Measures Footprints of 'Yeti'

NEW DELHI—A Polish climbing expedition to Mt. Everest said that it found footprints of the abominable snowman, or Yeti, on the mountain.

The Poles, who made the first winter ascent of the 29,026-foot peak on Feb. 17 said they found the footprints of the legendary creature in snow at about 17,600 feet.

Expedition leader Andrzej Zawada told reporters: "I felt unhappy when some of my expedition members at an advance camp informed me over the radio-telephone that they had come across some footprints which seemed to be the Yeti's. I did not like it because there are so many jokes about the Yeti," he said.

Nonetheless, Zawada continued, he sent the team's doctor to investigate and was told by him over the radio, "Yes, really they are."

Zawada said the doctor photographed and measured the prints and the distance between them indicated a large and heavy creature.

However, a point that puzzled the climbers was that the footprints were in a single line.

SOURCE: Reuters dispatch in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 9, 1980. CREDIT: H. Hollander.

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Britons Claim Evidence Of Abominable Snowman

LONDON—Members of a British mountain-climbing expedition, back from the Himalayas, claim they came so close to an encounter with the Abominable Snowman that at least one skeptic became a believer.

The climbers, who say they heard an "absolutely amazing" piercing scream from a slope 17,250 feet high in Nepal's Hinku Valley, brought back photographs of distinct, not-quite-human-looking footprints.

"I used to dismiss this kind of thing as being too farfetched to be true," said lead climber John Edwards, a squadron leader with the Royal Air Force.

"But now it's quite clear that it would be foolish to discard the question. I am convinced there is indeed some strange creature in the Himalayas that hasn't been explained by fact," he told the Associated Press.

Anti-Yeti Russians

Scientists have long been baffled as to whether an Abominable Snowman, "a half-man, half-beast creature" also called a Yeti, exists. Reports of sightings of such a creature in the Himalayas, as well as in the U.S. and in Soviet Siberia, have persisted for years. Lord Hunt, leader of the 1953 expedition in which Sir Edmund Hilary conquered

Soviets 'See' Brain Radiate, 'Hear' Elephant Talk

MOSCOW—The behavior of mites that live in the Kazakh deserts of Asia has convinced a Soviet etomologist the human brain emits radiation, the Tass news agency has reported.

"Lengthy observations showed that the blood-sucking insects always stopped their advance towards a traveler if his head was screened by metal," Tass said.

The researcher, entomology professor Pavel Marikovski of Alma Ata, described his experiments in a new book, "Mysterious Radiation," according to Tass. Marikovski said he believes the mites possess organs at the end of their forelegs which enable them to detect human brain radiation. "The researcher covered the body with iron sheets" in an attempt to confuse the mites, but the insects found their prey nonetheless, Tass said. Then "the environmentalist got into a car, which served as a secure screen barring the (brain) radiation. But as soon as he put his head out, the insects correctly chose the direction of their attack."

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MOSCOW—The Karaganda zoo claims to have a talking elephant, although the local correspondent of the Moscow daily *Komsomolskaya Pravda* has his doubts.

Reporter V. Ryzhkov went along to interview Batyr, the 10-year-old Indian elephant, but came away disappointed, he reported.

"Batyr doesn't like giving interviews," the newsman reported. "He gets nervous at the sight of a microphone or a camera lens."

Still, Boris Pavlovich Kosinsky, director of Karaganda zoo in the Soviet Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan, insists that his pachyderm protege is a prodigy.

"You know, I didn't believe it myself at first," Kosinsky told the newspaper. "But later, I was a witness more than once to the 'chats' of the little elephant."

Asked what words the elephant used, the director said, "His name, Batyr. But his vocabulary is filling out fairly quickly. He is already saying a whole sentence—'Batyr is good'—and he knows the verbs 'drink' and 'give'."

On one occasion, when he was being moved from one cage to another and at first refused to budge, the elephant "was heard" to repeat his keeper's instruction, 'Move, Batyr," Kosinsky said.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatches in *The Trentonian* (NJ), Feb. 1 and April 9, 1980. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

Mt. Everest, believes he first saw the tracks of the Yeti in 1937.

Recently, Soviet scientist Nikolai Vereshchagin went on record as saying the Yeti exists only in the imagination. "Many of my colleagues believe, as I do, that anyone who talks about some kind of ape-man living in the snow is not thinking logically," Vereshchagin declared.

But Edwards, who has been an RAF serviceman for 20 years, insists the snowman is real. "Just because it hasn't been seen is no evidence that it doesn't exist," he said.

The British group claims it has believable evidence that a giant creature stalks Nepal's snow-covered slopes. One footprint was "a really clear example," Edwards said. "I think our pictures will prove to be the best taken yet." Photographs shown on British television were of footprints round and deep.

Four prints were discovered first, according to John Whyte, leader of the four-man expedition which was guided by two Sherpas. Then more turned up, and Whyte said they could have been made by "a parent and its young."

Edwards and team doctor John Allen were about to pitch their tents, they say, when they discovered tracks measuring 8 inches by 4 inches, with four toes and a thumb-like digit on each foot.

The tracks were three or four inches deep in the snow, which the climbers said indicated the creature that made them was standing upright. "It seemed as if the creature had jumped from the rocks, bounded through the snow and across a stony outcrop where the prints disappeared," Edwards said. The team members said they were taking the pictures when they were startled by a piercing scream. "It lasted for about 10 seconds and sounded like the creature was just several hundred yards away," Edwards said. "It was an absolutely amazing sound." He added that the two Sherpa guides told them it was the call of the Yeti, and they refused to stay on the mountain that night.

Besides the tracks, which Edwards said were "fresh," the climbers brought back samples of animal droppings found nearby. Allen, the team doctor, said he could not identify the dung as being from any creature normally found in the area.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in the *Philadelphia Inquirer,* Dec. 25, 1979. CREDIT: O. Oltcher.

8-Foot Tall One Spotted in Manitoba

GYPSUMVILLE, Manitoba—Ten residents of the Little Saskatchewan Indian Reserve say they saw an 8-foot-tall black creature that walked upright like a man and appeared to be covered with hair everywhere except the face.

Conservation officers in Gypsumville, 140 miles north of Winnipeg, investigated some large footprints in an area where the creature was reported seen. One print, in hard, dry clay, was about 2 inches deep.

The officers said they didn't think the prints had been made by a practical joker. "Where would they get that kind of pressure?" one asked.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in the *Evening Journal,* Wilmington, Del., Oct. 19, 1979. CREDIT: H. Hollander.

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Big 'Creature' Sighted In Nevada Test Area

LAS VEGAS, Nev.—A "reliable" employee at the Nevada Test Site says he saw a large, hairy, man-like creature wandering along a road in the desolate nuclear testing grounds, a Department of Energy spokesman said.

An employee of Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., one of the prime contractors at the sprawling test site, reported he saw the creature about noon while driving along Tippipah Highway.

Department spokesman Dave Jackson said the unidentified workman—"considered to be a reliable person"—was driving along the highway which runs from the Area 12 camp at the northern end of the test site (an area as big as Rhode Island) to a command post near U.S. 95. He described the creature "as a being, somewhere between 6 and 7 feet tall, standing erect and walking like a man, with dark hair completely covering its body," Jackson said.

He said the workman stopped his truck about 30 to 50 yards from the creature and "observed the being cross the highway going in a northeasterly direction toward Yucca Flat. He watched it until it disappeared out onto the sage brush."

Over the years there have been numerous reports of a large man-like creature in the Pacific Northwest. This is believed to be the first in Nevada.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in the *Tulsa World,* Jan. 22, 1980. CREDIT: R. Roales.

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GOES LOOKING FOR MOKELE-MBEMBE

A scientist who has devoted years to the search for the Loch Ness monster is at it again. This time Dr. Roy P. Mackal, a University of Chicago biochemist, is pursuing reports of another possibly legendary animal, the dragon-like mokele-mbembe. Mackal and a colleague recently returned from a month-long expedition in the Congo river basin looking for the creature. No report of having found the beast, but members of the expedition concluded that the mokele-mbembe is "a real animal, not a myth."

SOURCE: Louisville, Ky. *Courier-Journal,* March 20, 1980. CREDIT: H. Holland.

Suspect 'Philippine Triangle' In Loss of 3 Fighter Planes

MANILA, Philippines—A dawn-to-dusk search failed to find a clue to the fate of three Singapore air force Skyhawks that vanished over the Philippines' Sierra Madre mountains, where other planes have mysteriously disappeared.

The three U.S.-built jet fighters with four Singapore pilots aboard were formation flying as part of their training when they vanished—simultaneously—at noon.

The incident bore eerie parallels to reported cases of plane and ship disappearances in the so-called Bermuda Triangle off the southeast coast of the United States.

More than a day after the planes disappeared, authorities could give no explanation. A spokesman at Clark Airbase, home of the U.S. 13th Air Force, said the last message from the pilots gave no indication they were in trouble.

"The astonishing thing is that they all disappeared at the same time without a trace," Singapore ambassador to the Philippines Maurice Baker told reporters. "We really don't know what happened. This is a puzzle. We're all at a loss."

The planes took off from Clark, 50 miles north of Manila, and were flying toward the Crow Valley bombing range 20 miles away but never got there.

Airport sources said the Singapore planes were on approximately the same route that four Philippine air force planes were flying when they mysteriously disappeared without a trace more than five years ago.

The three Skyhawks were part of a squadron of eight Singapore air force planes undergoing training at Clark with U.S. and Philippine air force fliers.

Baker said the three jets which took off from Clark at 10:40 a.m. initially ran into heavy cloud cover and were getting out of it when they sent their last radio message at 11 a.m.

The radio message indicated they were flying near the heavily forested Sierra Madre mountain range along the eastern coast of the main Philippine island of Luzon.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch in *The Trentonian* (NJ), Dec. 21, 1979. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

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Russian Spacecraft Probe Finds Lightning on Venus

Thunderstorms with up to 50 lightning bolts a second rake the clouds of Venus and may account for the planet's mysterious nightside glow, a Soviet scientist suggests in a recent issue of the British science magazine *Nature*.

The discovery, made by the Soviet spacecraft Venera 11 and 12, makes Venus the third planet known to have lightning.

The two U.S. Voyager spacecraft last year observed lightning flashes on the dark side of Jupiter. Before that, lightning was known only on Earth.

The discovery of lightning on Venus had been reported in the Soviet Union, but the paper in *Nature* by L. V. Ksanfomaliti of the Space Research Institute in Moscow is the first publication in the West.

"This is rather remarkable because nobody really expected to find lightning on Venus," said Dr. Donald M. Hunten, professor of planetary sciences at the University of Arizona at Tucson and scientist on the U.S. Pioneer Venus probes.

The two Venera spacecraft, which plunged through Venus' thick cloud cover in December 1978, measured electromagnetic discharge from lightning flashes equivalent to the static on an AM radio.

On its December 21 descent, Venera 11 spotted a particularly strong storm about 90 miles wide and 930 miles away. This storm had about 25 lightning bursts a second, though other storms flashed as often as 50 times a second.

The Soviet scientist said it probably was cloud-to-cloud lightning rather than cloud-to-ground, as the cloud bottoms are 30 to 40 miles high.

"The high lightning rate on Venus apparently makes it possible to explain its glowing on the nightside," he said.

Astronomers have long puzzled over this "ashen light" which makes the dark side of Venus visible even during its crescent phase.

Dr. Hunten said the Soviet announcement confirms a theory of Fred L. Scarf of the TRW company in Redondo Beach, Cal. Scarf, who was also on the Pioneer project, believed lightning accounted for unexpected radio static found by a Pioneer Venus orbiter last year. The discovery also casts doubt on the conventional theory of lightning on our planet Earth, said Dr. Hunten.

The theory is that static electricity builds up in clouds from the rubbing of water droplets against small particles of ice. But temperatures at the base of the Venutian clouds—50 degrees to 100 degrees F.—are too hot for sulfuric acid, of which the clouds are composed, to freeze.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in the *Trenton Times* (NJ), March 27, 1980. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

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MYSTERIOUS 'HUM' IN BRISTOL, ENGLAND

A low, droning noise of unknown origin was reported shredding nerves in Bristol, the English port 120 miles southwest of London. Two months ago the city's environmental office said that sensitive recording machines would be set up in eight places to learn the origin of the "Bristol Hum."

"We think it might well be industrial noise accentuated by climatic phenomena," says Ewen Robson, assistant chief environmental officer for the city. The noise, which appears to occur in very still weather, has prompted "100-plus" complaints of sleepless nights, he says, and is still under analysis.

Not everyone in Bristol can hear the hum. "I've never heard it myself actually," says Paul Cooper, a senior environmental health officer. "Some do, some don't."

SOURCE: *The New York Times*, May 18, 1980. CREDIT: Sabina Sanderson.

Struck by Lightning, Blinded Grandfather Regains Sight

A blinded Falmouth, Maine, man who regained his sight when he was hit by lightning saw his granddaughters for the first time in June and said he was "on Cloud 10."

Edwin E. Robinson, 62, told reporters that he has been "on Cloud 9" since regaining his sight and hearing, but was feeling even better since he had seen Christina Robinson, 8, and her sister, Kimberly, 9, for the first time.

Robinson wore dark glasses to protect the eyes through which he had seen nothing since a traffic accident blinded him nine years ago.

"Can you see me?" asked his son, Marine Gunnery Sgt. Lee Robinson, 37, who is stationed at Quantico, Virginia and was meeting his father for the first time since the elder Robinson regained his vision.

"I sure can," Edwin Robinson replied, and "Isn't this great!"

Robinson regained his hearing and sight when a lightning bolt knocked him unconscious. Coming to, he noticed a change and told his wife that he was now able to see a wall plaque that his granddaughters had made for him but he had never seen.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch in *The Star-Ledger* (NJ), June 10, 1980. CREDIT: Member #2692.

SELF-IGNITING CARS VS. NEW ORLEANS POLICE

Spontaneous human combustion is old hat to most dedicated Forteans. But what about spontaneous combustion of police vehicles? Couldn't happen, you say?

Well, it did.

Early in June the New Orleans police department had three of its 1980 Ford LTDs catch fire without any apparent reason. "We don't know why" this is happening, said a department spokesman. "We've never had any trouble with Ford cars before."

Without knowing why the cars all of a sudden were bursting into flames, or when it might happen again, the department was reluctant to continue transporting prisoners in the cars. Since the police cars have caged-in rear seats, there's a danger that someone might be burned to death for nothing more serious than a traffic violation. So the de-

Tunguska Still a Puzzle After More Than 70 Years

'Dirty Snowball' Say Caltech Scientists

LOS ANGELES—A gigantic snowball—really a comet from the far reaches of the solar system—may indeed have crashed into a rugged Soviet forest 72 years ago with the force of 10 million tons of TNT, two geophysicists say.

Thomas J. Ahrens and John D. O'Keefe of the California Institute of Technology have outlined their research on the comet theory before a Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in Houston. The snowball theory was proposed previously, but the researchers now have computer evidence to support it.

Their study is part of a continuing scientific effort to explain the great Tunguska, Siberia, blast of June 30, 1908 which flattened trees over hundreds of square miles and was heard 700 miles away.

"It was a really tremendous explosion," Ahrens said. "It acted with the force of approximately 10 megatons . . . but there's no crater." The missing crater complicates (some say invalidates) the common explanation that a huge meteorite caused the Tunguska explosion. The famous Meteor Crater in Arizona is three-quarters of a mile wide and 150 yards deep. Yet, the meteorite that caused it hit with less than half the force of the Tunguska crash.

Ahrens and O'Keefe designed a computer model to consider the crash of a very large snowball-like comet with a half-mile diameter traveling 10,000 to 100,000 mph.

"The interesting thing in our results is that it doesn't make a crater. It just perturbs the ground," Ahrens said. The force of impact would send shock waves through the comet, causing it to vaporize in a flash of steam that could level a forest, he said.

Most comets are believed to be mostly solid ice spiked with small, rocky debris. These would cause craters, Ahrens said. Many others, so-called new comets, are probably much less dense, more like a snowball than an ice cube, he said.

MANY EXOTIC THEORIES GLAMORIZE 1908 EVENT

Anti-Matter: A rock composed of atomic elements opposite from those making up the earth, traveled from another solar system and blew up on contact with earth atoms.

Black Hole: A collapsed star hit Siberia, passed through the earth and came out through the North Atlantic.

Compassionate Pilot: An atomic-powered spacecraft not of terrestrial origin had "engine trouble," and when the pilot or robot realized destruction was inevitable, he or it directed the craft away from population centers to the uninhabited Tunguska region of Siberia.

To save the meteorite theory, some scientists have speculated that atmospheric friction may have caused the great chunk of space rock to explode moments before impact.

"We've looked at this question and we think it's very unlikely," Ahrens said. "It's very hard to conceive of a meteorite converting its kinetic energy (force of motion) into explosive energy. And even if it broke apart, pieces would still hit the ground and would have made a crater."

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in the *Trenton Times* (NJ), March 19, 1980. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

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Soviet Study Backs Meteorite Theory

MOSCOW—Soviet scientists say that 72 years ago a meteorite weighing more than 5 million tons may have caused a massive explosion so strong that horses were knocked to the ground more than 400 miles away.

A new study of the "Tunguska Mystery"—an explosion in Siberia on June 30, 1908, with an estimated strength of 300 million tons of TNT—indicates the meteorite may have contained traces of both diamond and graphite.

The Tass news agency, reporting on the study by the Ukranian Academy of Sciences, said the two minerals discovered by an academy expedition could become "the key to an understanding of the Tunguska Meteorite."

Some scientists still do not believe that a meteorite caused the explosion over the remote Tunguska forest area of Siberia. Whatever did explode four miles above the earth leveled trees over a 1,250-square-mile area and presumably killed all living things. For weeks after the explosion, the night sky glowed with a luminescence visible in western Europe.

One puzzling feature was that trees at "ground zero" directly below the explosion remained standing, although bark and branches were stripped clean. Scientists found no traces of radioactivity in the area. But unusually lush vegetaion has grown in the area since the blast. Trees around the devastated zone increased at 10 to 12 times the normal rate since 1908.

Scientists previously reported finding microscopic particles of melted silicate, or glass, in the peat bogs of Tunguska. The particles, they said, did not resemble other silicate found on Earth.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch, Jan. 24, 1980. CREDIT: Member #432.

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Blue Lightning

COUGAR, Washington—Geologists flying over erupting Mount St. Helens reported the appearance of a second crater on the core of the volcano with eerie blue lightning arcing between it and the first. The 9,677-foot, snow-covered peak in southwestern Washington had been mostly shrouded in clouds since it began erupting March 27, in the first such display in the contiguous United States since 1917. The weather started clearing over the weekend and revealed the unusual sight, said a U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman. Mudflows on the mountain froze in the cold weather but plumes of steam and smoke continued to blast from both craters to an altitude of about 15,000 feet. No lava has emanated from the volcano, but earthquakes continue to rattle the mountain.

The second crater was spotted by U.S. Geological Survey scientists riding in a Forest Service plane about 10:30 p.m. The new crater, estimated about 90 by 150 feet, had opened about 30 feet north of the original eruption, which has left a hole about 300 by 450 feet in size.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in *Trenton Times* (NJ), March 31, 1980. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

MYSTERIOUS 'ICE FALL' JUST MISSES SWIMMERS

CONCORDVILLE, PA.—"It sounded like a mortar shell," said Don Young, manager of the Concord Country Club. "It landed on the ground about 50 feet from the swimming pool. About 50 or 75 people were in the water. We were really lucky that no one got hit."

Young was telling reporters about the fall of what appeared to be a chunk of ice perhaps 2½ to 3 cubic feet in volume before it "hit really hard" and shattered.

About 2:15 on a mid-August Sunday afternoon Joy Kasper, a club employee, spotted an object "flying through the air" under a sunny, cloudless sky. The object

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partment pulled all 103 of its 1980 LTDs off the road.

Meanwhile, Ford, which has been hurt by the image of its sub-compact Pinto that has ignited on rear impact, immediately dispatched six engineers to study the problem. "We just don't know" what's causing it, a Ford spokesman said. Noting there is no plan to recall the model, Ford said, "We have thousands" of those cars on the road and there's only one other known instance, in Memphis, of their self-immolation.

SOURCE: *The Wall Street Journal,* June 21, 1980. CREDIT: Member #2692.

Colorado Horse Deaths Resemble Mutilations of Cattle During '70s

DENVER, Colo.—The five horses were penned in a corral 30 feet from the couple's bedroom window. When Wanda Bauer checked on them before going to bed one crisp evening in Cripple Creek, all seemed well. The town was quiet that night. Wanda and her husband, Jake, slept soundly. Their three dogs never barked; the horses in the pen never stirred. But sometime before dawn, one of the horses, a healthy half-Arabian yearling named Sorrow, was mysteriously killed.

Memories Jarred

Sorrow's unexplained death and those of two other horses near Colorado Springs have reawakened bitter memories among some ranchers and lawmen of the cattle mutilations that occurred during the last decade in Colorado. "It looks like the exact same thing as when those cattle died—but with a new victim involved," said Cripple Creek Police Chief Gus Carleson.

When found the morning after its death, the Bauer horse had no marks on it, save for a clean incision surrounding the anus. One of the yearling's eyes also was clouded over with a gray film. Chief Carleson, who investigated the incident, said many mutilated cattle found during the mid-1970s had similar gray clouding over one or both eyes. "We ruled out animals doing this," he said. "The cuts were too clean, too neat. There were no footprints, no nothing. There are no suspects."

Without a Sound

The strangest aspect of the incident for Wanda Bauer was that "the horses didn't make a sound and neither did the dogs. We didn't hear a thing that night. It was as if he (the horse) just willingly let that happen to him. I try not to think about it because it gets kind of weird."

Bauer, a retired heavy-equipment operator, later dragged the carcass up a hill near the Cripple Creek dump, hoping the body would decay there or be eaten by predators. But, according to his wife, animals refused to go near it. "It didn't bloat, and dead horses bloat, believe me. I've seen a lot of them in 58 years," she said. "There are also a lot of hungry stray dogs around here and none of them touched it. How do you figure that?" The Bauers eventually had the carcass buried.

It Wasn't Coyotes

The April 20 death of Rebel, a 14-year-old gelding pastured a half mile south of Ramah, east of Colorado Springs, was equally mysterious, its owner believes. The part-Appaloosa quarter horse belonged to Gary Bohrer of Ramah, who bought the gelding to let his two sons practice their riding. Its carcass was found in a field a quarter-mile from U.S. 24. The horse was missing its rectum, right ear and right eyelid. Its penis also had been badly cut. "We checked him the night before along with a mare who was in the field and they looked okay," Bohrer recalled. "The deputies said he died of a heart attack that night and that the coyotes chewed on him, but I sure didn't see any chew marks. I don't know who did it. I just know it wasn't coyotes."

Two days later, Skip's Easy Money, a registered quarter-horse stud worth more than $1,000, died near Simla, five miles away. The 17-year-old horse belonged to rancher Robert Blake, whose spread is located near the tiny farming community. The horse, which grazed about a mile from Blake's house, was found in a pasture near a stand of willow trees. One of its eyeballs had been removed, along with an ear, lower lip, anus and skin from the end of its penis.

What Hit the Tree?

A willow tree near the carcass had been broken in half. "The deputies said it was high wind that knocked that tree over. But it was on the south end of the stand and the strong winds around here come from the north," said Rick Gaddy, managing editor of the weekly *Simla Ranchland Farm News,* who took pictures of the scene. He added:

"That tree was nearly three feet across. You'd almost have to drop something on it to make it break like it did. People around here talk about what's happened, and all they can think of are cattle mutilations."

Three weeks after the horse was killed, the carcass had only begun to decay, Blake said. Since its death, no animals have gone near it. "I couldn't get a vet to come and look at it and the investigators said it was just predators," Blake said. "But I'll tell you this, the biggest predators in this world are the two-legged kind and no animal touched that horse. Maybe it's the government doing this, maybe it's sex cults."

'Natural Causes'

El Paso County Sheriff Harold "Red" Davis, who was born and raised on a cattle ranch, said there was nothing mysterious about the death of the Blake horse. There was ample evidence to prove that it died of natural causes and that damage to its body was done by animals, he said.

"That horse was 16 years old and that's getting pretty close to deadline," Davis said. "Magpies picked out the eyes and it was obvious the hide had been torn by animals. And, as far as the tree goes, there's been plenty of wind out there and a lot of snow. There's nothing strange about a tree like that breaking." Davis said he was out of town when the Bohrer horse died and wasn't familiar with that case.

Carl Whiteside, director of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), said he was not aware of the three reported horse mutilations, and expressed surprise when they were described to him.

Investigation of '75-'76

Between July 1975 and 1976 the CBI conducted a formal investigation into what was then widespread cattle mutilations in Colorado, and concluded that nearly all of the killings were done by animal predators. The CBI laboratories examined 36 hide and tissue samples taken from cattle and determined that only two were cut by sharp instruments. During the same period, Colorado State University vets examined 35 carcasses. They found that nine were mutilated by sharp instruments, and that 11 died of natural causes. The cause of death for eight of the animals could not be explained.

Cattle mutilations in Colorado peaked in 1975, when 203 were reported. In recent years, they have come to a virtual halt in the state, although officials in Canada and other states, particularly New Mexico, say they continue to occur there. The CBI hasn't actively investigated mutilations since 1976, but Whiteside said he believes some Colorado sheriffs have simply given up reporting livestock deaths they may consider mysterious. Whiteside said he is concerned that a rekindled interest in animal mutilations may cause another rash of incidents like those in the 1970s.

SOURCE: *Rocky Mountain News,* May 18, 1980.
CREDIT: J. Vidmar.

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seemed to travel horizontally for a distance, Young said, before it struck the ground. "It looked like ice," he said. "It was white and appeared to be smoking as it came down."

Fragments, some of which landed 125 feet from the impact point, were gathered and refrigerated, and a call was put in to the state police. Later a police spokesman said the incident would be investigated and the fragments sent to a laboratory for analysis.

Incidents have been reported in which ice chunks formed by leaks from holding tanks have fallen from aircraft operating at high altitudes. However, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said "there were no drops" reported from airplanes in the Concordville vicinity. Another official noted that the area is not in the standard flight path designated for aircraft using the Philadelphia International Airport. He acknowledged that chemically treated waste from airplanes occasionally has frozen and dropped. "I don't know of that happening around here," he said. "But the possibility is there."

SOURCE: *The Morning News* and *Evening Journal,* Wilmington, Del., Aug. 18, 1980.
CREDIT: H. Hollander.

NASA Radar Used to Map Venus Finds Ancient Mayan Canal Grid

WASHINGTON—A radar system designed to map the planet Venus has revealed an extensive network of Mayan drainage canals more than 1,000 years old hidden beneath dense rain forests in Guatemala and Belize. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said the discovery seemed to confirm archeologists' belief that the canals enabled the Maya to drain water from swampy jungles to create small plots of dry land where crops could be grown. NASA said the discovery may explain how the Maya were able to feed their estimated population of two to three million between 250 and 900 A.D. in a land of either arid and mountainous country or swampy jungles.

Professor Richard E. W. Adams of the University of Cambridge in England found what appeared to be canals in images produced during an early test of the radar from an airplane 28,000 feet above the usually cloud-covered forests of Guatemala and Belize. The radar was developed by NASA and the Defense Department and adapted by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena, California, to penetrate the clouds of Venus and map the planet's surface features. A NASA Venus satellite using a different radar system recently produced a topographic map of 93% of the planet's surface.

When used over Earth's jungles, the radar enabled scientists to produce clear images of varying layers of the foliage. The radar measured the variations of the height of the layers and allowed researchers to determine land levels beneath the vegetation. Adams was checking the radar data for evidence of ancient settlements or roadways when he found unnaturally uniform grid patterns. "I could see little lines, most of them looking like ladders or lattices, connecting with large waterways," Adams told the space agency.

Adams and Dr. T. Patrick Culbert of the University of Arizona explored the rain forests by car, canoe and on foot in February and found evidence that at least a third of the patterns seen by radar are ancient canals dug with stone blades and hoes to drain water and make small square plots of dry, arable land. Saying that on-the-ground studies have only begun, Adams estimates 11,000 square miles of canal systems lie beneath the rain forests of Guatemala alone.

NASA said archeologists believe the canals, about 1½ feet deep and 3 to 9 feet wide, enabled the Maya to grow maize and cacao. "We've never before been able to reconstruct convincingly an economic base for the Maya," Adams said. "In other words, how did they feed all these masses of people all of the time?"

Additional surface expeditions are planned to look for Mayan artifacts.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch in *The Star-Ledger* (NJ), June 3, 1980. CREDIT: Member #2692.

Soviet Scientists Will Try to Grow Mammoth In Test-Tube—If They Can Get a 'Clean' Cell

MOSCOW—The Soviets hope to create, through the test-tube and for study only, a 12-foot-tall mammoth of the type which became extinct thousands of years ago.

Soviet scientists say they have begun a program to create the pre-historic mammoth using preserved cells from original creatures to conceive a similar animal in the lab.

Tough Assignment

"Under the right conditions, in 18 to 20 months the world could see its first artificial baby mammoth," said Victor Mikhelson, a Leningrad scientist.

The test-tube mammoth, scientists admit, will be a difficult project. They say they plan to use techniques similar to those that created "test-tube babies" in the West, benefiting from the almost perfect condition of prehistoric animal tissue preserved for centuries in the frozen Soviet Far East.

The goal is to produce a living mammoth about 12 feet tall—a kind that became extinct 10,000 years ago—for scientific study. Scientists have not yet decided where they will keep their mammoth if they succeed, but Mikhelson said that "this will be the least of our problems."

Live Cell Needed

"The problem is that so far we haven't found a satisfactory live mammoth cell to start from," Mikhelson told the Associated Press.

But as Mikhelson noted in an interview in the Soviet newspaper *Trud,* scientists believe cells already uncovered by archeologists might have been useable for such a project if they had not been put into strong formaldehyde preservative solutions by their discoverers. Some frozen tissues discovered by Soviet scientists have been up to 44,000 years old, according to the scientists.

The plan is to mate a preserved cell from a modern-day female elephant in the laboratory and implant the result in the elephant. There is no indication whether a preserved sperm or an egg cell might be required for such a project, rather than just any live cell from a mammoth.

Job for Cytologist

Mikhelson said that a cytologist (an expert in cell structure) will be added to teams already organized by the Soviet Academy of Sciences to investigate findings of frozen prehistoric creatures. The cytologist's job will be to prevent destruction of live cells if they are found.

The best-known preserved mammoth discovered so far by the Soviets is a "baby mammoth" 40,000 years old, discovered frozen in permafrost in far northeastern Siberia in 1977. It was so young at the time of its death that scientists found tusks just about to break through the skin.

The animal measured 46 inches long and 42 inches tall, with a trunk 23 inches in length. A one-ounce tissue sample from the mammoth was presented to the United States in March 1978 and was flown to the University of California at Berkeley for study.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in *The Morning News,* Wilmington, Del., Jan. 22, 1980. CREDIT: H. Hollander.

MAMMOTH DISCOVERY

MOSCOW—A herd of mammoths that lived 17 centuries ago has been found buried deep beneath a river bank in Byelorussia, the Tass news agency reports.

The dispatch from Minsk did not say how many of the tusked animals were found buried in a crevice under a 64-foot layer of dolomite on the banks of the Dvina river, near Vitebsk. Byelorussia, which borders Poland in the northwest Soviet Union, once teemed with wildlife. Some excavators have found fossils 500,000 years old, according to Tass.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch in *The Trentonian,* Feb. 13, 1980. CREDIT: D. Weidl.

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Squid with a 16-Foot Reach Found Dead on Plum Island

BOSTON—In February a deep sea monster—450 pounds of squid—went on display at the New England Aquarium as experts tried to figure how the beast reached the shores of Massachusetts.

The giant squid—not unlike the one Capt. Nemo battled 20,000 leagues under the sea, in the Jules Verne classic—was found dead on Plum Island, Massachusetts. It was discovered by wildlife rangers at the Parker River Natural Wildlife Beach. Ten men were rounded up to carry it by stretcher from the beach.

The squid is about eight feet in body length, with tentacles 10 to 16 feet long.

Gas in Space: Satellite Sights 'Superbubble'

An astronomer recently announced the discovery far off in the galaxy of an immense "superbubble" of hot gas that stores more energy than anything else known in the Milky Way.

Dr. Webster Cash of the University of Colorado said the glowing sphere is 1,200 light years in diameter and an estimated 6,000 light years from earth. (A light year is about 5.9 trillion miles, the distance light travels in a year.) Cash and Dr. Philip Charled of the University of California at Berkeley discovered the bubble while examining x-ray readings made by a space agency satellite observatory launched in 1977. The phenomenon is centered in the bright summer constellation Cygnus.

"It is clear that we have discovered a magnificent example of the violent interstellar medium at work," Cash said in reporting the discovery at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in San Francisco. He said in a telephone interview that, among other things, the finding will help astronomers better understand star-forming processes. "It's going to change our picture of how the interstellar medium dynamics happen," he said.

Cash said the reason the huge cosmic bubble, or halo, had never been spotted before is because it packs so much energy that it cools by emitting x-rays instead of radiation that can be seen with optical telescopes.

The NASA satellite, the High-Energy Astronomy Observatory I, scanned the universe in more detail than ever before for sources of x-rays. Cash said parts of the bubble had been seen before in brief x-ray glimpses, but no one knew exactly what it was. He said the cooler outer edge of the bubble emits visible light and such "filaments" have been seen with optical telescopes for years, but not understood.

Cash said there are no other astro-physical processes in the galaxy known to be capable of producing this much energy. "What puzzles scientists is finding an answer to how this huge amount of energy got locked up in this gigantic halo in the first place," he said.

SOURCE: United Press International dispatch in *The Star-Ledger* (NJ), Jan. 17, 1980. CREDIT: Member #432.

ANCIENT TUSK IS SAID TO SHOW ATLANTIC ISLE SANK 11,000 YEARS AGO

In late October last year the scalloper *Huntress* out of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, made an unusual haul from the eastern end of Georges Bank. In the net was a tusk dredged up from the bottom, a depth of about 38 fathoms in that area.

The tusk was taken to the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. There a member of the geology staff, K. O. Henry, identified it as the right tusk of a large walrus, used by the sea-going mammals to dig mollusks for food. Measuring 3" in diameter at the base and 12½" long, the broadly curved tusk is the largest ever found in the Atlantic fishing grounds. After partial drying, the tusk began to crack and flake, indicating a very great age.

According to Emery, the sea level in ancient times dropped so low that Georges Bank became a broad island, and the tusk was deposited in the shore zone of about 11,000 years ago when melting glaciers caused the sea level to rise and submerge the "island." He theorizes that the walrus may have died of natural causes while feeding on shallow-water mollusks or sunning itself ashore. Or, it could have been killed and eaten by prehistoric tribesmen known to have lived in the area at the time.

SOURCE: *National Fisherman,* March 1980. CREDIT: J. Singer.

Nothing like it had been seen in Massachusetts since a similar squid was found in 1908. The rubbery, milky-colored creatures are the world's largest invertebrates and prefer to live in deep, cold oceans 500 to 1,000 feet beneath the surface. They feed on fish, and occasionally the squid themselves are meals for whales.

While large numbers of eating-size squid are known to populate New England waters, giant squid are rarely sighted. "They used to turn up frequently off the Continental Shelf," said aquarium spokeswoman Liz Kay, "but we don't know why they disappeared for so long."

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch in the *Schenectady Gazette,* Feb. 7, 1980. CREDIT: J. Zarzynski.

They're 'Africanized' Now, So Don't Worry About Bees From Brazil Invading U.S.

BRAZIL—Dr. Anthony Raw, a bee specialist at the University of Brasilia, says there is little danger posed by angry, supposedly deadly bees that have spread throughout Brazil for more than 20 years. The insect is an aggressive variety of honey bee from Africa that has been breeding with the honey bees of South America. The result is an Africanized bee, a short-tempered insect prone to swarming.

The bee produces more honey than its European cousin, introduced in the Western Hemisphere 200 years ago and responsible for most commercial honey. Dr. Raw, who has been studying bees and honey production eight years, says he never has encountered problems with Africanized versions.

The source of the bee trouble goes back to 1956, when a Brazilian entomologist imported some of the African bees. His aim was to breed a new variety, less aggressive than the African bees but to maintain their most desirable quality—high honey production. An employe at his laboratory inadvertently opened the special hives and released some of the African bees. The bees, which can fly miles in search of nectar or new hives, began breeding with tamer local bees. Bee-keepers soon found their hives had been taken over by honey bees that displayed noticeably warlike tendencies. By the early 1970s, officials reported that some 300 persons had been killed by rapidly advancing bees. Some scientists warned that the bees would eventually swarm northward toward the U.S. heartland. American teams were sent to investigate the problem. One suggestion was to cut them off at the Panama Canal, stopping their reproductive cycle there with a genetic net.

"An impossible task," says Raw, who advocates simpler education measures, like careful breeding and advising bee-keepers how to handle the bees. Besides, Raw says he is not sure the tropically adapted bees care to venture very far into more temperate climates like the United States.

SOURCE: *The Star-Ledger* (NJ), June 12, 1980. CREDIT: Member #2692.

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Delivery, Late by 35 Years, Amazes the Postal Service

A postcard mailed May 24, 1945 by the War Department finally reached its destination—35 years late.

The postcard was addressed to Sylvia Bent at a "Rabway, N.Y." location.

The postcard was meant to inform the mother of Eugene A. Bent that his address had changed.

Mrs. Bent has been dead for the past 17 years and her Rahway, N.J. house was razed a few years after her death. But the notice did manage to find its way to the home of Eugene's brother, George.

"My wife met me at the door waving this card and said, 'Have I got a big surprise for you'," said George, 51, who works as a beer-truck driver.

Eugene, who is now 53, enlisted in the Army in 1942 at age 15 with his parents' consent, and during WWII saw action in the Pacific. Upon his discharge in 1946 he joined the U.S. Merchant Marine and today he is a chief electrician stationed in San Francisco.

William Schaefer, customer relations manager at the Rahway, N.J. post office, would not comment on the delay in delivery. "I'm just amazed we were able to deliver at all."

Just where the card addressed to "Rabway, N.Y." rested for more than three decades is not known.

SOURCE: Associated Press dispatch, Nov. 16, 1979. CREDIT: Member #432.

Non-Scientists Find Clue that Ends the 'Red Sweat' Scare

To Frank Borman, retired astronaut and now widely publicized head of Eastern Airlines, the "red sweat" that afflicted some 90 flight attendants in about 150 occurrences over a three-month period must have appeared at first as just another odd consequence of traveling in space.

Of a sudden, early this year, first one and then another of Eastern's flight attendants reported sick, a rash of tiny red spots appearing on the skin of chest, back or shoulders immediately or soon after completion of a flight. Some stewardesses reported additional symptoms such as prolonged "burning" or "itching," and some feared their appearance might be harmed.

Inquiry Broadens

That was enough to trigger an investigation which quickly involved not only the officers of the stewardess' union but also physicians on the airline's staff, doctors from the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City, forensic specialists and other bureaucratic types from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Washington, D.C., and public health scientists at the U.S. Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia.

Most baffling feature of this situation was that only flight attendants seemed to be affected, never passengers, pilots or flight engineers. More than 90% of the cases were reported from flights of A300 aircraft—the European airbus that Eastern has been introducing in the U.S. But the cases didn't occur on A300 flights over land; most all had their inception on A300 flights that went over water.

Two Little Words

One day in March, when the stewardesses' apprehension had spread almost like a contagion, two supervisors rode deadhead on an A300 flight from Newark, New Jersey to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. They'd been told to watch the stewardesses and report anything at all in the course of their duties that might help get a handle on the problem. The two didn't have long to wait. Soon after takeoff some of the stewardesses routinely donned life vests while a colleague read into the cabin PA system the printed instructions for passenger use of the vests in the event of an emergency—all as required by FAA regulations pertaining to over-water flights.

And there it was: In big letters highly visible on each of the life vests worn by the attendants was inscribed in thick red ink: DEMO ONLY.

The supervisors reported their findings to higher-ups, and within the hour orders went out to every installation in Eastern's far-flung empire: "REMOVE FROM AIRCRAFT AT EARLIEST ALL DEMONSTRATION LIFE VESTS REPEAT ALL LIFE VESTS MARKED DEMO ONLY."

Q.E.D.? Mission accomplished? Not quite. There were no new sick-reports from stewardesses working A300 flights, but an attendant assigned to an L-1011 trip over water came down with the "rash," and officials lost no time in verifying that she had demonstrated life-vest procedure while wearing a DEMO ONLY life vest that ground personnel apparently had overlooked when they responded to the removal order.

It seems that the red ink used to letter the DEMO ONLY vests is a kind that tends to flake, especially when aided by sweat which the attendants' cabin activity induces. The "criminals" were the tiny flakes that landed on skin, giving the appearance of a rash. Medical personnel surmised that some of the victims might have a history of true allergy which could result in sure-'nuff rashes and considerable discomfort. In an interview one stewardess gave credence to this theory: "If I get within ten feet of anything, I react to it."

The flaking was most noticeable on new vests with the newest, thickest lettering; the new vests were those placed aboard Eastern's newest aircraft, the A300s. A few new vests had replaced old ones aboard L-1011 and 727 jets, and a correspondingly small number of "red sweat" cases had been reported by some of the attendants on those planes.

As the story concludes, Eastern Airlines people and the OSHA advisors and Columbia's colleagues in medicine and the soothsayers at the Center for Disease Control didn't have to ground anybody, or anything except the DEMO ONLY life vests. A vexing problem having been solved, everybody went back to work.

SOURCE: *The Wall Street Journal*, March 31, 1980 and newscasts. CREDIT: Member #2692.

Officials Declare 'Oily Ooze' Case Closed; Perpetrator Not Identified

Rio Grande in Spanish means "big river" and to most Americans it's an "oh yes" place: "Oh yes, the river that marks the boundary between the U.S. and Mexico."

New Jersey's Rio Grande is a crossroads community about ten miles north of Cape May, southernmost point in the state, and some five miles equidistant from the Atlantic Ocean to the east and Delaware Bay to the west.

Only Name's the Same

Nothing about Rio Grande, N.J. in any way resembles the Rio Grande river remembered from elementary school days. And if you could listen to a conversation in which two New Jersey hispanics discussed the Case of the Oily Ooze you'd learn that "big river" isn't the only translation of "Rio Grande." "Quebradero de cabeza" is Spanish for "headache," and that's what Rio Grande, N.J. had a whole lot of during the past spring.

Ooze in the House

Eugene Buonocore and his wife Ona live in Rio Grande, N.J. Buonocore, 50 years old, is a war veteran on total disability. His wife works various part-time jobs in the area. The contemporary one-story ranch home on Teal Road where they have lived for eight years is (or was) valued at $62,000. It's electrically heated, and mortgaged. Until recently they had a dog named Nixie; and it was he who ended up the real casualty in the affair.

The trouble began three years ago when Buonocore noticed "black shadows" on his living-room ceiling. The same kind of shadows or streaks began appearing in other rooms. Whatever they were, they remained after dusting, washing, even scraping. So Buonocore peeled away the insulation in the walls, thinking the stuff might be entering from outside. He found nothing.

As time went on, more dark blotches appeared and spread to some of the furnishings, including the refrigerator and the living room couch. The linoleum in the kitchen was slick even when it hadn't been waxed.

Forced to Move

By last January the black substance had gotten into kitchen cabinets, into the china and utensils stored there, even onto the shelves. Nixie, the dog, accumulated gobs of the stuff on and under his collar. He became listless and had to be got rid of. Buonocore and his wife began to get headaches which he blamed on the stench from the "whatever." Finally, when they complained to local officials that their water supply had become contaminated, the county board of health after inspection declared the premises unfit for habitation. The Buonocores moved to a motel in nearby Wildwood Crest.

These days, a community's water supply concerns whole layers of bureaucracies and a great many people. Following the county board's expulsion order, an investigation by the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) began with the taking of water samples and the digging of test wells in front and to the rear of the Buonocore home. When asked to comment on the findings, Richard Dalton, supervising geologist with the Bureau of Ground Water Management of DEP's Division of Resources said: "I've never seen anything like it. It's a real puzzle. When we do the drilling and put the wells in, there is no odor.

But a day or two later, there are distinctive odors. It doesn't make sense."

Tanks Not to Blame

About 800 yards south of the Buonocore property is a kerosene-fueled turbine and two large storage tanks. The installation is owned and operated by the Atlantic Electric Company. The state and the company hired a consultant firm which sent investigators to the scene. They concluded there was "no connection" between the tanks and the substance in the house.

More DEP workers arrived. They dug several deep ditches, some 50 feet long, to try to expose measurable amounts of the substance. "We've got several distinct odors but no appreciable amount of product," one official noted.

The Buonocores, having spent two unsettled months in the motel, were homesick as only refugees can be. Besides, there was the problem of meeting mortgage payments and motel rent at the same time. The garage was the only part of the property to escape contamination; wouldn't it be great to be home again, or *nearly* home? So in April the couple, assisted by some neighbors, moved most of their belongings into their two-car garage. With an oversize twin bed in the center, tables on either side, an electric heater extending from the ceiling and a card table to eat on, the place resembled "a furniture showroom," as one reporter put it.

'The Trees Are Dying'

Meanwhile, state and county officials continued their investigations around, near, away from, under—yes, even over the house, for a neighbor said he found a "pool of oil" in the woods between the Atlantic Electric tanks and Teal Road, and "the trees around the pool are dying at the top."

Fearing a threat to their property values and possible insurance problems, some 30 Teal Road homeowners formed a Real Estate Neighborhood Coalition. They chipped in to hire an attorney, Kenneth Calloway, who threatened legal action against the DEP if it did not release all information concerning its investigation. A few members of the neighborhood group reported early-warning signs of "oily ooze" in their homes. Harrison Roach and Harry Wozunk noted "it was just a shadow, but that's the way it starts." William Keene who lives on Davis Avenue agreed. He said the rafters in his cellar were beginning to turn black.

In their garage "home" the Buonocores read with mixed feelings a small mountain of mail from as far away as California. The letters were written by people who had heard of their plight and "wanted to help." A man in Texas suggested poltergeist visitations were responsible. From Pennsylvania, site of the first U.S. oil well, came the suggestion that the house could not have become so contaminated unless it had been built over a sluggish oil well.

Major Investigation Ends

In all, state and county officials drilled between 59 and 27 test wells in the area, the number depending upon which report you believe. Throughout the testing period of almost four months the most-available suspect in the case was the Atlantic Electric Company's kerosene tanks that fuel the company's turbine generator. The two tanks, 800 yards distant from the Teal Road homes, hold 600,000 gallons of kerosene when filled to capacity. But state and utility officials steadfastly insisted that the tanks did not leak and the stored fuel did not "match" the substance found inside the Buonocore home or in any water samples taken from the test wells.

'Hoax' or 'Vandalism'

On May 24 state and county authorities told the Associated Press that they had solved the Case of the Oily Ooze: It's a hoax, they said.

"Authorities said they suspect the identity of the hoaxter, but would not name him for publication because of his mental state." The AP further reported:

"Authorities suspected vandalism or a hoax after two of 27 test wells drilled in the neighborhood had four-inch layers of kerosene and gasoline appear over groundwater several days after the wells were completed.

"Nearby wells drilled into the sandy soil two feet below the water table were not contaminated, according to Paul Giardini, director of the state's Hazard Management Program.

"But, Giardini said, a secret 'dummy well' was filled with water and several days later was found to have a quarter-inch of kerosene."

"Kerosene was identified as the major contaminant after officials recently scraped some off the Buonocores' kitchen floor. Authorities also placed test papers on walls, ceilings and floors of the house, Giardini said. The papers darkened erratically with a petroleum-like substance appearing within a few days, while others hidden in the house remained clean, he said.

"Likewise, authorities placed oil pads in the house to absorb airborne petroleum particles. Visible ones darkened with ooze in a few days, but hidden ones remained as they were, Giardini said.

"Authorities discounted neighbors' contention that the kerosene was coming from two Atlantic Electric Company storage tanks about 800 yards away. They said the neighborhood groundwater ran *toward* the tanks and that extensive tests showed it to be clean.

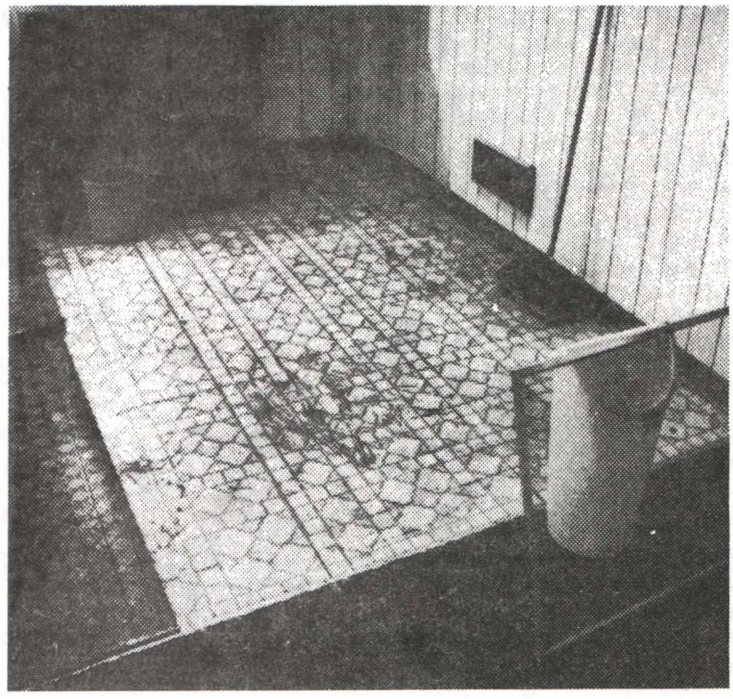
"'All these factors seem attributable to man-made sources and not environmental ones,' Giardini said."

Some Doubts Linger

"Four neighbors also claimed that the ooze was showing up in their homes, but Giardini said the Buonocores' house is the only one contaminated.

"But Harry Wozunk, leading a group of 32 neighbors who united to find the cause of the ooze, said the neighbors want 'definite proof' from authorities. 'I don't think they know what the problem is. There may be some vandalism involved, but that's not what started it off in the beginning,' said Wozunk."

SOURCE: Associated Press; *The Star-Ledger* (April 17, 23; May 1, 9, 24); *Asbury Park Press* (March 9, May 24) and the *Trenton Times* (March 14, April 19), all NJ 1980. CREDIT: R. Warth, D. Weidl.



Published in *The Star-Ledger* (NJ) newspaper dated April 23, 1980 was this photo credited to Frank DiGiacomo. It shows the contamination of kitchen linoleum in the Buonocore home on Teal Rd., Rio Grande, N.J. The 'oily ooze' spread from walls to floors, then to furnishings and even to clothing. After it oozed into the water supply, health authorities declared the house unfit for human habitation.

The Amazing Story of 'Princess' Caraboo Retold in

THE NOTES OF CHARLES FORT
Deciphered by Carl J. Pabst

Pursuit's winter issue of 1979 (Vol. 12, No. 1) carried our first installment of "The Notes of Charles Fort Deciphered by Carl J. Pabst." Three additional installments were published in the spring and summer issues of 1979 (Vol. 12, Nos. 2 and 3), and in the winter issue of 1980 (Vol. 13, No. 1).

For this fifth installment Editor Pabst has assembled, deciphered and transcribed those Notes which comprise Fort's historical review of the Caraboo Incident. It's the story of "a fake princess who arrived gorgeously" (Fort's words) in Bristol, England, in April of 1817: In a series of personal appearances she amazed witnesses by speaking and writing in (a) Javanese (?), or (b) Malay (?), or (c) a language unknown even to the linguistic experts of Oxford University. Her subsequent "confession" to imposture left Charles Fort still wondering, not so much about the credibility of her revised story as about the "bamboozlements by which conventional thought upon this earth is made and preserved."

ABBREVIATIONS

ab	about
Ac to	According to
A. J. Sci	*American Journal of Science*
(Al)	[? Almanac ?]
Ann de Chimie	Annales de Chimie
Aud phe	Audible phenomena
BA	*Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*
B.C.F.	*Books of Charles Fort*
B. Daily Post	*Bristol Daily Post*
bet	between
Blackwoods	*Blackwood's Magazine*
BO	"It is clear from the arrangement of the notes that he [Fort] was searching his chronological arrangement and plucking out specific notes for a future book in which he would refer to these data as opprobrious to the Scientists for their *odor*, 'B C'." (*The Fortean*, #3, p. 14, c. 1)
Carab.	Caraboo
Chambers Jour.	*Chambers' Journal*
char	character
cor	correspondent
C.R.	*Comptes Rendus*
D-228	*The Book of the Damned*, page 228
det met	detonating meteor
(F)	*Fletcher's List*
Gent's Mag.	*Gentleman's Magazine*
Gl. Jour.	*Gloucester Journal*
Gt Brit	Great Britain
h	hours
Inf conjunction	Inferior conjunction
It	Italy
J. des Deb.	*Journal des Debats*
Jour de. Physique	*Journal de Physique* [?]
lbs	pounds
Mass	Massachusetts
met	meteor
Metite	Meteorite
Nat Reg. (Wash.)	*National Register (Washington)*
N B Y	[?]
N.M.	No More
no.	number
Op. Mars	Opposition Mars
p.	page
Phe	Phenomena
Phil.	Philadelphia
Phil Mag	*Philosophical Magazine*
q	earthquake
Q J. Roy Inst.	*Quarterly Journal of the Royal Institute*
Rept B Assoc	*Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*
R. J.	[?]
S. Car	South Carolina
St. Stevens	Saint Stevens
Symons	*Symons' Meteorological Magazine*
th. storm	thunderstorm
Volc	Volcano
Vt.	Vermont
(Wash.)	(Washington)
W. Indian	West Indian

A date prefix "1817," "1817 Ap" or "1817 April" should be understood as preceding the text of the following Notes. Since all refer to the same month and year, the prefixes have been omitted in order to avoid redundancy.

Caraboo / For an astonishing version—of a fake princess who arrived gorgeously, see [Reverse side] Shepard, Fads, Fakes, etc., p. 98 / (N B Y).

Caraboo / For an instance of way stories get twisted, see W. E. Shepard, "Fads, Fakes," etc. Here it is that Caraboo, arrived at Bristol, posed as a foreign princess, took most expensive suite in best hotel, and two of 3 coaches loaded with baggages and servants—given a reception at the Town Hall—ran up [Reverse side] bills and victimized tradesmen and disappeared.

Caraboo / [A letter on the stationery of] The Western Daily Press, Bristol, Walter Reid and Son Limited, Proprietors. [Addressed to] Mr. Charles Fort, 39(A), Marchant Street, London, W.C. [and dated] 3rd June 1925 /

Dear Sir,

I asked one of our reporters to look up the story of "Princess Caraboo" about which you wrote to me some little time ago, and I also made an inquiry from a very well-informed Bristol man who pays considerable attention to local history. In neither case was it possible to trace the burial place of this lady.

You are I take it familiar with the statement made in "Notes and Queries" for May 20, 1865, to the effect that in 1849 she was living in Bristol and that she died in December 1864. The statement was she was known at the time of her death as Mary Baker.

The principal cemetery in Bristol in use at that time was Arno's Vale, and a representative of the Company has kindly searched his books for the end of '64 and the beginning of '65. He reports that the only person bearing a name something like the one in question is that of "Mary Ann Baker of 7, Rosemary Street" who was buried on the 31st January 1865. Whether that has anything to do with the case I cannot tell. Rosemary Street is in another part of the town to that in which "Mary Baker" is alleged

to have been living years before. If she died in December the burial would certainly have occurred before Jan. 31, 1865. I have not the time to investigate the problem and you had better not quote me in any statement you may publish.

Yours sincerely,
s/ George F. Stone
Editor

Caraboo / But here part of her confession explains, or would, if she had spoken Javanese. That she had picked up with a traveller who had taught her Malay.

Carab. / Eze, Duce, Trua, Tan, Zennee, Sendee, Tam. Nunta, Berteen, Tashman / Fire—Apa / Water—Ana / Rain—Savee //

[Reverse side] "Caraboo," printed by J. M. Culch, Bristol, 1817 / Carried a gong on her back and struck it occasionally.

BO / Astonishing thing is that in the accounts (Chambers Jour., 66-753) for instance, it is told that her story was according to the interpreter, who spoke Malay.

[Reverse side] Then later it is said that she spoke in a language she had invented, some of which were gypsy words. / In this pamphlet said that Eynesso invented the story.

Carab. / Not confronted with Mrs. Neale. Mrs W's story is that she told Carab that Mrs N. was in the house and had communicated her suspicion: and threatened to confront, whereupon Carab confessed. //

[Reverse side] Metter—yes / Beek—good / Dosi—dinner / Pakey—child / Nee—egg / Archee—potato / Savoo—knife.

Carab / The two stories—one, said that Carab told it to Eynesso—other said that

[Reverse side] Carab told it to Mrs. Worrall. Each plentifully circumstantial. If she did not tell one of these stories to E, may not have told the other to W.

Carab / Conventional story in Strand 9/451. If 1st half cannot be believed because it is all the story told by Eynesso, the second half, or

[Reverse side] the confession, may be doubtful. In this account are reproduced characters and numerals written by Caraboo, but not a word as to her story in Javanese and her words in no known language.

BO / Carab / Samuel Worrall was the Magistrate. / Manuel Eynesso.

Carab / Not said she spoke pure Javanese / Then someone else who had been to the East Indies added the

[Reverse side] details; not said he translated from Malay but believing that her signs meant what he told, "in the warmth of his anxiety to discover her history".

(April 1) / Notes and Queries, 3-7-196 / that in *Times* of Jan 13, 1865, announced the death of the impostor Caraboo at Bristol. / p. 269, someone asks for exact date of death. / p. 310, George Pryce, of City Library, Bristol,

[Reverse side] writes that she had returned from America and exhibited in London about 7 years later (1824) and had made her way to Bristol. He believed she had died about 3 months before his date of writing but believed the exact date to be unknown. / p. 409—someone else writes from Bristol that he had known Carab

[Second page] in Bristol since 1849 where "after much reluctance she gave him her signature as Mary Baker." He too had been unable to find out the exact date of her death. / p. 418—a cor asks,

[Reverse side] for the sake of completing the history of this char, the date of the death and entries in the parish register. // I don't know what demonstrates that she [was] persuaded to write a name.

BO / Carab / In Bristol Daily Post, no mention of Caraboo. Under "Deaths" no record of her under any of her names. / Post for Dec, 1864.

BO / Carab / Not in B. Daily Post, Jan., 1865, nor Dec., 1864.

Caraboo's Confession / Fox sisters confession / Some psychic researchers

[Reverse side] refuse to accept that, pointing out that it was made worth their while to confess. / Lecture tour.

Carib / Specimens of writing examined by oriental scholars without identifying it, and sent to Oxford, where said no known language. / Said that everyone who examined it "very properly, and without a moment's hesitation" pronounced it humbug.

[Reverse side] As to stories about her she was taken in by a "Mrs. W." of Bristol. Ran away from Mrs W. and people of Bath took her in. Mrs W. followed her and took the girl back to Bristol. Here said that a Mrs Neale recognized her as having been an English girl who had

[Second page] lodged in Bristol: and Mrs Neale and Mrs W confronted the girl and girl confessed to Mrs W., begging her not to tell. / Not say Mrs W. but Mrs Samuel Worrall, of Knole Park near Bristol.

[Reverse side] That she born at Witheridge, Devonshire, in 1791, and left home at age of 16 to work in a farmhouse and then in various services in London. / Mrs W. sent her to America.

In this pamphlet said not true she was smuggled aboard but was shipped openly as Mary Burgess; one of the names of Mary Wilcocks who had married Burgess.

The story is that she was taken into the home of Mrs. Worral, and because of circumstances unstated ran away from Mrs. W., and found hospitality in Bath; was followed

[Reverse side] to Bath by Mrs. W., who took her back to Knowles, where almost immediately a Mrs Neale came and identified her as an English girl; whereupon she broke down

[Second page] and confessed that she was Mary *Wil?;* that Mrs W went to Devonshire and from her story of Mary the Wilcocks recognized their daughter Mary but that neither of the

[Reverse side] parents was taken to Noles to make sure of the identification and that almost immediately after returning from Devonshire, Mrs W. shipped the girl away to America, not smuggling her away as she was accused of doing and under a name unrecognized by C's friends in Bath.

Carab / Gloucester Journal, June 9, 1817 / Letter from Dr. C. H. Wilkinson describes her hands as unaccustomed to labor. "Very cautious in respect to gentlemen, never allowing them to take ahold of her hand."

[Reverse side] Went to housetop to adore the sun. Fencing with great dexterity, sword in one hand and dagger in other. On back of head a scar of an operation, extremely regular incisions he thought was Oriental cutting, but unlike

[Second page] any operation by an European surgeon. / Gl. Jour. / Dr. Wilkinson of Bath / Sailed June 28 / told in Journal, July 4.

BO / Caraboo / In the pamphlet "Caraboo" it is said the interpreter was an impostor. (So cut out picked up Malay.) This pamphlet in which said she an impostor said she was particularly expert in fencing.

[Reverse side] "Complexion very trifling sallow," p. 20 + / Carried with her a cord with knots like the Chinese abacus (Italics), p. 20 / that one or 2 chars. of her writing resembled Chinese.

Carab / In Niles Weekly Register, Aug 30, arrival of the impostor "Poll" Baker is recorded in Phil. / Sept 20, under the title "Shameful" said that a concert had been arranged in Philadelphia for the benefit of

[Reverse side] Mary Baker, or Miss Caraboo, the infamous impostor. /

Oct 18—Editor writes that he is sincerely mortified to learn that at the concert this questionable character appeared and wrote in an unknown language upon sheet of paper and spoke in the unknown language.

BO / Caraboo in Bath recognized by someone, who notified a believer in her. Whereupon enthusiastic reception in Bath.

BO / Caraboo ran away from Mrs W on June 6.

Car / Said sent to America in charge of some Moravian Missionaries.

Caraboo / [newspaper clipping] / [The World of Letters] /

[Reverse side] [The Observer],

[Front side] June [10, 1923.]

Apr 3 / Caraboo / [newspaper clipping] / [An Almondsbury Hoax.] / 'Western Daily Press,' Bristol, 25th August 1926.

Caraboo / [newspaper clipping] / [Local Notes] / 'Western Daily Press,' Bristol., 27 August 1926.

BO / Caraboo's daughter /Western Daily Press, Feb 13, 1900 / That on Feb. 7, John Smith, neighbor of Mary Jane Baker, aged about 55, smelled burning, and in B's yard saw old rags and a chair burning but was assured

[Reverse side] by Baker that it was all right. She not seen again. On Feb. 11th, police informed she not seen, sent P. C. Drake and another constable who broke in and found her on top landing, dead.

[Second page] There were extensive burns on left side of body. Ac to post mortem, death due to internal diseases, possibly accelerated by burns. /

[Reverse side] John Smith, Queen Street, Coronation Road / next door to Baker's, which was no. 2, Queen Street.

Ap. 3 / Caraboo / 613.K.20 (K).

Ap. 3 / Evening, at Almondsbury, near Bristol—

Caraboo / Biographical Tracts 613.K.20 / Young woman walked into a cottage making signs that she wished to sleep there—declined animal food, showing much disgust. Examined by a magistrate who said that her language and manners were such as never in his experience.

[Reverse side] Imposture—a Portugese named Manuel Eynesso pretended he could speak her language and told a story purporting to be interpretation of her own that she had been stolen from an East Indian Island—and someone else acquainted with the East Indies "in the warmth of his anxiety to discover her history" told

[Second page] that her name was Caraboo of Chinese-Malay origin and kidnapped by pirates from her home in Java on a ship, from which she had escaped to the coast of England, having exchanged her clothes, worked in gold, for common clothes, and had wandered 6 weeks.

[Third page] The story is that she was identified as Mary Baker and that she confessed—and

[Reverse side] told some incidents in her life. Her parents were visited and corroborated the stories of incidents—no record they ever went to Bristol to identify her. She wished to go to America and her passage

was paid—extraordinarily—to Philadelphia. /
[Front side] George Psalmanazar / See R. J.

[newspaper clipping] / [The Princess Caraboo.] / 'Western Daily Press,' Bristol, 27th August 1926. / [original note missing / copied from *The Fortean,* no. 9, p. 9].

[illustration] / [Fort's free-hand copy of the "letters" made by "Princess Caraboo"] / [original note missing / copied from *The Fortean,* no. 9, p. 9].

[BCF, pp. 672-676:

The earliest of the alleged impostors in my records—for which, though not absolutely, I draw a dead line at the year 1800—is the *Princess Caraboo,* if not Mary Wilcocks, though possibly Mrs. Mary Baker, but perhaps Mrs. Mary Burgess, who, the evening of April 3, 1817, appeared at the door of a cottage, near Bristol, England, and in an unknown language asked for food.

But I am not so much interested in whether the *Princess,* or Mary, was a rascal, as I am in the reasons for saying that she was. It does not matter whether we take up a theorem in celestial mechanics, or the case of a girl who jabbered, we come upon the bamboozlements by which conventional thought upon this earth is made and preserved.

The case of the angles in a triangle that equal two right angles has never been made out: no matter what refinements of measurement would indicate, ultra-refinement would show that there had been errors. Because of continuity, and because of discontinuity, nothing has ever been proved. If only by making a very bad error to start with, Prof. Einstein's prediction of the curvature of lights worked out as it should work out, we suspect, before taking up the case of the *Princess Caraboo* that the conventional conclusion in her case was a product of mistakes.

That the *Princess Caraboo* was an impostor—first we shall take up the case, as it has been made out:

London *Observer,* June 10, 1923—that the girl, who spoke unintelligibly, was taken before a magistrate, Samuel Worrall, of Knowle Park, Bristol, who, instead of committing her as a vagrant, took her to his home. It is not recorded just what Mrs. Worrall thought of that. It is recorded that the girl was at least what is said to be "not unprepossessing." When questioned the "mysterious stranger" wrote in unknown characters, many of which looked like representations of combs. Newspaper correspondents interviewed her. She responded with a fluency of "combs," and a smattering of "bird cages" and "frying pans." The news spread, and linguists traveled far to try their knowledge, and finally one of them was successful. He was "a gentleman from the East Indies," and, speaking in the Malay language to the girl, he was answered. To him she told her story. Her name was *Caraboo,* and one day while walking in her garden in Java, she was seized by pirates, who carried her aboard a vessel, from which, after a long imprisonment, she escaped to the coast of England. The story was colorful with details of Javanese life. But then Mrs. Willcocks, not of Java, but of a small town in Devonshire, appeared and identified her daughter Mary. Mary broke down and confessed. She was not prosecuted for her imposture: instead, Mrs. Worrall was so kind as to pay her passage to America.

Mostly our concern is in making out that this case was not made out—or, more widely, that neither this nor any other case ever has been made out—but I notice a little touch of human interest entering here. I notice that we feel a disappointment, because Mary broke down and confessed. We much prefer to hear of impostors who stick to their impostures. If no absolute line can be drawn between morality and immorality, I can show, if I want to, that this touch of rascality in all of us—or at any rate in me—is a virtuous view, instead. So when an impostor sticks to his imposture, and we are pleased, it is that we approve a resolutely attempted consistency, even when applied to a fabric of lies.

Provided I can find material enough, I can have no trouble in making it appear "reasonable," as we call it, to accept that Mary, or the *Princess,* confessed, or did not confess, or questionably confessed.

Chambers' Journal, 66-753—that *Caraboo,* the impostor, had told her story of alleged adventures, in the Malay language.

Farther along, in this account—that the girl had spoken in an unknown language.

This is an inconsistency worth noting. We're on the trail of bamboozlement, though we don't have to go away back to the year 1817 to get there. We hunt around. We come upon a pamphlet, entitled *Caraboo,* published by J.M. Cutch, of Bristol, in the year 1817. We learn in this account, which is an attempt to show that *Caraboo* was unquestionably an impostor, that it was not the girl, but the "gentleman from the East Indies," whose name was Manuel Eyenesso, who was the impostor, so far as went the whole Javanese story. To pose as a solver of mysteries, he had pretended that to his questions, the girl was answering him in the Malay language, and pretending to translate her gibberish, he had made up a fanciful story of his own.

Caraboo had not told any story, in any known language, about herself. Her writings were not in Malay characters. They were examined by scientists, who could not identify them. Specimens were sent to Oxford, where they were not recognized. Consequently, the "gentleman from the East Indies" disappeared. We are told in the pamphlet that every Oxford scholar who examined the writings, "very properly and without a moment's hesitation, pronounced them to be humbug." That is swift propriety.

If the elaborate story of the Javanese Princess had been attributed to a girl who had told no understandable story of any kind, it seems to us to be worth while to look over the equally elaborate confession, which has been attributed to her. It may be that regretfully we shall have to give up a notion that a girl had been occultly transported from the planet Mars, or from somewhere up an Orion or Leo, but we are seeing nore of the ways of suppressing mysteries.

According to what is said to be the confession, the girl was Mary Willcocks, born in the village of Witheridge, Devonshire, in the year 1791, from which at the age of 16 she had gone to London, where she had married twice. It is a long, detailed story. Apparently the whole story of Mary's adventures, from the time of her departure from Witheridge, to the time of her arrival in Bristol, is told in what is said to be the confession. Everything is explained—and then too much is explained. We come to a question that would be an astonisher, if we weren't just a little sophisticated, by this time—

By what freak of accomplishment did a Devonshire girl learn to speak Javanese?

The author of the confession explains that she had picked up with an East Indian, who had taught her the language.

If we cannot think that a girl, who had not even pretended to speak Javanese, would explain how she had picked up Javanese, it is clear enough that this part of the alleged confession is forgery. I explain it by thinking that somebody had been hired to write a confession, and with too much of a yarn for whatever skill he had, had overlooked the exposed imposture of the "gentleman from the East Indies."

All that I can make of the story is that a girl mysteriously appeared. It cannot be said that her story was imposture, because she told no intelligible story. It may be doubted that she confessed, if it be accepted that at least part of the alleged confession was forgery. Her mother did not go to Bristol and identify her, as, for the sake of a neat and convincing finish, the conventionalized story goes. Mrs. Worrall told that she had gone to Witheridge, where she had found the girl's mother, who had verified whatever she was required to verify. *Caraboo* was shipped away on the first vessel that sailed for America; or, as told in the pamphlet, Mrs. Worrall, with forbearance and charity, paid her passage far away. In Philadelphia, somebody took charge of her affairs, and, as if having never heard that she was supposed to have confessed, she gave exhibitions, writing in an unknown language. And I wouldn't give half this space to the story of the *Princess Caraboo,* were it not for the epitomization, in her story, of all history. If there be God, and if It be ubiquitous, there must be a jostle of ubiquities because the Fishmonger of Worcester, too, is everywhere.]

Having done more than his duty as an investigative reporter in the "Princess Caraboo" affair, Charles Fort resumed his meticulous chronicling of unexplained phenomena in the year 1817 and beyond.

1817

Ap 4 / Mexico / q / I / [Light / BA 1911].

Ap. 10 / Bohemia / Fireball / BA 60.

April 16 / (It) / (Volc) / 2 a.m. (?) / Palermo / sounds, objs cross sun, and Etna eruption / BA 54 / D-228.

[BCF, pp. 240-241 / See Aug. 7, 1804.]

Ap 17 / Rhine / BA '60 / Fireball.

[18]17 [Ap. 26] / Phe by igneous meteor / [London *Times*], Ap. 26/3/c.

Ap. 26 / [London *Times],* 3-c / Meteor of Corsica / Aud phe.

Ap. 27 / Hesse / Fireball / BA 60.

Ap. 30 / Q's at Naples, and Vesuvius greater activity / J. des Deb., May 16, 1817.

May 2 / Fireball / Gottingen / BA 60.

May 21 / -- 12 h / Venus / Inf conjunction / [Al).

June 10 / June 30 -- hot rain / at Inverness, Aug. 7, 31, Sept 2, and several times in 1818 / Roper / List of Earthquakes.

June 30 / Inverness and neighborhood / a quake and hot water fe[ll] from the sky / preced[ed] / [Reverse side] Rept B Assoc 54/112 / not preceded.

[BCF, p. 393:

There was another quake in Scotland (Inverness) June 30, 1817. It is said that hot water fell from the sky (*Rept. B. A.,* 1854-112.]

July 24 / Loud detonations / and the Lake of Canterno, Italy, ran dry / Nat Reg. (Wash.), Oct 25.

Aug 7 / Augsburg / Fireball / BA 60.

Aug 21 / [London *Times*], 2-e / St. Stevens / q.

Aug 29 / [London *Times*], 2-e / Inverness / q.

Sept. 8 / Richmond / Fireball / BA 60.

Sep 12 / Dark / Scotland / (123).

Sept 25 / Great meteor visible at noon in Venezuela / National Intelligencer (Wash.), Nov. 11, 1817.

Oct 5 / Woburn, Mass / q / BA '11.

Oct 6 / Tunbridge Wells / Fireball / BA '60.

Oct 13 / 11 p.m. / Detonating meteor at Genesee, NY / National Intelligencer (Wash), Nov. 4.

Oct 17 / Aix / Fireball / BA '60.

". . . Today, everybody is protesting against something, though nobody seems to be able to define just what it is they are protesting about, and none has any plans for a workable substitute—apart from unworkable anarchy of one sort or another. Charles Fort, just like certain others who went before—the Essene whom the Greeks called Christos; the Gautama Buddha; Lao-Tze and such—did offer an alternative; to wit, common sense, logic and honesty. This may all sound very "high fallutin" but his could well still be the only truly worthwhile protest. . ."

—From an editorial in *Pursuit,* January 1969, Vol. 2, No. 1

Oct 21 / Day of the W. Indian hurricane -- 8 inches of rain fell on Island of Grenada -- heavy rains continued. /
[Reverse side] Q J. Roy Inst. 5-136.

Nov. 22 / Severe quake in Greenland / BA 54 / Hecla quiet at the time.

Dec. 8 / Op. Mars / (A1).

Dec 8 / 12:57 a.m. / Ipswich / Detonating meteor from Taurus -- like discharge of a distant cannon / Gent's Mag., 1818/1/159.

Dec 10 / 11 p.m. / smart shock / S. Car and Georgia / Niles' Weekly Register, Jan 17, 1818.

Dec 22 to 26 / Vesuvius.

1818

/ Hail in the Orkneys preced[ed] by sounds like cannonading (Schwedoff) / Symons 17/149 /
[Reverse side] Schwedoff explained that detonated like meteorites.

Jan 6 / Loft's Vulcan / supposed by him to be a comet in transit over sun -- observed at least 3½ hours / Ipswich / Quar Jour Roy Inst 5/117 /
[Reverse side] No comet known.

[BCF, p. 393:

> Jan. 6, 1818--an unknown body that crossed the sun, according to Loft, of Ipswich; observed about three hours and a half (*Quar. Jour. Roy. Inst.,* 5-117).]

[BCF, p. 202:

> *Monthly Notices of the R. A. S.,* 20-100:
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> Standacher, February, 1762; Lichtenberg, Nov. 19, 1762; Hoffman, May, 1764; Dangos, Jan. 18, 1798; Stark, Feb. 12, 1820. An observation by Schmidt, Oct. 11, 1847, is said to be doubtful: but, upon page 192, it is said that this doubt had arisen because of a mistaken translation, and two other observations by Schmidt are given: Oct. 14, 1849, and Feb. 18, 1850 -- also an observation by Lofft, Jan. 6, 1818. Observation by Steinheibel, at Vienna, April 27, 1820 *(Monthly Notices,* 1862).]

Jan 17 / Vermont / det met / BA 67.

Jan 18 / Siberia / BA 60 / Fireball.

Jan 28 / Cambelltown, Scotland / Fireball / BA '60.

Feb. 6 / Daylight met / Blackwoods 2/516.

Feb. 6 / 2 p.m. / Brilliant daylight meteor from zenith toward north / Cambridge and Norfolk / Gent's Mag 1818/1/268, 461 / sun brilliant in a cloudless sky.

Feb 6 / Lincolnshire / det. met. / B.A., '60 / '54-115.

Feb. 15 / Limoges, France / met reported / unknown whether iron or stone / Phil Mag 4/8/459 /
[Reverse side] BA/1860.

Feb 16 / At Coningsby, Lincolnshire -- sounds like gunshots / ground shaking slightly / on 20th, noises like firing of cannon and a "meteor" seen at Kirkton-in-Lindsey /
[Reverse side] Repeat, Ap. 30 / B Assoc 54/115.

Feb. 20 / 3 p.m. / Another shock at Coningsby, and a meteor seen in Lindsey. First shock at C. was Feb 6. / "like subterranean cannon" / In Lincolnshire. / Gents Mag., 1818/1/171, 364.

Feb 20 / Great quake / Italy // 23 / II -- [medium] -- q -- France /// BA '11.

Feb. 20 / (It) / phe / Catania / See 1805 / See Ann de Chimie 33/405.

Feb 20 / III [heavy] // 23 -- I [light] /// q's / Italy / [BA 1911].

Feb 23 / France / II / q / [medium / BA 1911].

Feb 24-25 / towns in Bouches-du-Rhone / (q's) / B As. '54/116.

Feb 28 / q / Italy / I / [light / BA 1911].

March 1 / One of the most terrible hurricanes in history of Mauritius / Gent's Mag. 1818/2/76.

March 7 / afternoon / Isle of Wright (near Whitwell) / For half an hour a roaring sound and violent atmospheric disturbance. The clbrst. called a waterspout. Nothing said [was] seen. / Gent's Mag., 1818/1/364.

March 14 / (/) Volc elsewhere / 2:30 p.m. / Clouds gathered, though little wind, and began to shut off sunlight, giving the *sun* the appearance of fire -- at 4 p.m., total obscurity and the people crowded to church to pray. The sky
[Reverse side] looked fiery and detonations, or thunder was heard, and brilliant lights or lightning were seen. Great drops of red liquid began to fall. About nightfall this fall and the sounds and lights or th. and lightning
[Second page] ceased. / Said that this fall not only in Calabria but in the Abbruzes. Full particulars of Chemic Analysis given. / Jour de. Physique 86/205.

March 14 / Story confirmed for this date / Q. Jour. Roy Inst. 1818.

March 14 / Same story as March 14, 1813.

Mar. 14 / Naples / carbonaceous substance / (D-75).

★ ★

[BCF, p. 77:

> A combustible carbonaceous substance that fell with sand at Naples, March 14, 1818 (*Amer. Jour. Sci.,* 1-1-309).]

Ap. 10 / Zaborzika, Volhynia / Stone fell. / BA, 60.

Ap. 11 / Zaborzika, Volhynia, Russia / Metite / (F).

Ap. 30 / Again / See Feb 6, 1818.

May 17 / Motz, Savoy / Q preceded by loud detonations. / BA 54.

May 31 / q / Mexico / II / [medium / BA 1911].

June / Seres, Macedonia, Turkey / Metite / F.

June / Seres, Macedonia / stone / 15 lbs / BA 60.

July / Isle of Ely -- after a th storm, several "creeping creatures ab six inches
[Reverse side] in length were picked up -- were locusts. / Gentleman's Mag. 88/366 / *They were locusts.*

July 17 / bet 9 and 10 p.m. / Met size of full moon / Montpelier, Vt. / [Reverse side] A. J. Sci 2/32/441.

July 19 / South of France / shocks and heavy rains and followed by
[Reverse side] great electrical explosions / BA 54.

July 19 / Pau, etc. / q and great th. storm / BA 54.

[BCF, pp. 301-302:

> Some day we shall have an expression which will be, to our advanced primitiveness, a great joy:
>
> That devils have visited this earth: foreign devils: human-like beings, with pointed beards: good singers; one shoe ill-fitting—but with sulphurous exhalations, at any rate. I have been impressed with the frequent occurrence of sulphurousness with things that come from the sky. A fall of jagged pieces of ice, Orkney, July 24, 1818 (*Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.,* 9-187). They had a strong sulphurous odor. And the coke—or the substance that looked like coke—that fell at Mortree, France, April 24, 1887: with it fell a sulphurous substance. The enormous round things that rose from the ocean, near the *Victoria.* Whether we still accept that they were super-constructions that had come from a denser atmosphere and, in danger of disruption, had plunged into the ocean for relief, then rising and continuing on their way to Jupiter or Uranus—it was reported that they spread a "stench of sulphur." At any rate, this datum of proximity is against the conventional explanation that these things did not rise from the ocean, but rose far away above the horizon, with illusion of nearness.]

Aug 3 / Worthing / Fireball / BA 60.

Aug 5 / Chelenfort / Fireball / BA 60.

Aug 10 / Slobodka, Smolensk, Russia / Metite / (F).

Sept 2 [London *Times*], 3-e / Bencoolen / q.

Sept 8 / q / Italy / II / [medium / BA 1911].

Sept 14 / England / Fireball / [BA 60].

Oct 21 - 24 / Volc / Goentoes, Java / N.M. / C.R. 70-880.

Oct 21, etc. / Violent eruption, volc Goenoing, in Preang. / Gents Mag. 1919/1/557.

Oct. 31 / Hecla / BA 54.

Oct 31 / (Metite) / Between Buchrarest in Wallachia, and Mehadia. Great met. / (BA 1849) / Ac to Bigulawski's
[Reverse side] Catalog it was aerolotic. / BA '60.

Nov 8 / and great q / Volc. / Lemongang / Java / N.M. / C.R. 70-878 / also another volc -- Smeroe.

Nov. 13 / Meteor / Gosport / BA 60.

Nov. 17 / Fireball / Gosport / BA 60.

Nov 20 / q / St. Doming[o], West Indies / II / [medium / BA 1911].

Nov. 26 / Comet in Pegasus.

Dec 9 / q's -- I [light] / Italy and Philippines / [BA 1911].

Dec 18 / Halle / Fireball / BA '60.

Dec 20 to May 21, 1819 / Eight q's in the West Indies, of which seven were between 9 and 11 p.m. / BA 54.

Dec 26 / -- 3 h / Venus / Inf Conjunction / (A 1).

'THE ULTIMATE FORTEAN TOOL'

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1972, Aug.12/Robert Mount/7000 Mackey
Kansas City (Mo.) Star, 20 Aug. 1972, p.5A.

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Kansas City (Mo.) Star, 2 Aug.1965.

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-Clairempathy
1974, Sep.- /Ben Townsend
Ben Townsend, "Treasure Hunting with ESP," Fate 31 (Feb.1978):57-58.
-UFO (CE-1)
1977, Jan.25/Clyde V. Basey/W on U.S. 160
Parsons News, 15 Dec.1977.

Peabody
-UFO (?)
1971, Jan.22
Ted Phillips, Physical Traces Associated with UFO Sightings (Evanston: Center for UFO Studies, 1975), p.110.

Peru
-UFO (NL)
1978, Aug.24
Norton Daily Telegram, 28 Aug.1978, p.1.

Pottawatomie Indian Reservation
-Humanoid
ca.1959/Nadine Goslin
John Green, The Sasquatch File (Agassiz, B.C.: Cheam, 1973), p.23.

Prairie View
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1967, March 8/Jake Jansonius
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-UFO (NL)
1976, May 26
"Noteworthy UFO Sightings," Ufology 2 (fall 1976):60.
1978, June 29/183d St. x U.S.69
Olathe Daily News, 1 July 1978.

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-Electromagnetic anomaly
1977, May 3/Karen Detwiler
Pratt Tribune, 4 May 1977.

Pratt co.
-Cattle mutilation
1976, Aug./Arthur Beck
(Editorial), Fate 30 (Feb.1977):39.

Princeton
-Skyquake
1977, Dec.3
U.S. Naval Rsch.Laboratory, NRL Investigations of East Coast Acoustic Events (Washington: Naval Rsch. Laboratory, 10 Mar.1978), p.138.
"Aerial Detonations," Res Bureaux Bull., no.40 (9 Nov.1978):6.

Portion of a typical page from *A Geo-Bibliography of Anomalies.*

A GEO-BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ANOMALIES: Primary Access to Observations of UFOs, Ghosts, and Other Mysteries, by George M. Eberhart. Greenwood Press, 51 Riverside Ave., Westport, CT 06980. 1160 pages. Indexed.

This is a reference work. George Eberhart is a reference librarian, and has happily joined his professional expertise with his talent as a Fortean researcher. The result is the milestone *Geo-Bibliography,* the ultimate Fortean tool.

Comprising more than 22,000 anomalous events and sites in the U.S., Canada, and Greenland, the *GB* offers access to information. Each item is listed under the name of the town or physical feature of its occurrence; towns and localities are arranged alphabetically under their state or province, and states and provinces are surveyed by region from west to east.

Under each town or locality, items are arranged alphabetically by event-types: for a given town, "archeological site" might be followed by "entombed toad," "erratic crocodilian," "haunt," "humanoid," "UFO (CE-2)," and "UFO (NL)." Multiple events of any single event-type are listed chronologically under that subheading.

For each event, the date and principal observer are listed, as well as any other qualifying information. The latter might pinpoint location (street address, intersection, landmark, or simply "4 miles south"), note the possibility of hoax or misidentification, or otherwise clarify the basic information of the case. (Hoaxes, scrupulously labeled as such, are included here because of their place in the literature. Other clarifying information includes the numerous CE-2 citations noting "ground markings only" to distinguish them from CE-2 cases involving sightings of craft, and so on.) Finally, at least one source of information is cited for each event. Celebrated cases, however, may have a dozen or more citations, if there are that many *significant* contributions to the study of the case.

This explanation of the *GB*'s format will begin to make more sense after a close look at the above excerpt.

In addition to the geographic arrangement, access is provided by an index of principal observers' names, and another of event classifications. Thus a bibliography of sources on the Delphos, Kansas, CE-2 case is listed under "Delphos" in

the "Kansas" section, but the location of this bibliography can also be found by looking under "Johnson, Ron" in the observer index, and under "Kansas" in the "UFO (CE-2)" section of the subject index.

As important as ease of access to information may be (and the *GB* is outstanding in this respect), the wonder of the matter can best be evoked by a glance at the subject index. Eberhart includes every kind of Fortean event from "Abduction of child by eagle" to "Witch trial (shape-shifting)." Between these two are "Acoustic anomalies," "Acupuncture research," "Aerial phantoms," "Alchemy," an "Amphibious moose," and ancient relics ranging from armor to underground cities and walls. "Burrowing hose" follows "Bleeding icon (see also Weeping icon)" and "Autoscopy." The long list of erratic objects includes African snails, armadillos, baboons, a bison, boulders and rocks, a cow, scores of crocodiles, a giant anteater, kangaroos, a killer whale, octopi, an ostrich, a peccary, a platypus, sharks, a squid and a swan.

Falls of various kinds take up nearly two pages just listing the wondrous array of things from the sky: alabaster, alligators, beans, a brass meteorite, cast or forged iron, caterpillars, chicks, clams, a clay meteorite, coins, cookies, earthworms, an egg, fish, fishing line, a fossil bone, frogs and toads, knives, lizards, money, a monkey, mud, salt, sandstone, a shark, string, turtles, and "unknown substances." This very fragmentary listing extracted from the index doesn't even attempt to keep track of the meteorological falls listed, such as giant snowflakes, localized rain, explosive hail, and rain and snow every color of the rainbow.

The subject index runs to 15 two-column, single-spaced pages, so it's impossible to convey any but the vaguest idea of the *variety* of anomalies on which the *GB* cites sources. Even the most jaded researcher will be impressed by the ease of checking citations on the feral woman, ghost mules, hex research, a phantom elephant, animal ESP, the hollow-earth entrance, river monsters, talking animals, or a unicorn legend. Telephone anomalies and stigmata vie for attention. Web-footed horses and Welsh Indians rub shoulders with all the more "usual" forms of Forteana—pre-Columbian artifacts, 10 varieties of UFO contacts (with pre-1945 cases a separate category), SHC, cattle (and other) mutilations, sea serpents, phantom panthers, humanoids, and so forth.

The range of phenomena Eberhart catalogs is matched by the amazing number of sources on which he draws. Local newspapers account for a large number of citations. Scientific and Fortean journals are well-represented. Books cited include the various works of Keel, Clark and Coleman, Vallee, John Green, Fell, Steiger, the Lorenzens, Holzer, Sanderson (to whom *GB* is dedicated), et al.

The *GB*'s glossary deserves special attention, because it is here that Eberhart delineates his scheme of classification. In itself the glossary is generally understandable. Most of the terms will be familiar to Forteans, though some (such as "cromniomancy") may require checking. The non-Fortean will find here useful distinctions (between CE-1s and CE-2s, for example) used in the event-type categories.

Most of the definitions are those long-established in specialized branches of the field (as ufology or parapsychology), and the rest are intelligent and generally workable extrapolations. To his credit, Eberhart adheres closely to these guidelines. But, given the mountain of information he had to deal with and the tendency of one type of Fortean phenomenon to shade imperceptibly into another, it is inevitable that a few cases should be shoe-horned into categories perhaps not altogether just to the facts of the individual cases.

Most obviously, *GB* presents to researchers a first-class, eminently usable tool. Henceforth it will be a simple matter to find out what has been written about a particular Fortean event, where and when similar events have occurred, what else was going on at the same time and area as the main event, what kind of weirdness prevailed in a given locality, etc.

Less obvious but no less real are some other benefits. One is that Eberhart has indexed here the North American phenomena through 1979 for the full run of *Doubt, Fate, Pursuit, Occasional Publications of the Epigraphic Society, Vestigia Newsletter, Stigmata* and *INFO Journal;* and substantial portions of *Bigfoot News, Michigan Anomaly Research Bulletin, Flying Saucer Review, Page Research Library Bulletin, Fortean Times, MUFON UFO Journal, NEARA Journal,* and others. Thus libraries, which shy away from unindexed periodicals, may now more readily be persuaded to stock the major Fortean journals.

In summary, the *Geo-Bibliography* is a landmark, and a boon to Forteans, bibliographers, and to anomalism. It makes information accessible, improves research methodology, and brings Forteana out of the library closet. It is a volume that every Fortean, active researcher or not, should have on his own shelves or could donate to the local library. Its other virtues aside, the *GB* is a reference work easy enough to use and fascinating enough to engage the interest of the most cursory browser.

—Steve Hicks

INTERSTELLAR TRAVEL: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE, by John W. Macvey, Avon Books, New York, 1978, 303 pages, $2.25 (paperback).

Macvey, an astronomer, begins with a discussion of the nature of the universe. He covers relativity, the curvature of space, and ends his first section with an examination of Black Holes. Commenting on current speculation about their use in interstellar transportation, the author states that if the Black Hole is perfectly spherical and non-rotating, anything entering its influence would be destroyed. However, if it is rotating, a "space warp" may form capable of conveying a spacecraft somewhere else. It might enter some other universe or some other portion of our own.

The next section covers the origin of life and the biochemistry of aliens. Macvey concludes that life originating on earth-like planets would resemble our own.

To the question of ancient astronauts, he answers that we may have been visited in ancient times, but any artifacts left would have been destroyed by natural forces. Although ancient writings may refer to such visits, there is no solid proof.

The final chapters of the book deal with the Tunguska event and modern sightings of UFOs. Macvey believes that the explosion that occurred in the Tunguska region of Siberia was caused by a comet or an alien spaceship. Finally, about UFOs: some of the unidentifieds may be spaceships.

The book's best feature is its very broad scope—from straight astronomy to ancient astronauts, UFOs, and the origins of life. It is an excellent introductory text for those interested in all the mysteries of space.

—Kim L. Neidigh

A Classic Treatise on Man's Relationship to the Universe

THE CYCLES OF HEAVEN, By Guy L. Playfair and Scott Hill. Avon Books, 1979. 364 pages. Originally published by St. Martin's Press, 1978. Index, illustrations. ISBN 0-380-45419-x. Paperback $2.75.

If, as mystics and Forteans have always said, everything in the universe is related to everything else, then Science must eventually discover the patterns and cycles which comprise the Great Web of inter-relationships. Playfair and Hill have done a masterful job in bringing together the current state of knowledge on the natural forces of the cosmos and how they affect the earth, its biosphere and man.

Their book is written in a scholarly yet popular style, and their abundant references should send Fortean researchers into throes of bibliographic ecstacy. Playfair's experience as a biophysicist and Hill's interest in "anomalies" as a writer combine to make *Cycle of Heaven* a classic treatise on the relationship of man to the universe.

The first two chapters describe the types of forces known to exist in the universe (gravity, electromagnetism, and nuclear forces) as well as a postulated fifth force, sometimes called "ether." They examine the correlation between certain planetary positions (especially the squares, trines, oppositions, and conjunctions familiar to astrologers) and the sunspot cycle, which in turn seems closely related to terrestrial rainfall.

Chapters 3 and 4 explore the electromagnetic nature of the human body and how it seems to be in tune with the entire EM spectrum on very subtle levels. Franz Mesmer's ideas on "animal magnetism" in the 1770s appear curiously prophetic in the light of current research, in particular Gurvich's mitogenetic radiation, S. W. Tromp's biometeorological effects, and various experiments with dowsers. Weather cycles can affect the human biomagnetic field in many ways, and suicide attempts provide one dramatic correlation.

Extra-low frequency EM waves, ionized air, infrasound, and just plain noise wreak havoc with the human system and matter in general. The authors cite one bizarre report of a group of 200 Tibetan priests who propelled huge stone blocks through thin air up a 400-meter cliff face merely by chanting rhythmically, blowing trumpets, and beating drums!

Chapter 5 opens up with John Gribbin's dire prediction: "Sorry, but quite a lot of California is going to slide into the sea in 1982, plus or minus a year or two." This is because of or at least synchronous with the Grand Planetary Alignment in which all of the planets will be in a rather narrow area of the zodiac (as close as 64° in November 1982). Earthquake prediction is also discussed, and the authors conclude that scientists have done at least as well as the birds, fish, babies, and lunatics that seem to be quake-sensitive.

The next two chapters are about cycles on earth that correlate with sunspots and other astronomical cycles. Biorhythms have been noted and measured for quite some time, but whether our body clocks are regulated from within or depend on external cosmic factors remains uncertain. Playfair and Hill present much evidence indicating that regulation comes from outside the body.

To what extent are human beings locked into all these EM waves and cosmic cycles? Chapter 8 examines the effects that external forces can have on biorhythms, including brain waves and the menstrual cycle. The authors assuage our fears of being at the mercy of the cosmos somewhat in Chapter 9 by explaining that we can learn to control our natural cycles by using numerous biofeedback techniques.

Chapter 10 delves quite reasonably into the misty world of astrology and its claim for correlating planetary positions with personality traits. Basing their contentions on Michel Gauquelin's and other computer studies, Playfair and Hill conclude that much of traditional astrology seems a bit off target, yet one cannot rule out the possibility that it did accurately describe the microcosm-macrocosm situation at one time. At any rate, one recent (1977) study has linked birth signs with extroversion and introversion as traditionally described by astrologers. Many similar projects need to be carried out to test the traditional symbols and correlations once and for all.

The last two chapters take up research into acupuncture, Kirlian photography, plant sensitivity, and the Soviet concept of bioplasma.

The Cycles of Heaven should be read as a Cook's tour of the many ways that the human body and the earth it walks upon is in harmony with cosmic forces which we are not consciously attuned to. It dramatically supports Charles Fort's notion that our earth is an organism constantly bombarded by what he called Externality—a Super-Sargasso Sea of matter and energy.

—George M. Eberhart

ALTERNATIVE THREE, Leslie Watkins with David Ambrose & Christopher Mills, Avon Books, New York, $2.25.

Alternative Three purports to solve the mystery of the flying saucers: the UFOs are a joint US-USSR venture to colonize Mars in anticipation of the earth's destruction due to a super-greenhouse effect. Wow! Now we know, huh?

This project is said to require a large amount of forced labor, in addition to voluntarily recruited scientists. In order to obtain the helots, mass kidnappings—"Batch Consignments"—are used to seize victims, who are lobotomized to promote tractability. As "evidence," reference is made to three purported disappearances: 200 plus in New Zealand, 75 plus near Caspar, Wyoming, and a vanished "small passenger-cargo vessel, the *Amelio*" (p. 205).

No citation is given for the vanishings, of course. Moreover, the value of these revelations must be weighed against the uncritical acceptance of an early Bo and Peep report (p. 17). And, incidentally, the book has no footnotes, chapter titles, chapter subheadings, nor index.

Spontaneous human combustion (SHC) is explained as well. It seems that when the secret US-Soviet commission feels that someone is about to leak information on the project, the someone is eliminated—often (????) with a "hot job" (p. 76). One such victim died as he was allegedly on his way to reveal important information to Fleet Street. However, the international intelligence organization neglected to

get the deceased's diary from Jodrell Bank, where the intrepid authors would discover it months afterwards (p. 202).

A typical example of the book's "logic" is the following: After adumbrating two CE I events from 1951, the text concludes, "So despite all official denials, sufficient advances had been made by 1951 to provide the basis for planning Alternative 3" (p. 24).

Other lapses include US officials speaking with English idiom (p. 74 *et seq.*), "secret" cattle-stealing from the US (where the livestock was sure to be missed) on the following page (!), referring to Otto Binder only "as former NASA man" (p. 107), etc.

The book claims to be an expansion of a program of a British series, "Science Report"; this particular program, apparently broadcast in June of 1977, was denounced as fraudulent by the station itself. Small wonder.

Nevertheless, certain of the allegations *are* interesting: There is the purported interview with former astronaut Bob Grodin* (pp. 105-109, 122-134), the putative disappearance of 21 of 400 emigrating scientists (p. 66), and a mysterious pony killing at Dartmoor (p. 18). However, even these—*especially these*—must be taken *cum granno salis.*

Distributed in time for Christmas, the book would have been more appropriate for Thanksgiving.

* Unfortunately, the "astronaut" appears to have died in considerable obscurity in "January, 1978" (p. 131), as there seems to have been no obituary in *The New York Times.* This suggests, of course, a *strong* presumption of error—or worse.

—Bill Banks

THE SHAPE OF EVENTS TO COME, Gopi Krishna. New Delhi: Kundalini Research and Publication Trust, 1979, 201 pages, $5. Quality paperback. Available from Kundalini Research Foundation, 475 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

True prophecy stems from deep cosmic attunement. It is not merely the product of logical extension from present data by the intellect, nor is it even precognition in the ordinary sense. Prophecy is distinguished from precognition by the moral dimension, the spiritual framework in which it is issued. All psi abilities have biological survival value, especially precognition. Prophecy, however, goes beyond the biological realm by pointing to the divine, transcendent source of life whose loving concern for human welfare is being ignored by people.

Thus, the genuine prophet does not want to see dire predictions come true. Rather, he seeks to be contradicted. His prophetic words are intended to warn people in time to avert the disaster he foresees so clearly. Through a change in their behavior they can either defuse the circumstances leading up to catastrophe or they can get out of the way in time.

The Shape of Events to Come is a prophetic work by a man for whom I have the highest regard. Gopi Krishna is a yogi-scientist now in his seventies. My observations of him and my examination of his work (available in a dozen books) lead me to conclude that he is stably and permanently established in the state of cosmic consciousness, that mode of awareness from which true prophecy and revelation flow. Although he is a Hindu, Gopi Krishna stands in the lineage of biblical prophets because he communicates as an instrument of divine law and divine love. His message is a revelation in the truest sense: visions given to him from a higher intelligence for the purpose of correcting errant human behavior.

The error to be corrected is intellect-gone-wild, which has produced nuclear weapons capable of destroying all life on earth. Because the moral dimension of cosmic attunement is lacking in world affairs, the inevitable result of international power politics will be a fieryArmageddon of our own making, with death and destruction so vast and horrible that it nearly defies imagination.

This is the negative part of the prophetic vision that Gopi Krishna received several decades ago. The other part is positive, inspirational. In effect, the global catastrophe will be nature's way of redirecting us to the evolutionary path leading to a higher state of being. The long evolutionary march of the human race will not end with *Homo sapiens;* there is a glorious destiny awaiting us in the form of a higher humanity whose consciousness will be equal to that of a Jesus, a Buddha and all the other sages and saviors of history.

This is the condition to which we must ineluctably evolve in time, Gopi Krishna says. We can recognize this now and cooperate with the divine plan, thus avoiding nuclear conflagration through worldwide disarmament. Or we can continue in the current mode of consciousness, in which case the result will be a terrible world war that forcibly and painfully returns the human race to the evolutionary path.

The Shape of Events to Come was given to Gopi Krishna in rhymed verse such as this:

> The next two decades will unfold
> An awe-inspiring Drama, staged by Fate,
> To end the present order, as foretold,
> With Fires of War lit by lust, greed and hate.
>
> * * *
>
> Out of the inferno power-lust builds apace
> Will rise a chastened and united race.

Recognizing that poetry is not the preferred mode of expression nowadays, Gopi Krishna has added a long prose Introduction that straightforwardly gives facts about nuclear weapons, the armament race, the horror of a thermonuclear war, and the nature of evolution and enlightenment. Supporting the text are many photos of the most grisly scenes from Nazi concentration camps and A-bombed Japanese cities.

Thus, through prose and poetry, Gopi Krishna lays bare the future in a manner that can leave no doubt whatsoever about the importance of the message.

—John White

COSMIC TRIGGER: FINAL SECRET OF THE ILLUMINATI, by Robert Anton Wilson, And/Or Press, Berkeley, CA, 1977, 269 pp., illustrated, index, $4.95.

The Odyssey of a skeptical, humorous, perceptive mind is chronicled here, guided through Cosmic Coincidence Control Center by what the belief structure says are telepathic entities from Sirius B. From a 1962 peyote trip, through an apprenticeship in Tantric sex, leading to an entertainingly narrated course of neuropsychological experiments, we follow the candid semi-biography through a head-space picaresque. Touching on such Fortean themes as UFOs, appearances and disappearances, the 23 enigma, Nikola Tesla's occult exper-

'Life Energies and Physics of Paranormal Phenomena'

FUTURE SCIENCE, edited by John White and Stanley Krippner, published by Anchor Books, Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York; published in Canada by Doubleday Canada Ltd., 105 Bond Street, Toronto, Ontario M5B 1Y3, Canada, 1977. 598 pages, $5.50 paperback.

It is virtually axiomatic that conventional science has looked askance at the various claims by Eastern mystics and some parapsychologists that the human mind can influence matter. Only in the last five years has a small group of professionals begun to analyze and examine these tremendous claims, and to write books on the subject (i.e., ex-astronaut Edgar D. Mitchell's Institute of Noetic Sciences, the British book *The Tao of Physics* and the books of Lawrence LeShan and Arthur Koestler). That is why the sub-title of this book—"Life Energies and Physics of Paranormal Phenomena"—should be noted most carefully by those persons who would rather read a technical treatise on genetic research or the future of the space program.

This is a collection of more than 40 essays by scientists, mystics, parapsychologists, sociologists and other specialists in various fields. The book is divided into six major sections: "Setting the Perspective," "The Occult Forces of Life," "The Geometry of the Paranormal," "From Physics to Metaphysics," "The New Technology" and "The Social Dimension" with a number of excellent appendices comprising a concluding seventh section. The only thing lacking is an index, so that one might look up a particular passage quickly. The conclusion of each chapter provides a list of reference works, however. A staggering number of Ph.D.s have contributed, as will be readily apparent from just a glance at the list of authors on page 595.

It is well-nigh impossible to summarize briefly the rich detail and the meticulous research that has gone into the making of this book. I will only state that the following subjects are covered: geometry of space-time, dowsing, orgone energy, paranormal voices and tape recordings, the Hieronymus Machine, high-energy physics, life after death, matter-mind dualism, ufology, cycles, Carl Jung and archetypes, psychedelic drugs, trance states, radionics, bio-feedback, plant-human communication, the creation and end of the universe, and quantum mechanics.

White and Krippner are both experts in a number of fields, and as such are well-suited to provide the commentary that introduces each chapter. In his earlier book, *Psychic Exploration,* Mr. White showed that a popular treatment of an exceedingly complex subject could be written to accommodate the chasm between science and the public. Too often, works of this nature are so interlaced with technical jargon that they cannot be read by anyone with less than a university degree in physics. Although the length and detail may appear to be formidable, the book is clear and easy to read.

Among any large complement of contributors it is to be expected that their essays will vary widely in concept and quality—the interest level depending on the reader. This volume, however, maintains a high level of interest throughout, and several chapters, notably the ones on quantum physics and synchronicity, are outstanding. If only the textbooks in our school systems were as lucid, the learning process would be greatly eased.

Basically, the problem of reconciling Eastern philosophy to our point of view has been a matter of semantics more than anything else. Any scientist will embrace the idea of a bioplasmic energy component in the human body, but will reject the age-old Hindu concept of "prana" even though both are speaking of one and the same thing. A logical formulation of how these mechanisms work (if indeed one can speak of a mechanism concerning psychic matters) has been extremely difficult to conceive so that the principles may be understood and applied by everyone.

I was pleased to see that a chapter on the sociological implications of such far-reaching discoveries has been included. The ethical base of science has always tended to be wobbly, and it needs a good deal of attention if we are not going to find ourselves living in a nightmarish future in which breakthroughs in mind control are perverted for political purposes. The duality in this chapter refers to the application of technology for good or ill, as well as to the mystic and occult areas of existence.

If you wish to explore some of the paths we are following into the 21st century, I would highly recommend that you get a copy of this book. Twenty years from now, it may be regarded as a landmark. It is certainly an important milestone in our attempt to understand who and what we are and where we are headed. A responsible and a sane treatment of serious philosophic and scientific problems, this collection deserves thoughtful reading.

—W. Ritchie Benedict

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iments, John Keel's Mothman, Robert Temple's Sirius mystery, Tim Leary, Jacques Vallee, John Lilly, Aleister Crowley, and a sampler box more, Wilson's book adds up over several short chapters to an irresistible invitation to seize control of your biocomputer and program the scenario to your liking.

Wilson offers a few tempting options: extending the lifespan (it's so much fun I don't want it to stop) and pioneering a civilization in space a la Gerard K. O'Neill. Yet Wilson, deftly at the controls, never allows these mind-blowing ideas to run away with his book. He presents an orderly if at times bewildered exploration of borderland science in a personalized style.

—William Zeiser

***SCIENCE SEEKS TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE SHROUD, by Kenneth F. Weaver, in* National Geographic, June 1980.**

Is the Shroud of Turin the cloth in which Joseph of Arimathaea wrapped the body of the crucified Christ for burial nearly 2,000 years ago? Mr. Weaver assures us the answer "will remain forever outside the bounds of proof." Even so, it's worth some trouble to get hold of the June *Geographic* and read pages 730-752, if only to reflect on the much, and the little, that techno-research can accomplish when it's broad-scale and well-financed. The graphics are great.

—F.S.W.

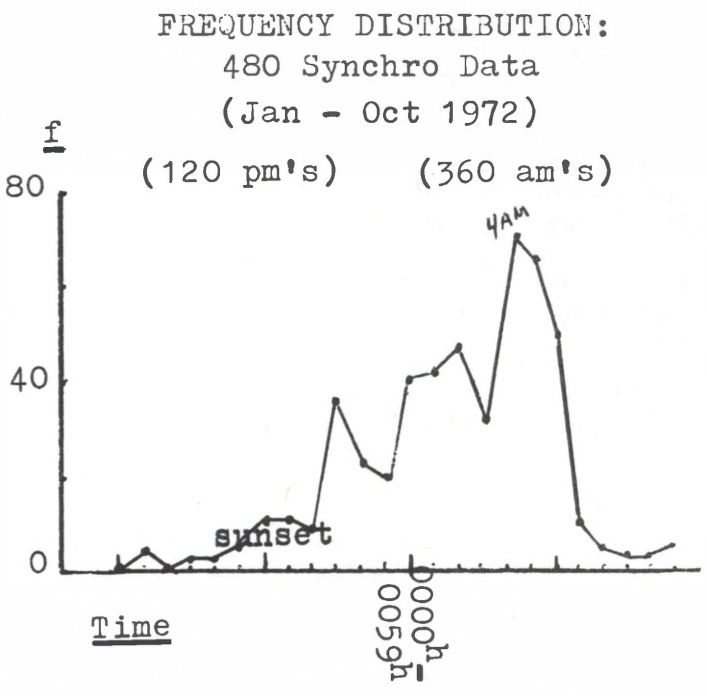
LETTERS *to the* EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be addressed to Fred Wilson, 65 Grandview Avenue, North Caldwell, NJ 07006. All letters must be signed with the writer's name and mailing address. Membership number will be printed in place of name signature if writer so requests. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgement.

In his letter (*Pursuit,* Spring 1980, Vol. 13, No. 2, p. 95) Peter Murphy has a quaint way of asking for information about the synchro data. The triple experiment used two audio inputs and one visual input: TV police drama, police radio exchanges, and reading.

Since Mr. Murphy understands numerology, why doesn't he write an article and explain his hobby? Perhaps the graph will answer his other worry. *(See below.)*

—Barbara Jordison



I enjoyed reading the article "Hypno-Art, A personal experience of painting and drawing while in a somnambular level of hypnosis," by Curtis W. Watkins, in the Spring 1980 issue of *Pursuit* (Vol. 13, No. 2, p. 72). Having also recently finished reading a book by Thomas R. Blakeslee ("The Right Brain," Anchor Press, Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1980), I was immediately struck by the statements in the next-to-the-last paragraph of the article, in which Mr. Watkins says that under hypnosis his vocabulary is "quite different and also quite garbled," and that "under hypnosis I am unable to write clearly in response to questions."

Since experiments described in the book by Blakeslee have clearly shown that nearly everyone uses the left brain in speaking and writing and the right brain in conceptualizing images, experiencing emotions, etc., Watkins' statement surely implies that his paintings, made while in a somnambular level of hypnosis, are under the direction of his right brain. His response, for example, is typical of one who has had a stroke affecting the speech center of the left brain. Such a person can often curse fluently (an emotional activity) but not speak coherently!

Since Watkins' paintings made while in a conscious state differ quite strongly from those made under hypnosis, he like many other artists, musicians, etc., has probably transferred much of the direction for his artistic endeavors from the right brain to the left. Most of us amateurs who can paint at all may do so under the direction of our right brains, whereas professionals often intellectualize the process until it comes to resemble the logical, sequential thinking best handled by the left brain. Hypnosis apparently frees Mr. Watkins' right brain to be in control again, and the paintings are, to my way of thinking, most delightful. (I wish I could see some in color!)

I'm not sure what value one might derive from knowing that the right brain is in control in the situation described by Mr. Watkins, but I nonetheless gain a bit of the "ah-ha" feeling from this deduction, based upon Blakeslee's book. It is someway nice to feel that you understand something about how you work.

—Frank B. Salisbury

[*Dr. Salisbury is professor of plant physiology in the Department of Plant Science, College of Agriculture, Utah State University, Logan, Utah. He is a member of SITU's Scientific Advisory Board.*]

Was Charles Berlitz Himself Caught in the Bermuda Triangle? 'Not Yet!' He Says

An amateur radio operator in Key West, Florida, picked up a garbled "may-day" message that could have been transmitted from Charles Berlitz's expedition ship. Through heavy background noise the startled operator copied some broken phrases: "All systems have failed . . . the pyramid from the ocean . . . God be with us."

A spokesman for the U.S. Coast Guard said, "We are faced with a puzzle."

* * *

The foregoing account appeared in the German popular magazine *Neue-Weltchau*, No. 39, published in September, 1979. Charles Berlitz clipped it and sent it along to Bob Warth, SITU's president. Bob provided the above translation and also translated the two-word comment Berlitz scrawled in red ink at the bottom: *Noch nicht!*—meaning *not yet!*

(More Letters to the Editor on page 136)

Pursuit has been a joy! One thing I would be interested in seeing is an article on the Menehunes—the midgets who inhabited Hawaii before the Polynesians arrived. There are even extant waterworks-projects on Kaui attributed by the Hawaiians to these mysterious people. Could there be a relationship here to the 2-foot Fiji dwarfs reported in the Summer 1979 *Pursuit* (Vol. 12, No. 3)?

—Brian Barinoff

In the interest of clearing away one more piece of misleading evidence from that area of borderland science concerned with hairy humanoid monsters, I offer an alternative explanation for a fragment of bone that was displayed by Bigfoot hunter Peter Byrne on the show "In Search of . . . the Abominable Snowman." For those who missed the program, a photograph of the specimen can be seen in the March 1978 issue of the *Bigfoot News.*

According to Byrne, the bone sits in a Buddhist shrine located in the Nepalese village of Bodnath and is the property of the head lama who claims that it is a piece of a yeti.

As soon as I saw it on television in full color, I realized it could not have come from a primate. However, it took me some time to discover exactly which animal it did come from.

The purported relic was conclusively exposed as a fake when I came across the photo of a near twin on page 100 of Milton Hildebrand's *Analysis of Vertebrate Structure* (c. 1974 John Wiley and Sons, New York). I immediately recognized the shared morphology of a central ridge flanked by numerous large pits.

The textbook illustration is that of a bone taken from the neck skin of a crocodile. Known technically as an *osteoderm,* it is one of the plates that, when joined with dozens more, form the protective armor that shields the dorsal portion of a crocodilian's neck, trunk and tail.

I suppose I could feel a little sorry for the owner of that piece of Himalayan humbug. The lama told Byrne that he bought the fragment from a Tibetan for the equivalent of $350. With such an expenditure, let's hope the holy man never finds out about the reptilian origin of his prize.

—Michael K. Diamond

I would like to respond to Michael Bradley's letter in the Spring 1980 issue of *Pursuit.* In that letter, Mr. Bradley takes me to task for my statements on melanism in the cougar, *Felis concolor.* He wants to let the readers know (and in italics, no less) that melanism in the Eastern subspecies (usually referred to as *Felis concolor cougar Kerr,* not *Felis concolor (cougar) Kerr*) is *"extremely common."*

I fear Mr. Bradley has made a faulty jump in logic. His primary evidence for feeling that melanism is "extremely common" in the Eastern puma seems to be his other italicized statement—namely, that the pumas of New Brunswick are "known to have survived . . . *but about 30 percent of the cougars seen are reported as being black."* As we Forteans certainly know, something seen does not necessarily make it a tangible fact. Mr. Bradley would have the reader believe that the hint of a somewhat rare strain of melanism in *Felix concolor* has expanded in a Darwinian survival of the fitness explosion.

Frankly, melanism is so rare in *Felis concolor* as to be nonexistent. Young and Goldman (1946) give as the only example a vague report from Brazil in 1843. As I have stated for years in articles I have written on the subject, not one photograph exists of a black puma dead or alive. And from North America, not one record of a black puma being killed or caught alive exists. In 1974 I surveyed all of the zoological collections of the world for all records of melanism in *Felidae.* No zoo ever reported having had, and no animal dealer ever reported having dealt with, a black *Felis concolor.*

Mr. Bradley seems to be under the influence of my late friend Bruce Wright's statements about the *apparent* melanism in some large felines currently being seen in New Brunswick, and has come forth with a bit of traditional non-thinking of his own. Sadly, the mystery cats of the world are not as easy for some Forteans to catalog as for example are the lake monsters, Bigfeet, and thunderbirds. These obviously aberrant beasties seem to be more palatable to Mr. Bradley and others. It saddens me a bit that while searching for a lake monster, Mr. Bradley would have such an excellent sighting of two felines and then so quickly miscatalog them via his linear thinking. I for one am more interested in what he saw, not what he thinks it was, or what he didn't see in Lake Pohenegamook.

Some references: Stanley R. Young and Edward A. Goldman (1946), *The Puma: Mysterious American Cat,* American Wildlife Institute. Loren Coleman (September 1974) "Melanistic Phases of Felidae in Captivity" in *Carnivore Genetics Newsletter.* Roy Robinson (February 1976) "Homologous Genetic Variation in the *Felidae", Genetica 46.*

—Loren Coleman

I am pleased to become a member of SITU. I hope I can become a regular contributor of articles for the publication. I am an inventor with training and interests in many varied fields. I believe that many of my ideas will be of interest to many readers of *Pursuit.* I will be happy to pass along items of interest except for a few (at this time classified) projects. I would also like to correspond with persons like myself, educated in electronics, mechanics, parapsychology—free spirits, who have an open mind and are willing to share ideas and interests. I would especially like to work with as many SITU members as possible who live in Arizona and especially around the Tucson area. I have a desire to do the impossible and explore the unknown. If any person, male or female, wishes to contact me, write: P. O. Box 43896, Tucson, AZ 85733, or call 323-1082 in Tucson.

—Joseph Pruente

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ORIGINS OF SITU/PURSUIT

Zoologist, biologist, botanist and geologist Ivan T. Sanderson, F.L.S., F.R.G.S., F.Z.S., in association with a number of other distinguished authors, established in 1965 a "foundation" for the exposition and research of the paranormal—those "disquieting mysteries of the natural world" to which they had devoted much of their investigative lifetimes.

As a means of persuading other professionals, and non-professionals having interests similar to their own, to enlist in an uncommon cause, the steering group decided to publish a newsletter. The first issue came out in May 1967. The response, though not overwhelming, was sufficient to reassure the founding fathers that public interest in the what, why and where of their work would indeed survive them.

Newsletter No. 2, dated March 1968, announced new plans for the Sanderson foundation: a structure larger than its architects had first envisioned was to be built upon it, the whole to be called the Society for the Investigation of The Unexplained, as set forth in documents filed with the New Jersey Secretary of State. The choice of name was prophetic, for Dr. Sanderson titled one of the last of his two-dozen books "Investigating the Unexplained," published in 1972 and dedicated to the Society.

Another publication was issued in June 1968, but "newsletter" was now a subtitle; above it the name *Pursuit* was displayed for the first time. Vol. 1, No. 4 in September 1968 ("incorporating the fourth Society newsletter") noted that "the abbreviation SITU has now been formally adopted as the designation of our Society." Issue number 4 moreover introduced the Scientific Advisory Board, listing the names and affiliations of the advisors. Administrative matters no longer dominated the contents; these were relegated to the last four of the twenty pages. Most of the issue was given over to investigative reporting on phenomena such as "a great armadillo (6 feet long, 3 feet high) said to have been captured in Argentina"—the instant transportation of solid objects "from one place to another and even through solids"—the attack on the famed University of Colorado UFO Project headed by Dr. Edward U. Condon—and some updated information about "ringing rocks" and "stone spheres."

Thus SITU was born, and thus *Pursuit* began to chronicle our Investigation of The Unexplained.

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Thanks—and a Look Ahead

by Robert C. Warth

President of SITU and Publisher of *Pursuit*

IN A QUESTIONNAIRE last Fall we asked you for your opinion of *Pursuit*. Your response was generous, thoughtful and constructive. It produced the most enlightening information we have received since SITU's inception in 1965.

We are most grateful to all of you who took so much time to express your feelings and wishes, to criticize and to suggest, in explicit detail as becomes the questioning spirit that guides all our efforts.

Pursuit's purpose is to try to express a realistic view of what is unexplained in nature, how it is interpreted by both observers and analysts, and what efforts are being made to fit such data into the limited realm of knowledge available to us.

We live in a society where we are expected to strive both individually and collectively toward doing or becoming "the best" in some skill or venture. The goal of *Pursuit* is to become the best at keeping its readers informed about the progress that is being made toward solving the myriad mysteries of our world and the universe.

Ivan T. Sanderson, SITU's founder, had a unique talent. His grasp of many complex subjects was as firm as anyone's, but what greatly distinguished him was his fascinating *style*—his ability to analyze reasonably and explain lucidly what he knew. The questionnaire responses indicate that most of you, whether or not you are familiar with Ivan's books, want less abstract, complicated or "pseudo-intellectually written" articles in our journal. You asked for more easily readable contents, with presentation of such technical, investigative data as can be understood by liberal-educated persons whose common possession is a high degree of curiosity but not necessarily "credentialed" by a graduate degree in a science specialty.

Generally you asked for more news items and shorter as well as less-technical feature reports. You asked also for more facts and evidence, more objectivity, less wild speculation, less surface, more depth. Yet, you cautioned, the responsible use, and usefulness of imagination should not be denied the searcher; for without first imagining an objective, none would bother to seek it, or know how or where to begin looking.

We realize that we cannot please everyone, nor should we. But most want a diversity of articles in each issue of *Pursuit* rather than a "special" issue each quarter devoted to just one subject. The format you will be seeing in forthcoming issues will reflect your general response. For example, photographs on the cover may get the nod over artwork, but we still will welcome contributions from our staff artist or any other talented artist. And we will be increasing or decreasing the various sections of the journal in continuing response to your expressed wishes.

Your enthusiasm and encouragement have been most heartwarming to our small, mostly voluntary staff. *Pursuit* has been considered by some respected critics as the top journal of its kind currently in print. Our purpose is to bring to you the finest quality of reporting and analysis within our means and reach. We wish we had the resources to increase frequency to monthly from quarterly, as some have suggested. But printing and mailing costs—to name just two obstacles—are such that tripling the production of *Pursuit* at this time would not be practical.

Every questionnaire and letter containing constructive opinions is welcome and all are carefully considered by more than one member of our staff. We thank you for your support and ask that you continue to let us know your feelings about what we are doing. A new questionnaire will be distributed at the end of this year.

Without you, neither SITU nor *Pursuit* could exist. With your continued support, both can do much.

You Can Help Someone Who Might Be Interested

Many people who haven't heard of SITU or *Pursuit* nevertheless have that strong curiosity which sorts them out of the general population as prime prospects for membership in SITU. Such folks need to know about us. Why not lend an issue of *Pursuit* to "look over"? A membership form like the one below will be found somewhere in each issue of our journal. Your "looker-over" can't help but see it while examining *Pursuit*, and if he or she decides in favor, the application will be used—you'll have done a good turn—SITU will have a new member—and (provided you ask) we will replace your "loaner" copy at no cost.

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