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'Science is the Pursuit of the Unexplained'

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The Michigan Atmospheric Light Show

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Cartoon by Michael D. Sword

THE SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

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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 cartoon by Michael D. Swords

Toward a Wider View

". . . the scientist is wiser not to withhold a single finding or a single conjecture from publicity." —J. W. VON GOETHE

While a vast majority of our membership and readers have been complimentary concerning our choice of material for *Pursuit*, some Fortean "fundamentalists" seem vexed that we have dared to publish commentary on energy anomalies, fields of parapsychology, even on the mysteries of astrology—to name a few.

In looking for the cause(s) of unexplained phenomena we felt it was time to expand our horizons in the quest for truthful answers. After all, Charles Fort started it when he brought anomalies to the public's attention in his four books.

In the fifty years since Fort's death, thousands more such reports have been collected by his faithful followers. This growing collection of data, while essential to the development of theories on the fundamental causes of anomalies, should not ritually supplant the work of serious investigators but should supplement it.

For instance, Dr. Michael Persinger's efforts to unify Fortean data must be encouraged and made known. Dr. Thomas Bearden wants to have a computer network established to exchange new data. He further believes that concepts of energy that Nikola Tesla pioneered a century ago and which are now only beginning to be understood and applied, may eventually explain many types of anomalies that Forteans have recorded.

We hope that both Charles Fort and Ivan T. Sanderson, wherever they may be, do understand and agree with the goals of *Pursuit*. I like to think that Ivan is still saying, as he often said when I knew him, "let's get on with it." —R.C.W.

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Geological Evidences of NOAH'S FLOOD

by Evan Hansen

OF ALL THE CONFLICTS between science and religion, there is one subject that has suffered more misunderstanding than almost any other. This is the dispute over the reality of the biblical story of Noah's Flood. The conflict is not the result of lack of physical proof, but arises from the fact that advocates on various sides of the issue have been so long antagonistic to each other that no one seems willing to responsibly consider either the claims of others or even evidence that favors their own position.

This article is presented in the hope of shaking up certain people to examine the available evidence at hand, cease pandering to blind prejudice, and get on with the important task of determining the truth.

Theology is left to the reader. Whether there is a God, the nature of God, or whether God caused the Flood are questions intentionally omitted from discussion; such matters are indeterminable within the scope of this report, are not necessarily dependent on physical "proof," and will be touched upon only to explain how I became interested in Noah's Flood and why I have worked long and hard to assemble the evidence of its reality which follows.

Because I was born into a religious family, my early training was to accept the Bible as fact. I was 16 years old when my father took me prospecting for uranium in the canyon country of eastern Utah, and that experience hooked me on geology. It was no difficult task to find convincing evidence that this land had been subjected to a catastrophic flood, but of a kind that bore no similarity to the familiar one told about in church. While still in my teens, I became convinced that finding the truth would require total rejection of both sides of the conflict before reconstructing the picture piece by piece, matching fact to fact and discarding many old assumptions and assertions as misfits. It has taken much of my lifetime to reconstruct a viable theory that matches both geology and the Bible.

The Delphic Oracle once declared that Socrates was the wisest man in Greece. Asked by his followers to comment, Socrates pondered awhile, then said the pronouncement was probably true because "the only thing I know for certain is that I know nothing at all." Since no other Greek was wise enough to be so certain of his own ignorance, Socrates' reply probably did indicate that he was wisest. Anyone like myself who becomes involved in a subject as broad and deep as this must surely agree that education consists of learning to be aware of one's own ignorance. No doubt further research will modify the evidence offered here, but I firmly believe the basic concept will be sustained.

Perhaps the best place to start is with the biblical account in Genesis 6:14-8:19. Whatever opinion the reader may hold about theological matters, there is no denying that Noah was an ordinary man; and, if we grant that he was a truthful witness, all we can expect is that he recorded what he experienced. Noah, of course, had no way of knowing what happened in Australia, Africa, Asia or America, and statements such as the one in Genesis 7:19 that "all the high hills that were under the whole heaven were covered" must not be taken literally; "the high hills" means only those within Noah's view.

Let's examine the story in sequence. Genesis 7:11 states that "the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up." Since the "great deep" can only be the ocean, what occurred was a tsunami, or as it is commonly called, a tidal wave. It inundated the land and was followed by forty days and nights of rain. Water rose over the land until the ark floated.

In verse 20, the Genesis account takes a statistical turn: "Fifteen cubits did the water prevail; and the mountains were covered." These mountains, however, could not have stood much above sea level or the surrounding land. The classical dimension of a cubit was the distance from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger, a length which varied proportionately to stature. Modern scholars have long since fixed the length of the "common cubit" at 18 inches, but there were "uncommon" cubits as long as 21 inches. Even allowing a longer cubit, the water depth at flood stage could not have been much more than thirty feet.

Another mistaken assumption, that the ark grounded on the *highest* peak of Mount Ararat, is also contradicted by logic, careful reading, and common sense. The highest peak in the Ararat Range rises 16,946 feet above sea level — which converts to a flood water depth of 3.2 miles. But the script doesn't say "highest;" Genesis 8:4 refers only to the "mountains of Ararat" — plural, not singular. This can best be understood to mean "somewhere in the Ararat Range."

Additional evidence is adduced from Genesis 11:2 which says that on leaving Ararat, "they journeyed from the *east*" to reach "a plain in the land of Shinar" (a location between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, now called Sumer). Since the peak we call Ararat is *north* of Sumer, it cannot be the place where Noah landed. The real landing place must be in the Zagros Range, the only mountainous area east of Sumer. (Original place-names are not necessarily the same ones now in use, especially when a place may have remained unnamed for so long a time that its true location has been lost from memory.) Perhaps the biblical historians mentioned the "highest" peak because they assumed that the ark would ground on the first peak to be exposed when

the waters receded. Better reasoning challenges that assumption and suggests that the ark grounded wherever it happened to be at the moment there was no longer enough water to keep it afloat.

According to the record, the rain ended after forty days, but the ark continued to float until the 150th day. If the ark grounded on any peak anywhere, how could it remain afloat 110 days after the rain stopped? Even a child knows that water runs downhill. No matter how heavy the rain may have been, the peaks would begin to "rise" immediately the rain ceased — within minutes, not months. The Flood began on the seventeenth day of the second month and the ark gounded on the seventeenth day of the seventh month, according to Genesis 8:4. But it took until day one of the tenth month for the tops of the mountains to become visible — seventy-three days after the ark grounded. Heavy mist obscured the view out the window long after the rain quit, and another seven months went by before the occupants could leave the ark. They were inside for one year and ten days. Why would they remain in the ark that long if it grounded within 150 days? And why did they send out the raven and the dove? What of the olive leaf? How could a tree still bear leaves after a year under water?

These clues add up to the reasonable conclusion that the ark did not ground on a peak; instead, it was trapped in a basin-like valley at a relatively low elevation where the drainage was sluggish and the drainage-time lengthy. The window in the ark would have been made small lest it diminish the strength of the craft; the usefulness of a messenger bird would be indicated by the limited view available to those on board.

If the first happening was a tidal wave, the ark could have been pushed up into the mountains, but not across more than two or three ridges. Once the ark reached a "basin" filled with water, it would move with the current toward the outlet where it would ground while the water remained deep for many weeks. The height of the ark was thirty cubits and we may suppose it was constructed of huge, solid timbers so that after taking on its heavy cargo, half the hull was probably submerged. Thus is might find bottom in twenty to thirty feet of water. It could never be carried to the outlet of the basin but would be trapped hundreds of feet from shore where it would remain until the water evaporated. That the ark was not depopulated until a year after a forty-day period of torrential rain is a reasonable expectation — one which remodels the story of the Flood in terms that are fully acceptable to modern science.

Our present churches originated during the Middle Ages, when science simply did not exist. Small wonder that much ignorance and superstition was enshrined as fact. Today we are under no such limitations. We do have science, and we have records of many ancient cultures to compare with our own. What follows is a reconciliation of the biblical story of Noah's Flood with the erosion effects in the mountains around me that I have known about since teen-age and have intensely studied in more recent years.

I have a friend, Dave Palmer, who lives in California. He spends his vacations in Utah just so we can argue. In one of our discussions we got to talking about the reality of the Flood, and the two of us drove up into the hills to see an erosion channel I knew about. There was no doubt in my mind that the channel had been caused by erosion, and he quickly agreed. It was of much greater size than any modern erosion could produce. By reference to a topographical map we were able to calculate the approximate size of the area that drained into the channel. Here was "hard evidence" of just such a catastrophe as the Bible described! During the next several months I was to revisit the hills many times to take measurements, while Dave used his access to the colleges in California to collect other data.

I have been farming since 1963. We irrigate with sprinklers now, but for the first fifteen years we flood-irrigated out of ditches. Those tedious years of shoveling-up washed-out irrigation ditches provided ample opportunity to observe the laws of erosion and the deposition of sediment.

The exact forms that occur in my ditches are also found in the mountains, the only difference being size. So while Dave was searching out data, I was taking measurements of land forms, hoping to work out the amount of rainfall by comparing the mountain forms with miniatures created under known conditions both by natural rainfall in a vast area and in my ditches. Anyone who is willing to go out in a rainstorm and sit beside a ditch for long enough to watch water move sediment can see for himself or herself a similar demonstration of erosion and deposition of soil. Such miniature forms can then be compared to mountain forms and the difference of size used to calculate the amount of rainfall.

Because I live close to the southernmost arm of Lake Bonneville (which covered western Utah during Pleistocene times), it seemed to me the ideal place to study the effects of catastrophic flooding. My study of miniature forms had already shown that evidence of flooding is not to be found everywhere. If land is basically flat and level, the effect will be very slight. Perhaps shallow channels will be cut, or sediment deposited on the old surface, but such effects occur under ordinary conditions. Good evidence of catastrophic flooding is found in a locale where high mountains drain into common channels and there is a "basin" to collect water as a standing lake, with outlets at known levels. Fortunately for our study, this immediate region has all of the required features.

Dave discovered a report made by the U.S. Geological

Did Noah's Ark Land on Ararat's Highest Peak?

Former Astronaut's Second Expedition To Search Anew for Evidence

In the summer of 1982 former U.S. astronaut James Irwin led an expedition to Mount Ararat in Turkey. He wanted to find evidence that Noah's Ark came to rest on the 16,946-foot peak after the biblical Great Flood subsided. Irwin's attempt was cut short when he fell 100 feet from an icy ridge and was found only after an 18-hour search by his associates; he then spent more than a week in a hospital, recovering from bruises and other injuries.

Irwin returned to Turkey this summer, determined to resume his quest. His 23-member reconstituted team includes scientists from various disciplines and well-equipped professional climbers. The 52-year-old former astronaut regards his efforts to reach the summit of Ararat as only a bit less daunting than his ride to the moon aboard the Apollo-Saturn 15 mission in 1971. Although Irwin himself failed in last year's attempt, two other Americans in his party did conquer the glacial slopes to arrive at the "highest peak," where the Book of Genesis alleges the Ark grounded.

Turkish authorities have expressed enthusiasm for Irwin's search and have given the expeditions much logistical support, being mindful of tribal legends based on the Koran which closely parallel the western, biblical version of Noah's story. Each winter, Kurdish tribes in the Ararat region hold prayer rites in tribute to Noah, and some local Moslem mullahs even claim to be his kin.

Kasim Gulek, a former member of the Turkish parliament, was asked what he thought the searchers might find. "I believe Irwin will find important things this time," he answered.

SOURCE: UPI from Ankara, Turkey, via *Schenectady* (N.Y.) *Gazette*, 8/17/83. CREDIT: R. Girard.

Survey at Menlo Park which gave us necessary data on Lake Bonneville. Vital to our investigation was the fact that Bonneville had only one outlet — past Red Rock pass, into the Snake River, past what is now Pocatello, Idaho. This outlet was 5140 feet above sea level. Beyond that elevation it was impossible for the lake to rise under ordinary conditions; excess water would simply overflow and the level of the lake would remain at or below this limit. Indeed, the same level is maintained throughout the entire Bonneville basin. It is marked by the most prominent terrace line wherever one is to be seen. Not all locations are now at the 5140-foot level because of isostatic rebound, but the amount of rise is always in a direct ratio to water depth.

The term isostatic equilibrium is used to describe a floating object's state of rest when it has reached a stable depth. The crust of the Earth is a lighter rock than the semi-molten rock of the core. That is why we have continents instead of a uniform surface at one common level. A more familiar example is a boat floating in water. As cargo is added, the boat sinks deeper until it displaces water equal to the added weight of the cargo; as cargo is unloaded, the boat rises proportionately to the weight removed. When the boat no longer rises or sinks, it has reached equilibrium.

The water in Lake Bonneville had the same effect on the crust of the Earth as adding cargo to a boat: it sank deeper into the core. When Bonneville dried up, the weight of the water was removed and the crust rose to compensate. In places of greater depth of water, the top terrace is now at 5200 feet or higher, but in shallower depths it has risen only slightly or not at all. At any rate, the uplift remains proportionate to the water depth. Since the core of the Earth is not liquid but is plastic, the rebound to a stable level requires centuries whereas a boat reaches the state of equilibrium almost instantly. The process is the same, whatever the time factor.

The outlet of Lake Bonneville was stable at the 5140-foot level for a long enough time to form a major terrace at that elevation throughout the Bonneville basin. But when the Flood hit, the outflow of water was so great that it cut the channel to the 4800-foot level. Bonneville drained to that point; below it, the water evaporated. Every terrace line below 4800 feet is wave-cut, while those above 4800 feet are deposition terraces. Once we compensate for the isostatic rebound, it becomes clearly evident that no terrace of any kind can exist above the 5140-foot level under normal conditions; only a catastrophic flood of greater magnitude than the outlet capacity could rise above that level.

With this information for guidance, it was possible to view the channels leading into Bonneville as historic signs, posted to tell about the amounts of water that once flooded this land. Because of my 15 years' experience with irrigation ditches, I found the observed landforms easy to interpret. The adjacent photographs show miniature land forms as they developed under observed conditions; the mountain forms are shown in large photos for comparison. These illustrations may help to guide readers who wish to investigate similar effects possibly apparent in their own regions.

Erosion/deposition depend on two factors: one is the volume of water; the other is its speed. A common misconception of conventional geology is that a small flow over a long time-period will produce the same effect as a catastrophic flow for a short time. This has led to an overly extended time estimate and a reduction of estimated water flow. Once the misunderstanding is corrected, virtually everything else in conventional geology upholds this theory. Its acceptance does not require anyone to abandon established principles of geology; however, consideration by an open mind may reveal much about what caused it all to happen.

The energy of any moving object, water included, is half the mass multiplied by the square of the velocity. The significance is that water moving at high speed is more erosive than a larger flow at low speed. Of course, if more water is moving on a given slope, the speed increases with volume. So both work together.

Using a lake basin in a study such as this is advantageous because it enables very drastic changes in water-speed to show their effects in an area small enough to aid our comprehension. If mountains are exposed above water level, the speed of flow will be great because of steep slopes in the canyons. Upon reaching standing lake water, the speed is greatly reduced, thus forcing the flow to drop its load of sediment. In such an area, many separate conditions can exist in close order and we are given an accurate idea of the cause of each thing that forms.

Fig. 1 shows a borrow pit alongside a road. During summer rains, it was filled with water about a foot deep. Above this water level, the rain has cut many channels in the exposed surface. Sediment was dropped below the water level to form a bajada (pronounced ba-ha-da, the word translates from Spanish as a descent or slope). As a geological term, bajada is commonly understood to mean a succession of overlapping alluvial fans. Since a bajada has its top edge at the same level all along the structure, it shows where water stood, if only briefly. If no standing water existed, big flows would start to drop sediment at a higher level.

Two factors can cause sediment to drop: either when the flow reaches standing water, or when it encounters less slope. Both conditions reduce water speed, letting sediment fall. There are several ways to tell which is the cause, but the realistic principle is that standing water puts the start of deposition at water level, regardless of the size of the flow.

Fig. 2 shows the bajada in the mountain at the north of this valley. Note that the bajada starts at the same level below the peaks as in the mouth of the canyon which is centered in the photo. Comparison with Fig. 1 shows the similarity of peaks exposed to rain in both, as well as identical forms of sediment deposition below the water level. This huge bajada top stands about 6000 feet above and throughout the Bonneville basin; it indicates a one-time water level at that depth, however briefly it may have held there. The natural markings indicate two separate floods spaced by a lengthy interval or two stages of a single flood event. Since present evidence points both ways, this and other questions cannot be answered until more evidence is found. My inclination is to believe that both kinds of flooding probably occurred.

Fig. 3 shows the two types of terrace formations. As sediment is dropped by a flow of water hitting a standing lake, the reduction of speed of the water is sudden. Virtually the entire load of sediment is dropped in a very short space. Everything but silt and clay fall immediately. A clear terrace forms, with a convex edge. Heavy sediment — boulders, rocks, gravel and some soil — fall out as soon as the standing water is reached. Progressively finer sediments drop as the flow spreads wider and wider. Then, as the sediment fills the depression of the lake, the water becomes shallower and water speed increases until the sediment rolls across the surface of the terrace and drops at the edge as soon as deeper water is reached. The top of such a terrace is a gentle slope and the edge is convex; any convex terrace may thus be identified as a result of the deposition.

A standing body of water also cuts terraces, but in a concave form that indicates wave action. The wave action moves

Fig. 1



Fig. 2

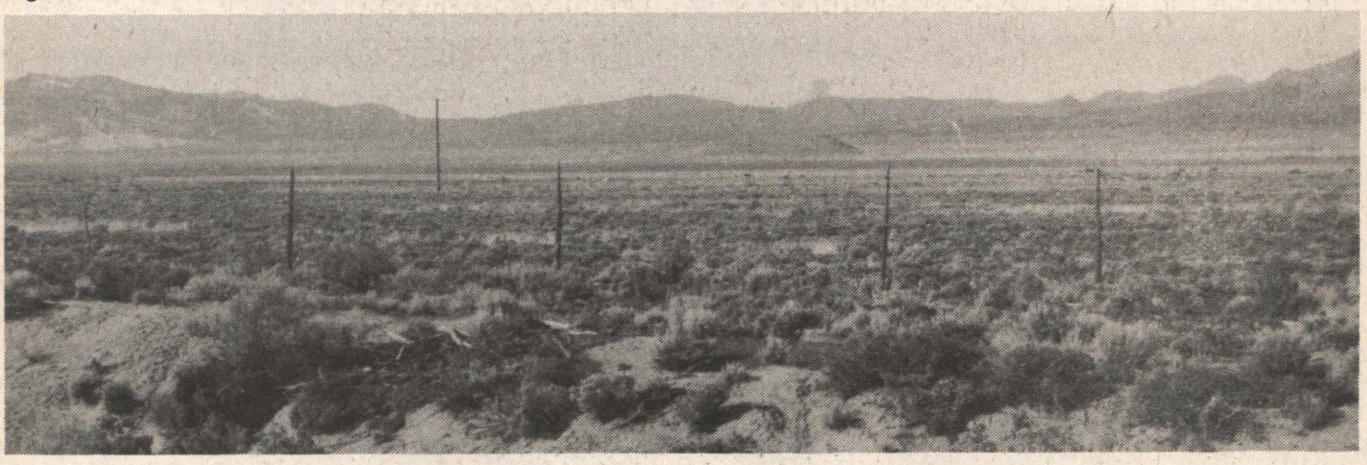


Fig. 3



sediment but can't carry it away. The sediment can only drop again below the depth of wave-cutting. A wave-cut terrace is a concavity with the backwash sediment deposited immediately below. Since Fig. 3 shows the result of rainfall bringing in a deposition terrace, and of later wave action cutting a concave form, both the convex and concave shapes are evident. All terraces below the 4800-foot level in the Bonneville basin are wave-cut, while those at 5140 feet and above are convex, indicating the latter as deposition terraces.

Fig. 4 shows a convex deposition terrace located northwest of Lund, Utah. This is clear evidence that Bonneville had water deeper than 5140 feet. When I began this study, my first map was in a scale of 1/4 inch to the mile and it showed this terrace at the 5400-foot level. Later, I noted on a map of larger scale that the north end of the five-mile-long terrace stands at 5300 feet and the south end at 5200 feet, so perhaps one end rose and the other end subsided; further study is needed to account for the difference. One other terrace in the valley stands at 5290 feet. On the basis of evidence so far compiled, it seems safe to say that this end of Bonneville had roughly 150 feet more water depth than it would have had without the intervention of a catastrophic flood.

In my judgment, the effects of isostatic rebound need not be considered. At this end of Bonneville, with the valley surface at 5130 feet, there was virtually no depth at all — only swampy conditions. I have located the 5140-foot line, always within 20 feet of 5140, in several places, including the valley immediately below this terrace. The 5300-foot line is apparent throughout the southern third of the Bonneville basin, but it fades to nothing at the north end. There is no doubt that water did stand at roughly 5300 feet, at least long enough to deposit a terrace. It was the last event of the Flood; when the rain ended, we became a desert immediately and the evidence dried out for permanent preservation.

Alluvial fans provide additional strong evidence of catastrophic flooding. These are the result of streams of water loaded with sediment hitting a more moderate slope and dropping their load gradually. When confined by a canyon, water moving down a steep slope can hold an unbelievably big load in suspension. Even if no lake is present, the flow will reduce speed once it is no longer confined by the walls of the canyon. The flow spreads out and the depth of water lessens as the flow widens. Boulders drop first, at the mouth of the canyon. As the flow continues to widen and becomes increasingly shallow, each size of sediment falls out in sequence. Sediment continues to be carried until the flow spreads so wide that the water can no longer hold any material in suspension. The result is a pile of sediment that spreads even wider the farther the flow travels beyond the canyon mouth. Because such a flow spreads like an opening fan, it was given that name.

Conventional geology misinterprets the cause of fan-formation. It assumes that sediment fills in a channel, forcing subsequent floods to cut a new channel alongside; thus the fan is the sum of hundreds of different flows. This is wrong! Repeated behavior of miniatures indicates that alluvial fans form only when the surface of the fan is submerged. When the water flow further diminishes, it cuts a smaller channel across the face of the fan and redeposits a new, smaller fan at a lower level, as shown in Fig. 5.

The bajada is a form halfway between a terrace and a fan. It takes shape only where there is standing lake water; moreover, the flow must be shallow enough and the amount of inflow sufficient (from many canyons entering side by side) to cause a current in the lake itself. The movement of the sediments is lateral and a smooth unit is formed instead of a pattern of several unrelated fans; coalesced alluvial fans, in contrast, show clear boundaries between individual fans. Fig. 1 shows the smooth unification that has taken place despite the many sources of sediment.

Fig. 5 reveals another clue. The wave-cut terrace shows the level of standing water when the rain ended. Note that a channel was cut in the sediments above the water line, but it ends at the water level. The same feature is evident in the channels which come out of all the canyons that drain into the Bonneville basin. The elevation where the channels end is roughly at the 5300-foot level, thus confirming the terraces as true water lines.

Fig. 6 shows a spot where rain filled in a borrow pit along a road with alluvial fan and terraces forming. The borrow pit



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

was full of water, so the sediment formed a deposition terrace as the flow reached standing water. The part crossing the road was above water and subject only to the inflow effect. The result is a classical alluvial fan on the road itself. The flow diminished until it could no longer cover the whole fan at one time. But the borrow pit, being lower, was draining away the water, so the reduced flow went into it instead of crossing the road. (One of the easiest forms to reproduce in miniature is the alluvial fan. Just by running a garden hose into a pit, anyone can form miniatures and observe the action.)

Another point of interest in Fig. 6 is the incoming channel: it is not V-shaped, as many people assume a channel should be. Instead, it has a wide, flat bottom. Erosion does not occur in the bottom, but it does cut the sides, and the gravel deposited helps to shield the bottom against cutting. The process becomes clear once it is understood that suspension of sediment is a factor of water speed. Visualize a channel on a constant slope. If the channel is constricted in either width or depth, the water speed will increase; the flow's ability to hold sediment will also increase, and erosion occurs. But if the size of the channel is enlarged, the water slows and sediment is dropped. Friction slows water speed, and since friction is greatest against the bottom because of the weight of water above, the bottom water will be dropping sediment at the same time the sides are being cut wider. The result is a wide, flat bottom, not a V-shaped one. Every channel, large or small, must form at a variable ratio of width to depth; variable factors include steepness of slope and amount of material in suspension. It is difficult to work out a formula that will give an accurate measure of water volume if only channel size is considered.

Fig. 7 shows a channel cut by the Flood. The location is northeast of Beryl, Utah, near a railroad siding called Zane. This is the channel that inspired my study. The photo was taken just above the point where the flow reached standing lake water. Here the channel is nearly a quarter-mile wide. The top of the bajada is visible at middle-distance.

I used the Zane channel as the basis for calculating water depth, since further upstream it is diverted by a ledge of volcanic rock into an S-curve, a constriction which reduced the width to 200 yards. Erosion marks on the ledge enabled me to measure water depth as 20-25 feet; the slope is about 100 feet per mile. This suggests a good-sized river by any comparison — certain-



Fig. 7

ly a bigger flow than the present Colorado River. However, my map showed that the channel drained an area of only 90 square miles (it measured eight miles wide by 11 miles long). Only as a result of catastrophic flooding could enough water collect to form such a channel.*

Every canyon draining into the valley has a channel of similar proportions. For example, a few miles east of Zane there is a channel that drains an area eight by twelve miles; the channel is 220 yards wide. Each channel, regardless of size, has a modern flood-channel cut into its floor. In every instance the width of the modern channel is approximately 10% of the old channel's width. In the above example of a 200-yard-wide channel there is a modern channel about 20 yards wide. Since the same depth ratio also holds, we may assume that a flash flood of present times would not exceed 1% of the total amount of water dispersed during Noah's Flood. While this is only a rough estimate, it gives an impressive idea of the huge water flow required to cut such channels.

Following the same channel upstream, we come to a place where an extrusion of volcanic rock protruded into the channel and diverted the flow. The Fig. 8 photo was taken from the protruding ledge which diverted the water to the left where it hit the hill and gouged out a high, narrow cut in the solid rock. Most of the ledge soon eroded and the flow moved farther to the right where it dug a wider, shallower cut. The combined width of the two cuts is 190 yards. The modern flood channel can be seen on the floor of the old channel. This is no unique formation; wherever such a flow hit an obstacle, it always made a cut of similar dimensions.

Fig. 9 shows a similar formation west of Modena, Utah, where the Gold Spring Canyon joins the main canyon. The drainage area covers some 90 square miles and is about the same size as the Zane canyon described above. But instead of striking a glancing blow as it did there, the flow here hit dead-center. This hill also is volcanic rock — hard enough to scratch glass, brittle enough to shatter under a massive force suddenly applied, yet impervious to the action of ordinary erosion. The face of the cut measures 35 yards from top to bottom and is 150 yards wide, but the modern channel is only about 20 yards wide and diverts before it reaches the hill. How so small a flow could cut 150 yards out of rock that hard over any time-span is a question no amount of imagination can answer.

The strongest evidence of catastrophic flooding rather than smaller flows over longer times is the size of the material that has been moved. The size of sediment is in direct proportion to the size of the flow. In the example cited above, the flow from the 220-yard-wide channel met the standing water of Lake Bonneville at the 5300-foot level (clearly defined shorelines show where the lake ended). The flow carried rocks, each as big as a ton, a distance of 500 yards past the shoreline and dropped smaller stones as far as the eye can see. At five miles from the mouth of the channel the rocks are still of a size that I can

*This is how I calculated water flow: First, I took 5280 squared, to get the number of square feet in a square mile. Multiplying this by 90 gave the watershed area. Next, I multiplied 600 feet (of channel width) by both 20 and 25 to get a cross-section in feet. If the water was moving past a point at 1 mph, the number of cubic feet passing per hour would thus be counted. I divided this into the watershed area and figures just above and just below 35 resulted. This meant that if the water was moving about 35 mph, rainfall had to be one foot per hour. Since we have no rivers of 600-foot width and 20-to 25-foot depth on a slope of 100 feet per mile, we have no way to know the speed of such a flow. Because the 35 mph speed seems both logical and possible, I estimated a rainfall of roughly one foot per hour to cut this channel. If water in such a channel moves faster than 35 mph, the rainfall was greater; if it moves more slowly than 35 mph, the rainfall was less. This is only a ballpark estimate. Anyone who can improve on it will get my sincere thanks. —E.H.



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

roll, but not lift even slightly; this suggests a weight of about 500 pounds. There is just no way a modern flash flood could carry rocks that size over such a distance.

Another example: Cedar City, Utah, is built on the alluvial fan at the mouth of Cedar Canyon. The industrial section at the west edge of town is five to six miles distant from the mouth of the canyon. Excavation for the industrial construction revealed many rocks the size of a compact car. They were so big that the developers didn't even want to think about the expense of blasting them to manageable size and hauling them elsewhere. The solution pleased everybody: the largest boulders were left in place and the factory grounds were attractively landscaped around them. It seems to me they have their own story to tell about the Flood: The canyon drains an area of less than 150 square miles; to move rocks of that size a distance of five or six miles from the mouth of the canyon would require rainfall of nearly *one foot per hour.*

Evan Hansen's modern realization of Noah's Flood is being published in two parts. Part two will appear in our next issue.
—Ed.

Zhou Guoxing's Analysis of the 'Zhuantang Ape-Man'

Comments by Jon Erik Beckjord

The 'Zhuantang Ape-Man' won instant fame in 1980 when a team of scientists, searching in vain for evidence of the yeti in central and eastern China, found instead the remarkably preserved remains of an unknown animal at first thought to be a form of ape.

Zhuantang is the name of the village where the creature was killed, in May 1957, by a group of women after it had attacked a young girl. The villagers immediately dismembered the body, but a young biology teacher named Zhou Shousong recovered the hands and feet and gave them sanctuary in his school laboratory. When the scientific team tracked down the teacher at a different school 23 years later, they found the remains still so lifelike that the finest details came out on film with a sharpness that flouted all thought of later "enhancement," by computer or otherwise. (See article and photos in *Pursuit* No. 54, Second Quarter 1981, pp. 64-66.)

The hands and feet were taken to the Academy of Sciences in Peking for examination by one of China's top zoologists, Dr. Zhou Guoxing. His report has been long awaited by "wildmen researchers" everywhere. We hoped his analysis would give a clue to the identity of the yeti, perhaps even of the North American Bigfoot.

But alas, we find that the physical proof of either of these creatures eludes us still, for Dr. Guoxing believes the hands and feet came from a new species of macaque, albeit a large one. The creature, he claims, was not even a pongid, but a monkey.

Whether or not Dr. Guoxing's judgment is correct, this is not the first time within our century that a new, large species of monkey has come on the zoological scene. While on a trip into the wilds of Venezuela in 1917, Swiss geologist Francois de Loys shot a large monkey that resembled in some ways the spider monkey of Central and South America. M. de Loys said that the monkey he shot was one of two sighted by members of his party.

The deceased monkey was placed in sitting position on a wooden box; a heavy stick, angled from under the chin to the ground, kept the body erect while photographs were taken.

Much controversy swirled around the de Loys trophy. At first called a "man-beast," the creature was later renamed "Loys' Ape." Unfortunately, de Loys was not able to bring it from Venezuela to any place where a thorough scientific examination could be made. He said that it weighed 112 pounds, was five feet tall, and had no tail. Curiously, the Chinese recited almost identical statistics for the "Zhuantang Ape-Man": weight about 100 pounds, height five feet, and no tail. (The South American spider monkey, however, has a notoriously long tail).

Dr. Guoxing's "monkey" classification may be a comfortable category for both these creatures, and further investigation may fix responsibility for many yeti and Bigfoot reports on some form of ape with monkey characteristics.

The UFO Name Game

by John Keel

ON August 7, 1806, a group of settlers around the odd natural formation called Chimney Rock in North Carolina observed an unusual phenomenon. According to the Rev. George Newton, who published a letter describing the episode in the Raleigh, N.C. Register of that month, a large group of luminous objects appeared in the air around the high column of rock. Some of the objects assumed the forms of human beings, and their luminosity was blinding. A similar formation of lights reappeared there in 1811. The local Cherokee Indians have legends about the place dating back hundreds of years.

One of the principal witnesses named in the Rev. Newton's account was Mrs. Patsy Reaves. One hundred and fifty-nine years later a John Reeves became involved in a sensational, widely-publicized flying saucer landing in Florida. The following spring, in 1966, a family named Reeves near Salem, Oregon, became plagued with strange spheres of light, apparently under intelligent control, which moved about the rooms of their house. Several police officers and reporters called to the scene also witnessed the phenomenon.

On the surface, these incidents appear to be unconnected coincidences. The witnesses involved were unrelated and were widely separated by space and time.

In December 1967, the Silver Bridge spanning the Ohio River at Point Pleasant, West Virginia, collapsed, carrying 40 people to their deaths. Point Pleasant had been very much in the news that year because of the almost constant UFO sightings. One of the bridge victims was an Air Force officer named Alvie Maddox.

Three months later a police officer in Texas named Alvis Maddox was mentioned in the press after allegedly seeing and pursuing a flying saucer in an area where another man, Carroll Watts, was claiming repeated visits from UFOs.

Another famous incident revolved around a Californian named Rex Heflin who took a series of controversial photographs of a flying saucer in 1965. On April 2, 1971, one Morris Heflin reportedly saw a circular metallic flying machine near Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Is the repetition of these names meaningless?

Over the past 28 years, hundreds of thousands of phenomenal events have been described in newspapers, magazines and books, and hundreds of thousands of witnesses have been named in print. When dealing with such a large body of evidence, or population, certain laws of probability should surface. We might expect that more Smiths would see more UFOs than anybody else, simply because there are more Smiths around. But in actuality, the name Smith rarely appears in a UFO report.

We might also expect the witness populations to conform to the national distributions, racially and religiously. Thus 10% of all witnesses should be black because 10% of the population is black. Five percent should be Jewish, 20% should be Catholic, and so on. However, it doesn't work out that way. Sightings of flying saucers and related phenomena appear to occur on a selected basis.

Among the names most frequently noted in UFO reports are Hill, Allen and Clark. Naturally, a great many other names also appear. Statistically, if 1,000 random events are reported this year, the names and backgrounds of the witnesses should balance out roughly to the distribution of the national population.

What are the odds for someone named Reeves seeing a UFO (or a ghost, for that matter) this year? They are approximately 400 million to one.

Adjacent are two boxed lists, one showing the ten most common surnames in the United States. These names should dominate the massive sighting data of the past 28 years. They don't. Jones, for example, is number five on the list but rarely appears in UFO reports. The most outstanding case was the low-level sighting of a metallic sphere reported by Tad Jones over a highway near Charlestown, West Virginia, in January 1967.

The second box gives information compiled from the New York City (Manhattan) telephone book, a directory which lists in total approximately 900,000 people. Of these, only 13 are named Reeve(s) and ten spell it Reaves, 23 out of 900,000. (There are 4,300 Smiths.) If a flying saucer should appear over New York City, and if it should be seen by only three people, the odds are far greater that one of those people would be named Smith rather than Reeves.

Heflin is an even rarer name. Only four Heflins are listed in the phone book. Yet two Heflins have not only been involved in important UFO incidents, but have experienced follow-up events as well. Rex Heflin allegedly received visits from bogus Air Force officers after the existence of his photos was revealed. Morris Heflin saw his mysterious UFO a second time, on May 8, 1971. This is like lightning striking in the same place twice.

The Ten Most Common Surnames in the U.S.

Surname	Number of Persons
1. Smith	1,678,815
2. Johnson	1,623,266
3. Williams(on)	1,079,986
4. Brown	951,320
5. Jones	922,913
6. Miller	807,086
7. Davis	729,371
8. Martin(ez), (son)	678,850
9. Anders(on)	589,676
10. Wilson	552,993

Source: U.S. Social Security Administration

Specific Names in the New York (Manhattan) Telephone Directory

Surname	Approx. Number
1. Smith	4,300
2. Johnson	2,500
3. Williams	3,120
4. Brown	3,840
5. Jones	2,160
6. Clark	1,200
7. Allen	960
8. Hill	480
9. Maddox	20
10. Reeve(s)	13
11. Reaves	13
12. Heflin	4
13. a. Kiehl	3
14. b. Kiel	9
15. c. Keel	7

Another rare name is Kiehl. Only three Kiehls are listed in the Manhattan directory. Shortly after the author's interest in the UFO phenomenon became publicly known in 1966, one William J. Kiehl surfaced on the U.S. West Coast and revealed an incredible sighting which had taken place 50 years earlier in Canada.

As a boy he had seen a saucer-shaped object hover over a lake, he said, and little men were visible. His story, remarkably detailed after such a long lapse of time, appears in the opening chapter of Coral Lorenzen's book *The UFO Occupants*. So far as is known, no other Kiehls/Kiels/Keels have been witnesses to any reported phenomena. This makes William J. Kiehl's account all the more remarkable.

The name Clark is number 18 on the Social Security Administration's list. There are at least 385,206 Clarks in the United States. A number of Clarks are prominent in ufology. Over the years several Clarks have been named in sighting reports.

Hill is another name that seems to pop up frequently, the most famous being the late Barney Hill who supposedly underwent an extraordinary contact experience. Incidentally, he was also one of the few blacks to become publicly identified with the phenomenon. Hill ranks as number 32 on the list (there are 289,655 of them, 480 of whom are listed in the Manhattan directory). Another famous contactee, George Adamski, bore an even scarcer name. A mere three are listed in Manhattan.

In a long line of controversial contact reports, the ufonauts have identified themselves with variations of the name Allen. Radio personality "Long John" Nebel frequently commented on this Allen correlation. The surname Allen is number 26 on the Social Security Administration's list, and about 960 Allens are listed in the New York telephone book. Like Clark, Allen has appeared frequently in sighting reports and a number of Allens are important in UFO lore: Carlos Allende, Dr. Gordon Allen, and the Alyn mentioned by assorted contactees.

If UFO sightings are completely sporadic and accidental, as most UFO enthusiasts believe, then many of these coincidences would have been next to impossible. Apparently there is a hidden factor here — a factor of selectivity. Either the phenomenon itself selects certain witnesses because of some obscure genealogical factor (this was, incidentally, one of Adamski's claims), or, if we care to be more pragmatic, certain strains in certain families suffer inherited traits which make them prone to hallucinations or psychic experiences. There is, in fact, interesting evidence that psychic ability is inherited.

Ralph Blum, the New York writer who authored *Beyond Earth: Man's Contact with UFOs*, told me that he, too, is concerned with the strange coincidences involving names. Many of the place-names and surnames in UFO reports, he points out, refer to water in various ways. The name Reeves is similar to a French word meaning "river bank." In English, "reeve" is a nautical term meaning to pass a rope through a hole.

In the Flying Saucer Review magazine special, "Beyond Condon," and in my books, I have pointed out that the names adopted by the entities usually have roots in ancient mythology. But I have always been baffled by Woodrow Derenberger's alleged contact (West Virginia, 1966) with an entity who called himself "Cold." This might be explained by John Mitchell's research into ancient leys (*The View Over Atlantis*, Ballantine Books). He points out (page 10) that the names "Red, White and Black are common [along ley routes]; so are Cold or Cole, Dod, Merry and Ley."

During my wanderings in West Virginia I found traces of leys, and it may be that Derenberger's first encounter took place at a point along an erased ley. UFO events, like religious events, are often allegorical and contain subtle, hidden clues.

It would take a computer project to sift and correlate the many thousands of names mentioned in the reports of the past 28 years. Statistically, as already stated, these reports should be dominated by Smiths, Johnsons, Williamses, Browns, and so on. In actual fact, less widely distributed names tend to dominate the reports. Those who have investigated and reported phenomenal occurrences in their own areas might list the names of all the people involved and try to determine their inter-relationship, if any.

It is always important to collect additionally the racial and religious backgrounds of the witnesses. An extraordinary number of American witnesses are either full-blooded Indians or have some Indian blood in their background. In a case investigated in Indiana during the mid-70s, the only Indian within a 200-square-mile area reported undergoing a series of repeated experiences with low-flying UFOs.

Flying saucers are not only defying

'Clive Greaves, Meet Clive Greaves'

Clive Greaves went to a party in New York several years ago and was told he wasn't Clive Greaves. Clive Greaves went to a Connecticut realtor a few years later and was told HE wasn't Clive Greaves.

A Kafkaesque nightmare?

No, just a case of two Clives with the same Greaves.

Clive W. Greaves, the one who went to the party, has been living in New York for ten years. He is a native of England and president of the Distillers Co., Ltd.

Clive L. Greaves, the one who went to the realtor, is president of the Economist Newspaper Group Ltd. He used to live in London but settled in New York City when he first came to the United States. He now lives in Connecticut, and that is part of the story.

At the party several years ago, Clive W. ran into a friend of Clive L.

"You're not Clive Greaves," the man insisted.

Since then, the Clives' lives have been moving closer together. In addition to the mirrored names and business titles, they are beginning to have mirrored existences and the problems that go with them.

The two men, besides having offices near each other, also live in neighboring Connecticut communities. Clive L. has a home in New Canaan. Clive W. lives in Darien.

Clive L. said when he went to the realtor to buy his home, "the realtor said I wasn't Clive Greaves, that he knew Clive Greaves. It seems Clive W. went to the same real estate man."

Since their offices are near each other, they also happen to frequent the same restaurants, which often results in reservation problems.

"Clive W. went to '21' last week," Clive L. said, "and they told him, 'Don't be ridiculous, your luncheon is tomorow.' You see, I was to have lunch there the next day. He wasn't very pleased."

So last week, the men decided to resolve at least the lunch problem by dining together — Clive Greaves, party of two at '21' — and they discovered other similarities.

Both have wives whose first names begin with J. (Janet is Clive L's and Jennie is Clive W's.) Each has a son and a daughter, and each has two aunts named Ivy and Violet.

"We also found out we were both keen golfers," Clive L. said. "He's threatening to play me. I say threatening because he's far better than me. If it were anyone else, I'd practice like hell to save the family name. But in this case there's no need to save it."

the laws of gravity and inertia; they are also defying the laws of probability in their uncanny selection of witnesses. If UFOs are genuine ultraterrestrial (inter-dimensional) or extraterrestrial phenomena, then *all this is an indication that they know more about us as individuals than we can suspect or rationalize.*

Skeptics, and those who would try to wish the whole thing away, might scoff that we are merely dealing with coincidences. It is, in fact, very true that incredible coincidences abound in Fortean experiences. Some investigators who are unprepared for the long arm of coincidence are often staggered by the sudden multiplication of events. Dr. Jacques Vallee, for example, was caught up in a series of games, the nature of which was familiar to students of psychic phenomena, but Dr. Vallee knew almost nothing about psychic lore and was quite taken aback. According to his book *Messengers of Deception*, after spending months of game-playing with an imaginary Order of Melchezedek in the belief that its members were behind the flying saucer enigma, Vallee climbed into a taxi in Los Angeles and discovered his driver's name was Melchezedek. It gave him pause.

I'll never forget the time that author Ralph Blum, his wife and I managed to flag down a taxi on a cold, rainy night in Manhattan and found our driver's name was also Ralph Blum! Since there are about 11,000 taxis in New York City, the odds for this happening were probably 11,000 to 1.

Anthropologist Loren Coleman discovered an even stranger coincidence. In 1958, two unrelated men named Charles Wetzel were involved in bizarre monster incidents. One apparently ran over a huge humanoid in Riverside, California; the case received extensive publicity at the time. The other Mr. Wetzel had an encounter with our six-foot-tall kangaroos near Grand Rapids, Nebraska, that same year. There are only 23 Wetzels in our trusty Manhattan directory. The chances for two men named Charles Wetzel being involved in paranormal experiences in the same year must be astronomical. (See Coleman's full report in *Pursuit*, Fourth Quarter 1982, pp. 155-156.)

Wamsley is another rare name that seems to bode ill for those who own it. In *The Mothman Prophecies*, I explained how members of a family named Wamsley were among the first people to become involved in the Mothman sightings of 1966 in West Virginia; and sadly to report, some members of the family were on the Silver Bridge when it collapsed in December 1967 and all were drowned. Eight years later, some Wamsleys living in New Jersey were startled to see a brightly illuminated UFO hovering just outside their house. While they (two adults and two teenagers) watched in astonishment, the object glided off down the street in the direction of a high-rise development known as the Stonehenge Apartments. Their sighting marked the beginning of the famous "Stonehenge landing," one of the best UFO sightings of that year. A newcomer to the UFO field, an artist named Budd Hopkins, investigated the Stonehenge affair and later described it in his book *Missing Time*. Hopkins was unfamiliar with the earlier episode in West Virginia.

There are only two Wamsleys listed in the Manhattan phone book, so it is a really rare name. Yet the UFO phenomenon has singled out two Wamsley families in two very important cases! How? Why? Back in the 1920s, Charles Fort noted that people named Ambrose seemed to be disappearing. He concluded that someone out there was collecting Ambroses. Are they also collecting Wamsleys?

The big question confronting the behavioral scientists now immersed in UFO studies is: Do the UFOs actually *select* their witnesses, or do specific people tend to create the experience from within themselves by some unknown mental process? Why do the Allens, Hills, Reeves, Heflins and Wamsleys see more of these things than the Smiths, Johnsons and Browns? We are obviously dealing with something far more complex than simple coincidence. There seems to be a hereditary factor at work in many cases in which several generations of a single family all become entangled in paranormal events. The phenomena somehow single out certain individuals, even in crowded cities, . . . and leave the rest of us alone. These are hardly the kind of games that wonderful extraterrestrial beings from some other world with a superior technology would play. Rather, all of the manifestations, no matter how physical they might seem, are closely related to us and to our minds.

I always keep in mind Ian Fleming's definition of events which repeat themselves: "Once is happenstance, twice is coincidence, three times is enemy action."

Memos & Miscellany

Please take notice that all articles, photographs, newsclips, book reviews and other contents including "letters to the editors" should now be sent directly to SITU headquarters in Little Silver, New Jersey, if they are to be considered for publication in *Pursuit.*

Henceforth, *everything* pertaining to your membership in SITU and all correspondence relating to the contents, production and mailing of *Pursuit* will be handled at one address, which is:

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This change is being made in the interest of improving our service to members. By centralizing operations at one address, we hope to eliminate those delays which inevitably occur when communications responsibilities are shared by two or more offices located many miles apart.

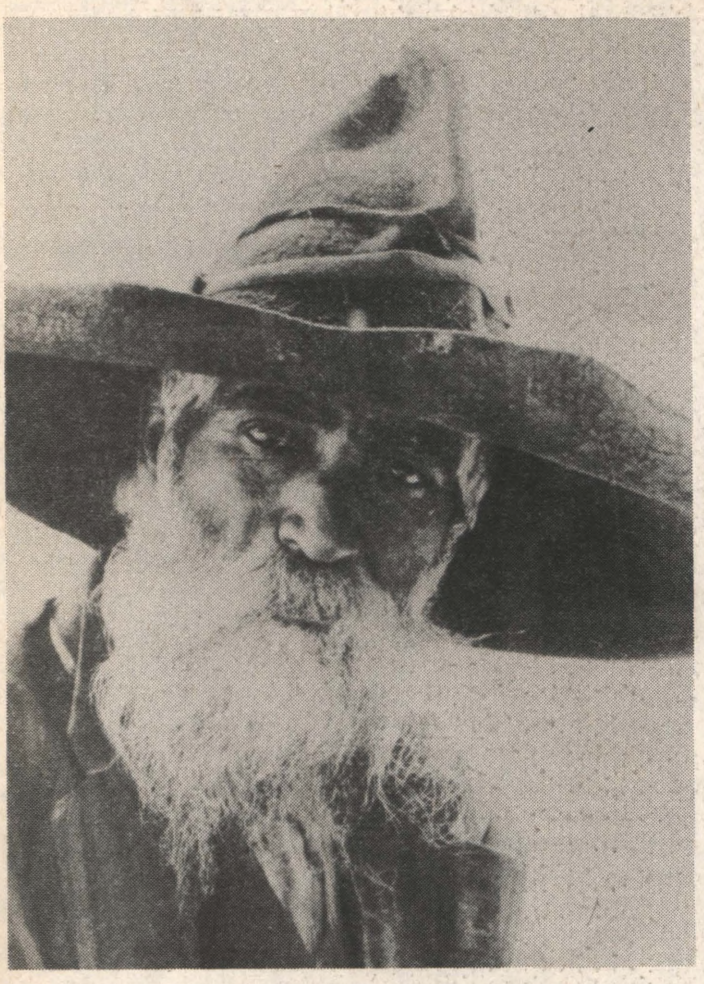
The information printed inside the front cover of this issue has been revised to accommodate this change; also included are guidelines for ordering "back issues" of *Pursuit.* Please turn to the inside front cover and read the three paragraphs under the first subheading, "MEMBERSHIP."

* * *

The number of newsclips contributed to our SITU*ations* columns has risen remarkably in each quarter of the past year, and there has been a corresponding

(Continued on page 137)

Don Pedro: The Southwest's Most Famous Curandero



by George Agogino

This article is based on field work and interviews by the author plus general information from the book *New Mexico Folklore of the Rio Abajo* by Jose Ortiz Pino, III; a book edited in 1951 by M. Hudson titled *Tone the Bell Easy*, and several short papers by J. Frank Dobie. My interviews were with curanderos in Portales, New Mexico; Alice, Texas; Douglas, Arizona; and the Mexican communities of Chihuahua, Satillo, Guanajuato and San Blas. Bobbie Ferguson, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Amarillo, Texas, served as a consultant and as editor of the paper.

THE CURANDERO, or folk healer, is not a professional in the sense that he has had formal training in the art of medicine; indeed, few curanderos today earn a complete living by their practice. They are members of the community, and most are regarded as specialists because they have learned more of the popular medical lore of the culture than have any other barrio (neighborhood) people. Curanderos have won great prestige, not only in the southwest U.S.A. but throughout northern Mexico.

While some curanderos do claim supernatural insight and the ability to foresee the future, these attributes are not essential aspects of their role. Most healers learn through apprenticeship to an older curandero, never by starvation, flagellation, isolation, or other suffering.

The power to heal is not looked upon with awe, and few curanderos are overwhelmed by their own healing powers. Abuse of the healing power only leads to its loss. The symbolic accouterments of the healer's authority, such as rattles, drums, masks, and fetishes, are negligible in Mexican-American culture. As healing derives from God, the curandero relies heavily on religious paraphernalia such as crosses and pictures of saints. Many healers maintain assistants who, being also apprentices, preserve the system for future generations. In a society where others are suspected, the religious healer's motives are unchallenged and trusted. However, the power to do good also indicates that the healer, if he wanted to, could become a witch or brujo (bruja). As more-cosmopolitan methods of healing have diffused in remote areas of the southwest U.S.A. and northern Mexico, the curandero has slipped from being the primary or sole source of medical attention to a secondary or supplementary role in treating the sick. If a cure is not quickly forthcoming, the curandero is often replaced by a more orthodox medical practitioner.

This does not mean that curanderos are an endangered species, for many middle-aged and elderly Spanish-speaking people in rural areas still prefer, and have faith in, the curandero's style of medicine. But few are entering the field, and most of the curanderos presently practicing are in the same age bracket as their clients.

The curandero and his patients view illness in the context of their religious and social life; illness is not a chance event but is inextricably bound to the religious history of the individual and his group. According to the curandero, the younger generations have lost touch with the folk-wisdom of preceding generations and with the values of the church and family. Particularly criticized are such trends as mothers seeking employment outside the home, children having little direction and supervision, illegitimate births becoming all too frequent, and the crime rate soaring. Those who grow up undisciplined by traditional boundaries and values get "an enemy in the brain" which prevents them from developing those qualities of character which make people free of mental illness. Acceptance of the materialistic values of American society is also opposed, as is the American idea of the equality of the sexes which the curanderos say has challenged the traditional concept of family and made many women discontent with their lot.

According to most curanderos, the avoidance of sin is always within the power of the individual through the grace of God and with the help of the Holy Spirit. The devil can enter a person's life only when he or she voluntarily moves away from the moral order or displays weakness through carelessness.

Successful curanderos are generally intelligent people with strong ego and dominant personalities. The atmosphere they create brings into play both mystical and Christian elements. Frequently an assistant curandero questions the new patient and prepares the individual psychological-

ly. The patient may be placed in comfortable surroundings in front of a cross or santo and subjected to dim light or soothing music. The assistant will probably explain what he feels has caused the illness, based on a review of the patient's history and the apprentice curandero's diagnostic techniques. Consultation then follows between the assistant and the master curandero who will take charge and effect the recovery, using herbs, psychological reinforcement, and various mystical charms or incantations. Almost always the curandero will explain to the patient that his power to cure is an extension of, or is derived from, his favored position within the Christian religious framework.

The asssistant and sometimes even a master curandero may have chosen the curing profession as a second career. Many elderly, alone and nearly destitute people are attracted to work that helps others like themselves. Age embodies respect and a lifetime of knowledge, and often only a short period of apprenticeship is necessary to establish a practice. The curandero's skill, intuition, humility and interest in people are important, but a religion-oriented approach is his paramount virtue. While his reputation is built upon success, he is not blamed for failures because the community accepts the role of God's will in all matters of health. Faith is the key factor.

* * *

Perhaps the most famous of the old-time curanderos was Don Pedro Jaramillo, born in the Mexican state of Jalisco sometime between 1830 and 1835. He first came to the United States in 1881, apparently with a group that was bringing in Mexican liquors for a Spanish-American celebration near Laredo, Texas. He returned to Mexico for a time and worked as a laborer and sheep-herder, but about 1885 he came back to the U.S. to hire on as a hand at the Los Alamos Ranch, one of the largest cattle-spreads in the area in those days. Don Pedro had come amongst his peers, for most of the other ranch hands were also of Spanish-American extraction and many were illegal immigrants from Mexico, as he was.

Shortly after his arrival at the ranch, Don Pedro became afflicted with a disorder of the nose. From all indications, it was a tumor. He suffered from the ailment for several months, then one day stuck his nose into the soft mud alongside a stream, hoping to ease the pain. The cool mud brought satisfaction and, surprisingly, relief. For three days he continued to dip his face in the pool of mud. By the end of the third day the tumor had receded, but a large scar was to remain on his nose at the point of affliction for the rest of his life. It was shortly after this healing experience that Don Pedro began to believe in a dream or vision in which he was told by God that he should take up the duties of a curandero in this remote area of southern Texas where doctors were few and medical facilities scarce.

Don Pedro's cures were mostly very simple and many of them could best be described as psychosomatic treatment. The recovery rate of his patients was truly amazing and his reputation spread throughout southern Texas and into northern Mexico as well. Patients came from as far away as central New Mexico, and one patient for whom doctors in Chicago had given up hope, traveled all the way from Illinois to Los Alamos to receive a new lease on life.

One of Don Pedro's early successes was a patient he cured of a severe affliction. The patient was the owner of the ranch where Don Pedro worked, and as an expression of gratitude he deeded a cottage and one hundred acres of good land to the curandero. Now Don Pedro could quit his ranch job and dispense curandero cures full-time from his very own medical facility!

Most of Don Pedro's medicines were things he grew: garlic, oranges, miscellaneous fruits, and berries. He started all prescriptions with "In the name of God . . ." and continued to stress that the cures were not of his doing; he simply dispensed the medicines and God performed the miracles. His treatments might consist of telling a patient to drink a glass of water with the left hand at dawn for three consecutive days, or to take a bath on three consecutive mornings using a soap Don Pedro had prepared.

One unusual treatment of stomach disease required wrapping a new and unopened bottle of castor oil (then costing about 10 cents) in a new and unused handkerchief, and binding said items to the stomach. With this gear in place, the patient was required to walk two miles in shoes filled with tomatoes — fresh out of the can. In addition, a clove of garlic was added to the contents of one shoe, the same to remain on the foot overnight. A more attractive prescription, for many, was chug-a-lugging a bottle of whiskey until collapsing from the effects of the "medicine." In such a case, the directions continued, the patient was to be left where he fell, unattended until he sobered up.

Don Pedro worked with livestock as well as humans. A seriously ill horse was brought to him. Its owner was instructed to tie the animal to a China tree for one hour, beginning at high noon. Following the "release" of the disease, the expectation was that the horse would live but the tree would die.

There was a Spanish-American named Antonio de la Fuente who asked to be treated for asthma. He was instructed to ride his horse into a pond at midnight until both he and the horse were well soaked. He was then to ride the horse home, dismount, wrap himself in dry garments over his wet clothes, and stay in bed until all the clothing was completely dry. The treatment should have killed him, but the man's health improved. Asthma is often psychosomatic in origin, and this probably was such a case.

If one cure failed, Don Pedro offered another. A young lady suffering from "susto" (fright) was first ordered to drink a small bottle of olive oil each night at bedtime. When this failed to effect a cure, the formula was changed and she was instructed to eat a can of tomatoes each morning before breakfast.

In my interviews with Spanish-Americans in the Los Alamos area of Texas, a number of the patients' descendants informed me that Don Pedro's favorite remedies included repeated prayers, or washing the afflicted parts of the body with yellow soap while praying for a successful outcome and restoration of good health.

It is certain that Don Pedro wrote his own prescriptions and was in all ways quite literate. Every few days he traveled four miles to the Falfurria post office, returning with dozens of letters requesting medical assistance. They were promptly answered. The volume of mail he received and the large amounts he spent on stamps aroused the suspicions of the postal authorities, and a postal inspector was sent to investigate. He was soon able to assure his superiors that no fraud was in progress.

Don Pedro's success did little to improve his material

The UFO Duality:

RPVs and Extraterrestrial Spacecraft

by Harry Lebelson

A Gallup survey in 1966 showed that 40% of the American people polled thought UFOs were real. By 1974, the number had increased to 54%. In 1980 the figure rose to 60%. Today, that statistic is an amazing 80% of Americans polled.

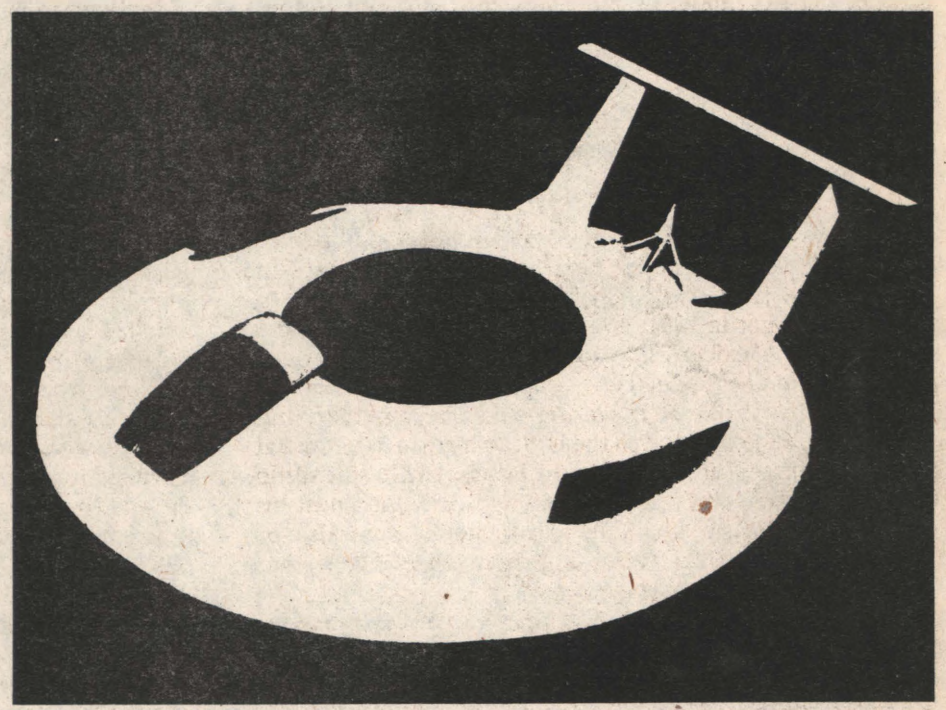
UFOs are alive and well; they are traversing the airways of not only the United States but of much of the rest of the world. They appear to reign supreme, outdistancing our jets, outfoxing our radar, and defying the world's most sophisticated security system. Much privileged information, hitherto withheld from the public, has recently come to light through documents secured from U.S. government agencies under the Freedom of Information Act. There seems to be a physical phenomenon for which our scientific and political establishments are unable to offer a reasonable explanation. Yes, the Force is with us. The question is, What is the nature of that Force?

Our government's public profile of a "hands off" policy regarding the investigation of UFOs has left it in the hands of civilian investigative groups which, over the last 33 years, have failed to prove conclusively that UFOs are a scientific fact. The field of inquiry has mudded. The public has refused to recognize the duality of a phenomenon whose highly guarded secrets are only now being extracted from the vaults of government secrecy.

Discussing the subject of UFOs during a debate in the British House of Lords on January 17, 1979, Lord Kings Norton said: "I am sure that many—and perhaps most—of the sightings recorded and reported are terrestrial in origin. Aeroplanes with navigation lights glowing at night; satellite-launching rockets burning up on re-entry; remotely piloted vehicles, now beginning to be called RPVs, up on trial flights . . ."

RPVs? Something new has been added to the vast lexicon of possible explanations for UFOs by a distinguished member of the House of Lords, whose remarks should be treated with due respect; this former chairman of the British government's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is also a former director of special projects for the British Ministry of Aircraft Production, a former president of the Royal Aeronautical Society and a fellow of the Imperial College of Science and Technology.

Some UFOs may be perfectly "real" in the sense that they are actual objects constructed by intelligent beings. These intelligent beings, at least in some cases, are ourselves, and those UFOs hurtling through space are the product of our own technology, without them having the



Early prototype disc tested by the U.S. Air Force.

comforts. His house, land, and clothes were anything but pretentious. Most of his income was devoted to helping others. At his death his small estate looked, and was, run down; only $1500 in cash could be found. A good deal of his money was spent to provide food for patients who arrived while he was "on tour," helping others in distant cities. He bought sugar by the barrelful and groceries enough to feed dozens in his absence.

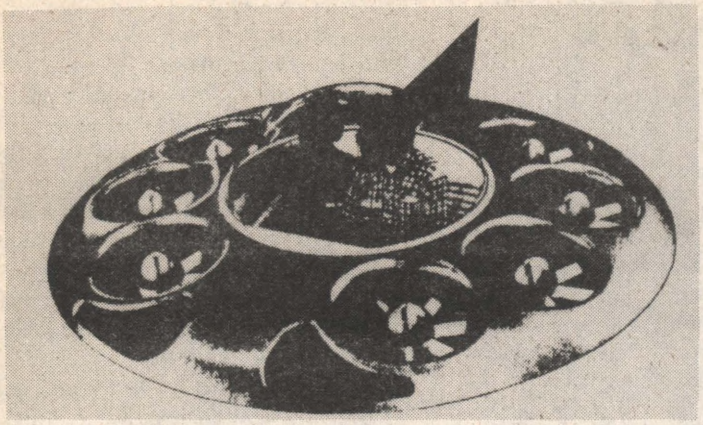
Don Pedro's work was brought to the attention of both the Roman Catholic clergy, and physicians generally, in central and southern Texas. His closest "competitor" was a doctor, J. S. Strickland, who never really entered into competition with the famous curandero but said, "How do I know that Don Pedro's prayers do not do more good than my pills?"

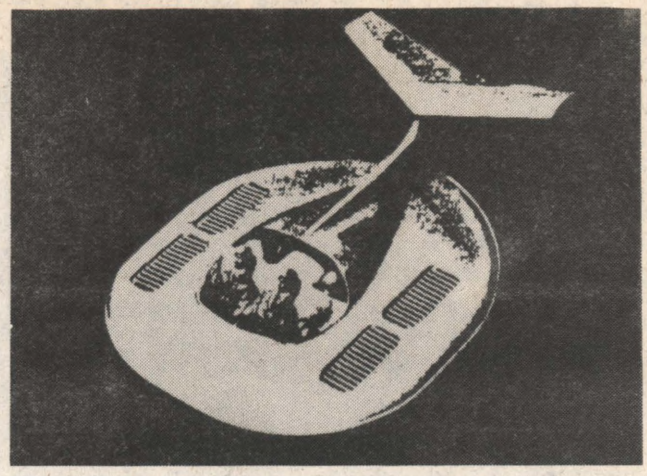
Though he was a poor horseman, Don Pedro traveled frequently to towns many days distant from his home. He wrote in advance to each location, notifying the people of his impending visit so that all who needed him could come to an appointed place at the proper time. Often he was accompanied by a French priest, Fr. Vard, who ministered to the soul while Don Pedro ministered to the body. Both men believed that they were jointly doing the work of God.

Don Pedro Jaramillo apparently died quite suddenly, on July 3, 1907, the cause either a stroke or a heart attack. He was buried in a Falfurria cemetery.

When I traveled in southern Texas last year, I was impressed with the numerous drawings and tintype photographs of Don Pedro that are prized as relics in homes and in churches. Although badly faded, they show a bearded and giant Spanish-American about seventy years old, with piercing eyes and a scarred nose to recall the affliction he cured himself and the dream that launched his career. His pictures are stained by candle- and finger-grease and worn from repeated handling, but seventy years after his death, Don Pedro's image still cures.

Disc-shaped craft commercially manufactured in the United States.





slightest connection with either outer space or extraterrestrial life. That is the crux of the whole enigma of the UFO—the misidentification of UFOs by untrained observers. Remotely Piloted Vehicles (RPVs), also called Remotely Controlled Vehicles (RCVs), are *not* conventional aircraft, and when in flight they exhibit performance characteristics easily associated with the concept of extraterrestrial spacecraft.

In the quarterly journal of the Royal United Services Institute for Defense Studies in London (December 1973 issue) is an article by Bill Gunston titled "Unmanned Aircraft-Defense Application of the RPV," which contains news and information about Remotely Piloted Vehicles. Gunston tells of a vast number of relatively cheap and often expendable craft resembling "flying saucers," now being manufactured both in England and the United States. They range in size from mini-RVPs only a few feet wide to RPVs with wing spans exceeding 100 feet. Ten years ago, Gunston made this forecast: "Even allowing for increasing austerity in the U.S. military budgets, the consensus in Washington is that over the next ten years, American jet firms will build 10,000 engines for RPVs, as well as a similar number for cruise-type missiles and targets." With 1983 here now, one can assume that these sophisticated craft are widely deployed and hard at work overseeing and monitoring possible espionage by spy satellites and other remote-sensing systems.

It is inconceivable that a major power in the world today could keep its defenses at a level of serious strength without Remotely Piloted Vehicles. Whether manufactured in the U.S., Britain, the USSR or elsewhere, these pilotless craft exhibit performance characteristics remarkably like those of vehicular UFOs. Notable features include the following:

1. RPVs frequently perform tight, right-angle turns, as do UFOs.

2. Typical RPVs make swift ascents and descents.

3. Many RPVs used in secret aerial reconnaissance are designed to cruise at altitudes of about 100,000 feet. At such heights, they catch and reflect sunlight above the darkened surface of the Earth, and the reflections appear to ground observers as brightly moving objects in the night sky.

4. RPVs are amazingly quiet; according to Gunston, "they could not be heard by the average man at a distance of 300 feet." UFOs likewise are often described as being silent when observed. At other times, both UFOs and RPVs have signaled their presence with a "humming" sound heard during close encounters.

5. UFOs observed "coming out of the sea" may have been RPVs launched from submarines.

6. Many UFOs have been reported in the vicinity of military bases; RPVs are deployed at such installations.

7. Air traffic controllers often mistake RPVs for UFOs because airport personnel are as unware as the rest of the general public that RPVs exist.

8. RPVs are unknown to all but a few specialists in the U.S. military. It is to be expected that members of our armed forces who chance to see a UFO may not realize that what they are really looking at is an RPV in flight. A "conspiracy" is unnecessary; ignorance is enough!

9. RPVs are typically undetectable on radar screens. According to Bill Gunston, "RPVs are known as 'minimum-signature aeroplanes' with radar reflectivity amazingly close to zero"—thus to add one more disparagement of our efforts to separate the RPVs from the UFOs.

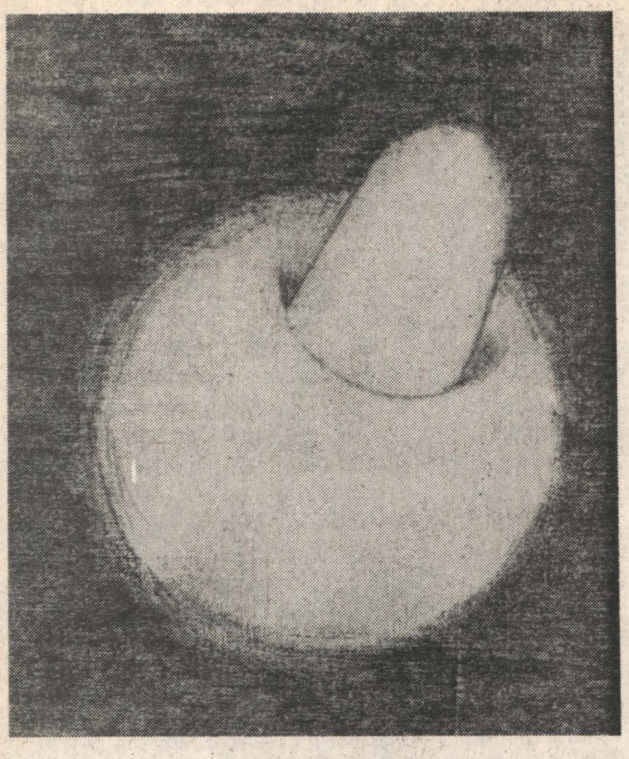
These exotic capabilities are part of the reason why military and civilian officials try to discredit UFOs; they want to prevent attention being drawn to RPVs. By now it's evident that RPVs explain a fair number of UFO sightings. There are too many RPVs around for them not to be a major component of the UFO phenomenon. After 36 years of secrecy, it is time for consensus that RPVs are a reality and that they are among the pieces we need to fill-in the UFO puzzle.

Some of the pieces are strongly colored by personal involvement. The experience of a member of the Air Force Test Wing at Eglin Air Force Base is an example. One day in August 1973, while riding around the base in a jeep, Gary Merrill and another airman noticed a strange-looking building at the end of a runway. It was completely boxed-in by a chain link fence which ran diagonally across the runway with a gate attached to the fence. The building was located in a top-security area to which both men had access. The hangar-like structure, about 300 feet wide and 30 to 40 feet high, had two doors which sloped up from the 10-foot-high sides of the building toward the center rise. Each door was approximately 150 feet in width.

Some days later, in a conversation with Jerry Brogden of Val Pariso, Florida, Merrill mentioned the strange building. "Don't you think it's kind of weird?" was his question to Brogden, the head of Wire Maintenance, Communications at the base.

Brogden replied: "I'll give you about 14 days until a flying saucer shows up down here from out in California."

One evening ten days after that conversation, Merrill sighted a UFO just outside Eglin Air Force Base, at Fort Walton Beach which forms the outer perimeter of the base. The object, first seen hovering about fifty feet above some pine trees, was



An eyewitness sketch of a UFO seen by a police officer at Wanaque reservoir, New Jersey, in 1966.



United States "Skyspy," an early remotely piloted vehicle (RPV).

disc-shaped, metallic in texture, and had no apparent entrance, exit or windows. It looked to be about 150 feet in diameter, and a faint "whooshing" sound could be heard emanating from the bottom. Although the stereotypical appearance suggested a storybook UFO, the airman noted two differences: this object displayed from its underside a blue glow resembling that of a high-voltage arc; and the trees directly in its path remained motionless and seemed not in the least affected by airflow as the object sped just above their tallest branches. Had the airman seen an extraterrestrial spacecraft that August night in 1973, or was it a vehicle of earthly origin—perhaps an RPV?

A letter to the late Senator Wayne Morse contains a debatable statement by Colonel Frederick H. Fahringer of the Department of the Air Force, Congressional Inquiry Division of the Office of Legislative Liaison:

> In 18 years of investigating over 9000 reports of UFOs, the evidence has proved beyond reasonable doubt that all reported aerial phenomena have been objects either *created* and *sent aloft by man,* generated by atmospheric conditions, or caused by celestial bodies or the residue of meteoric activity.

Although this pronouncement has a ring of truth to it and *some UFOs* have been proven to be man-made, or misidentifications of objects seen at night, the reality of UFOs is much more complex.

Another possibly man-made UFO was spotted by two respected businessmen along Highway 17-A near Summerville, South Carolina. In an August 4, 1979 front-page story in the Charleston News and Courier-Evening Post, Edward M. Jones, vice-president of the E.M. Jones auto dealership and Keith Major, one of his salesmen, told how they encountered "the weirdest thing we ever saw in our life." Jones went on to describe the incident: "We had just finished playing golf at around 6:30 p.m. and were loading the car in a parking lot across from the dealership. All of a sudden I noticed, hanging over the trees about 200 feet away, a shiny metallic object shaped like a hamburger bun. It made no noise as it spun on its axis. It appeared to be approximately six to eight feet in diameter."

In an attempt to find out more about the sighting, Jones checked with the Summerville Airport and was told the object might have been a small silver-colored airplane. Jones discounted that possibility and emphatically asserted that what they saw "had no wings, no propeller, no jets, made no noise, and couldn't have been a balloon because it shot off and disappeared so fast." Both men then called the Charleston International Airport, but no one in the control tower had seen anything resembling a UFO. "I wish I could have seen it," a control-tower spokesman said. "I need a little excitement."

More than excitement came into the lives of Betty Cash, 52, Vickie Landrum, 56, and Landrum's grandson, Colby, on the night of December 29, 1980. Their nightmare began when Betty Cash stopped her automobile on a country road outside Houston, Texas, as "an extremely bright, luminous object" hovered over the road less than 100 feet ahead. Overcome by curiosity, both women left the car to get a better view; immediately they were enveloped by an incredible surge of heat that emanated from the brightly lighted UFO. A frightened Vickie Landrum fled the scene to rejoin her grandson in the car. Cash remained exposed to the "diamond-shaped object" for several minutes. After the object drifted away, the trio continued their journey, but only a few miles further along, the object appeared again. This time, however, they also saw "what looked like helicopters circling around the UFO." As Cash put it, "there were a large amount of them surrounding the object, as though it were in some kind of trouble." Shortly afterward, both the UFO and the helicopters vanished in the night sky.

In an investigation of the incident conducted by NASA scientists, the military denied they were involved in any way. But Betty Cash and Vickie Landrum became very ill; their symptoms were diagnosed as those of radiation poisoning (loss of hair, impaired vision due to

cataracts, and boils erupting on various parts of the body). The women filed suit in federal court in an effort to recover damages from the government; the suit alleges they were irradiated during faulty testing of a military prototype aircraft. Could this incident have been as the women claimed, or was it perhaps a real encounter with an extraterrestrial vehicle or UFO?

Over the last 36 years only a small portion of the available evidence has been scientifically evaluated to prove the existence of UFOs. Indeed, much of the evidence has remained hidden under layers of official classification. But the spirit of free inquiry has been making some gains lately in its historic conflict with official paranoia. New York City attorney Peter A. Gersten, representing Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), a Washington, D.C.-based public-interest group, recently brought suit against the National Security Agency (NSA), the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The plaintiff demanded access to a large number of official reports of UFO activity held in the agencies' classified files. As a result of the suit, many of the documents were made public.

One example is an official Air Force report that details an incident which took place near Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota on November 16, 1977. Following is a verbatim extract from that report:

> An alarm activation inspection at site L-9 of the fence perimeter was made by Airmen 1st class Kenneth Jenkins and Wayne Raeke. They observed a bright light shining vertically upwards from the rear of the fence line. Jenkins stayed with their vehicle and Raeke proceeded to the source of the light to investigate. As he approached the crest of a hill, he observed an individual dressed in a glowing green metallic uniform and wearing a helmet with a visor. Raeke immediately challenged the individual, however; the individual refused to stop and kept walking towards the rear fence line of L-9. Raeke aimed his M-16 rifle at the intruder and ordered him to stop. The intruder turned towards Raeke and aimed an object at Raeke which emitted a bright flash of intense light. The flash of light struck Raeke's M-16 rifle, disintegrating the weapon and causing second- and third-degree burns on Raeke's hands. Raeke immediately took cover and concealment and radioed a 10-13 distress to Lima Control. Jenkins responded to Raeke's position and carried Raeke back to their vehicle. Jenkins then returned to the rear fence line to stand guard. Jenkins observed 2 intruders dressed in the same uniforms, walk through the rear fence line of L-9. Jenkins challenged the 2 individuals but they refused to stop. Jenkins aimed and fired two rounds from his M-16 rifle. One bullet struck one intruder in the back and one bullet struck one intruder in the helmet. Both intruders fell to the ground, however, approximately 15 seconds later both returned to an upright position and fired several flashes of light at Jenkins. Jenkins took cover and the light missed Jenkins. The 2 intruders returned to the east side of the hill and disappeared. Jenkins followed the two and observed them go inside a saucer-shaped object approximately 20 feet in diameter and 20 feet thick. The object emitted a glowing greenish light. Once the intruders were inside, the object climbed vertically upwards and disappeared over the eastern horizon.

Additional information in the three-page document reveals that airman Raeke was treated at the base hospital for second- and third-degree radiation burns to each hand shortly after the incident. Following treatment he was airlifted to an unspecified location.

The site L-9 base houses a missile security squadron and has sophisticated monitoring devices throughout the area. When Missile Maintenance checked the missile warhead, they found the nuclear components missing.

Among other government documents released were those which detailed a series of UFO intrusions of restricted airspace above Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico during the summer of 1980. The Manzano Weapons Storage Area is located in the Coyote Canyon area of the base, and the base itself is part of a huge maximum-security test range share by the Air Force Weapons Laboratory, Sandia Laboratories, the Defense Nuclear Agency, and the Department of Energy. Following is a summary information contained in one of the documents.

> On 11, Aug. 80, Russ Curtis, Sandia Security, advised that on 9, Aug. 80, a Sandia security guard (who wishes his name not to be divulged for fear of harassment), related the following: At approximately 0020 hrs., he was driving east on the Coyote Canyon access road on a routine building check of an alarmed structure. As he approached the structure he observed a bright light near the ground behind the structure. He also observed an object he first thought was a helicopter. But after driving closer, he observed a round disc-shaped object. He attempted to radio for a backup patrol but his radio would not work. As he approached the object on foot armed with a shotgun, the object took off in a vertical direction at a high rate of speeed. The guard was a former helicopter mechanic in the United States Army and stated the object he observed was not a helicopter.

The report further notes that the object was again seen by three other security policemen on August 22, 1980 over another alarmed structure, and that both alarmed structures contained supplies of HQ CR44, a nuclear material.

These are just two examples culled from the more than 1000 documents obtained by attorney Peter Gersten from various government agencies. These papers conclusively show that the U.S. government has withheld important information due to, they state, "the alarmist tendencies of the American public and the fear of a possible breakdown of America's fundamental institutions, such as government and religion."

Although members of the scientific community generally lean toward a more rationalistic and scientific view of the ongoing UFO phenomenon, it has taken some recent breakthroughs to marshal the kind of support that enthusiasts have long and loudly expressed for the extraterrestrial hypothesis. A new basis for that theory has been put in place by Sir Fred Hoyle, an internationally recognized astronomer and mathematician. In his book *Evolution from Space*, published by Simon and Schuster and co-authored with British scientist Chandra Wickramasinghe, Hoyle maintains that life stemmed from microgenetic fragments brought from outer space in "exactly the right size to ride on the light waves of stars" arriving at peak intervals; thus he explains the sudden bursts of new life-forms shown by the fossil record. The author believes that "we received life with the fundamental biochemical problems already solved."

Another scientist, Dr. Cyril Pon-

Solving the Riddles of Nature and Other Hobbies

by Mark W. DeLawyer

Dedicated to Vincent H. Gaddis

IT has often occurred to me, late at night while writing still another letter or filling out a money order for some latest bit of "evidence," that I must surely be out of my tree. What in the name of the Bermuda Triangle am I doing this for?

That is a question I am sure you all have asked at least once. Why do we bother to try and pry some answers out of Mother Nature? Especially, answers that she has, over the years, been rather reluctant to communicate?

Nothing in our line of inquiry is ever simple, so there must be a variety of reasons why we "bother." Plain old curiosity comes to mind first, but that doesn't begin to explain all the time, money and talent involved.

I think our first job should be to determine just what sort of person is a member of SITU. What manner of beast is this, anyway?

More than anything else, he or she must be a restless animal, not necessarily well-versed in the classic academic disciplines but possessing a smattering of knowledge about a variety of subjects. There must be present a fair amount of common sense, and most of all, an urge to learn. A questioning attitude also comes in handy, for above all there floats the eternal WHY?

I will not mention names, but why, for example, is that learned fellow in Alabama trying to convince electromagnetic waves to act in a manner contrary to the way they have been instructed to act by the American Institute of Physics? Such audacity!

And just what is that gentleman in Utah trying to hit with a bolt of artificial lightning, and for what purpose?

How can you explain our fearless leader's maniacal need to receive phone calls in the middle of the night, get a great deal of mail, and (perish the thought!) live in New Jersey?

Wherefor is the fine young gentleman currently typing this paper so consumingly interested in ships that disappear, and a Navy vessel that couldn't make up its mind what port it was going to stay in? What will the consuming interest get him? Probably not a blasted thing. With the filing cabinet full of information I have, and a shovel, you can dig a hole.

Why indeed, you ask? Perhaps it's to add another bit to the collective knowledge that we hold sacred. Perhaps it is to make a name for myself. Perhaps it is for the same reason that people climb mountains — because they're there. All I know is that there are mysteries around, and the very fact that they exist is enough to annoy me. Something is wrong with our determination of how a little part of the world works, and I would like to rectify the 'something." I think that probably covers the majority of the SITU membership. We are all just a bit mad, but if we are all mad enough, who knows what we might come up with?

Sure, we don't always agree on just what it is we have found, or for that matter, just what it is we are looking for. Instead of quietly cursing this streak of hypercuriosity, we might better take time to thank our Maker (or makers, if you prefer) for leaving a few bits and pieces unexplained. If it weren't for the world's little anomalies, none of us would have a hobby. What would we do then? How could we work off whatever compulsion we have to delve into matters such as these? I can't tell you why I spend my spare time and hard-earned money in such a way, except to repeat what Harry Chapin once put into a song: "It Just Makes Me Whole."

I enjoy this, I work hard at it, and to be perfectly frank, I need it. Who could ask for a better explanation? While we pound our hearts out searching for clues to nature's mysteries, we should take the time, every so often, to rejoice in the spirit of the thing. Enjoy your digging, and keep at it!

As a parting thought, we might consider what Newton said about knowledge: "I feel as though I am standing on a beach, occasionally picking up grain of truth while the whole ocean of knowledge laps at my feet." If you are a member of SITU, you should consider yourself as one of those fortunate few lucky enough to have come to the same beach . . . in a pair of hip-waders.

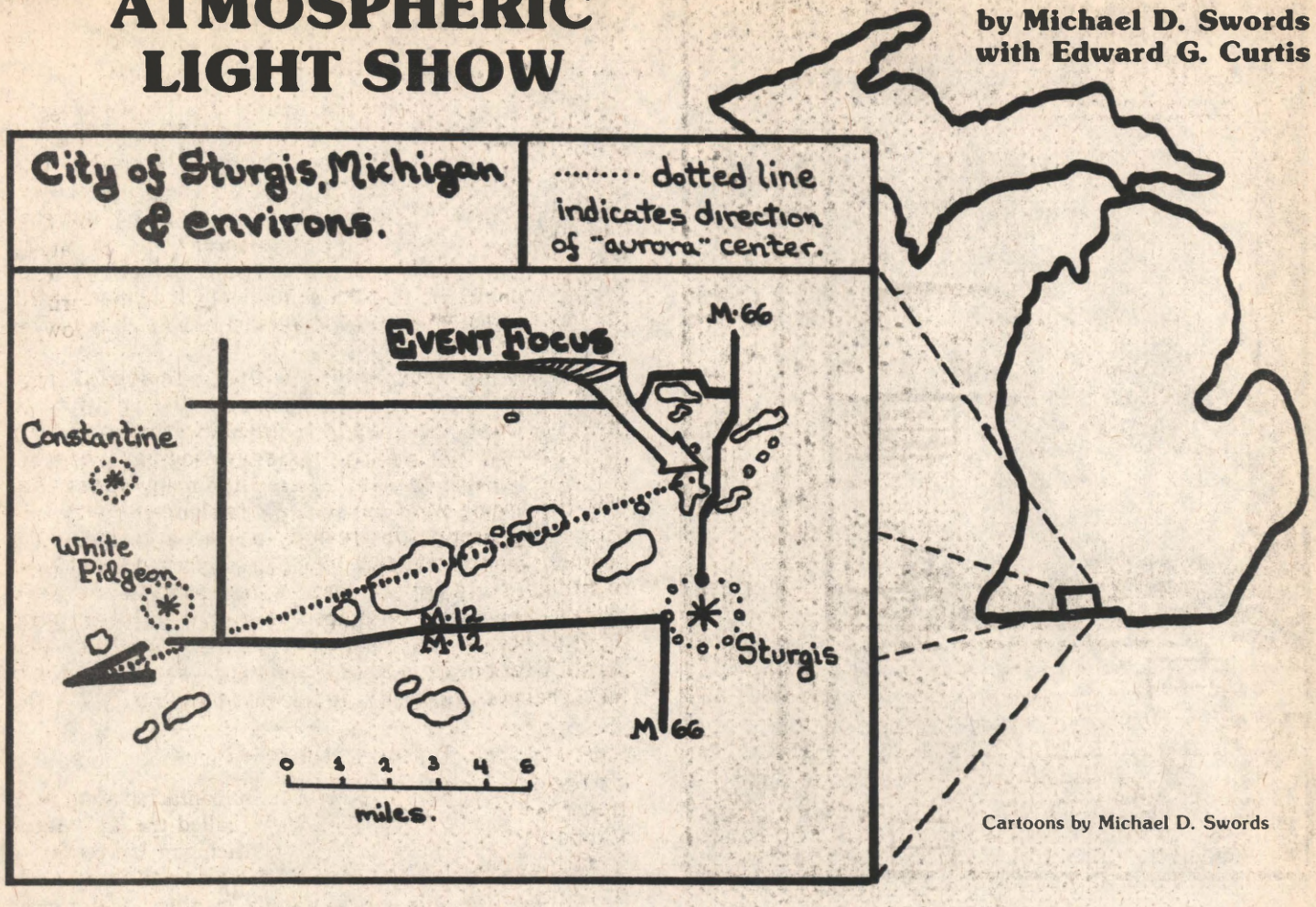
Happy searching!

namperuma, director of the University of Maryland's Laboratory of Chemical Evolution which specializes in the origins of life, seems to agree with Hoyle. Invited to describe his findings at a September 1983 meeting of the American Chemical Society in Washington, D.C., Dr. Ponnaperuma presented the first-ever solid evidence that the base substances found in the genes of living creatures on Earth are produced extraterrestrially. He said he found the five bases—adenine, guanine, cystine, thyamin, and uracil—all present in a meteorite recovered in Australia in 1969; he concluded that "the results of my research, funded by NASA, suggest that life elsewhere in the universe is more likely and that chemical evolution, the natural creation of life's chemicals, is a very reasonable process and far more simple than previously thought."

Scientist-author John Gribbin, writing in New Scientist magazine (November 18, 1982), sums it up well by suggesting "perhaps the ETs are interested, but watching us with the minimum of interference; perhaps "they" are trying to guide us to maturity and have by some subtle means kept us from annihilating ourselves these past three decades. Perhaps they have advanced far beyond our material needs and exist on some higher plane to which, hopefully, they wish we may someday elevate ourselves. Finally, perhaps man should ask himself the ultimate question: Must a civilization sophisticated enough to someday colonize the Galaxy, adopt aggression as an evolutionary imperative and develop weaponry powerful enough to destroy its own civilization and also those out in space?"

ATMOSPHERIC LIGHT SHOW

by Michael D. Swords
with Edward G. Curtis



Cartoons by Michael D. Swords

THIS is a whale of a tale: maybe not as exciting as a UFO abduction, but the principals might dispute that. The following report is motivated by three factors: 1) A desire to let the readership contemplate an extremely odd and complex phenomenon; 2) The need for a vehicle to make a few points about paranormal experiences; and 3) an urge to get the incident down in print so that William Corliss might be able to extract it for his "Sourcebook Project" and thus save it from the wastebin of scientific anomalies.

The Experience

Place: A semi-rural highway between Sturgis and Mendon, Michigan.

Time: 3:00 to 3:30 a.m., Thursday, June 10, 1982.

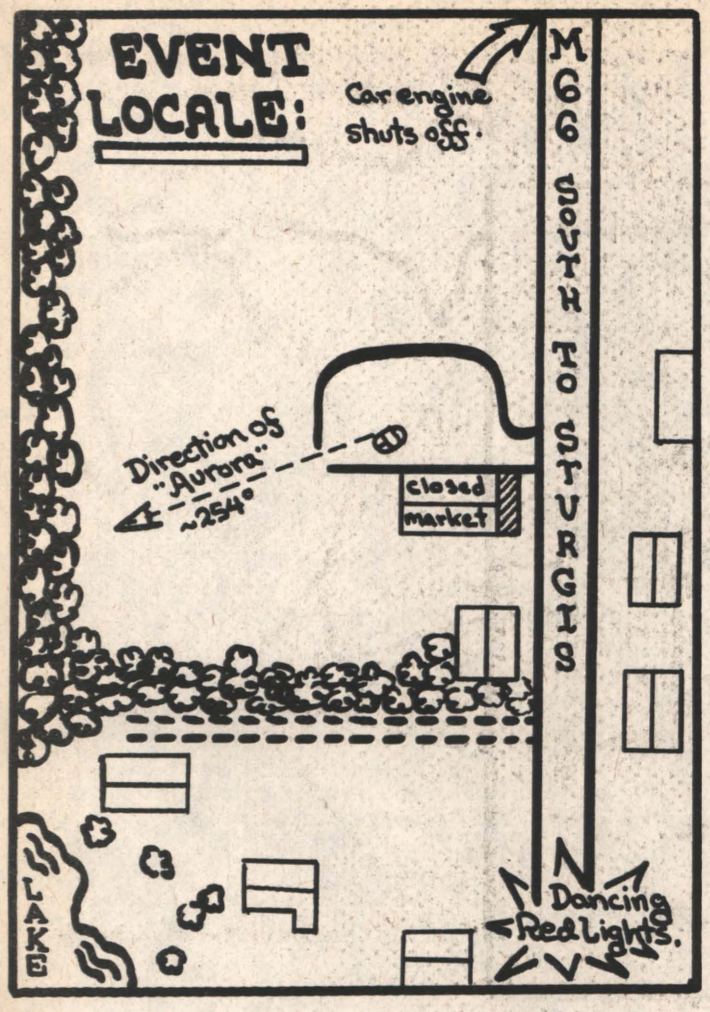
The witnesses: Two women in their mid-20s, residents of Sturgis.

Preliminaries: The young women were visiting friends on a farm in Mendon. The previous evening they had looked unsuccessfully for the Northern Lights, knowing that a large solar flare had occurred which was predicted to cause large auroral displays. Wednesday was a cloudy, rainy day with unusually poor television reception; static electricity caused snarls in one of the women's hair, and that evening, the radio failed to pick up signals, either AM or FM. One witness seemed to be disoriented, even taking wrong roads during driving jaunts around erstwhile familiar areas..

The event: At 2:30 a.m., the two friends decided to drive back to Sturgis. Visibility was very poor due to fog. They took M-66 south almost all the way. Rain began . . . and an odd rain it was. The fluid was "a brown, gooey, jellish slime" that smeared when wiped by the wipers or a towel. When the rain stopped, the goo dried on the glass. The engine overheated and vapors poured over the hood. A strong "rotten-egg odor" was in the air. Then the engine died and the brakes quit, but the car kept moving down the highway. The driver could not escape the thought that her vehicle was moving under some kind of power that neither inertia nor gravity could explain. Both women began to panic a little; it was about 3 a.m.

On the right was a closed outdoor-indoor market. The driver steered into the parking lot. Suddenly, unaccountably, the auto slammed to a stop. The passenger felt the interior heating up and screamed that the car was about to burn. The two women scrambled out and walked back to the road. As they back-tracked along the route, they remembered a restaurant they had passed; the thought of finding it still open and being able to phone for assistance hastened their steps.

Fifty yards along, they encountered "millions of small, 2 to 3 feet in length, rays of lightning flashing everywhere, around our feet, our legs, over our heads, everywhere in the air. The air was filled with them." Looking back toward their car, they watched the flashes "coming from behind the trees, reaching high into the sky; spreading across a very large area was a pink-orangish-reddish fluorescent glow with streams of light running from high in the sky down to this brilliant red glow."



The two witnesses were nearly hysterical at this point. They turned back, and as they ran, the grass and weeds at roadside were standing straight up and glowing. The flying "lightnings" shot everywhere, displaying a rainbow spectrum as they passed. At the car, they found the windows steamed-over and the interior so hot that further warnings not to try to take it anywhere were unnecessary. Once more running back to the road, they looked south. About 100 yards away, "deep red lines" were "dancing" in a group: "It looked like a bunch of little kids no taller than two feet, outlined in what I imagine to be infra-red, dancing around in the road."

Still dodging the "lightnings," the women could not avoid the rain that followed. There were four trailer-homes nearby; they ran to one and pounded on the door. After several minutes, an apprehensive young woman let them in, backed away, and pointed to the phone. She would not come anywhere near them, nor look outside. They called a friend. It was 3:25 a.m.

Outside, the light show was still going on, but fading. Another attempt to start the car was unavailing, but by this time the hysteria had passed. Facing the glow, they saw only the giant "aurora;" seen sideways, the "millions" of rainbow light-filaments were still zipping through the air. Five minutes later the cloud-cover moved in, and the show was over. Ten minutes later their friend arrived.

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Evaluating the Event

The two women were apparently the only witnesses of the Sturgis Light Show. They experienced excitement and exhaustion in about the same degree. Both felt that their friend's car (used to go back to the stalled auto to retrieve belongings) gave off the same "rotten-egg odor" that they had noted at the start of the experience. Their car battery was found to be completely dry and discharged. One witness complained that her skin remained demoisturized, her hair snarled, and her general energy depleted following the event.

Perhaps more significant was the psychological aftermath. Quite naturally, both women were fixated by the experience. One witness rapidly returned to a "normal" state of interest while going about her daily program. The other witness remained intensely fixated for many weeks. For her, the events were passionately intriguing. Every odd fact, every fleeting observation, seemed a candidate for synthesis into the phenomenon. She sought out a multitude of ordinary and esoteric ideas in an attempt to construct tenuous hypotheses. Perhaps "obsession" is too strong a word to use, but her relation to the event verged on that sort of fixation. At one point, she stated that "these events have changed our lives in more ways than one."

The Aftermath

The authors were fortunate to be contacted soon after the occurrence, when the witnesses called the Kalamazoo Public Planetarium and Western Michigan University to inquire about the phenomenon. We drove to Sturgis and interviewed the witnesses, a family member, and a close friend of the two. All seemed concerned and genuine, and were fully aware of the change that had come over the one witness who broke down, sobbing and shaken, while the other witness calmly retold the story. The "feeling" that we got from the incident was that the reports were consistent, detailed, and in most respects, calm and rational; the witnesses were honestly trying to find out what was going on, with no ulterior motives in mind; and the supporting family and the friend were absolutely convinced that *something* had happened. Even the more-affected witness was not yet embroidering the event with her later eclectic theories and syntheses. At this time, our "preferred hypothesis" is that something extraordinary, probably meteorological in nature, occurred in a very small area, and its two observers were affected in dramatic but natural ways.

Electromagnetic effects: The main features of the electromagnetic phenomena seem to be the giant "aurora," the low-level electric displays, and the malfunctioning of the car engine. Are these effects "reasonable"? Do they have any precedent? Pertinent notes are found in Corliss' 1982 "Sourcebook Project" titled *Lightning, Auroras, Nocturnal Lights, and Related Luminous Phenomena:*

Auroras have often been described as having brilliant reddish arches that fill half the dome of the heavens, or as dancing, flame-like manifestations. Less frequently, Corliss' sources speak of "low-level auroras" which extend all the way to the ground and have even been "walked into;" auroras associated with "ozone odors" or "sulfur-like

smells;" auroras misplaced in their direction (not centered on north); auroras that interfere with radio reception, and auroras that produce physiological effects; also, colored light-effects very near the body; moving, surface-level, electrified light patches; unusual static electric discharges which may stall automobiles; "brush discharges" of St. Elmo's Fire; quick, bright, silent light-flashes at ground-level; colored lightning; and "flames" or "will-o'-the-wisps" that "dance" on ground surfaces. Any or all of these phenomena could be related to the Sturgis Light Show experience.

As one reads the scientific literature of the 1980s, there is a tantalizing impression that several extraordinary meteorological phenomena related to electromagnetics, cosmic rays, earthquakes and plate movements, and the poorly understood state of matter called "plasma," are just sitting there, at the edge of our minds and instruments, waiting to be understood. The famous phantasm called "ball lightning" is one of these critters, and it seems to be moving at long last into the perception of Establishment Science.

None of the electromagnetic effects in the Sturgis Light Show seem impossible, and many of them seem almost familiar, though intensified and spectacular. The precedent occurrence of the large solar flare might even make them likely. The influence of solar storms on auroras and the Earth's electrical systems is well known, even if not well understood, and recent articles suggest correlations between cosmic radiation and very-high-energy terrestrial events such as lightning storms. At Sturgis, the really odd thing, electromagnetically speaking, was the *direction* of the aurora: southwest at an angle of about 254° around the circle from north.

Displaced auroras have often been reported but never satisfactorily explained. In this case, two possible clues may lie along a line that angles about 254° from the site of the event. That vector splits a chain of lakes that hides a very old fold in the subsurface; it also targets the electric power plant a few miles away in Sturgis' sister city, White Pigeon. Although the area is not particularly active geologically, the possibility of localized electrical-field anomalies along fault lines, as envisioned by Persinger and Lafreniere in *Space-Time Transients and Unusual Events,* should be kept open as an alternative explanation. The idea that power plants and high-voltage transmission lines project artificial electrical-field anomalies is also under much discussion. Perhaps abnormal atmospheric fields plus unusual natural or artificial electricity-related surface features can coalesce to produce occasional spectacular and localized anomalies.

Atmospheric effects: The most striking non-electric aspect of the event was the "Fortean Fall," the gooey rain which heralded the electrical display. Both Charles Fort and William Corliss have catalogued many odd "rains," including several colored, bloody, organic, stinking, even "brown, gooey, jellish" ones. Most of these reports are simply anecdotal: they tantalize the reader but stop short of analysis. A few have been attributed to assorted algae, Nostoc, fish or amphibian spawn, and various organic and even inorganic substances. This particular "goo" was light, the fall was of brief duration, and very little of the substance was saved.

On inspection, the sample shown to the authors was seen as brown, filamentous and obviously organic; under the microscope, it looked much like the mix of simple pond-life that one sees inhabiting stagnant pools. The sample had no distinct odor, despite the witnesses' conjecture that it was one of the sources of the rotten smell noticed during the event. The material could be a "lighter version" of the "mud-like slime" described by Persinger and Lafreniere in their brief note about a fall at Terre Haute, Indiana, in July 1963. The apparently unprecedented thing about the Fortean Fall at Sturgis was its temporal association with spectacular auroral effects. Was it coincidence?

Internal effects, sense perceptions: In considering sense perceptions told after the fact, it is difficult to make secure evaluations. Were the percipients observing the external events normally, as would any of us in an unaffected state? While they were observing, were their perceptions enhanced by electrical fields, or adrenalin, or "factor x"? Were they mis-observing, hallucinating in response to stress, bombardment, suggestibility? It is with humility and circumspection that we offer these tentative evaluations:

1. The consistency of the witnesses' reports does not favor assumptions of large-scale mis-observation or hallucination.

2. In other aspects, the reports suggest *some* abnormality in the observations due to the excitement of the percipients' central nervous systems.

3. Both the "fear factor" and unusual electrical field effects could, and perhaps should, have distorted and/or enhanced sense perceptions to some degree.

Can we separate external reality from internal creativity? Not with any certitude in this case, but we can make a guess or two.

Lights: The descriptions of the light effects were sufficiently detailed and intense to indicate an excited central nervous system picking up information externally presented but normally not tuned in by casual, everyday alertness. "Hyper-alertness" often occurs at moments of threat, when it almost seems that time itself slows down and allows us to observe more detail. Certain drugs, also, stimulate hyper-arousal, and some individuals, being chronically in this state, are called hormone-imbalanced schizophrenics.

Electrical and magnetic fields are known to distort, depress, or enhance central nervous functions in a variety of poorly understood ways. A common sort of hallucination (especially in drug cases) which may come with hyper-arousal, is "synesthesia," a cross-wiring of senses in which one intense sensory input (example, sound) might express itself inappropriately in other sensory awareness (example, colors, odors). This, unfortunately, confuses the situation as to external versus internal "realities."

Odors: The "rotten egg" odor of the "slime" and car engines may not be much of a mystery. On the one hand, such odors have often been described in association with Fortean Falls and auroras. Moreover, different people will describe "sulfur" and "ozone" or "electrical" odor as nearly the same. Given a small amount of ozone or even decaying organic matter in the air, plus a hyper-aroused central nervous system, the "sulfur" smell could seem significant.

Touch: Feelings of "crawlings" and irritations on the body in the presence of static electricity are common, even when no discharges are in evidence; field-effects alone seem able to trigger these sensations. In this case, the powerful touch-perception was temperature — the intense

heat of the automobile. This symptom is difficult to account for, even in hyper-arousal. How *really* hot could the car have become at 3 a.m. on a rainy, humid night? Could a battery-dry, overheated engine develop enough heat in the passenger compartment to create panic in a hyper-aroused nervous system?

Internal effects, the aftermath: No one could blame either of the witnesses for being interested, even fixated, about what had gone on. The differences between the two witnesses was notable and the one woman's fixation long after the event is difficult to explain. Professional "people observers" (both within psychology and outside the field) have known about intense experiences changing people's lives for as long as such observers have been around. "Mystic experiences," "revelations," "great dreams," even "UFO abductions and close encounters" — all these have been chronicled as life-altering events. Emotionally powerful, intensely involving incidents take on dimensions perhaps larger than they should. In the Sturgis case, the fixated witness began rapidly correlating all manner of incidents in her life immediately before and after the event in a seemingly frantic attempt to build upon the single episode; and, she began an eclectic reading campaign which occasionally bore fruit in tenuous and often superficial and naive theories about what may have been behind the events. This witness somewhat naturally (we certainly in no way condemn her behavior) was so anxious to explore her intuition of "significance," and while doing so, to remain partially within an entrancing experience which otherwise would fade away, that she was in the process of altering the event into something that it was not.

We were fortunate to get to the scene just a few days after the incident and were able to catch the stories apparently fresh and unadulterated, but the dangers of obfuscation were already apparent. *Point One*: It is vital to get to the scene and query the relevant observers as quickly as possible, because it is very likely the stories will change, even in extreme and dramatic ways, regardless of the honesty of the witnesses.

The fixated witness continued to try to correlate, collect, and speculate for weeks after the event, calling the investigators frequently to present various "new ideas." It was obvious that with any encouragement whatever from an external "authority figure," she might have gone in most any direction with her beliefs. She was extremely suggestible and we realized that we and her close friends and family had an important ethical responsibility to ensure that no "loose talk" or Pollyanna-ish "humoring" of her unfounded conceptualizations would send her down some potentially dangerous path. Of course, honesty was primary. If her thoughts seemed well-founded, we responded accordingly. *Point Two*: Experiencers of intense events are often psychologically fragile regardless of the external reality of the events; investigators should treat them with appropriate humaneness and care.

If our witness had already synthesized some bogus element in her story, or later added something to it that turned out *not* to be true, the tendency would be to discredit the incident. But it is quite natural for certain types of personalities to attempt to add inappropriate or irrelevant material to an intense experience; in fact it should be expected. Such people will do so honestly, naively perhaps, but not necessarily "crazily." *Point Three*: The inclusion of a bogus element in a story of intense significance to the witness is not necessarily grounds for discarding the entire incident. It makes the path to truth thornier, but to simply turn away is not to seek the path at all.

Summary

1. It was a whale of a tale, and it seems to have been an essentially "true" tale, a reflection of actual events.

2. A very intense meteorological anomaly seems to have occurred north of Sturgis, Michigan, on the morning of June 10, 1982.

3. The experience excited and scared the witnesses, and suggested analogies to other paranomal events such as UFO encounters.

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ALLEN V. NOE

SITU lost one of its earliest members when Allen Noe died on July 11 at the age of 65. He was an associate and neighbor of Ivan Sanderson. Their friendship began soon after SITU's founder took up residence in Columbia, N.J., only a few miles from Blairstown, where Allen lived most of his life.

Allen was elected to our Board of Governors early in 1971 and to the adjunct Executive Board when it was later constituted. Also in 1971 he was elected to the office of treasurer, and he served in that capacity until December, 1973. He had just taken up new duties as our director of operations when his health began to fail and he asked to be relieved of all administrative responsibilities. His resignation was accepted with reluctance and with many expressions of gratitude for his keen interest and faithful work that contributed much to the upbuilding of our Society.

Allen Noe served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Resuming civilian status at the end of the war, he continued to serve the government as a manpower analyst for the Army Munitions Command, Dover, N.J., for 26 years until his retirement in 1973. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and two sons, Richard, of Atlanta, Georgia, and Charles, of Santa Clara, California.

The officers and directors of SITU join in expressing sympathy to the Noe family for the loss of their husband and father, one who was also our colleague and friend.

—R.C.W.

Report on Four Conferences

by Robert C. Warth

I was pleased to be able to represent SITU in attending four major conferences during the past summer. Space does not permit more than a brief mention about each conference, but I would encourage *Pursuit* readers to attend one or more such meetings in the future if it is convenient to do so.

Organizers of these meetings devote many hours and a considerable financial investment to make the events comfortable and interesting to visitors. Most rewarding to observe is the enthusiasm of both the lecturers and the attendees. Each conference usually concludes with everyone exhausted but wishing he or she had the stamina and the time to keep it going for another few days or a week, when it is realized that only the surface has been scratched of all there is to be learned and discussed.

Some of the lectures I felt would be of particular interest to SITU members, and the lecturers have graciously extended permission to share their subject matter in the pages of *Pursuit*. Omitted from this summary in order to conserve space are the speakers' academic titles and/or details of professional background. Further information about each speaker, and the text of the lecture if it is available on paper or tape, may be obtained from the respective organization at the address listed.

The U.S. **Psychotronics Association** (formerly the U.S. Radionics Association) met this year on the beautiful campus of the University of Oregon in Portland, July 20-24.

The only regret as expressed by some was that, because of the number of speakers, dual conferences had to be held in two separate conference rooms. This meant that attendees were faced with a sometimes difficult choice, and there was a good deal of distraction in both rooms as individuals shuffled about, trying to decide which talk was the more interesting or useful.

Some of the lectures, while innovative, were technically difficult to comprehend except, perhaps, for a doctoral candidate. Other talks were remarkably simplified and relied more on demonstration than in-depth analysis.

By the end of this conference, there was little doubt left, with this writer, that a very great potential exists for a major breakthrough in the near future for the control and cure of certain physical ailments by the use of electrical energies (neuroelectric medicine) in conjunction with traditional medicine.

Regarding fundamental physics, Tom Bearden said: "The present electromagnetics is a special case of the new, more fundamental electromagnetics originally discovered by Nikola Tesla, just as Newton's physics is a special case of the Einstein relatavistic physics." Here, too, an exciting breakthrough is anticipated which should take us well beyond the presently "accepted" concepts in these fields.

These were the basic themes of the conference:

1) Medical alternatives: color/light; sound/music; crystals in healing.
2) Physics: free energy, Tesla technology; anti-gravity and ELF radionics.
3) Radionics/radiesthesia: new instrument designs; new theoretical concepts; agricultural psychotronics.

Significant schedules were: Marcel Vogel "The De La Warr Camera;" Loren Parks "Simple Healing for Some Chronic Conditions;" Marcel Vogel "Crystal Design for 'Radionics Use';" Benedict Arul "Cancer, A Phrohomoestatic Systemal Strategy;" George Hathaway "Non-Conv. Energy Tech.;" Bob Beutlich "Pendulum & Meditation, Past & Present;" James Kness "Some Electrical Engineering Problems in Free Energy Technology;" Kath. Joyce "Psychotronics & Pythagorean Platonic World View;" Sam Lentine "Consciousness, Vibrations and the Patterns of Crystallization;" Riley Crabb "World Power of Grid Systems and ELF Waves;" Steven Rosenblatt "Kirlian Photography & Electro-Acuscope in Clinical Practice;" Preston Nichols "From Telepathy to Vacuum Tubes;" Lutie Larson "Radionic Balancing & You."

Walter Uphoff "PK Effects Captured on Film;" Lia Delissant "Vitally Intensified Music;" Ed Skilling "The Hendershot Generator;" Dennis Stillings "Slides of Historic Radionics Equipment;" T. Galen Hieronymous "Eloptic Energy & Agricultural Innovations in Lab.;" Sarah Hieronymous "Eloptic Energy & Plant Genetics;" Bill Bise "Liquid Psychic Sensor;" Jim Faubel "Subtle Energy Theory & the Chakaras;" J. G. Gallimore "Solid State Psychic Sensor;" Harold Ine "Lithium, the Ultimate Crystal Component;" Dennis Edmondson "Hyper-Numbers, a la Charles Muses' Hyper-Space;" Peter Kelly "Report & Update, Interdimensional Science;" Toby Grotz "Spec. Anyl. of Lakhovsky Multi-Wave Osc.;" Jerry Freidenstein "Energy Towers & Agri-Radionics;" Panel Discussion "Biol. Effects of EM Fields."

Wm. Bauer "Neuro-Electric Medicine;" Charles Whitehouse "New Crystal Designs in Radionic Devices;" Andrija Puharich "Successful Treatment of Mammary Neoplasms;" Gary Fleck "Crystal Healing & Energy Attunement;" Jack Houck "Conceptual Model of Paranormal Phenomena, a Demonstration of Spoon Bending;" K. D. S. Khalasa "Sound and Color Using Kinesionics;" Eliz. Rauscher "EM Phenomena in Complex Geometries;" Tom Valone "One Piece Faraday Generator;" Tom Bearden"New EM, Where 'Old Math' Took

the Wrong Turn;" George Freibott "Electro-Vib. Med., Oxidation & Cancer — the Suppression of Successful Therapies & Utilization Today;" Jerry Friedenstein "Agri-Radionics in Resonance with Earth;" Bob Beck "Neuro-Electric Therapy, Micro-Electric Brain Tuners — Tomorrow's 'Miracle Cure'?"

Ed Skilling "Circuits & Const. of ELF-TEN Units;" Erwin Stark "The Connections with Tomorrow;" Isabelle Orion "Bio-Training/Fantasy Tech., Analogies with Brain Research;" Bob Beutlich "Genetic Code from the Kabbalah."

Those wishing further information may contact Bob Beutlich, 3459 Montrose, Chicago, IL 60618. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 27-July 1, 1984, at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia.

Two weekends later, after a 10-day poltergeist investigation/vacation in West Germany, I was in Chicago to attend the **10th Anniversary World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society**, held on August 6-7.

After welcoming addresses by Gene Phillips and Erich Von Daniken, Andrew Tomas delivered his "Vaults of Time" (published in *Pursuit* No. 62, Second Quarter 1983, pp. 50-53). Vaughn Greene described his investigation centered in Japan, of what he believes are hundreds of examples of "The 6000-Year-Old Space Suit." Pasqual Schievella's talk appears on pages 120-124 of this issue of *Pursuit*. Walter Ernsting from Ireland spoke on "Fantasy, Science and Mistakes," and Gerardo Levet from Mexico lectured on "Ancient Rock-Molding Techniques — Myth or Reality?"

On the second day, Gene Phillips gave a slide presentation of the AAS member expedition to Petra and Malta. Richard T. Crowe spoke on his studies of the "Mysteries of Ancient Ireland." Stuart T. Greenwood's talk was entitled "Ancient Astronauts — An Aerospace Engineer's Search for Evidence." After lunch, George T. Sassoon of England discussed "The Holy Grail — An Extraterrestrial Object?" Zacharia Sitchin spoke of "The Earth Chronicles" (his address will appear in *Pursuit* No. 64), and Erich Von Daniken closed with his "The Strategy of the Gods."

For believers of the ancient astronaut hypothesis, the evidence presented by these lecturers seemed to me to strengthen and expand the concept that our Earth was visited, observed and possibly settled by outerspace intelligences long before and during our recent 6000-year-plus attempt at civilizing this planet.

The next conference is being planned for Switzerland in 1985. Interested persons should contact Gene M. Phillips, AAS, 1921 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035.

From September 9 to 11, the **Second International Symposium of Non-Conventional Energy Technology** was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

This conference was closely related to the USPA meeting in Portland, Oregon, six weeks earlier; the efforts of the late Nikola Tesla were frequently discussed as were new and useful advances in the study and application of energy for mankind. Often the phrase was reiterated: "Einstein was wrong — Tesla was right."

There were lectures and demonstrations of the practical importance to us of the research and present development of liquid-fuel conservation devices, particularly for automobiles. Still unexplained is the way in which proper application of magnets can reduce gasoline and diesel fuel consumption.

Notable, too, was the concern expressed by many of those present that our current high level of fuel consumption is causing severe atmospheric changes. It flags a warning that we must reverse the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere immediately if life on Earth is to continue.

Perhaps more than can be explained here is the Fortean nature of the principles underlying much of this new energy work, and many of the paranormal phenomena reported in the pages of *Pursuit* may have explanations in the fundamental research being conducted by these brilliant and imaginative scientists.

Here is a summary of the lectures which followed the opening address and welcome by the chairmen, Ken MacNeill and George Hathaway: C. Wallace "Design and Engineering;" L. Adams "Magnets and Fuel Economy;" A. Pezarro "Oil/Gas Exploration Devices;" J. Draper "Advanced Hubbard Coil;" G. Hathaway "Test and Measurement Techniques;" P. Brown "Variable Reluctance Generators;" C. Moss "Mandala;" W. Baumgartner "Energy Unlimited Overview;" G. Hilscher "Advanced Technology in Europe;" M. Bradford "Universal Law in Alternate Energy;" F. Gibson "Electromagnetism and Gravitation;" T. Bearden "Classical E-M Theory Re-evaluation;" B. Maglich "Aneutronic Energy Systems;" S. Reed "Advanced Electric Automobile;" G. Obolensky "Advances in 'Tesla Technology';" R. Nelli "Energy and Paranormal Phenomena;" P. Callahan "Tachyon Energy Fields;" M. Vogel "Bio-Energy Systems Experiments;" N. Harthum "V. Schauberger — Theory and Devices;" K. MacNeill "Extending Gas Mileage;" T. Valone "Faraday Homopolar Generator;" R. Bourgoin "Thinner is Better;" A. Trombly "North American Energy Technology."

Those wishing further information should contact Ken MacNeill, P.O. Box 9478, Winter Haven, FL 33880. The next related meeting, Ken tells me, will probably be in San Diego in mid-summer. Contact Ken MacNeill after April 1, 1984.

On June 11 the annual membership meeting of the **International Society of Cryptozoology** was held in a one-day conference at New York University, New York City.

A disappointment for this observer was that only a few score people, including the organizers and lecturers,

(Continued on page 130)

Science, Proof, and the Ancient Astronaut Hypothesis

by Pasqual S. Schievella

That extraterrestrial intelligences visited earth in antiquity and altered the course of human history is an old hypothesis, offered anew by Erich von Däniken. Although I am sympathetic to this thesis, the main thrust of this paper is a criticism of the behavior of critics, particularly scientists, in the broadest sense of that term. As a historical hypothesis, the merits of the ancient astronaut hypothesis should be weighed against the available evidence with rigorous scientific scrutiny.

Unfortunately, this has not occurred. Instead the scientific community has attacked both the hypothesis and von Däniken with outrage and abuse. His evidence has been dismissed with ridicule. The hypothesis is assailed with fallacious reasoning and an appeal to authority. Equally disturbing is the stony silence of "experts" regarding the evidence for the hypothesis. This silence, and the attacks of critics like Ronald Story[1] supported by Carl Sagan, clearly show that a scientific evaluation is not forthcoming.

In what follows, I shall attempt to present the case for von Däniken. I shall then examine some of the criticisms frequently made against the ancient astronaut hypothesis.

It should be noted at the outset that this examination of such irrationality on the part of many scientists is in no way to be interpreted as my having a lack of faith in science. In point of fact, I have as much faith in science as some believers have in the existence of an anthropomorphic God. Theistic faith, however, has evolved out of the irrational hopes, fears, and reification of the unknown. It is a faith for which there is no evidence, in any reasonable sense of that term. It is indeed, more often than not, a faith in spite of evidence to the contrary. *My* faith in science, on the other hand, has evolved from the achievements of science, from its rational and self-corrective method, and from the public evidence it has offered, however incomplete, in fulfillment of its predictions. It must be understood, then, that I am an ardent proponent of science. That is why I become so disturbed by dogmatists like Carl Sagan who destroy the credibility of science by claiming for it more than it can deliver and by refusing to give the ancient astronaut hypothesis the scientific consideration it deserves.

The Case for Von Däniken

It is common knowledge that it is both possible and probable that intelligent beings exist elsewhere in the universe. Even Sagan admits that. To assume otherwise is to regress to the Middle Ages, when it was believed that the earth was the center of the universe and man the supreme creation.

Historian Will Durant, in his *Story of Civilization*, suggests that we are not necessarily the descendants of the primitive cultures to which archaeologists and anthropologists like to attribute our ancestry. His thesis, and the mysteries that science has not explained, suggest the possibility that ancient space travelers visited earth. No argument based on such data as problems of interglactic travel and the vastness of space has yet proved that superior intelligence could not accomplish what we, with our few centuries of limited scientific technology and theory, believe to be impossible.

It is both possible and probable that ancient astronauts did visit earth. This cannot be denied unless one holds that evolution is impossible, or that there is no evolution and God created only us (a point that raises questions on which *no* evidence could be brought to bear), or that such evolution as there has been took place only on earth, or that except for us there are no astronauts or other intelligences in the universe, or that the evidence is all in as to our origin, or that we have *absolute* knowledge about these things, and the like. Surely no enlightened person could hold such medieval ideas.

Unless we deny the possibility of evolution elsewhere in the universe or pretend to an absolute knowledge regarding our past, we must recognize at least the *possibility* that technologically advanced civilizations may have arisen elsewhere and that they may have visited us in the remote past.

The ancient astronaut hypothesis, then, is at least possible. As to proof of von Däniken's theories, it must be noted that the ancient astronaut hypothesis cannot be expected to follow the rigid rules and standards of proof set for natural science. Its modes of proof are primarily like those in the social sciences, such as psychology, sociology, and anthropology. To expect formal rigidity in such informal disciplines is to demand what cannot be. Nevertheless, one would expect scientists to permit von Däniken to extrapolate from his data, since they themselves accept extrapolation as a kind of evidence permitting further advances in science.

What *could* constitute proof for the ancient astronaut hypothesis? We are not likely to find an ancient astronaut. As von Däniken points out, "crashed" spaceships from the distant past would probably long ago have disintegrated or possibly have been carried away piecemeal. What then?

Von Däniken's thesis explains hitherto inexplicable mysteries none of which has received any elucidation from academic minds fettered by prejudices and preconceptions. It is not fatal to the hypothesis that critics find errors. Taken as a whole, von Däniken's findings point convincingly to the likelihood of extraterrestrial interference in man's distant past. That is not to deny that von Däniken manipulates many of his facts to adapt them to the ancient astronaut hypothesis. But what scientist does not do this when he formulates a theory?

The ancient astronaut hypothesis is little different from most of recorded history. The hypothesis requires only "validation" of the reported data through correlation of those data with the unexplained and wondrous technical artifacts of the distant past. The proofs of the ancient astronaut hypothesis can be found in the logic of both possible and probable events, in the historical,

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by
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even though predominantly religious, documents that are held in such high historical esteem throughout the world, and in the ancient artifacts that cannot be explained in terms of the supposed knowledge and capabilities of antiquity. Any mythologist will readily insist that much of mythology is but disguised history. There remains only to break the code of the expressions of antiquity and to translate them into the speech patterns of a space-age language. As George Sassoon[2] explained, even the word "Glory" in the scriptures turns out to be a highly probable reference to a space craft. All these, studied as a body of coherently describable data, point to extraterrestrial intervention. Furthermore, the descriptions in ancient documents, when *coupled* with emprical data, considerably weaken the argument that *terrestrials* are responsible for those artifacts which obviously were beyond their linguistic, conceptual, and technical abilities. Let us consider some of those wonders. A few should suffice.

At the Bay of Pisco, south of Lima, Peru, there is an enormous trident engraved on the side of a hill pointing (we can now say with accuracy, thanks to the intensive research of Josef Blumrich[3]) directly at a small island by the name of Isla Blanca. In addition, not far from the small city of Nazca, Peru, one can find what are now called the Nazca ground drawings. Inscribed on approximately thirty square miles of arid Nazca pampas are huge drawings of a spider, a monkey, a hummingbird, and the like. They are so large that they can be recognized only from the air. Other drawings could easily be mistaken for aircraft landing strips. Some are merely straight (often parallel) lines running across rough terrain and up mountainsides, appearing to deviate not an inch — sometimes almost ten kilometers (6.21 miles) long, as if cut by a laser beam from on high. As to their source and meanings, there are no accepted explanations. A NASA engineer, Robert Earle, claims to have determined that most of the lines point to important geographic locations on the earth.[4]

Another unexplained mystery is that of the Terraces of Baalbek in Lebanon where huge stone blocks sixty feet long and said to weigh 2,000 tons have been moved into place. They are so massive that even our modern technology could not handle them.

Then there are the so-called "fortress" walls at Sacsayhuaman, outside the city of Cusco in Peru. There are thousands of enormous stones, many tons in weight, fitting together as closely and as neatly as the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, without any kind of connecting adhesive. The thin edge of a sheet of paper could not be inserted between them.

Another marvel is the recessed quadrangular wall at Tiahuanacu, outside of La Paz, Bolivia. The inside surface is studded with sculptured faces apparently representing every racial type on earth. There are many hundreds of other unexplained mysteries which most scientists show no inclination to investigate. I shall mention only one more: the mystery of the existence of models of sophisticated aircraft. Some of these models show a separation space indicating the possible existence of nuclear engines.[5] Such models, which are in museums throughout the world, have been tested and found to be aerodynamically accurate in design. They are amazingly interesting artifacts because they correlate so well with the many scriptural descriptions of flying machines emitting smoke, fire, and thunderous noise.

Even if we accept the claim that all these things originated with terrestrial beings, we would be hard-pressed to explain the disappearance of such superior civilizations. We have found no documentary or, indeed, evidence of any kind to support a terrestrial origin for such technological achievements.

It seems, then, as von Däniken reiterates, that it is time to bring to bear upon these fascinating mysteries, and the descriptions of them in the languages of antiquity, new perspectives and viable hypotheses made possible by the more sophisticated language and knowledge of our day.

If scientific and religious institutions would allow it, and if governments or foundations would advance funds to support it, researchers could feed data from all over the world into computers to determine the comparative similarities among empirical descriptions of "gods from space" and to determine whether these descriptions are, as the critics prefer to believe, nothing more than the creations of insane minds or over-fertile imaginations. Supplemented by computers, experts in comparative linguistics, translation, ancient cultures, and ancient languages should be able to determine whether the technical data, concepts, and achievements found in museums, existing at archaeological sites, and described in historical and religious documents could have originated with a pre-scientific people who spoke only non-technical and unsophisticated language. Surely such an effort would bring more probable results than will the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars from an impulse technology attempting to discover evidence of the existence of extra-terrestrial intelligences — an effort with which I nevertheless heartily agree. However, there is even less of a "smidgen," to use a favorite word of Carl Sagan's, of evidence in space. In fact, there is *no* evidence except for the "evidence" of extra-terrestrial interference (in the development of man) right here on Earth as it had been offered throughout our history by ancient astronaut theorists.

As it stands now, the ancient astronaut hypothesis is primarily a historical hypothesis and peripherally a scientific one. It is founded on documentary and circumstantial evidence and, in some cases, on hard evidence that may be denied except by stretching the facts beyond reason and probability.

Many professionals are sympathetic to von Däniken's concerns. Among the millions who read his books are scientists, philosophers, archaeologists, anthropologists, engineers, and scholars from every field. This is what apparently frightens scientists like Sagan, who seems to be making every effort to silence scholars who are inclined to take the ancient astronaut hypothesis seriously. He even goes so far as to suggest that if we do not agree with him, we are not reasoning persons. Such attacks are apparently calculated to intimidate the reader, particularly if he is a scholar. With such a *modus operandi*, it is not at all surprising to see that the critics of the ancient astronaut hypothesis find support from representatives of the church, an alliance that would surely amuse Galileo.

Much of the negative criticism of Erich von Däniken and the ancient astronaut hypothesis emanates from a small number of scientists led, it seems, by Carl Sagan, who claims that there is not a "smidgen of evidence" for the hypothesis. The claim is that they *prove* their theories, whereas the ancient astronaut theorists do not. I wish to remind Sagan and his followers that there are many kinds of proof. Sagan knows, but he appears to pretend otherwise, that proof can be not only empirical, observational, experimental, or inductive (as he seems to imply), but also theoretical, logical, mathematical, hypothetical, deductive, statistical, probable, and documentary. These various forms account for much critical and fundamental examination within the sciences themselves. The ancient astronaut theorists' use of many of these kinds of proof is no less valid than the scientists' use of them. Here I insist that evidence, proof, and knowledge must be possible, probable, public, and predictable. They must be directly or indirectly verifiable and compatible with a com-

prehensive body of relevant facts, theories, generalizations, and hypotheses. To the degree to which these elements fit coherently without contradiction, to that degree we can make legitimate claims to having evidence, proof, or knowledge.

A deliberate ignoring of these different kinds of proof is the *modus operandi* of those scientists who are guilty of dogmatism and prejudice. Are von Däniken's scientific critics suggesting that there is no truth or knowledge except for that found in the natural sciences? Would Sagan and his followers claim that there is not a "smidgen of evidence" that Lincoln was shot at Ford Theater, or that the history of the United States occurred substantially as written, on the ground that no one alive was there to see it happen? Would they question the documents that record Fleming's discovery of penicillin, or Caesar's having ruled Rome? Such knowledge cannot be verified by the techniques of the natural sciences, by experimentation, or by unfalsifiable data.

Of course science must conduct its search for truth objectively. But *science* is not *scientists*. The latter are far from infallible and often far from objective; a few are even dishonest, prone to authoritarianism and dreams of scientific infallibility even when they admit they are speculating. They forget that the present achievements of science constitute little more than an embryonic development in the continuing search for truth. In elevating themselves to the throne of infallibility, they imply that they alone have the key to the mysteries of the universe. They display the worst kind of parochialism in failing to see that there are problems of a kind that cannot be solved by a study of subatomic constructs or of molecular structures. To make matters worse, the technical achievements of science are often conflated with scientific certainty, misleading the layman into believing that the products of technology — such as television, nuclear weaponry, and space travel — are ample proof that what scientists say is *ipso facto* true.

Although von Däniken is no stranger to scientific concepts, he has never pretended to be a scientist. His critics ignore this, however, and argue against *their* own assumption that von Däniken *thinks* he is a scientist. They then proceed to show what he himself admits — that he is not. This straw-man approach is typical of much of their criticism. Indeed, it is to our benefit that von Daniken is not a scientist. As someone has said, "Science is too important to leave to scientists." The ideas von Däniken expresses have been posed, as von Däniken says, thousands of times in the past. No one before, however, and especially not Sagan, was sufficiently daring or provocative to raise to world-wide awareness the possibility and the probability of extraterrestrial intelligence.

Various critics have referred to von Däniken's research as "pseudoscience," and claim that it belongs with occult literature. Aside from their not being able to distinguish between the occult and the ancient astronaut thesis, this can hardly be called a scientific disproof of the hypothesis. It sounds more like the voice of embattled authority proclaiming "truth" loudly and anxiously. Can such a response be attributed to von Däniken's critics' annoyance with his provocative style? It is, after all, very strange that they have not attacked with the same concentration and intensity any of the hundreds of other ancient astronaut theorists — enthusiasts from Homer to Josef Blumrich.[6] Is it because these others have not exposed the unwillingness of scientists to concern themselves with the ancient records buried in the world's archives, waiting to be deciphered? Is it because von Däniken is shaming scientists and other authorities for their lack of integrity? Is it because they do not like having their self-limited search for truth exposed? Is it because they wish to ignore certain facts that abound throughout the world? Is it because they are afraid that the generous research appropriations they receive might be diverted to this cause?

Indeed, von Däniken's persistence and his provocative and accusatory style of writing have not endeared him to the world's scientists, nor to its religious leaders. However, if his questions are not proper, it should be easy to demonstrate that fact. Scientists certainly have not shown von Däniken's characterization of them to be wrong, and what is worse, their unscientific responses support his contentions. Nor have devastating proofs against his hypothesis been demonstrated. Certainly character assassination and weak claims will not do.

The attacks and negative responses from religious institutions (and individuals like the contributors to *Some Trust in Chariots*, partly edited by the Reverend B.B. Thiering, Chaplain of Cranbrook School) are easily understandable, in view of their special interest. One would expect, however, a more sympathetic attitude from the Sagans of the scientific community. Their approach thus far smacks entirely of dogmatic authoritarianism. Obviously science cannot be expected to preoccupy itself with claims that can be shown to be filled with internal contradictions, ambiguities, and meaningless terms. But such is not the case with von Däniken's thesis.

Consider, as a typical attack on von Däniken, Story's *The Space-Gods Revealed*. In his foreword, Carl Sagan suggests that *Chariots of the Gods?* is "pop religion." It is in fact an *attack* on religious claims. Moreover, Sagan sets the tone for disbelief before Story presents his so-called evidence. He makes it clear that — in his view — von Däniken is trampling where he does not belong. As Sagan has said on his "Cosmos" program, putting the cart before the horse, the amateurs scare away the professionals. But that is no more than a lame excuse for their failing to deal with the problem, certainly not an explanation. In fact, amateurs tread where the professionals refuse to go. *Someone* has to investigate unsolved mysteries. Further still, without discussing the extremely complex nature of the term "evidence," Sagan dogmatically states that there is no evidence for ancient astronauts. Both Story and Sagan put words into von Däniken's mouth — words like "dummies" in reference to our ancestors. Von Däniken does not claim that our human ancestors were "stupid," or that they were not genetically similar. He merely suggests that they could not have had the knowledge implied by some of the artifacts from the past, however they may have received the genes we have inherited. He is quite correct. They lacked a sophisticated technical language, concepts, and insights needed to solve such problems. Story and Sagan invariably associate von Däniken with strange ideas and mystic cults, branding him guilty by association.

Following Sagan's foreword, Story's book is permeated with carefully chosen emotional words and *ad hominem* attacks calculated to ridicule von Däniken's ideas; he resorts to laughter and derision when logic and conclusive evidence are lacking. His handling of von Däniken and his theories is a paradigm of sloppiness cleverly concealed from those who lack logical training. Story confines himself primarily to von Däniken's earlier writings. Von Däniken was inexperienced with literature in matters of scholarly research (he did not even graduate from high school). He felt he would be better received if he colored his writings with a fictional style. Thus these works are vulnerable to attack. However, Story cleverly avoids criticizing hundreds of facts and data from other of von Däniken's books. There, he would be unable to draw on present-day accepted explanations, and on authorities with their pet theories to protect. Von

'. . . the ancient astronaut hypothesis cannot be expected to follow the rigid rules and standards of proof set for natural science. Its modes of proof are primarily like those in the social sciences, such as psychology, sociology, and anthropology. To expect formal rigidity in such informal disciplines is to demand what cannot be.'

Däniken insists we must marshal new interpretations based on present-day language, knowledge, and concepts.

The clearest indication of Story's philosophical and critical incompetence is seen in his treatment of von Däniken's explanation for the Nazca ground drawings. He says sarcastically, "The runways are not needed for space flight. What were the ancient astronauts flying — World War I biplanes?" Has Story not heard of our space shuttle which requires a runway nearly three miles long? He implies that long landing strips would not have been needed. And, indeed, they may not have been. Nevertheless his remark assumes a great number of facts he could know nothing about, such as landing requirements, speed capacities, and so on. By suggesting that astronauts could have landed only in daylight, moreover, he is guilty of arriving at solutions in terms of our limited knowledge, precisely as von Däniken has charged. The extraterrestrials might, among other possibilities, have been sensitive to a far wider band on the spectrum than we are, enabling them to see at night, or they may have had instruments to amplify other forms of light that appear as darkness to us. Story also refers to the "soft, sandy soil of the Nazca pampa." But age, weather, heat expansion, and the like, could have destroyed the original soil surface. Again he is assuming that their "vehicles" would be like ours, having similar landing gear. Finally, Story repeatedly appeals to the very authorities whose theories von Däniken places in question.

Story is unimaginative, and too lacking in forward-looking concepts to consider that the unthinkable may be true, as it so often has been in the past. His speculations will seem reasonable to those conditioned to think within present-day parameters. But that is precisely what von Däniken brings into question. It is scarcely necessary here to rehearse the list of great pioneers and discoverers like Columbus, Galileo, and Pasteur, who were mocked and hounded during their lifetime primarily because their insights and theories ran counter to the "accepted" wisdom of the establishment of their day.

Have today's pundits learned nothing from their predecessors whose arrogance they mimic? They speak knowingly, however mistakenly: "knowing" that theories are fact; and "knowing" that there is no real, hard proof for the ancient astronaut hypothesis. From a philosophical and even a scientific standpoint, there is no such thing as absolute proof — not even in the most seemingly solid sciences. By "real" or "hard" proof, Sagan actually refers to unscientific proof, for he seems to mean proof that is immediately accessible to our sense faculties. This is exactly the kind of proof that once led the world to believe in a solar system with the earth at its center and the sun visibly revolving around it.

Story accuses von Däniken of not being aware "of the archaeological and historical facts." He will not accept that von Däniken is aware, and rejects them, refusing to accept hypotheses as facts. Yet Story himself claims to know the facts. He credits our ancestors with knowledge and common sense — even with simple techniques and equipment for moving objects weighing many tons — some up to eighty tons. He accepts their "empirical" descriptions of how they are supposed to have moved the huge statues (Moai) on Easter Island. He would deny that our ancestors' descriptions of ships in the sky with flaming tails, accompanied by thunderous noise and tremors of the earth, are empirical descriptions. He does not explain his criteria for choosing one description and rejecting another. But more than that, he seems to suggest that there are no ancient mysteries — mysteries that the ancient astronaut hypothesis might explain.

In discussing the date of an ancient artifact, Story attempts to cast doubt on the accuracy of von Däniken's information by use of the very subtle techniques of leaving out crucial terms from von Däniken's comments, such as substituting "archaeologists" for von Däniken's "some archaeologists."

Although there are endless examples of distortions, innuendos, and illogic expressed by von Däniken's critics, we cannot dwell on them longer.

Conclusion

Von Däniken's critics seem to insist on one standard for him, that is, the empirical and positivistic methods, whereas they themselves rely heavily on theoretical or other methods. But they do not, with the same fervor, attack creationism in the Book of Genesis or the Christian belief in a non-material God. In this respect, we would do well to listen to P.E. Pothier of Bethesda, Maryland. In answer to an article, that included attacks on von Däniken, by Kendrick Frazier, published in *Science News* of 9 June 1976, Pothier said:

> May I remind those who deplore the increasing interest in the occult, as evidenced by the proliferation of occult books, that the number one all-time best seller remains the *Holy Bible,* the Manifesto of those bastions of occultism, the established churches. If . . . one must persist in this silly witch hunt, let him take on an enemy big enough to pose a serious threat to science and society. In the name of its peculiar form of occultism the Christian Church set up the Holy Inquisition to silence all heretics including scientists. It burned their books as well. It forbade and forbids all practical means of population control. In California it even forbids the teaching of evolution as fact. The "parascience cults" have done none of these things.
>
> If scientists really want to banish irrationalism from the world, let them hurl their challenge at the citadel of occultism — the Church.

If science sees its moral character and scientific ethic as including the responsibility to warn the world of what is and is not rational, then it has a responsibility to do so with a non-discriminating approach. If it attacks von Däniken, it has a responsibility to attack Reverend Moon, Billy Graham, Robert Schuller, Oral Roberts, and all the highest priests of irrationalism — religious, political, and scientific, across the world. I have yet to hear any scientist attack Pope John Paul II because he said, "Faith is the highest form of reason." Have they lost the courage they manifest against Erich von Däniken who, unlike

the satraps of institutional religion, is powerless to direct the wrath of gods and of the world upon their heads? As a humanistic community, science should attack ideas, not proponents of ideas. It should resort to the scientific methods, not to the tyrannical voice of dogma and authoritarianism.

Scientists should do well, therefore, to admit that ancient astronaut theorists have a right to use the same kinds of proof science uses in both the "hard" and "soft" sciences. They would do well to examine the evidence and data with the objectivity they claim to use in the "hard" sciences. Even Dr. Truzzi, who according to the *New York Times* has broken away from the "Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal," has said that the group was "more preoccupied with denouncing . . . than with investigating." It is Truzzi's conviction that claims to truth in those areas normally not considered to fall within the parameters of accepted science must "not be dismissed out of hand." It is incumbent on science to be scientific about those hypotheses, "matters that present legitimate puzzle areas for science," which some scientists and also philosophers are prone to denounce before investigating. They would do well to lend their interest, their methods, their techniques, and their moral and financial support in a serious search for historical knowledge relating to the ancient astronaut hypothesis. It has too long been not only ignored but unscientifically prejudged as improbable in advance of the needed research. If that is science, then I have long misunderstood what science is.

More power to Erich von Däniken. We can only hope that his efforts will continue to prosper.

NOTES

1. L. Ronald Story, *The Space-Gods Revealed* (changed from *The Space-God Hoax* under threat of suit) (New York: Harper & Row, 1976).

2. Co-author (with Rodney Dale) of *The Manna Machine* (London: Granada Publishing Co., 1979).

3. Josef F. Blumrich wrote *The Spaceships of Ezekiel* (New York: Bantam Books, 1974). His initial intent was to disprove von Daniken's thesis. Of his change of mind, he writes, "Hardly ever was a total defeat so rewarding, so fascinating and so delightful." Blumrich is a retired engineer, former director of Systems Layout branch of NASA, who contributed to the designing and building of the Saturn V booster. He has since taken out patents for designs based on Ezekiel's "technical" descriptions.

4. Robert Earle, *Proof of Ancient Astronauts*, Nazca Sketchbooks I, II, III (Bay Village, Ohio: Robert Earle, I, 1975; II, 1976; III, 1978). In private correspondence, Mr. Earle has claimed that as a result of six years of study and six months of in-the-field exploration in the company of archaeologists, he has discovered the real meaning of the Nazcan runway arrows: they are an astronomical chart of asteroids and comets — on which the ancient astronauts hitched "piggyback" rides to take them to various places in their travels. No less than one-quarter of the Nazcan ground drawings, he states, are of hummingbird gods which, he insists, are depictions of hovering spacecraft.

5. Dr. Stuart W. Greenwood, aerospace engineer, member of the British Interplanetary Society, and of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics agrees that the interpretation of a nuclear separation space is possible.

6. To mention only a few: Jacques Bergier, scientist and writer (deceased): *Les Extra-Terrestres dans L'Historie* and other books too numerous to mention; Richard T. Crowe, mythologist in Irish history and folklore; Raymond Drake, author and researcher of legends: a series entitled *Gods or Spacemen?*, and many other books; Walter Ernsting, author of many novels; Dr. Stuart T. Greenwood, Professor of Aerospace Engineering, author, and lecturer; Dr. Dileep Kuman Kanjilal, Sanskrit scholar, author of numerous articles on Sanskrit texts describing Gods as extraterrestrial Beings and their use of "Virmana," flying devices; Gerardo Levet, mechanical engineer: *Mision Vital en el Planeta Tierra; Dr. Luis E. Navia, cosmologist and Professor of Philosophy: A Bridge to the Stars*; George Sassoon, electronics engineer and linguist: *The Manna Machine* (co-authored with Rodney Dale); Zecharia Sitchin, Hebrew scholar: *The Earth Chronicles*; Robert K. G. Temple, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and scholar in Oriental studies and Sanskrit: *The Sirius Mystery*.

Comments on the

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Part I
Discrepancies in Present EM Theory

There are at least twenty-two major discrepancies presently existing in conventional electromagnetics theory. This paper presents a summary of those flaws, and is a further commentary on my discussion of scalar longitudinal Tesla waves in a previous paper, "Solutions to Tesla's Secrets and the Soviet Tesla Weapons," Tesla Book Company, 1981 and 1982.

I particularly wish to express my deep appreciation to two of my friends and colleagues who at this time, I believe, wish to remain anonymous. One of the two is an experimental genius who can produce items on the bench that do not work by orthodox theory. The second is a master of materials science and electromagnetics theory. I thank them both for their exceptional contributions and stiumli regarding potential shortcomings in present electromagnetics theory, and their forbearance with the many discussions we have held on this and related subjects.

It goes without saying that any errors in this paper are strictly my own, and not the fault of either of my distinguished colleagues.

1. In present electromagnetics theory, **charge and charged mass are falsely made identical.** Actually, on a charged particle, the "charge" is the flux of virtual particles on the "bare particle" of observable mass. The charged particle is thus a "system" of true massless charge coupled to a bare chargeless mass. The observable "mass" is static, three-dimensional, and totally spatial. "Charge" is dynamic, four-dimensional or more, virtual and spatiotemporal. Further, the charge and observable mass can be decoupled, contrary to present theory. Decoupled charge — that is, the absence of mass — is simply what we presently refer to as "vacuum." Vacuum, spacetime, and massless charge are all identical. Rigorously, we should utilize any of these three as an "ether," as suggested for vacuum by Einstein himself (see Max Born, *Einstein's Theory of Relativity*, Revised Edition, Dover Publications, New York, 1965, p. 224). And all three of them are identically anenergy — not energy, but more fundamental components of energy.

2. **Electrostatic potential is regarded as a purely three-dimensional spatial stress.** Instead, it is the intensity of a many-dimensional (at least four-dimensional) virtual flux and a stress on all four dimensions of spacetime. This is easily seen, once one recognizes that spacetime is identically massless charge. (It is not "filled" with charge; rather, it *is* charge!) Just as, in a gas under pressure, the accumulation of additional gas further stresses the gas, the accumulation of charge (spacetime) stresses charge (spacetime). Further, if freed from its attachment to mass, charge can flow exclusively in time, exclusively in space, or in any combination of the two. Tesla waves — which are scalar waves in pure massless charge flux itself — thus can exhibit extraordinary characteristics that ordinary vector waves do not possess. And Tesla waves have extra-dimensional degrees of freedom in which to move, as com-

pared to vector waves. Indeed, **one way to visualize a Tesla scalar wave is to regard it as a pure oscillation of time itself.**

3. **Voltage and potential are often confused in the electrostatic case,** or at least thought of as "composed of the same thing." For that reason, voltage is regarded as "potential drop." This also is not true. Rigorously, the potential is the intensity of the virtual particle flux at a single point — whether or not there is any mass at the point — and both the pressure and the point itself are spatiotemporal (four-dimensional), not spatial (three-dimensional) as presently assumed. Voltage represents the spatial intersection of the difference in the potential between two separated spatial points, and always implies at least a miniscule flow of mass current (that is what makes it spatial!). "Voltage" is spatial and depends upon the presence of observable mass flow, while scalar electrostatic potential is spatiotemporal and depends upon the absence of observable mass flow. The two are not even of the same dimensionality.

4. **The charge of vacuum spacetime is assumed to be zero, when in fact it is a very high value.** Vacuum has no mass, but it has great massless charge and virtual particle charge flux. For proof that a charged vacuum is the seat of something in motion, see G. M. Graham and D. G. Lahoz, "Observation of static electromagnetic angular momentum in vacuo," *Nature*, Vol. 285, May 15, 1980, pp. 154-155. In fact, **vacuum IS charge, identically,** and it is also "spacetime" and at least four-dimensional.

5. Contrary to its present usage, **zero is dimensional and relative in its context.** A three-dimensional spatial hole, for example, exists in time. If we model time as a dimension, then the spatial hole has one dimension in 4-space. So a spatial absence is a spatiotemporal presence. In the vacuum 4-space, a spatial nothing is still a something. The "virtual" concept and the mathematical concept of a derivative are simply two present ways of unconsciously addressing this fundamental problem of the dimensional relativity of zero.

6. The concepts of "space" and "time" imply that spacetime (vacuum) has been separated into two parts. We can only think of a space as "continuing to exist in time." **To separate vacuum spacetime into two pieces, an operation is continually required.** The "operator" which accomplishes this splitting operation is the photon interaction, the interaction of vector electromagnetic energy or waves with mass. I have already strongly pointed out this effect and presented a "raindrop model" of first-order physical change itself in my book *The Excalibur Briefing*, Strawberry Hill Press, San Francisco, 1980, pp. 128-130.

7. **"Vector magnetic potential" is assumed to be always an aspect of (and connected to) the magnetic field. In fact it is a separate, fundamental field of nature and it can be entirely disconnected from the magnetic field.** See Richard P. Feynman et al., *The Feynman Lectures on Physics*, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., New York, 1964, Vol. II, pp. 15-8 to 15-14. Curiously, this fact has been proven for years, yet it has been almost completely ignored in the West. The "∇x" operator, when applied to the A-field, makes B-field. If the ∇x operator is not applied, the "freed" A-field possesses much-expanded characteristics from those presently allowed in the "bound" theory. Specifically, it becomes a scalar or "shadow vector" field; it is not a normal vector field.

8. **The speed of light in vacuum is assumed to be a fundamental constant of nature. Instead, it is a function of the intensity of the massless charge flux**)that is, of the magnitude of the electrostatic potential) **of the vacuum in which it moves.** (Indeed, since vacuum and massless charge are one and the same, one may say that the speed of light is a function of the intensity of the spatiotemporal vacuum!) The higher the flux intensity (charge) of the vacuum, the faster the speed of light in it. This is an observed fact and already shown by hard-core measurements. For example, distinct differences actually exist in the speed of light in vacuo, when measured on the surface of the Earth as compared to measurements in space away from planetary masses. In a vacuum on the surface of the Earth, light moves significantly faster. For a discussion and the statistics, see B. N. Belyaev, "On Random Fluctuations of the Velocity of Light in Vacuum," *Soviet Physics Journal* No. 11, Nov. 1980, pp. 37-42 (original in Russian; translation by Plenum Publishing Corp.). The Russians have been using this knowledge for over two decades in their strategic psychotronics (energetics) program; yet hardly a single U.S. scientist is aware of the measured variation of c in vacuo. In fact, most Western scientists simply cannot believe it when it is pointed out to them!

9. **Energy is considered fundamental and equivalent to work. In fact, energy arises from vector processes, and it can be disassembled into more fundamental (anenergy) scalar components, since the vectors can.** These scalar components individually can be moved to a distant location without expending work, since one is not moving force vectors. There, the scalar components can be joined and reassembled into vectors to provide "free energy" appearing at a distance with no loss between the initial and distant points. For proof that a vector field can be replaced by (and considered to be composed of) two scalar fields, see E. T. Whittaker, *Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society,* Volume 1, 1903, p. 367. By extension, any vector wave can be replaced by two coupled scalar waves.

10. **The classical Poynting vector predicts no longitudinal wave of energy from a time-varying, electrically charged source. In fact, an exact solution of the problem does allow this longitudinal wave.** See T. D. Keech and J. F. Corum, "A New Derivation for the Field of a Time-Varying Charge in Einstein's Theory," *International Journal of Theoretical Physics*, Vol. 20, No. 1, 1981, pp. 63-68, for the proof.

11. The present concepts of vector and scalar are severely limited, and do not permit the explicit consideration of the internal, finer-grained structures of a vector or a scalar. That is, **a fundamental problem exists with the basic assumptions in the vector mathematics itself.** The "space" of a vector field, for example, does not have inter-nested sublevels (subspaces) containing finer "shadow vectors"

or "virtual vectors." Yet particle physics has already discovered that electrical reality is built that way. Thus one should actually use a "hypernumber" theory after the manner of Charles Muses. A scalar is filled with (and composed of) nested levels of other "spaces" containing vectors, where these sum to "zero" in the ordinary observable frame without an observable vector resultant. In Muses' mathematics, for example, zero has real roots. Real physical devices can be — and have been — constructed in accordance with Muses' theory. For an introduction to Muses' profound hypernumbers approach, see Charles Muses' foreword to Jerome Rothstein, *Communication, Organization and Science,* The Falcon's Wing Press, Indian Hills, Colorado, 1958. See also Charles Muses, *Applied Mathematics and Computation*, Vol. 3, 1976. See also Charles Muses, "Hypernumbers II," *Applied Mathematics and Computation*, January 1978.

12. With the expanded Tesla electromagnetics, a new conservation of energy law is required. Let us recapitulate for a moment. The oldest law called for the conservation of mass. The present law calls for the conservation of "mass and energy," but not each separately. If mass is regarded as simply another aspect of energy, then the present law calls for the conservation of energy. However,this assumes that energy is a basic, fundamental concept. Since the energy concept is tied to work and the movement of vector forces, it implicitly assumes "vector movement" to be a "most fundamental" and irreducible concept. But as we pointed out, Whittaker showed that vectors can always be further broken down into more fundamental coupled scalar components. Further, Tesla discovered that these "coupled components" of "energy" can be individually separated, transmitted, processed, rejoined, etc. This directly implies that energy per se need not be conserved. **The new law therefore calls for the conservation of anenergy, the components of energy.** These components may be coupled into energy, and the energy may be further compacted into mass. It is the sum total of the (anenergy) components — coupled and uncoupled — that is conserved, not the matter or the energy per se. Further, this conservation of anenergy is not spatial; rather, it is spatiotemporal in a spacetime of at least four or more dimensions.

13. Relativity is presently regarded as a theory or statement about fundamental physical reality. In fact, it is only a statement about FIRST ORDER reality — the reality that emerges from the vector interaction of electromagnetic energy with matter. When we break down the vectors into scalars (shadow vectors or hypervectors), we immediately enter a vastly different, far more fundamental reality. In this reality, superluminal velocity, multiple universes, travel back and forth in time, higher dimensions, variation of all "fundamental constants" of nature, materialization and dematerialization, and violation of the "conservation of energy" are all involved. Even our present Aristotlean logic — fitted to the photon interaction by vector light as the fundamental observation mechanism — is incapable of describing or modeling this more fundamental reality. Using scalar waves and scalar interactions as much subtler, far less-limited observation/detection mechanisms, we must have a new "superrelativity" to describe the expanded electromagnetic reality uncovered by Nikola Tesla.

14. "Charge" is assumed to be quantized, in addition to always occurring with — and locked to — mass. Indeed, charge is not necessarily quantized, just as it is not necessarily locked to mass. Ehrenhaft discovered and reported fractional charges for years, in the '30s and '40s, and was ignored. See P. A. M. Dirac, "Development of the Physicist's Conception of Nature," *Symposium on the Development of the Physicist's Conception of Nature*, ed. Jagdish Merha, D. Reidel, Boston, 1973, pp. 12-14 for a presentation of some of Ehrenhaft's results. Within the last few years Stanford University researchers also have positively demonstrated the existence of "fractional charge." For a layman's description of their work, see "A Spector Haunting Physics," *Science News*, Vol. 119, January 31, 1981,. pp. 68-69. Indeed, Dirac in his referenced article points out that Millikan himself — in his original oildrop experiments — reported one measurement of fractional charge, but discounted it as probably due to error.

15. Presently, things are always regarded as traveling through normal space. Thus we use or model only the most elementary type of motion — that performed by vector electromagnetic energy. We do not allow for things to "travel inside the vector flow itself." Yet, actually, there is a second, more subtle flow inside the first, and a third, even more subtle flow inside the second, and so on. We may operate inside, onto, into, and out of energy itself — and any anenergy component of energy. There are hypervectors and hyperscalars unlimited, within the ordinary vectors and scalars we already know. Furthermore, these "internal flows" can be engineered and utilized, allowing physical reality itself to be directly engineered, almost without limits.

16. We always assume everything exists in time. Actually, **nothing presently measured exists in time, because the physical detection/measurement process of our present instruments destroys time,** ripping it off and tossing it away — and thereby "collapsing the wave function." Present scientific methodology thus is seriously flawed. It does not yield fundamental (spacetime) truth, but only a partial (spatial) truth. This in turn leads to great scientific oversights. For example, mass does not exist in time, but mass × time (masstime) does. A fundamental constant does not exist in time, but energy × time (action) does. Even space itself does not exist in time — spacetime does. We are almost always one dimension short in every observable we model. Yet we persist in thinking spatially, and we have developed instruments that detect and measure spatially only. Such instruments can never measure and detect the phenomenology of the nested substrata of time. By using scalar technology, however, less limited instruments can indeed be constructed — and they have been. With such new instruments, the phenomenology of the new electromagnetics can be explored and an engineering technology developed.

17. We do not recognize the connection between nested levels of virtual state (particle physics) and orthogonally rotated frames (hyperspaces). Actually, the two are identical, as I showed in the appendix to my book, *The Excalibur Briefing*, Strawberry Hill Press, San Francisco, 1980, pp. 233-235. A virtual particle in the laboratory frame is an observable particle in a hyperspatial frame rotated more than one orthogonal turn away. This of course implies that the hyperspatial velocity of all virtual particles is greater than the speed of light. The particle

physicist is already deeply involved in hyperspaces and hyperspatial charge fluxes without realizing it. In other words, he is using *tachyons* (particles that move faster than light) without realizing it.

18. Presently, quantum mechanics rigorously states that time is not an observable, and therefore it cannot be measured or detected. According to this assumption, one must always infer time from spatial measurements, because all detections and measurements are spatial. With this assumption, our scientists prejudice themselves against even looking for finer subquantal measurement methodologies and instrumentation. This present limitation actually is a result of the type of electromagnetics we presently know, where all instruments (the "measurers") have been interacted with by vector electromagnetic energy (light). Every mass that has temperature (and all masses do!) is continually absorbing and emitting photons, and in the process they are continually connecting to time and disconnecting from time. If time is continually being carried away from the detector itself by its emitted photons, then the detector cannot hold and "detect" that which it has just lost. With Tesla electromagnetics, however, the fundamental limitation of our present instruments need not apply. With finer instruments, we can show there are an infinite number of levels to "time," and it is only the "quantum level time" which is continually being lost by vector light (photon) interaction. By using subquantal scalar waves, instruments can move to deeper levels of time — in which case the upper levels of time *are* measureable and detectable, in contradistinction to the present assumptions.

19. In the present physics, time is modeled as, and considered to be, a continuous dimension such as length. This is only a gross approximation. Indeed, **time is not like a continuous "dimension," but more like a series of "stitches," each of which is individually made and then ripped out before the next stitch appears.** "Vector light" photons interact one at a time, and it is this interaction with mass that creates quantum change itself. The absorption of a photon — which is energy × time — by a spatial mass converts it to masstime: the time was added by the photon. The emission of a photon tears away the time, leaving behind again a spatial mass. It is not accidental, then, that time flows at the speed of light, for it is light which contains and carries time. It is also not accidental that the photon *is* the individual quantum. Since all our instruments presently are continually absorbing and emitting photons, they are all "quantized," and they accordingly "quantize" their detections. This is true because all detection is totally internal to the detector, and the instruments detect only their own internal changes. Since these detections are on a totally granular quantized background, the detections themselves are quantized. **The Minkowski model is fundamentally erroneous in its modeling of time,** and for that reason relativity and quantum mechanics continue to resist all attempts to successfully combine them, quantum field theory notwithstanding.

20. Presently, **gravitational field and electrical field are considered mutually exclusive. Actually, this is also untrue.** In 1974, for example, Santilli proved that electrical field and gravitational field indeed are not mutually exclusive. In that case, one is left with two possibilities: (a) they are totally the same thing, or (b) they are partially the same thing. For the proof, see R. M. Santilli, "Partons and Gravitation: Some Puzzling Questions," *Annals of Physics*, Vol. 83, No. 1, March 1974. With the new Tesla electromagnetics, pure scalar waves in time itself can be produced electrically, and electrostatics (when the charge has been separated from the mass) becomes a "magic" tool capable of directly affecting and altering anything that exists in time — including gravitational field. Antigravity and the inertial drive are immediate and direct consequences of the new electromagnetics.

21. Presently, **mind is considered metaphysical, not a part of physics, and not affected by physical means.** Literally, the prevailing belief of Western scientists is that man is a mechanical robot — even though relativity depends entirely upon the idea of the "observer." Western science today thus has essentially become dogmatic, and in this respect borders on a religion. Since this "religion," so to speak, is now fairly well entrenched in its power in the state, Western science is turning itself into an oligarchy. But **mind occupies time, and when we measure and affect time, we can directly measure and affect mind itself.** In the new electromagnetics, then, Man regains his dignity and his humanity by restoring the reality of mind and thought to science. In my book, *The Excalibur Briefing*, I have already pointed out the reality of mind and a simplified way in which it can be modeled to the first order. With scalar wave instruments, the reality of mind and thought can be measured in the laboratory, and parapsychology becomes a working, engineering, scientific discipline.

22. Multiple-valued basic dimensional functions are either not permitted or severely discouraged in the present theory. For one thing, integrals of multiple valued derivative functions have the annoying habit of "blowing up" and yielding erroneous answers, or none at all. And **we certainly do not allow multiple types of time! This leads to the absurdity of the present interpretation of relativity, which permits only a single observer (and a single observation) at a time.** So if one believes as "absurd" a thing as the fact that more than one person can observe an apple at the same time, the present physics fails. However, the acceptance of such a simple proposition as multiple simultanous observation leads to a physics so bizarre and incredible that most Western physicists have been unable to tolerate it, much less examine its consequences. In the physics that emerges from multiple simultaneous observation, all possibilities are real and physical. There are an infinite number of worlds, orthogonal to one another, and each world is continually splitting into additional such "worlds" at a stupendous rate. Nonetheless, this physics was worked out by Everett for his doctoral thesis in 1956, and the thesis was published in 1957. (See Hugh Everett, III, *The Many-Worlds Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics: A Fundamental Exposition*, with papers by J. A. Wheeler, B. S. DeWitt, L. N. Cooper and D. Van Vechten, and N. Graham; eds. Bryce S. DeWitt and Neill

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T. E. Bearden's most recent contributions to our pages include "A Conditional Criterion for Identity, Leading to a Fourth Law of Logic" (*Pursuit* No. 49, Winter 1980); "Tesla's Secret and the Soviet Tesla Weapons" (*Pursuit* No. 55, Third Quarter 1981); and "Proposed Data Base for Unorthodox Energy Science" (*Pursuit* No. 58, Second Quarter 1982).

Graham, Princeton Series in Physics, Princeton University Press, 1973.) Even though it is bizarre, Everett's physics is entirely consistent with all the present experimental basis of physics. The present electromagnetic theory is constructed for only a single "world" or universe — or "level." The expanded theory, on the other hand, contains multiply nested levels of virtual-state charge — and these levels are identically the same as orthogonal universes, or "hyperframes." Multiple kinds — and values — of time also exist. The new concept differs from Everett's, however, in that the orthogonal universes intercommunicate in the virtual state. That is, an observable in one universe is always a virtual quantity in each of the other universes. Thus one can have multi-level "continuities" and "discontinuities" simultaneously, without logical conflict. It is precisely these levels of charge — these levels of scalar vacuum — that lace together the discontinuous quanta generated by the interaction of vector light with mass.

* * *

To understand the new electromagnetic reality, one requires a new, expanded logic which contains the old Aristotlean logic as a subset. I have already pointed out the new logic in my paper, "A Conditional Criterion for Identity, Leading to a Fourth Law of Logic," 1979, available from the National Technical Information Center, AD-A071032.

Even as logic is extended, quantum mechanics, quantum electrodynamics, and relativity are drastically changed by the Tesla electromagnetics, as I pointed out in my paper, "Solutions to Tesla's Secrets and the Soviet Tesla Weapons," Tesla Book Company, 1580 Magnolia, Millbrae, California 94030, 1980.

The present electromagnetics is just a special case of a much more fundamental electromagnetics discovered by Nikola Tesla, just as Newtonian physics is a special case of relativistic physics. But in the electromagnetics case, the differences between the old and the new are far more drastic and profound.

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Report on Four Conferences *(Continued from page 121)*

attended the meeting. Considering its metropolitan location, so small a turnout was truly unfortunate, I felt.

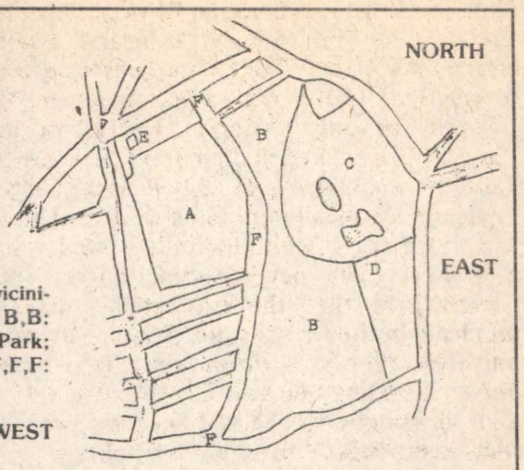
The welcoming address was by Joseph Gennaro, Jr.; he was followed by ISC President Bernard Heuvelmans who spoke on "Cryptozoology, the Past and the Future." J. Richard Greenwell's message ended the morning session.

Afternoon slide talks were: "Is there a Giant Octopus?" by Joseph Gennaro, Jr.; "Searching for Mokele-Moembe" by Roy Mackal; "Sasquatch and the Walla Walla Evidence" by Grover Krantz; and "Closing the Net on Nessie" by Robert Rines.

Those wishing further information may contact J. Richard Greenwell, ISC, P.O. Box 43070, Tucson, AZ 85733. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the University of Paris VI, France, in the summer of 1984; more information after April 1, 1984.

The Highgate Vampire

by Paul B. Thompson



Sketch map of Highgate Cemetery and vicinity. A: Highgate Cemetery West; B,B: Highgate Cemetery East; C: Waterlow Park; D: Hospital grounds; E: Church; F,F,F: Swains Lane.

Among the best known cases of paranormal phenomena are those stories which are so clouded by innuendo, fraud, and just plain weird details as to be maddeningly inconclusive. UFO buffs are still wrangling over the verity of the Maury Island case, while parapsychologists are to this day weighing the evidence of the haunting of Borley Rectory. Extraordinary events require extraordinary evidence if they are to be accepted as genuine. Yet when evidence is contradictory, or the eccentricities of human behavior overshadow the pararormal phenomenon itself, the most interesting cases become the most frustrating for later investigators.

Consider the case of the Highgate vampire. Was it an actual specimen of the fabled undead, or the fanciful creation of a group of occultists? From books, newspapers and letters, the following account of the Highgate vampire has been pieced together. I make no claims for the accuracy of these sources except to say that I found general agreement among all of them as to the facts, and I have no reason to suspect that any evidence was falsified or testimony distorted to favor anyone's personal theory or reasonable conclusion as to what happened.

Highgate cemetery, in the village of Highgate (now a suburb north of London), was opened in 1839. The cemetery is bisected by Swains Lane, a winding road which divides the older western half of the graveyard from the newer eastern portion. Many prominent Victorians were buried in the older part: George Eliot, the Rossetti family, Michael Faraday, and the parents of Charles Dickens. The most famous grave in the eastern burial grounds is that of Karl Marx.

For seven years — 1967 to 1974 — Highgate cemetery was the scene of strange nocturnal goings-on. Passers-by noticed a figure dressed in dark clothing skulking around the old graveyard. They described the phantom as moving "with incredible speed and swift, long strides" through the heavily overgrown pathways of the cemetery. Some of these early reports found their way to Peter Underwood, president of the Ghost Club. Rumor and press coverage circulated the theory of a ghost haunting the place.

To Sean Manchester, president of the British Occult Society, the reports seemed to indicate that more than a mere ghost was at large. In early 1967, Manchester heard from two schoolgirls who told him of a shared vision they had while walking through Highgate. They claimed to have seen graves open up and the dead arise from them. As soon as the girls spoke to each other, the vision would cease. One of the girls, Elizabeth Wojdyla, thereafter suffered from nightmares. She dreamt of a malign, livid face peering in her bedroom window.

Another of Manchester's acquaintances had a simlar experience. This unnamed fellow took his girlfriend for a stroll in the cemetery. As they walked down Swains Lane, the couple passed the north gate — the some location where the schoolgirls had their vision. To the consternation of the strollers, they saw a lone figure standing inside the iron fence, its face a repulsive mask. The couple watched in fear and apprehension as the specter faded into the evening darkness.

All this was quite eerie but hardly evidential. Both Underwood and Manchester collected more reports of the phantom figure. There was an interim of nearly 30 months before the case took a more serious turn. In the summer of 1969, Manchester by chance met up with Elizabeth Wojdyla again. She was in very poor health; her face was pale, her voice weak, and she had lost considerable weight. Finished with school, she was now living in an apartment near the graveyard. Her nightmares had returned, but now the malevolent figure would enter her room, stand at the foot of her bed and stare. When it touched her, its grip was icy. After the visitations, she felt dizzy and weak.

The woman's physical symptoms were similar to those of pernicious anemia. Manchester and Elizabeth's boyfriend, Keith, consulted on her problems. Even after a regimen of vitamins and iron pills, Elizabeth did not improve. Moreover, she was having waking experiences of strange presences in her apartment, and began to feel urges to walk about in the night. On the right side of her neck, over the carotid artery, were two small wounds, like punctures.

Manchester and Keith argued the likelihood of Elizabeth being the victim of a vampiric attack. A traditional array of protective devices was installed in the Wojdyla flat: crosses, holy water, garlic, and salt. Keith kept a vigil over the dormant woman after she began to wander in the night. He once found her at the north gate of Highgate cemetery, staring through the iron rails at the tombs beyond. From the time the anti-vampire implements were in place in her apartment, Elizabeth's health gradually improved. On one occasion something unusual disturbed the nightly vigil: a violent gust of wind blew in a window, upset a vase and scared Keith out of his wits. But there were no other incidents, and by Christmas 1969, Elizabeth Wojdyla had apparently recovered from her debilitating malady.

Even as the attack on Elizabeth was warded off, the Highgate phantom attracted other attention. The local paper, the Hampstead and Highgate Express, received numerous letters in February 1970 from residents who had seen the specter. Here are some excerpts:

> On three occasions I have seen what appeared to be a ghost-like figure inside the gates at the top of Swains Lane. The first occasion was on Christmas Eve [1969]. I saw a grey figure for a few seconds before it disappeared . . . [the writer saw the figure twice more and concluded] I can think of no other explanation than this apparition being supernatural.
>
> The ghost will sometimes appear nightly for about a week, and then not be seen again for perhaps a month. To my knowledge the ghost always takes the form of a pale figure and has been appearing for several years.
>
> My first reaction was that it was somebody "mucking about," but looking back, it seems strange that the thing made no sound and seemed to disappear into nowhere.

I am not at all surprised at the ghost experiences. I have also had a strange happening at the lower end of Swains Lane. A feeling of fear came over me and I started running with a hopeless thought I could not get away . . . whatever it was had vanished without a trace . . . My advice is to avoid Swains Lane during dark evenings if at all possible.

The authorities took little notice of the Highgate phantom until evidence turned up that occult rituals were being performed in the secrecy of despoiled tombs. Debris discovered included the remnants of black-magic paraphernalia — black candles, sulphur, blood, and ashes. The police started watching the cemetery after residents nearby complained that graves were being opened and desecrated by unscrupulous occultists.

Sean Manchester heard of an attack by the phantom in February 1970. A young man was set upon and knocked down by a tall man whose face was like "a wild animal." The fellow was spared serious injury when car headlights lit up the area and forced the phantom to retreat into the farther reaches of the cemetery.

■

What had occurred up to this time would hardly convince the neighbors that something dangerous was going on in Highgate cemetery; after all, the British are quite at home with ghosts. But in February and March 1970 an undeniably sinister new aspect developed in the case. Dead animals were found in the cemetery and in nearby Waterlow Park (see map). Mostly nocturnal varmints, the unfortunate creatures had been lacerated and were drained of blood. The obvious association was made with the ghost. The Hampstead and Highgate Express ran a front-page story on February 27, 1970 headlined "Does a Wampyr [sic] Walk in Highgate?" A week later, the paper asked "Why Do the Foxes Die?" As happens with so many types of paranormal phenomena, the visual manifestations had given way to physical traces and the parallels to other cases became clear.

Another young woman fell into the same pattern of weakness and somnambulism that had afflicted Elizabeth Wojdyla three years previously. The new victim, identified by Manchester only as "Lusia," had two wounds on her neck, too. She developed a penchant for walking to Highgate whilst asleep. Lusia's sister kept in close contact with Manchester during this time, and the two of them followed the entranced Lusia into the depths of the moldering graveyard. Lusia led them to a sunken circular cluster of burial vaults. Pausing in front of one vault, Lusia tugged vainly at the handle of the large iron door until Manchester pulled her hands away to forestall possible injury. As the three stood outside, they distinctly heard a deep booming sound from within the tomb.

Convinced he was dealing with a genuine specimen of the undead, Sean Manchester told the Express that the best course of action was the traditional staking through the heart, followed by the beheading of the corpse. Manchester's remarks did little to discourage the hoard of thrill-seekers, occultists, and would-be vampire hunters that gathered along the unkempt paths of Highgate cemetery. Manchester guided Sandra Harris of Thames TV on a tour of the vault area in the second week of March. While attempting to film an interview for the station's "Today" program, Harris' team was beset with odd difficulties. The whistle of the wind around the tombs interfered with the sound recording. The camera director fainted. Eventually the whole crew, rather rattled, moved away from the tombs and finished the interview in Swains Lane.

As a result of the TV show, a large crowd of people infiltrated the cemetery on the night of Friday, March 13. Manchester led a group of nearly a hundred persons to the tomb that Lusia had tried to enter. The heavy iron portal still would not budge, so the president of the British Occult Society was lowered through a hole in the roof of the tomb as the glare of police searchlights swept over the crowd of thrill-seekers. Descending twenty feet by rope, Manchester and two helpers searched the vault for signs of the vampire. They discovered three empty coffins. These they lined with garlic; a cross was placed within each, and salt and holy water were sprinkled about. The vampire-hunters then withdrew.

About 2 a.m., while Manchester and six close companions were still standing watch at the entrance of the tomb, the booming sound recurred from within — a subterranean pulsation which the men could feel as well as hear. Having sighted no phantoms, the group dispersed at sunrise.

■

The local news media continued to receive stories from nearby residents of strange, menacing figures seen in the cemetery. Apparently there were no actual attacks during the spring and early summer of 1970, but in August, things got ugly:

The charred, headless body of a woman, missing an arm, was found beside a broken vault in Highgate cemetery, N., yesterday.

Police went there after two girls found the body, which had been removed from a family vault. The woman was buried 44 years ago.

The police believed that some person, or persons, had used the corpse in a necromantic ritual. Actually, some zealous amateur vampire-hunter was probably obeying the instructions of Montague Summers, who wrote copiously about vampires and witchcraft earlier in this century. His advice:

When the stake had been thrust with one drive through the Vampire's heart, his head should be cut off, and this is to be done with the sharp edge of a sexton's spade, rather than with a sword. The only certain methods of destroying a Vampire appear to be either to consume him by fire, or to chop off his head with a grave digger's shovel . . . to burn the body of the Vampire is generally acknowledge to be by far the supremely efficacious method of ridding a district of this demoniacal pest . . .

The grave desecration received far more attention than the reputed vampire; the citizenry made it clear they expected the authorities to protect cemeteries from gross abuse. On August 29, 1970, police arrested a man for penetrating an enclosed area in Highgate cemetery. This man, Allan David Farrant, had been among the large number of people who had searched for the vampire some months before. His activities would contribute greatly to the fog of skepticism that settled over the entire affair. (In some accounts, he gave his name as Robert Farrant.) Frankly admitting he was looking for the vampire, Farrant was released immediately following dismissal of his case for the reason that vampire-hunting is not illegal in Britain. As Farrant's counsel remarked, "It is akin to people spending fortunes looking for the Loch Ness monster or some other creature."

Sean Manchester found the headless-body report disturbing for another reason. With three associates, he had taken Lusia to the Highgate catacombs the same week the body was found. While in a trance state, she indicated that the thing they were seeking lay behind another iron door — the door in front of which the headless body had been found. This door yielded to pressure and admitted the group. Undaunted by a pervasive stench, they approached a coffin which lay in the rear of the chamber. Inside they saw the object of their search. It appeared to be the body of a recently dead man, yet the vault had not had an official addition in a hundred

years. Manchester raised an aspen stake to impale the corpse, but his companions protested that such an act would be both felonious and sacrilegious. A hasty conference in the tomb produced a compromise; instead of doing violence to the body, an exorcism would be read over the coffin.

During the ceremony, a deep rumbling tone echoed through the vault. The participants were terrified, but they managed to complete the ritual. Later, the entrance to the tomb was sealed with masonry; imbedded in the mortar were bits of garlic.

■

Thus ended the first phase of the Highgate vampire story. According to Manchester, the exorcism was not sufficient to terminate the activities of the vampire, so the Occult Society continued to probe for signs of renewed vampirism. Manchester himself made a trip to Romania in 1972 to collect data on the vampiric traditions of that country.

Throughout 1971, persistent reports circulated about occult practices in the cemetery. On October 8, 1971, police apprehended a man with a camera in the company of a naked woman. They had been creating photos of black-magic ceremonies inside a tomb. Who should the man turn out to be but Robert/David/Allan Farrant, the same person caught a year before while prowling Highgate with a hammer and stake. The matter was made murkier by Farrant's claim to be the "high priest" of the British Occult Society, as well as a practitioner of Wicca (the revived pagan religion of witchcraft). Sean Manchester denied any connection with Farrant and asserted that Farrant had never been a member of the B.O.S. Once again Farrant was released from custody.

Manchester's trip to Romania, an experience somewhat overdrawn by his romantic imagination, led him to theorize that the vampire of Highgate was a certain Wallachian nobleman whose body was transported to England in the early eighteenth century. It was deposited (so the story went) in an ancient fortress which once stood on a hill that eventually became a part of a Highgate cemetery. Though never explicit, Manchester plainly believed he was dealing with no one less than Vlad Tepes, the true Dracula of history.

As the theories and speculations multiplied, weird things continued to happen. Lusia was suffering from nightmares, somnambulism, and anemia from loss of blood. In the summer of 1973, the Occult Society investigated a house reputed to be haunted. The structure, nicknamed "House of Dracula" by local children, was not far from the cemetery. Scribbled on the interior walls were glyphs and sigils of black magic. Joined by a clairvoyant, Manchester and a friend checked the place out. A sufficient number of suitably ghostly impressions was obtained to convince Manchester that the vampire was linked to the house by the unholy rites of Satanists.

For the third time, David Farrant was caught by police while leaving Highgate cemetery. They took from him photos of a nude girl dancing in a tomb. As several graves had been tampered with during the preceding months (in January 1974, an architect who parked his car overnight near the graveyard found a corpse in the vehicle next morning), Farrant was charged with grave despoilation, illegal possession of a pistol, and petty theft. Billed as the denouement in the "Nude Rituals Case," Farrant's trial in June 1974 was as much a media event as it was a court proceeding. Shortly before the trial, Farrant and a co-defendant, John Pope, sent clay witch dolls with pins stuck in them to the detectives working on their case. These dolls were meant as warnings to the officers not to testify, but the voodoo-like threat was of no avail.

The prosecution at Farrant's trial claimed he was in fact the Highgate vampire and was responsible for the damage, phantom sightings, and magical graffiti found all over the cemetery. In his trial testimony, Francis King, author of several books on the history of magic, identified markings from the floor of the tomb as ones used in necromancy — the raising of the dead for prophecy or aid in finding hidden objects.

David Farrant was found guilty. He received a sentence of four years and eight months in prison; he was also required to pay court costs of 750 pounds. Outrage over the antics of Farrant and other occultists inspired the formation of the "Friends of Highgate Cemetery," a group dedicated to cleaning up the burial ground and protecting it against further vandalism.

What of the vampire? According to Sean Manchester's unpublished manuscript *The Vampire Exhumed,* the same monster over whom the exorcism was read in 1970 continued to feed for a time on his victims, notably Lusia. Ultimately, the vampire was apprehended and met its end as folklore demands: a stake was driven into its chest and the body was beheaded. Thus the vampire of Highgate passed into history in the fall of 1974.

■

Assembling the events of the Highgate affair in chronological order has not been easy. No single source generally available tells the whole story, and there is much about the case which strains credulity. The principals were all deeply involved, and the commitment of Sean Manchester to an occult view of events colors every description he gives.

Before his imprisonment, David Farrant dueled with Manchester over the use of and abuse of the name of the British Occult Society. Farrant denounced Manchester and his friends for making up the entire vampire story. He pointed out — correctly — that in 1970 a group of amateur filmmakers had produced a movie in Highgate cemetery and titled it "Vampires By Night." Farrant also accused Manchester of dealing in fraudulent photography; he asserted that Manchester's photos taken in the cemetery were not those of a vampire's body as claimed, but were, in fact, photos of an actor.

I am inclined to accept the police theory that most of the sightings of the phantom figure were inspired by, or resulted from, the antics of David Farrant and his colleagues. Yet they should not bear all the blame for those seven years of strange phenomena. One feature of the tale is disturbing in its familiarity: the dead animals in the cemetery and park have their counterparts throughout the world.

If there are forces, or beings, out there which prey upon humanity, they might as well be labelled vampires as ghosts, UFOnauts, or ultraterrestrials. The names may change, but the elusive paranormal game continues as it always has.

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SITUations

In this section, mostly contemporary curious and unexplained events are reported. Members are urged to send in newsclippings and reports they deem responsible. Please be sure to include the source of reference (name of newspaper or periodical), city of publication, date of issue in which article appeared, and your first initial and last name (or membership number only, if you prefer to be credited in that way).

Dogs Smarter Than People?

Even if it was a Friday, May 13 should have been a joyous day for Percy, a canine resident of Barnsley, England. He was only a tiny chihuahua and just two years old, but he agreed with his folks, the Harrisons, who blunted all criticism of his miniature-sausage appearance by explaining that one dog-year equals seven people-years, and if 2 × 7 equals 14, and 14 is adolescence for people, isn't two the age of adolescence for dogs? So what if his owner, daughter Christine, still thought of him as a mere puppy; Mick, the Jack Russell terrier who lives down the block, certainly knew better. Didn't it always happen that he'd start chasing me, and I'd end up chasing him?

Such doggy thoughts and the warm spring sun convinced the little chihuahua that the world itself was adolescent that May morning as once again he chased his terrier pal under the fence and across the highway in back of the block where they lived.

The driver of the car hell-bent from Manchester to Hull probably didn't even see the little dog that bounced off his hubcap and hurtled in a low trajectory to slam against the fence, near the hole he had wriggled through moments earlier. But Percy's owner, Christine, saw it happen, and with a scream loud enough to be heard in either Manchester or Hull, she dashed to the spot where her "baby" lay. He didn't seem to be breathing. His eyes were glazed and she could feel no heartbeat. Surely, Percy was dead.

With the little dog cradled in one arm, her eyes half-blinded by tears, the young woman rummaged through a heap of miscellany in the tool-shed until she found a small sack. She placed the tiny form inside and folded the cloth as tenderly as if it were a shroud. Then she dug a shallow trench in the corner of the garden nearest the house, and having laid her little pet to rest, she bade him a sorrowful good-bye.

* * *

Christine went off to work and her parents left the house a short time later to go shopping. When they were back in the kitchen, putting things away, Christine's mother happened to glance out the window. There, by the garden corner where Christine had scooped out Percy's grave, was Mick, the Jack Russell terrier, his jaws clamped on a loose end of cloth that stuck out from a hole now rimmed with paw-scratches, to the large number of which he was now adding as he simultaneously dug and tugged with such ferocity as neither humans nor animals display except in dire emergency.

Mrs. Harrison called her husband and the two rushed outside. They were through the cellar doorway in a matter of seconds, yet too late to confront Mick at the site of his "dig." Already, he had the sack out of the ground and was dragging it toward them, all the while growling signals of distress.

Getting Mick to drop his burden wasn't easy, but when Mr. Harrison finally gained possession of the sack and was folding the cloth preparatory to re-interment, his fingertips caught a faint pulsation from within. He opened the bag and with utmost care, debouched the contents onto his extended hand. What he held looked no more alive than any other small dog after a losing joust with the front end of a speeding car. But fingertips gently pressed against the chihuahua's naturally hairless skin now detected a movement of lungs.

* * *

It was Christine Harrison's turn to express disbelief when she returned home from work. First, there was Percy, definitely alive although somewhat wobbly on his pins, and as happy as ever to greet her. Then there were all those paw-marks around the grave-site, and her parents' story of Mick's heroic rescue.

Neither the Harrisons nor their neighbors are willing to guess what sort of sense, more finely tuned than any of theirs, could have inspired one animal to save another of its species from dying twice on the same day. And on a Friday the 13th, no less!

SOURCE: AP from Barnsley, England, via *Press-Journal*, Vero Beach, Fla., 5/14/83.
CREDIT: B. Schwarz.

Holy Cobra!

Hundreds of villagers are flocking to a thatched hut in a village 60 miles north of Bangkok, Thailand, to fork out $1.30 and pay homage to a "holy" albino cobra that sips tea, the Bangkok Post newspaper has reported. Albinism is considered a sign of divinity in Thailand, where the Thai king maintains a stable of albino elephants.

The sacred snake reportedly sleeps in front of an electric fan. It was taken from a pond by a villager named Manit Sikaya who immediately brought it to a local spiritualist. The medium pronounced the 4½-foot-long reptile sacred, according to the report. Manit has since amassed a small fortune, charging fellow-villagers up to $1.30 each to pay homage to the snake with prayers, joss sticks and candles.

SOURCE: UPI in *Nashville Tennessean*, 7/18/83.
CREDIT: H. Holland.

1.8 Billion Years Ago

Chinese geologists say they have discovered that tiny forms of life with a nucleus and membrane existed 1.8 billion years ago — 400 million years earlier than previously thought.

Chen Jinbiao of the Tianjin Institute of Geology and Minerals announced the discovery at an international symposium.

SOURCE: *Nashville Tennessean*, 9/23/83.
CREDIT: H. Holland.

Berserk Bird Beaks Baldies

For almost a month this summer, a berserk blackbird spread terror up and down a busy street in Santa Monica, California. His perch atop a restaurant building gave him a panoramic view of the sidewalks below, and the sight of a skinhead or balding male was enough to trigger his predatory instincts. With a swoop and a dip, he would land on his target, claw at whatever hair was there, give a peck or two, and then fly away.

To C. J. Hafner, manager of the restaurant, it was the funniest thing he'd ever seen. "Everyone's just defending themselves and kind of screaming," Hafner said. "One man who was hit by the bird turned around and put up his fists to fight, and there was nobody there."

Sue Foster, a Red Cross worker who witnessed some of the attacks, noted that "the bird's favorite targets seem to be bald men." Fred Anderson, a veteran TV reporter sent from Los Angeles to investigate the attacks, couldn't agree more. He is more than slightly bald, a condition which he attributes to occupational disease brought on by his job. Sure enough, he had no sooner stepped from his car than he felt the flutter of wings and the prick of a beak against his barely bare noggin.

Officers at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter did not know what to make of the attacks and simply filed the complaints they received. But Kimball Garrett, ornithologist at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, thought he had the answer. "This is nesting time," he noted, "and the bird's eggs have probably just hatched. These birds can be very aggressive and protective when they see anything they perceive as a predator." But the bald and the balding may still be wondering which is the predator—the bird or the quarry?

CREDIT: AP in *Asbury Park* (N.J.) *Press*, 6/12/83.
CREDIT: Member #432.

Writ Issued for E.T.

The U.S. Air Force has been served with a writ of "habeas corpus extraterrestrial" demanding that it come up with the body of E.T. within 60 days. The writ was filed by Larry W. Bryant of Alexandria, Va. It contends that the Air Force has the bodies of "one or more occupants of crash-landed UFOs of apparent extraterrestrial origin." According to Bryant, the Defense Department, Air Force, Army, State Department, FBI and the National Security Agency have engaged in a massive coverup of UFO cases and cloaked known instances of UFO encounters in a "veil of secrecy."

SOURCE: Scripps-Howard News Service, 7/15/83.
CREDIT: Member #826.

Pussy Feat

An airline stewardess who deported her cat to her parents' home 780 miles away claims he found his way back to her apartment in 17 days.

Nicole Windt left her Rusty with her parents in Ceres, 60 miles north of Cape Town, South Africa, because she didn't think he ought to be cooped up in her Johannesburg apartment. On August 26, Rusty disappeared from the parents' home. On September 12, Nicole heard loud meows at her front door. "I immediately recognized my Rusty," she said. "He was thin and worn, but his bushy tail, like a squirrel's, and his long mane, were the same. I called him and he jumped around, sidling up to me and I picked him up, crying like a child."

SOURCE: AP in *Asbury Park* (N.J.) *Press*, 9/18/83.
CREDIT: N. Warth.

Nutty Putty

City council officials in Bonn, West Germany, say they have had numerous complaints that crows have been eating the fresh putty they peck from newly installed window frames; then they see their reflections in the panes and become aggressive, smashing the glass.

According to the London Daily Telegraph, the crows become intoxicated by the chemicals in the putty and seem to acquire an addiction much like the drug habit that enslaves so many humans. Like people "snowbirds," the crows need their daily "fix," and the destruction they caused in a new subdivision being built in the Bavarian suburb of Traustein had the council members up in arms—literally: They suggested shooting the crows. The developers, anxious to preserve good community relations and a friendly sales environment, chose instead to cover the windows with plastic sheeting. That way, neither the windows nor the crows would need to be "fixed" anymore.

SOURCE: *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 7/24/83.
CREDIT: R. Nelke.

Spirits Blamed in Stonings

Angry ancestral spirits are blamed for an outbreak of stone-throwing in a suburb of Harare, Zimbabwe, and the city council is planning an appeasement ceremony for the restless ghosts.

Residents in a new housing development on the edge of the Zimbabwe capital said their homes were being stoned by spirits annoyed at the houses being built on top of their old graveyard.

The residents are trying to find out which of their ancestors were buried there so that they will be able to plan the appeasement ceremony for the best possible effect.

SOURCE: Reuters in *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 7/22/83.
CREDIT: R. Nelke.

Something Fishy Going On

Who would expect to find a monster fish in the far-inland waters of Flathead Lake, Montana? Only a dedicated lover of fish-tales. True, there is a legend that the lake is home to some kind of monster bearing strong resemblance to a sturgeon, the bottom-feeder whose females yield the delicate eggs favored by gourmets. But the fish that Dan Knight told about was a little too much. He's from Missoula and he said the sturgeon he saw in Yellow Lake was about 25 feet long, and his five buddies said yes it was a sturgeon and it was maybe even 30 feet long. It had to be, because it broke the surface and crossed just ahead of the bow of their boat.

A more sober opinion came from Laney Hanzel, a biologist who has spent years studying the fish population of Flathead Lake with sonar and nets. "The chance of a sturgeon being in the lake is surely a possibility, but 25 feet I don't know about," he said. Neither he nor divers from the state Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks have ever seen such a monster — not once in the thousands of hours they have spent on the lake.

* * *

But another legend about another lake in not-so-far-away Wisconsin says that a monster muskie lives there and has made a fine art of evading fishermen. The muskie, however, is believed to be only about 7 feet long.

Amber Fairley, a 13-year-old Chicago girl visiting in Hurley, was swimming in Island Lake when something bit her foot and pulled. "I was swimming by a raft in about 17 feet of water," she said. "I felt a jerk on my leg and I went down. I felt a pain in my foot and I panicked and kicked and screamed. But no one believed me at first."

When they got her out of the water, unbelief changed to amazement as her mother and others nearby viewed her bloodied foot. "You could see all the teeth marks," said Mrs. Fairley. "The fish apparently got her from the back and bit her foot all the way across the arch."

Amber was taken to a hospital and the wound was closed with 13 stitches. The doctor who treated her believes the wound was caused by a muskie bite.

* * *

Much happier, certainly more rewarding, and mysterious as all get-out, was Ricky Shipman's experience with an 8-pound Spanish mackerel of only 18 inches length.

Ricky had just turned 16 and was whooping it up with a bunch of buddies on the beach at Ocean Drive Beach, South Carolina, when his plastic-coated driver's license was lost in the Atlantic Ocean in 1972.

Shipman got his license back last month, almost a year after the fish was caught by a commercial boat at Sunset Beach, North Carolina. The fisherman found Shipman's teenage face gazing up from the ribs of the mackerel when he cut open a few of the fish for a beach meal last October. He threw the license into the glove compartment of his car and didn't give it much further thought until he and a friend got to telling each other fish stories. Then the fisherman was reminded to call Shipman and asked whether he had misplaced anything — not lately but years ago, when he first started driving a car. Shipman remembered how he had lost his driver's license when he went swimming with his wallet in his swimsuit pocket 11 years before. And the fisherman told him how he had caught the mackerel off Sunset Beach, eight miles north of the beach where the 27-year-old man had spent his 16th birthday.

SOURCES: Philadelphia *Inquirer*, 9/18/83; AP in Vero Beach, Fla., *Press-Journal*, 7/18/83; AP in *USA Today* and *The Burlington* (Vt.) *Free Press*, 9/10/83.
CREDITS: H. Hollander, B. Schwarz, D. Whitcomb, J. Zarzynski.

Totes Severed Arm a Mile To Have It Put Back On

After a baling machine tore off his left arm just below the shoulder, a 38-year-old farm worker picked up the limb and walked nearly a mile for help. The arm was re-attached in 10 hours of surgery.

Roy Tapping was at work on a farm in Henton, England, 40 miles northwest of London, when his left arm got caught in the machine. Ambulance attendants said that despite intense pain and loss of blood, Tapping carried his severed arm across a field to a neighboring farm nearly a mile distant. The neighbor, Eddie Monck, said he was feeding his horses when "I saw Roy staggering across the paddock towards me. He had no clothes on, apart from his boots. Everything else had been torn away. He was covered with blood.

"I ran to call an ambulance. . . . We waited together for about 15 minutes. He was amazingly calm. I was in a worse state than he was."

"Yes, he was amazing, very brave, and joked about all sorts of things," said ambulance attendant Theresa O'Neill. She and her coworker, Barrie Potter, put the arm in a plastic bag, packed it in ice and drove Tapping and his arm ten miles to the hospital.

"He said his cricket season is now over, so I said he would have to learn to catch with one hand," Miss O'Neill said.

The doctors also noted Topping's good humor as he lay fully conscious awaiting surgery. "He's a very tough fellow . . . the sort who feels it is almost obligatory to joke about it," said Dr. Bruce Bailey, head of the hospital's surgical team. Bailey said it was too soon to tell how much use Tapping would have of his re-attached arm.

SOURCE: AP from Stoke Mandeville, England, via *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 6/29/83.
CREDIT: R. Nelke.

Dig Brandy, Dig the Man!

"If it wasn't for that little dog, I wouldn't be here," said Clifton Perkins.

The Kentucky farmer gives full credit to his four-year-old mutt, Brandy, for saving his life after he accidentally ran himself over with his tractor. Perkins said his tractor had been left in gear, and when he turned it on, it began rolling and knocked him over. A rear wheel rolled over his leg and smashed into his rib cage, and by the time the tractor stopped, "the wheel was on my head."

The 59-year-old farmer started clawing at the ground, trying to get free, and the dog imitated him. "I dug and dug 'til my fingers were raw and Brandy was with me all the way," he said. He and the dog managed to get him free and he began crawling toward the house. "I can barely remember, but they said you could still see the claw-marks Brandy made helping to drag me," Perkins said. He finally made it to the house and his bed, where his wife found him when she returned from town three hours later.

Perkins was taken to a hospital, where he

spent two weeks undergoing repairs of a broken pelvis, four broken ribs, a broken left shoulder and collarbone and a broken right cheekbone. When he left the hospital for his mother's house to begin a lengthy period of convalescence, Brandy rejoined him. "He stuck with me all the way, and he's not going to leave now," Perkins said.

SOURCE: AP in *Asbury Park* (N.J.) *Press*, 2/20/83.
CREDIT: Member #432.



Dolphins to the Rescue!

Querijn Fikke, a 35-year-old Dutch pilot, was flying his helicopter from Surabaya to Banjarmasin in the Indonesian archipelago when it lost power and crashed into the Java Sea.

Fikke grabbed a rubber lifeboat, inflated it, and settled down to await a response to his radioed "mayday." Apparently his transmission was unheard by human ears, but soon he noticed dolphins approaching. Shyly at first, they swam alongside the tub-shaped craft while he attempted to paddle. Then growing bolder, one or two would detach themselves from the small herd and from time to time give a gentle push to the stern of the boat, always in the direction of land. After eight days and nine nights of paddling and being pushed, Fikke reached West Borneo. He couldn't have made it without the dolphins' help, he told authorities, but added "I just don't know how to thank them."

SOURCE: UPI in *Nashville Tennessean*, 7/21/83.
CREDIT: H. Holland.



El Nino Gone—for Now

A climatic condition that affects the entire Pacific Ocean, El Nino ("The Child" in Spanish), was named by South American fishermen after the Christ child because the phenomenon usually starts at about Christmas off the west coast of South America. Eight El Ninos have occurred in the last 40 years. The most recent El Nino started in the spring of 1982 and began to abate toward the end of July, according to the National Weather Service.

El Nino occurs when the trade winds, which usually blow along the equator from east to west, slacken or reverse, blowing the warm western Pacific water against the coast of Peru where it breaks into currents going north and south. The effects, always varied and widespread, are sometimes weird.

For example, the temperature of the water off the coast of Washington state has been about 65 degrees Fahrenheit instead of 55-58 degrees. Both scientists and fishermen have noted the presence of 300-pound sea turtles and ocean sunfish, marlin and several species of sharks, and sailfish—all in a region far north of their usual habitat. A scuba diver even reported sighting a thin-nosed barracuda. Jack mackerel and bonito, both more common in southern waters, have been taken in abnormal catch patterns in a coastal fishing season that authorities extended until after Labor Day for the first time since 1977.

Much further west in the Pacific, El Nino's notable effects on the fish burgeoned into a spectacular series of events on Christmas Island, the 200-square-mile coral atoll discovered by Capt. James Cook in 1777. When El Nino came, the fish left in such numbers that birds could no longer nourish themselves or their young. Almost 17 million birds representing 18 species vanished from the island, the first such massive exodus ever recorded on a tropical island. The retreat was particularly devastating for thousands of nestlings that starved to death after being left behind.

Six months later, as El Nino abated, members of most species had returned to begin rebuilding their numbers. Dr. Ralph W. Schreiber of the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum says that many of the birds were probably living in the air above distant waters while waiting for conditions to change. These types of birds spend most of their lives living in the air, hovering on air currents and diving down occasionally, according to Dr. Schreiber, an ornithologist who has studied the birds of the equatorial island for many years.

SOURCES: AP in *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 7/21/83; *The Sun* (Baltimore, Md.), 9/11/83; *The Star-Ledger* (Newark, N.J.), 9/4/83.
CREDITS: R. Nelke, H. Hollander, M. Wiegler.



The Loch Ness Maybe

Well-known Bigfoot searcher Jon Erik Beckjord left his Pacific Northwest bailiwick in midsummer to join the hunt for the anomalous creatures, monsters or whatever that are believed to inhabit the lochs of Scotland. He spent three weeks in August on a close surveillance of the surface of Loch Ness, using a video camera that could film 240 hours non-stop. It recorded what appeared to be a long black object swimming, but Beckjord conceded that the frames may show only a freak wave.

"I'm calling it 'The Loch Ness Maybe,'" he said. "It was 15 to 20 feet long, shaped like an overturned boat, and appeared to swim across the light swell on the lake, surfacing four times like a porpoise."

A second sighting two days after the first revealed something moving beneath the water twice in an hour, he said.

SOURCE: AP in *Austin* (Texas) *American Statesman*, 8/17/83.
CREDIT: D. Palin.



Frog's Throat Grows a Foot

A recent newcomer to the Oklahoma City zoo is a common toad with an uncommon appendage: there's a four-toed foot growing from its throat. Three children spotted the tiny creature while playing in a backyard in Noble, a small town near Norman, Okla. They named the toad "Freaky Frog" because they'd never seen nor heard of a frog with a fifth foot that stuck out of its throat.

"Neither have I," said Dr. Vernon Hutchison, a research biologist at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. "There are lots of reports of amphibians with extra digits, but I don't recall one from the throat." He identified the creature as a Woodhouse's toad and said that the spare foot could have formed if there had been "some injury during the early development of the egg." Dr. Hutchison hopes to borrow the toad from the zoo for further study.

SOURCE: *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 7/14/83.
CREDIT: R. Nelke.

Birth Abduction Victim?

A 16-year-old boy found wandering alone in a Fort Lauderdale, Fla., bus station may have been abducted at birth and raised on the run to hide his true identity.

Police know little about the boy, who calls himself Raven Darkholme. Apparently he has moved from place to place for 14 of his 16 years. He has told authorities the same story over and over again since he called police from the bus station in late July to report his bags had been stolen. He claimed he was abandoned by a woman he knew as Amanda Steuwart, a friend of his mother who adopted him when the mother died. The woman insisted on dyeing his hair blond and told him it would be "ridiculous" to enroll him in a school for a month and then take him out when they moved, the boy said.

Although Darkholme helped a police artist create a picture of Amanda Steuwart, he impressed a detective as fearful of discovering the truth about his background. "He's afraid that somebody will come forth and claim him," said Det. Sandy Ledegang. "Amanda's the only person he's known as a mother."

The only information he has been able or willing to provide is that he, Steuwart and her son, Scott, traveled across the country until 1977 when Scott died in a car accident in El Paso, Texas. Since then, Darkholme and Steuwart continued their travels, never staying in one place for more than a few months.

Although he can read and write, the boy told police he had never attended school or played with other children. He claims he learned all he knows by watching television and reading the books that Steuwart brought him.

Circuit Judge Robert Scott ordered the boy to remain in a foster home until authorities can determine more about his background. Caryn Grainer, his court-appointed foster mother, says she intends to have Darkholme tested for admission to Fort Lauderdale high school in the fall. "He's very intelligent, very bright, but very overwhelmed," she said.

SOURCE: UPI in *Schenectady* (N.Y.) *Gazette*, 8/17/83.
CREDIT: R. Girard.



Cave Worms 3-5 Feet Long

In an underwater cave off the Hawaiian island of Maui, a scuba diver has found what may be an unknown species of worm. Although they somewhat resemble in appearance the common acorn worms found in Hawaii, the cave worms are three- to four-times longer, range from three to five feet in length, and average about one inch in diameter. The acorn worm, so called because its head resembles an acorn, has a larger proboscis and is bright yellow, while the cave worm is translucent pink.

"It's nothing like we've seen around Hawaii," said Michael Hadfield, a professor of zoology at the University of Hawaii. "It mystifies me that there is a large worm that, as far as we know, lives in only one cave 90 feet down in the water."

Hadfield said he has been unable to find anything about the worms in scientific literature and has asked the Smithsonian Institution in Washington for any information they may have.

SOURCE: AP in *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 9/18/83.
CREDIT: H. Hollander.

Did a Meteor Kill the Dinos?

A layer of clay found in Denmark and on the bottom of the Pacific Ocean bolsters the theory that a very large meteor struck the Earth 65 million years ago, about the time the dinosaurs became extinct.

The clay mineral smectite found in two drill core samples seems to be a decayed form of glass dust such as might have been produced by a large meteor impact, says a California researcher, Dr. Miriam Kastner of Scripps Oceanographic Institute at La Jolla. The samples came from the Stevens Klint region of Denmark and a deep-sea drilling project in the north-central Pacific.

Layers of smectite, a common decay product of glass, have previously been found in 36 places around the world, indicating the debris was evenly spread across the planet. Dr. Kastner said scientists could not be sure the meteor caused the dinosaurs' extinction, but the fall occurred about the time we had major extinctions. The question is, "Did it cause the extinction or was it coincidental?"

Drs. Luis and Walter Alvarez of the University of California at Berkeley first theorized in 1980 that the dinosaurs died out at the end of the Cretaceous period after a meteor roughly six miles across struck and threw millions of tons of debris into the atmosphere, cooling the planet and burying or killing their food supply.

This theory was based partly on the finding of high levels of iridium in the smectite layers, iridium being a thousand times more prevalent in meteors than on the Earth's surface. The samples found in Denmark and in the Pacific also revealed high concentrations of iridium as well as unusual amounts of platinum, gold, nickel and cobalt, also common in meteors.

Dr. Kastner said the smectite layer at the two sites was extremely pure, suggesting it was deposited in a single catastrophic event. Paleontologists who have sought to confirm the catastrophe theory of dinosaur extinction have found evidence in microscopic marine plant fossils of a sharp rise in temperature and then prolonged cooling within 10,000 years of the suspected meteor impact, she said.

A meteor landing in the ocean might have thrown up water vapor, heating the atmosphere through a "greenhouse effect" by trapping heat, Dr. Kastner speculated, noting that when the water condensed and the debris remained in the upper air, the atmosphere would cool. There is no indication where the purported meteor might have struck; about 20 per cent of the sea floor has been thrust beneath other plates of the Earth's crust in the past 65 million years, Dr. Kastner noted.

SOURCE: AP by Peter Coy in *Schenectady* (N.Y.) *Gazette*, 8/22/83.
CREDIT: R. Girard.

Smart Trees

The idea that trees can talk is getting support from two New England biologists. Ian Baldwin and Jack Schultz of Dartmouth College report evidence that leaf damage to poplar and sugar maple trees prompts nearby undamaged trees to change the chemical makeup of their leaves. The researchers say that the chemical changes to damaged and undamaged trees alike are quick enough and sufficient to discourage insect attacks. Although the leaf damage was caused by humans, the trees responded as if insects were doing the damage, as would normally be the case.

Baldwin and Schultz said that an airborne gas — possibly ethylene produced by wounded plant tissue — from the damaged trees stimulated the defensive chemical changes in neighboring trees.

A similar report based on research at the University of Washington was issued in June by the National Science Foundation. Gordon Orians and David Rhodes, who did the research, placed tent caterpillars and fall webworms on the leaves of willow trees. Not only did trees damaged by the insects change the makeup of their leaves to make them less appetizing to insects, they reported, but so did neighboring trees not exposed to the insects.

SOURCE: UPI in *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 7/10/83.
CREDIT: R. Nelke.

Memos & Miscellany

(Continued from page 108)

increase in the variety of SITU*ational* events reported. That's good news! Not so good, however, is to know that only a tiny percentage of SITU's far-ranging membership provides this input.

If you enjoy reading SITU*ations*, yet seldom or never clip anything Fortean from the newspapers or magazines you buy, see or subscribe to, why not begin this week to return some of the pleasure other members have been giving you? All you need to get started is a pair of scissors, an envelope and a postage stamp. Please also write on *each* newsclip the name of the publication, the date of issue, and your name or membership number to assure proper credit to the source and you as contributor.

* * *

ADDITION

The following needs to be added to Andrew Paul Tomas' paper "Vaults of Time," delivered to the recent World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society and published in *Pursuit* No. 62, Second Quarter 1983, pp. 50-53:

SOURCES

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T. Valentine, *The Great Pyramid*, New York, 1975.

Mr. Tomas was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, and now lives in California. In addition to the books listed above, his published works include *We Are Not the First* (1971), *The Home of the Gods* (1972), *Beyond the Time Barriers* (1977), and *Mirage of the Ages* (1983).

* * *

CORRECTION

Due to an editorial error, an incorrect caption appeared below the first two photos in Dr. James McClenon's article "Fire-Walking on Mt. Takao" (*Pursuit* No. 61, First Quarter 1983, p. 12). The caption read: "The pyre was set ablaze . . . then covered with cedar branches." However, the author advises that the cedar branches are piled up *before* a typical ceremonial fire is set ablaze. We apologize for our misunderstanding and thank Dr. McClenon for his correction.

* * *

At his home in Colombo, Sri Lanka, author-psychic Arthur C. Clarke has installed a word-processing system which, he says, has "provoked thoughts about the electronic future." His letter to Time magazine cites a problem that many forward-thinking writers encounter these days:

"When, 18 years ago, I was writing *2001: A Space Odyssey*, the original artifact was a messy manuscript, which had at least been touched by human hand. What's the going rate in the rare-book trade for *Odyssey II* — a 5-inch diskette (single side, soft sector, single density, reinforced hole . . .)? Until I know, I won't press the erase button."

Letters to the Editors

An Open Letter to the Membership

As I was reading the "Letters to the Editors" columns in the Second Quarter 1983 issue of *Pursuit*, it occurred to me that something was amiss. What I read seemed less like a journal devoted to the Art of Free Thinking in Research, and more like a page from the Harvard Law Review.

It seems to me that SITU is in danger of falling into the very same trap that has snared so many "scientific" organizations: professional snobbery. Gentlemen, please! If you need criticism from a "source" concerning our research, it is most likely available from any "established scientific institution." We needn't dish it out to each other.

The Society for the Investigation of The Unexplained was set up to give consideration to those areas of nature that orthodox science was unable or unwilling to approach. If most of the articles printed in *Pursuit* were sent instead to, say, The American Journal of Physics, you can well imagine the acceptance rate we would have. It is our job to take over the areas that the scientific community doesn't care to discuss. However, we must avoid internal sniping and name-calling, or all will be lost.

There are members of SITU who have a far greater background in the formal sciences than I do; there are also those who do not. In either case, their opinions are to be respected, if not agreed with. If we do not support each other in these admittedly outlandish areas, then who will? No one!

I wish to offer a suggestion concerning future criticism of our fellow-members' work. If you have a question or suggestion, by all means voice it. But let's keep the veiled sarcasm and pettiness to a minimum. We are all in this organization to establish one thing: the truth — whatever it may be. However human the temptation to resort to personal criticism, let us try to keep it out of the pages of *Pursuit*. Leave it to our detractors in the "real world." God knows there are enough of them.

—Mark W. DeLawyer

'Tunnel Ahead: Turn on Lights'

Arlan Keith Andrews, Sr., in his article "Relativity and the Afterlife: Is There Light After Death?" (*Pursuit* No. 62, Second Quarter 1983), believes that the imagery of near-death encounters may be explainable in terms of relativity theory. Although intriguing, this idea has much against it.

If the reports of tunnels with lights at the end are due to the soul leaving the body at the speed of light, what causes it to return? Something must force it to turn around and come back at the same speed. No known physical force could do that.

Also, as a beam of light travels, it loses cohesion. Energy diffuses, becomes absorbed, and is constantly influenced by outside forces. (This is why, if aliens were listening to our old TV and radio broadcasts, all they would receive would be static.) If such is the fate of the soul, then individual survival would be impossible. This also means those who "died" and came back would be less than they were before.

Mr. Andrews is mistaken when he claims relativity theory states that at light speed, time runs backwards. What is does state is that as one approaches the speed of light the passage of time slows down relatively to the rest of the universe. Presumably, at the speed of light it would cease — not run backwards. (There are theories, however, that if an object could move faster than light, it would move backwards in time — but that is pure speculation.)

Carl Sagan is probably correct when he calls these experiences a replay of the birth experience. The unconscious is giving symbolic form to an event otherwise incomprehensible to the conscious mind.

—Kim L. Neidigh

More on 'Space Law'

According to Rep. Coughlin [*Pursuit* No. 62, Second Quarter 1983, pp. 56-58]: "As you will note, there is no federal law making it illegal to have contact with extraterrestrial entities. However, there is a regulation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) governing certain extraterrestrial exposures."

Rep. Coughlin neglects to mention that this NASA regulation was *passed by Congress* on July 16, 1969. Although technically it may be no more than a NASA regulation, insofar as the all-important question of enforcement is concerned, its passage by Congress insures that it could (if desired) be enforced just as if it were a federal law.

I found Mr. Zafren's comments to be highly lucid and very interesting. He states: "The regulation would not appear to cover an instance where a life form 'visits' here on a mission of its own." What the debate hinges upon is the applicability of the regulation. According to 1211.101: "Applicability. The provisions of this part apply to all NASA manned and unmanned space missions. . . ."

In the absence of any other legislation pertaining to this particular subject, this Congressionally-approved regulation establishes a legal precedent. As I made clear in my article, I could dismiss the whole controversy as a tempest in a teacup if the passage quoted above contained the word "only," so as to read: "The provisions of this part apply only to all NASA manned and unmanned space missions. . . ." However, it does not contain that one little word which would have made such a big difference. If the government should suddenly be faced with the accomplished fact of an undeniable overt E.T. visitation, in the absence of any other legislation pertaining to this subject, this regulation could therefore be construed as being applicable to all space missions, NASA or non-NASA, whether of terrestrial or extraterrestrial origin. As it stands, this federally backed regulation could be applied to UFO contact: the meaning would have to be stretched, but the built-in loophole does exist.

The reason I find it necessary to take a stand on this matter is that the way this legislation is phrased appears to be deliberately ambiguous, and thereby literally loaded with dangers to our Constitutional rights as citizens. The

way it was foisted on the public is very suspicious: put through Congress buried in the 1,211th sub-section of the 14th section of a batch of regulations very few members of Congress probably bothered to read in its entirety, and which was apparently passed without public debate or any awareness at all of its potential implications.

I agree with Mr. Zafren that "Space Law" is necessary. I also agree wholeheartedly with the concept of "metalaw" outlined by him. However, as things stand in present-day reality, "metalaw" is no more than a hypothetical concept without official backing. The reality we are at present faced with is the NASA regulation under discussion, which I think should be repealed and replaced with clearly worded legislation, not open to interpretation in a multitude of different ways, and passed by Congress openly instead of slipped through "under the table" without the public being informed.

Besides the NASA "Extraterrestrial Exposure" regulation, there is also the little-known U.S. Service regulation JANAP-146 which provides a penalty of up to ten years in prison and $10,000 fine for anyone in government service who makes an unauthorized public statement about UFO phenomena.

—George Andrews

Mute Question

I was fascinated by Sabina Sanderson's study on animal behavior (*Pursuit* No. 62, "A Cat Called Calico"). I was particularly puzzled by the cat's becoming mute, "never purring or mewing," following an apparent viral infection.

What I find unusual is that, although — strangely — no one really knows *how* cats purr, the theories I'm familiar with all agree that purring isn't vocalization, but rather an involuntary sound produced in the thorax, more akin (mechanically) to raling in some pulmonary disorders in humans. I'm surprised that an infection could affect two unrelated types of sound production simultaneously.

—D. A. Neiburg

The Seven Pyramids of Shensi

The mysterious pyramid system in China, mentioned by Tom Oleson and Dr. Joseph Intelisano in*Pursuit* No. 61, First Quarter 1983, p. 42, may be the same one photographed by a U.S. Air Force pilot during World War II while on reconnaissance over the Shensi region. A photograph of the largest of the seven pyramids appeared in the November 1950 issue of *Fate*, and an article published in the January 1956 issue of the same magazine gave a detailed description of the system.

The pyramids of Shensi are believed to be located near a major caravan route which runs from Peking to the Mediterranean Sea. The psychic R. C. ("Doc") Anderson is the only westerner I am aware of who claims to have visited these pyramids, and he described the largest of the seven as nearly twice the size of the Great Pyramid in Egypt.

Due to the simple fact that these pyramids are located behind the bamboo curtain, an expedition to them such as Dr. Intelisano suggests would be unlikely any time soon.

"Doc" Anderson reported a tradition the local inhabitants told him about: it holds that when the pyramids are finally explored and their hidden chambers discovered, mankind will find in them records that give the lost history of the world.

—Bruce Walton

Books Reviewed

THE DEATH OF ROCKETRY by Joel Dickinson with Robert Cook (C.I.P. Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 2997, San Rafael, CA 94901, 1980, 122 pp., $17.50)

Reviewed by Robert Barrow

Conventional, garden-variety physicists, beware! Despite the merits of this book, the aforementioned are almost certain to deride it without reading a single chapter. Why? Simply because the authors dare to prove *by mechanical demonstration* that "Newton's laws of motion are not totally correct." Since Isaac Newton is a hero to science, this otherwise modest declaration will be nothing short of an outrage to the organized nuts-and-bolts folks.

Of Newton's three laws of motion published in 1687, the one particularly disputed here is the third — that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. In essence, no force can occur unless at least two bodies are involved: one which exerts a force, and one upon which the force is exerted. With that made clear in this book, sheer murder begins to take place on Mr. Newton's laws.

To tell the story of Isaac Newton's alleged shortcomings, the history of one Robert Cook must be told. This is accomplished in depth by writer-mathematician Joel Dickinson who, to the reader's good fortune, has the talent to make especially difficult science interesting to the non-professional.

Cook, depicted by Dickinson as a genius-level inventor of limited formal education, having poured several years of effort, personal funds and eventually borrowed money into his work, reportedly has developed a "reactionless drive." Apparently as far away from the familiar perpetual motion description as one can get, Cook's process does require a (very) tiny bit of energy. The glory, however, of Cook's reactionless drive system — and its slap to Newton's face — lies in its ability to propel something *without* the need to react against another force or medium. Instead, as Dickinson describes it, "the reactionless drive utilizes *internal* forces generated from within the system itself."

As Cook developed and refined his prototype of the Cook Inertial Propulsion Engine (CIP), he encountered the predictable lot of skeptical, if not downright negative, scientists. In the eyes of several, Cook's first sin was his brazen attempt to overcome the god-like laws of Newton. His second was his lack of a college degree and, for that matter, almost any formal education. During his costly and extensive travels on the road with his machinery, Cook found agencies such as NASA rudely skeptical of his theories, at first.

United Air Lines, on the other hand, discovered much of importance in Cook's ideas. Their findings are printed along with many informative illustrations and documentation of Cook's struggles, encounters and eventual successes.

Particularly eye-opening is *Rocketry's* insight on the devastating hardships facing nearly any American inventor whose labors confront seemingly insurmountable obstacles when big money and/or proper academic credit is missing. If, as is claimed, the CIP system has — right now — a

90%-plus efficiency potential over the energy-wasting 2% of contemporary rocket engines (causing, thus, the "death of rocketry"), is it not frightening to think that such a discovery nearly failed to become known to science?

Much good can be said about this large-format book. At publication in 1980, Cook's work was being heralded widely as the answer to cheap and highly efficient energy, space and commuter travel, air cargo transport, and a host of other activities. Whatever happened since 1980, and whether this is the sort of thing that the oil-producing industry and various conflicting special interest concerns will wish to embrace in the name of a better life for all the world, remains to be seen. "The answers *are* here," the authors insist in the introduction, almost pleading for us to believe in them. "We hope the world will listen."

* * *

Shortly before publication of this issue of *Pursuit*, the reviewer received updated information from inventor Robert Cook on his CIP engine and on his efforts to prove Newton wrong. Cook claims that the scientific fundamentals of his system were "fully proven" in April 1982. Furthermore, "a complete parametric study of the system has been made by an MIT graduate engineer with over 35 years' experience, and he concluded that we have the most efficient propulsion system in the world . . . all scientists and engineers who have seen the models work have come to the conclusion that the system indeed *works* and that Sir Isaac Newton was wrong; over 200 have made that statement." Apparently, one of the impressed witnesses is astronaut Gordon Cooper, who states in CIP literature among a sprinkling of quotes from scientists and engineers, "This system will propel for pennies on the dollar."

Cook and CIP are currently attempting to raise substantial funds to build a *flying* model (land-based prototypes have already been accomplished, as detailed in the book). SITU members interested in learning more may inquire of Robert Cook directly (P.O. Box 463, Presidio, Texas 79845).

If, by some chance, all of this would be enough to make poor Sir Isaac spin in his grave, the philosophical question of whether he would do so via reactionless drive must be addressed.

LIGHTNING, AURORAS, NOCTURNAL LIGHTS, AND RELATED LUMINOUS PHENOMENA, compiled by William R. Corliss (The Sourcebook Project, P.O. Box 107, Glen Arm, Maryland 21057, 1982, 242 pp., $12.00 postpaid)

Reviewed by Kenneth W. Moak

In case there is any Fortean who hasn't heard, William Corliss' Sourcebook Project has entered a new phase of its evolution. With the publication of this title, Corliss begins the almost unbelievable task of cataloguing *every* anomalous event to be found in accepted scientific literature. The new Catalog Series also includes definitions and evaluations of all event-categories, comprehensive and complex indexing, and very satisfactory digests of noteworthy individual cases. The Catalog Series is to be, in short, an attempt at compiling an encyclopedia of the anomalous. Corliss envisions at least twenty-five volumes, likely more, arranged generally in the same system of divisions as his earlier books. With a projected one or two volumes a year, it is clearly a long-term project.

Any review of such a monumental effort has to tread a thin line between nitpicking and backslapping. It must be prefaced by the acknowledgment that Corliss has already done more for Fortean science than most previous compilers even attempted, not only by making huge amounts of obscure data available, but also by placing it in a framework of strict scholarship that renders it acceptable to even conservative scientists.

With such deserved kudos aside, it must be admitted that there are problems with the Catalog Series in general, and with LANLRLP in particular. The primary problem is, notably, unrelated to the content or organization of the book. It is, rather, a consequence of the nature of the Sourcebook Project itself, and as such, requires a little backtracking.

Those of us who learned of Corliss' work in its early stages probably invested in most, or all, of the original looseleaf Sourcebook volumes. At about ten dollars a book, that represented one hundred dollars, unquestionably a bargain for the first really comprehensive library of "respectable" anomalies ever published. The problem began to appear when the harsh realities of publishing forced Corliss to abandon the looseleaf format in favor of hardbound books. The change-over was evidently unavoidable, but it did have disadvantages. First off, the unique flexibility of a looseleaf format was lost in the hardbound Handbooks, along with Corliss' plans for publishing addenda pages.

Even more upsetting to the individual (as opposed to organizational) Fortean was the fact that most of his investment in Sourcebooks was suddenly rendered redundant by publication of the Handbook Series. Although Corliss suggests that duplication between analagous volumes in the two series is rare, my experience is that it is simply one way: the Sourcebooks duplicate little of the much larger Handbooks, but the latter duplicate most of the former. And now, the Catalogs promise to duplicate everything in both previous series.

Considering the cumulative costs of the previous books, longtime purchasers may well be irked by the appearance of a whole new series, one which includes a great deal of new material, but also repeats much, some of it for the third time. Also troubling to those who envision a complete set: the Catalog Series is to be kept up-to-date by means of periodical addenda volumes, the first of which is already available. So, an investment in the modern Sourcebook Project is, like a diamond, forever.

It must be pointed out that none of the above is really a drawback for anyone but the less-than-wealthy individual. Libraries, schools, and research organizations will hardly be bothered by the redundancy. For that matter, most of us can arrange a four or five hundred dollar expenditure if it is strung out over twelve years. But it is a nagging irritation to have all those Sourcebooks and Handbooks just sitting there. . . .

Returning to the volume at hand, LANLRLP is free from any glaring faults; what shortcomings there are tend to be more puzzling than annoying.

Corliss prefaces each category of anomalies with a few explanatory paragraphs, including a numerical rating for reliability of reports and anomaly value. This is an excellent idea, but in some cases the ratings seem rather ar-

bitrary, particularly the anomaly evaluation. For instance, Corliss assigns ball lightning a lower "strangeness" rating than nocturnal lights. This is a bit puzzling, considering the mutual lack of explanation (or multiplicity of explanations) and the possibility that the two phenomena are closely related. Of course, the ratings in no way affect the validity of the data, and remain very useful tools for abstracting.

Another feature, the reference to possible explanations, while very illuminating, is marred by the absence of any "fringe" theories. Thus the section on nocturnal lights fails to mention Sanderson's aerial lifeform hypothesis, or the more specialized "critter" theory of Trevor Constable. One gets the impression of an unfortunate "hard science" bias on Corliss' part here, where freewheeling comprehensiveness could be most valuable.

Slightly more disturbing is the possibility of omissions. I was surprised to find, under "White Water or Luminous Seas," no mention of the publicized astronauts' observations of white water in the Gulf Stream area. This is a particularly odd omission, since that phenomenon received considerable attention due to a possible connection with the Bermuda Triangle. One can only wonder how many other accounts have slipped through the compiler's net.

Finally, an even smaller quibble might be made over the occasionally confusing system of cross-referencing and alphanumeric coding; it is a little daunting to the casual reader. However, given the mass of material to be digested, it is probably the least unwieldy mode of organization.

With the nitpicking done, time for backslapping. LANLRLP is a superb reference work. The volume of data in it is staggering, much more than would appear likely from its size (about 7 x 8 inches and a half-inch thick). Each category is thoroughly analyzed in the introductory paragraphs, many (if not all) possible explanations are suggested, and related phenomena are listed. There are numerous illustrations, both line and photograph, and the references are overwhelming. In addition, particularly interesting or characteristic examples of each category are presented in case-book fashion, enough to make for enjoyable reading by even the most casual anomalist.

Possibly most impressive of all, there are no less than five separate indexes, covering time, place, and nature of event, first author, and source. These alone should prove indispensable to serious investigators, particularly those exploring statistical correlations. The author promises even more elaborate indexing as the series develops.

The book is hardbound, durable, and reasonably priced, with a layout more reminiscent of the Sourcebooks than the Handbooks. As previously mentioned, supplements will be available as individual volumes, the next-best thing to a looseleaf format.

The new Catalog Series is certainly essential for any organization with Fortean interests, as well as any serious general researcher. However, for casual readers, or those investigators whose lines of interest are very specialized, the new format is probably too detailed and comprehensive to justify a large expenditure. If LANLRLP is typical of future volumes, it is safe to say that every Fortean will eventually find one or more books in the series that he cannot do without, but unlike purchasers of the original Sourcebooks, few will try to accumulate a full set.

LET'S HOPE THEY'RE FRIENDLY by Quentin Fogarty (Angus & Robertson Publishers, P.O. Box 290, North Ryde, N.S.W. 2113, Australia, 1982, 178 pp., illus., soft cover, $9.95)

Reviewed by Robert Barrow

Whether or not the reader knew the slightest thing about UFOs would not have mattered a whit by the end of 1979's first week, so long as some contact with TV, radio or the print news media was maintained. At this time, the world's press bristled with astonishment over reports that an airborne television film crew off the coast of New Zealand had accomplished a motion picture of UFOs on December 31, 1978; subsequently, there was evidence of radar contact as well.

Among the witnesses on the fateful flight of this particular Argosy aircraft was Melbourne TV journalist Quentin Fogarty, who wisely summoned his professional talents to create this revealing anatomy of a UFO incident and its aftermath. The author's highly attractive writing style progresses much like a cross between a reporter's notebook and a step-by-step documentary as he begins with a period as innocent as Christmas of 1978, and then leads us into a series of months that he and the other participants will never forget.

Of course, *Let's Hope* explores the UFO movie in depth (complete with four glossy pages of color frames), but the celluloid capture of the enigma is only part of the story. Fogarty and his companions (other witnesses aboard the plane were a cameraman and his wife, a sound technician, another TV journalist, the pilot and the first officer) subsequently get caught up in the — inevitable? — web of government officials bent on censorship, unwelcome publicity, erroneous rumors and the usual lot of the predominantly religious.

To further substantiate the story behind the story, Fogarty includes a chapter entitled "Dr. Bruce Maccabee's Findings." Maccabee, an optical physicist employed as a civilian at the U.S. Navy's Surface Weapons Center in Maryland, performed an exhaustive analysis of the New Zealand film in conjunction with several colleagues. The apparently inescapable conclusion is that this is a genuine film of an unknown.

Debunkers and their ill-informed, characteristically instant, solutions to the scenes photographed from the window of the Argosy airplane consume other sections of the book; it is hardly reassuring to be reminded that debunkers and skeptics often tend to be equally ignorant and chronically assinine, whatever the country.

Did any of the witnesses involved in this bizarre incident benefit from the sightings and the frenzied publicity that followed? Consider the author's point of view: "Friendships have broken, marriages suffered, and people's hopes and aspirations have taken a tumble. This is not simply a story about UFOs, it is also a very human account of what happened to a group of ordinary people who found themselves caught up in an extraordinary situation."

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The Notes of Charles Fort

Deciphered by Carl J. Pabst

ABBREVIATIONS

(*DA)	library call letters
ab	about
Ac to	According to
(Al)	[?Almanac?]
Amer	*New York American*
Am J. Sci	*American Journal of Science*
An Reg	*Annual Register*
ap.	appearance
Arc Sci	*Arcana of Science*
Astro Reg	*Astronomical Register*
attrib	attributed
BA	*Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*
BCF	*The Books of Charles Fort*
bet	between
Bib. Univ	*Bibliographie Universelle*
B.M.	British Museum [?]
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 O'," (*The Fortean*, #3, p. 14, c. 1)
Bombay Geog. Soc (L)	*Transactions of the Bombay Geographical Society* (L[?])
Bull Seis Soc. Amer	*Bulletin of the Seismographic Society of America*
Cel. Objs.	*Celestial Objects*
Clinton Co., Tenn	Clinton County, Tennessee
Cor	Correspondent
C.R.	*Comptes Rendus*
D-62	*The Book of the Damned*, page 62
Deb.	*Journal des Debats*
det. met.	detonating meteor
dets.	detonations
dist. artillery	distant artillery
Dr W	Doctor Wartmann
ext. light	extraordinary light
F.	*Fletcher's List*
F. ball	Fireball
Finley's Rept.	*Finley's Report*
(Fr)	France
Gents Mag	*Gentleman's Magazine*
Greg's Cat of Meteors	*Greg's Catalogues of Meteors*
G's Island	Graham's Island
Inf conjunction	Inferior conjunction
It Sounds	Italian Sounds
Jour des Deb.	*Journal des Debats*
Jour F Inst	*Journal of the Franklin Institute*
Kingston, Miss	Kingston, Mississippi
L--	[?]
La Nat	*La Nature*
La Sci Pour Tous	*La Science Pour Tous*
Lbs	pounds
Loc. Met	Locus [?] of Meteors
LT	London *Times*
Mag of Nat. Hist	*Magazine of Natural History*
Mag. Pop Sci (P)	*Magazine of Popular Science* (P[?])
Metite	Meteorite
Met Mag	*Meteorological Magazine*
met train	meteor train
M Notices	*Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*
Mts	Mountains
N.M.	No More
N or N.W.	North of Northwest
N. Reg	*Niles' Weekly Register*
NS	New Series
N.Y.	New York
ob.	observation
Obs.	*Observatory*
O h	[?]
Op Mars	Opposition of Mars
p.	page
phe.	phenomena
Phil Trans.	*Philosophical Transactions*
Polt	Poltergeist
q's	earthquakes
R.A.	Right Ascension
Rec Sci	*Recreative Science*
Rept B.A.	*Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*
/// [Reverse side]	probably not related
Sch	Schomburgk
Sound phe	Sound phenomena
spon. gen.	spontaneous generation
sul-fog	sulphurous fog
Switz	Switzerland
vol.	volume
volc	volcano
W. Indies	West Indies
wld	wild
YB	*Year Book of Facts*
YRA	library call letters
+ +	

(Continued from Pursuit *No. 62, Second Quarter 1983, page 96)*

1831

Jan 2 / q / Italy (Basilicata) / BA '11.

Jan 2 / 3 a.m. / Aerolite in village of Mangapalnam, Cadapah, India /

[Reverse side] Trans Bombay Geog Soc 9/199.

Jan 7 / A / France / A.J.S. 20/396.

Jan. 7 / Auroral phe? / Germany / Nature 27-297.

Jan 12 / Berlin / F. ball / BA '60.

[1831 Jan 13] Disap / Extraord / LT, 1831, Jan 13-2-f.

Jan 28 / Gotha / F. ball / BA 60.

Feb. 12 / Solar eclipse / A. J. Sci. 22-189.

Feb 19 to 25 / Etna / BA '54/224.

Ap 12 / '22 May 19, 1806. / Reported by a sea captain at 0° 22′ S and

[Reverse side] 23° 27′ W. / tumbling sound and sharp shock to vessel.

Ap. 13 / Shocks / Armenia / Sweden / Austria / See mite, 15th. / BA 11.

May / 2nd attack on K Hauser.

[BCF, pp. 703-710 / See May, 1828.]

May 7 / Hail / 3 inches circumference / Ohio, Ky. / Niles' Register, 21st.

May 7 / Tornado / S. Car. / Niles Register, 21st.

May 13 / Vouille (Vienne) / stonefall / C.R. 58/226 / (F) / Poitiers, ac to F.

May 13 / Particulars / Metite / Vouille (Vienne) / particulars.
[Reverse side] La S. P. Tous 9-93.

May 26 / 11:18 a.m. / Shocks, Genoese Coast (Italy) // 11:15 a.m. / Marseilles /// BA 54.

May 26 / It Sounds / San Remo / Sound phe / See 1816.

May 13 / B.M. / Fletcher / Metite / Ap. 13, 1831 / Vouille, France / May 13, 1831 / F.

June 11 / Clinton Co., Tenn / Tornado / Finley's Rept.

June 28 / 5 p.m. / shocks / Sicily / BA 54.

June 28 to July 2 / (to Oct the effects) // Submarine volc before ap. of island of Ferninandea. Then increased activity. Said that the volcanic materials
[Reverse side] formed the island. / At Palermo the haze noticed July 23, 24, 25, and again Aug 4, 5, 6. Upon Aug 8, the sun was whitish blue and there were afterglows. Then, 5 dates in Aug. and 3 in Sept
[Front side] and 2 in Oct, afterglows noted at Palermo. / C.R. 102-1061.

July 2 / -- Sicily // 13 -- Parma // 14 -- Parma // shocks /// BA 54.

July 5 / Cannonading heard at Schmaleninken. Attributed to
[Reverse side] a battle between General Gielgud agains[t] Tolstoy and Rennenkampt. / Jour des Deb., 20-2-1 /
[Front side] Not heard on the 6th. / War between Poland and Russia --in Deb. 17-1-3, said that Gielgud was on 5th "Au dela de Memel.

July 9 / G's island / See Jan 3, 1832.

July 9 / The new island / Niles' Register (★DA), vol 41, p. 71, 77, 327, 438.

July 9 / Grahams Island -- see Lyell's Principles of Geology.

July 9 / Ship Crawford, 16 miles from Sicily -- submarine volc eruption. / Niles Register, Sept 24 / New Island seen next day from another vessel (N. Reg, Oct 1). / See Jan 3, 1832.

July 13 / The New Island -- Graham Island, southern shore of
[Reverse side] Sicily / Phil Trans. 1832-237 / was first seen on 13th / was a volcanic crater.

July 14 / Many shocks, Murray Bay, Gulf of St. Lawrence.
[Reverse side] Preceded by subterranean noise which seemed to come frm N or N.W. / BA 54.

July 15 / Clermont, etc. / 4 p.m. / tremendous storm / great fall
[Reverse side] of hail / Sheep swept away by torrents. / Jour des 'Deb, July 19.

July 18 / q's / June and July / II [Medium] / BA 1 / Sciacca (Girgenti).

July 18 / Poitiers, France / stone weighing 40 lbs / Greg asks whether May 13. / (See.) / BA 60.

July 18 / Tuscany / "A meteoric detonation in air?" BA 54.

July 18 / (q) / Foligno, Tuscany, Ital[y] / Metite. / BA '60 / See May 16, '34.

July 20 / Cayuga Co., N.Y., / Tornado / Finley's Rept.

July 27 / (Fr) / Besancon (Doubs) / qs and explosiv[e] sounds / BA '54 or '60.

July 27, 28, 29 / Celebration in Paris / Cannon fire, etc. / J. des Deb 26-1-3.

July 28 / (Fr) / Vouille / Metite and 3 dets. / BA 67/416.

August / Month of lurid sunsets, Malta and Sicily, attrib to
[Reverse side] dust from the new volcano of Graham Island. / Phil Trans 1832-252.

Aug / Blue sun / See Oct. 12.

Aug 4 / A "waterspout" burst upon the Clidagh Mts (Kerry), Ireland. A flood 15 feet deep and 900 wide poured
[Reverse side] down. Not said any waterspout seen. / Gents Mag 101/2/168.

Aug 14 / Shock near Naples while Vesuvius in eruption / BA 54.

Aug 17 / Sat., Sun and Monday before // At Mobile / bluish or greenish sun.
[Reverse side] Mornings and bet 5 and 6 p.m. / Am J. Sci 21/198.

Aug 3/ -- Africa // 9 -- Russia and France // 10 -- Paris // 15 -- New York // 31 -- China /// fog like the Siberian / La Sci Pour Tous 19/58 / See May, 1822.

Aug 12 / At Philadelphia, for a long time after sunset, "the Western heavens seemed like one vast sea of crimson flame, lit up by some invisible agent." Then not a star to be seen but the moon was visible, "green and ghastly."

[Reverse side] The same phenomenon at New York and "by many attributed to burning meadows in the direction of Newark. / N.Y. American, Aug 16, '31.

Aug 3 / Blue sun / Bermuda / YB '41/267 // Upon the 11th, great q and hurricane throughout
[Reverse side] West Indies -- not Bermuda. / BA '11 // At Barbadoes -- Hurricane, q and volcanic eruption. 3000 persons perished. / BA 54.

Aug 3 / La Sci Pour Tous 15-58 -- a dry fog was first observed upon coast of Africa. / 9 -- Odessa and central France / 10 -- Paris / 15 --New York / end month -- Canton, China // Said that the most extraordinary thing was that this smoke or dry fog
[Reverse side] seemed to disappear in part with the setting of the sun and to return at sunrise -- nights very clear and stars very visible --that some fog remained and was phosphorescent and appeared to occupy the higher regions of the atmosphere.

Aug 3 / Ac to M. Arago, in "The Comet" (p. 13 of translation), on coast of Africa, sun not visible until 15 or 20 degrees above horizon. "At night, the sky sometimes became clear, and even the stars were
[Reverse side] visible. This last circumstance, so worthy of remark, I have received from M. Berard, one of the best informed officers of the French Navy.

Aug 9, etc. / Nothing in Jour des Debats.

Aug 10 / W. Indies / Great hurricane and "innumerable fireballs" / A. J. Sci 36-174 /
[Reverse side] At Barbadoes, ac to another quotation.

Aug 10 / Barbadoes / Evening of the 10th, clouds collecting in deep masses and then flying away "with a rapidity of motion almost incredible" until 9 p.m. Then calm -- then at 10:30 wind again with increasing violence until
[Reverse side] 5 a.m. of the 11th (this was the hurricane). / N.Y. American, Sept. 5 / There is no volcanic eruption mentioned. "Hollow subterranean noises were also heard and some imagine we were visited by an earthquake." // On 12th in St. Domingo many lives lost -- ocean rose and flooded towns. / American, Sept 13 //
[Second page] Hurricane reached New Orleans on 16th and 17th. / Amer -- Sept 15 / Cuba on 13th. If it was all one.

Aug 10 / Sch / night / Hurricane / Barbadoes / (Schomburgk, History of Barbadoes, page 53) / Mor[n]ing, all trees blown leafless / Thunder and lightning, "more like sheets of fire."
[Reverse side] Extreme redness of the sky on ev[en]ing of the 9th --"At one time the whole atmosphere presented the appearance of livid flame." Overpowering sulphurous odor. Then "fiery meteors were seen falling from the heavens.
[Second page] Next morning 12 vessels high inland. Debris and heads, hands, and feet of the dead. / No volcano.

Aug 11 / W. Indies / q / III [Heavy] / and hurricane / [BA 1911].

Aug 11 / Bermuda / Said sunlight been peculiar on 10th. On 11th --
[Reverse side] dark from early morning. / Rept B.A., 1840-11.

Aug 11 / from 2:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. / Hurricane / West Indies /
[Reverse side] Barbadoes hurricane, q and volc. eruption. 3000 persons perished. / Rept. B.A., 1854-226.

Aug 11 / Blue sun at Bermuda. / Said that early in August, blue sun for some days in
[Reverse side] succession along the Atlantic Coast. / Jour F. Inst 3/1/57.

Aug 12 / Sun as seen at Alexandria / Va? / Niles Weekly Register, Oct 1, 1831, p. 96.

Sept - Oct / China / qs / II [Medium] / BA '11.

Sept. 6 — Nov. 1 / Wartmann's planet / C.R. 2/307 / (3) Planetary object observed ac. Dr W and his assistants
[Reverse side] at Geneva.

[BCF, pp. 412-413 / See July 31, 1826.]

Sept. 9 / See May 26, '08. / Wessely, Moravia, Austria / Metite / (F).

Sept 10 / From 10th, water in wells at Parma was troubled. / BA 54.

Sept 11 / Italy / Parma and Modena / q / I [Light] / BA '11.

Sept 12, 13 / Other shocks / Parma to Venice / BA 54.

Oct to Feb., 1832 / qs in Perugia, Italy / II / [Medium / BA 1911].

Oct. 8 / O h / Venus / Inf conjunction / (A 1).

Oct 9 / Peru / II / [Medium quake / BA 1911].

Oct 12 / Red lights in sky long after sunset. / Oct. 13 -- sun silvery at noon,
[Reverse side] and between 3 and 4 p.m. greenish blue. / Nature 30-32.

Oct 20 / Wirtemberg / Meteor / BA 54.

Oct 31 until Jan 13, 1832 / (It) / Frequent concussions in Umbria. / (See 1805.) / Upon Jan 13, 1832, q and a fall of muddy water?

Oct 27 to Jan 13, 1832 / (It) / Sounds. / Umbria / See 1816.

Nov 12 / Mets / A. J. Sci 30-374.

Nov. 12 - 13 / Remarkable fall of mets / Capt. Bernard, off coast of Spain / Dr. Miglet in Ohio / Mag. Pop Sci (P) 3/62 / (Arago).

Nov 13 / Bruneck / F. ball / BA 54.

Nov 13 / Kioto, Japan / II / [Medium quake / BA 1911].

Nov. 13 / N. of Spain / Large fireball / BA 54.

Nov 17 / Sweden / q in a tempest and ext. light in northern horizon and great detonation /
[Reverse side] C.R. 17-622.

Nov 17 / Sweden / 6:15 a.m. / (q) / Swardsjo, near Fahlun. -- storm --detonati[on] / light in sky / BA '54.

Nov. 26 / Soge / Fireball / [BA] '60.

Nov. 26 / Aerolite? / See Nov. 29, 1809.

Nov. 29 / Hildburghausen / Met = moon, rose in W. / BA 60.

Nov. 29 / Thuringerwald / Severe q and met / BA '54 / D-228.

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

Dec 3 / 7:50 p.m. / Trinidad / unbearable heat / violent q / followed by heavy showers of rain / BA 54.

Dec 3 / Trinidad and St Christopher, W. Indies / II / [Medium quake / BA 1911].

Dec 8 / Bath and Herefordshire / large met / daylight / BA 60.

1832

Jan 2 / Bordeaux / F. ball / [BA] '60 / N.E. to S.W.

Jan 3 / Where Graham's Island (see July 9, 1831) had been, was playing a column of water, boiling 10 to 30 feet high. /
[Reverse side] Niles Register, March 31, 1832.

ab Jan 12 / Volc / Hawaii / Am J. Sci 25-201.

Jan 13 / Foligno, etc., Italy / violent q preceded and followed by violent rain and hail / See 27th. /
[Reverse side] BA 54.

Jan 16 / Volc / Goentoes / Java / C.R. 70-878.

Jan 22 / Central Asia / III / [Heavy quake / BA 1911].

Jan 23 / Zurich / Fireball / BA 60.

Jan 27 / at Foligno / Another slight shock preceded by detonation in air. / BA 54 / See Jan 13.

Feb 7 / Lavenberg / Fireball / BA 60.

Feb 16 / Vesuvius, which had been quiet since beginning of year / smoke and stones on 20th -- continuing to end of March /
[Reverse side] BA 54/230.

Feb 21 / N.W. India / III / [Heavy quake / BA 1911].

Feb. 21 / Naples and neighborhood / I / [Light quake / BA 1911].

March / Combustible yellowish substance / Kourianof, Russia / D-62.

[BCF, p. 63:
Annual Register, 1832-447:
That, March, 1832, there fell, in the fields of Kourianof, Russia, a combustible yellowish substance, covering, at least two inches thick, an area of 600 or 700 square feet. It was resinous and yellowish; so one inclines to the conventional explanation that it was pollen from pine trees -- but, when torn, it had the tenacity of cotton. When placed in water, it had the consistency of resin. "This resin had the color of amber, was elastic, like India rubber, and smelled like prepared oil mixed with wax."]

March 7 / Cutro, Calabria / Large, det. met. / BA 60.

March 7 / (It) / Met and det / on 8th, big q / Calabria / BA 54.

March 7 / (It) / Cutro, Calabria / det. met. / B.A., '60.

March 8 / Cutro, Calabria, "completely destroyed" by a q. / BA 54/231.

March 8 / Cotrone and Calabria, Italy / III / [Heavy quake / BA 1911].

March 8 / After 7 p.m., q. Calabria. "On the 7th a luminous meteor was observed at Po-
[Reverse side] tenza, which lasted nearly a minute and was followed by an explosion like that of a cannon. / BA 54.

March 8 / (It) / Calabria / meteors -- hot water from fissures / sulphurous odor / See 1805.

Feb. to Ap, etc.] / (+) / Reciprocal volcs / mets / q's / Feb, to Ap, etc., 1832.

March and April / (It) / Sounds / Calabria / Sounds like cannonading / supposed be subterranean / See 1816.

March 13 / (It) / It / Meteors and flashes and qs / Parma / See 1805.

[Reverse side] and reddish tint in sky before (avant) and during the q / See 1805. / but p. 357.

March 18 / [LT], 4-b / q. / Crieff / in Index / but 18th is Sunday.

March 22 / Goethe dying / Lewe's Life of Goethe, copied in Religio-Philosophical Journal, March 16, 1872, *YRA* -- a whistling sound heard, and + +
[Reverse side] sounds as if of chopping wood -- then loud tramping sounds. Story of a spirit that appeared, sang, vanished.

March 31 / Irkutsk / B Assoc '54/232.

Ap. 11 / Oil / Wolokalamsk, Holland / (D-63).

[BCF, p. 64:
As to other falls, or another fall, it is said in the *Amer. Jour. Sci.*, 1-28-361, that, April 11, 1832 --about a month after the fall of the substance of Kourianof -- fell a substance that was wine-yellow, transparent, soft, and smelling like rancid oil. M. Herman, a chemist who examined it, named it "sky oil." For analysis and chemic reactions, see the *Journal*. The *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*, 13-368, mentions an "unctuous" substance that fell near Rotterdam, in 1832. In *Comptes Rendus*, 13-215, there is an account of an oily, reddish matter that fell at Genoa, February, 1841.]

Ap 11 / Tirkut, India / Fireball / BA 60.

May / Luminous spot on Mercury in transit / M Notices 38/338.

May 7 / Kingston, Miss / afternoon / "Terribly destructive tornado / Finley's Rept.

[May 5] / A Vulcan by Fischer / Cosmos NS 42/467 / (no more) / (3) /
[Reverse side] CR 83-719.

[BCF, p. 340 / See Nov. 9, 1802.]

May 5 / Transit Mercury / Obs. 29/416.

May 20 / Bengal, India / Fireball / N. to S. / BA 60.

May 31 / Riga / Fireball / B.A., 60.

May and June / BO / Hosts of mice appeared in fields of Inverness-shire and Ross-shire. So many that foxes, with a great new supply of food, stopped their ordinary depredations.
[Reverse side] They were brown, with white ring around neck, and tail tipped with white. Cor to Mag of Nat. Hist 7-182 wrote that he had seen several specimens and that then he could find no mention in books.

[BCF, pp. 592-593:
In May, 1832, mice appeared in the fields of Inverness-shire, Scotland. They were in numbers so great that foxes turned from their ordinary ways of making a living and caught mice. It is my expression that these mice may have arrived in Scotland, by way of neither land nor sea. If they were little known in Great Britain, the occurrence of such multitudes is mysterious. If they were unknown in Great Britain, this datum becomes more interesting. They were brown; white rings around necks; tails tipped with white. In the *Magazine of Natural History*, 7-182, a correspondent writes that he had examined specimens, and had not been able to find them mentioned in any book.]

June 20 / (List) q / Mauna Loa / List in Bull Seis Soc. Amer 5-46 / A J Sci 25/201.

June 23 / 3 luminous things or meteors that rose from the horiz[on] and united. / Delhi, India / Archives des Descouvertes 1833/19 /
[Reverse side] See Nov. 13. / Rec Sci 1/136 / B. Assoc 1850-120 / (*1833*).

June 28 / Cape Verde Islands / Fall of greyish brown ashes, with a slightly
[Reverse side] sulphuric odor. / Tasmanian Journal 1-333.

June 29 / 11 p.m. / Great met. in Wiltshire, etc. -- illuminated like daylight / Arc. Sci., 1833-261.

June 29 / Plymouth and Brest / Meteor / BA 60.

July 4 / by Webb -- Mare Crisium speckled with minute dots a[nd] streaks of light / Astro Reg 20/165 / [Reverse side] Webb, Cel. Objs., p. 89.

[BCF, pp. 397-398:
For Webb's account of a brilliant display of minute dots and streaks of light, in the Mare Crisium, July 4, 1832, see *Astro. Reg.*, 20-165. I have records of half a dozen similar illuminations here, in about 120 years, all of them when the Mare Crisium was in darkness. There can be no commonplace explanation for such spectacles, or they would have occurred oftener; nevertheless the Mare Crisium is a wide, open region, and at times there may have been uncommon percolations of sunlight, and I shall list no more of these interesting events that seem to me to have been like carnivals upon the moon.]

July 23 / Vesuvius had been active since about beginning of year. Greatest eruption July 23
[Reverse side] and continued till 29th. / Arc. Sci 1833/253.

July 23 / Tremendous erupti[on] / Vesuvius / to Aug 16. / BA 54 /
[Reverse side] LT, Sept 3-3-a.

July 23 / volc and rain / Eruption, Vesuvius. On 24th, "dreadful storm and hurricane. / LT, Sept 3-3-a.

July 23 - Aug 16. / again on Sept 16 // Vesuvius / 23 to 16 -- tremendous / BA 54-233.

July 24 / Meerut, India / large, dazzling meteor / BA 60.

July 29 / Jersey / Rumbling sound and vibrations / [London *Times*], Aug 3-3-b.

Aug / An Reg, 32-448 / That, in a time of extraordinary drought "though in a rather damp plain" by Lake Geneva fire took place in the cemetery Plain Palais, at Geneva, in high grass on the graves amid cypress trees attrib to spon. gen.

Aug 4 / q. / 8:30 a.m. / Cheshire / [London *Times*] 7-3-3.

Aug 8 / Volc / Goentoes, Java / N.M. / C.R. 70-878.

Aug 13 / Volc / Goentoes, Java / C.R. 70-878.

Sept 3 / [L.T.], 3-a / Vesuvius // 29-3-b / a volc island.

Sept. 4 / 11:45 p.m. / Remarkable meteor / Bury St. Edmunds / Mag. Nat Hist 6-77.

Sept 16 / Vesuvius again / BA '54.

Oct 6 / -- Berlin / 12 or 13 -- Cologne / 13 -- Ulm / 14 -- Tyrol (sic) /24 -- Grunewald / 20 -- Bonn // Fireballs. / B.A., 1854 ///
[Reverse side] 1832 / March 15 / Berlin / Fireball / BA 60.

Oct 14 / Tyrol / met train / B.A., '60.

Oct 19 / England / Fireball / BA 60.

Oct 31 / Great eruption of Etna --not cease till Dec. / BA '54.

Nov. / Formosa / III / [Great quake / BA 1911].

Nov. / See May 19, 1806. / Reported by a sea captain, at 0° 22′ S, and 21° 15′ W,
[Reverse side] concussion as if had struck a reef.

Nov. / All northern? Mets seen at Pernambuco. / BA 50-131.

(To be continued)

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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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". . . the scientist is wiser not to withhold a single finding or a single conjecture from publicity." —J. W. VON GOETHE