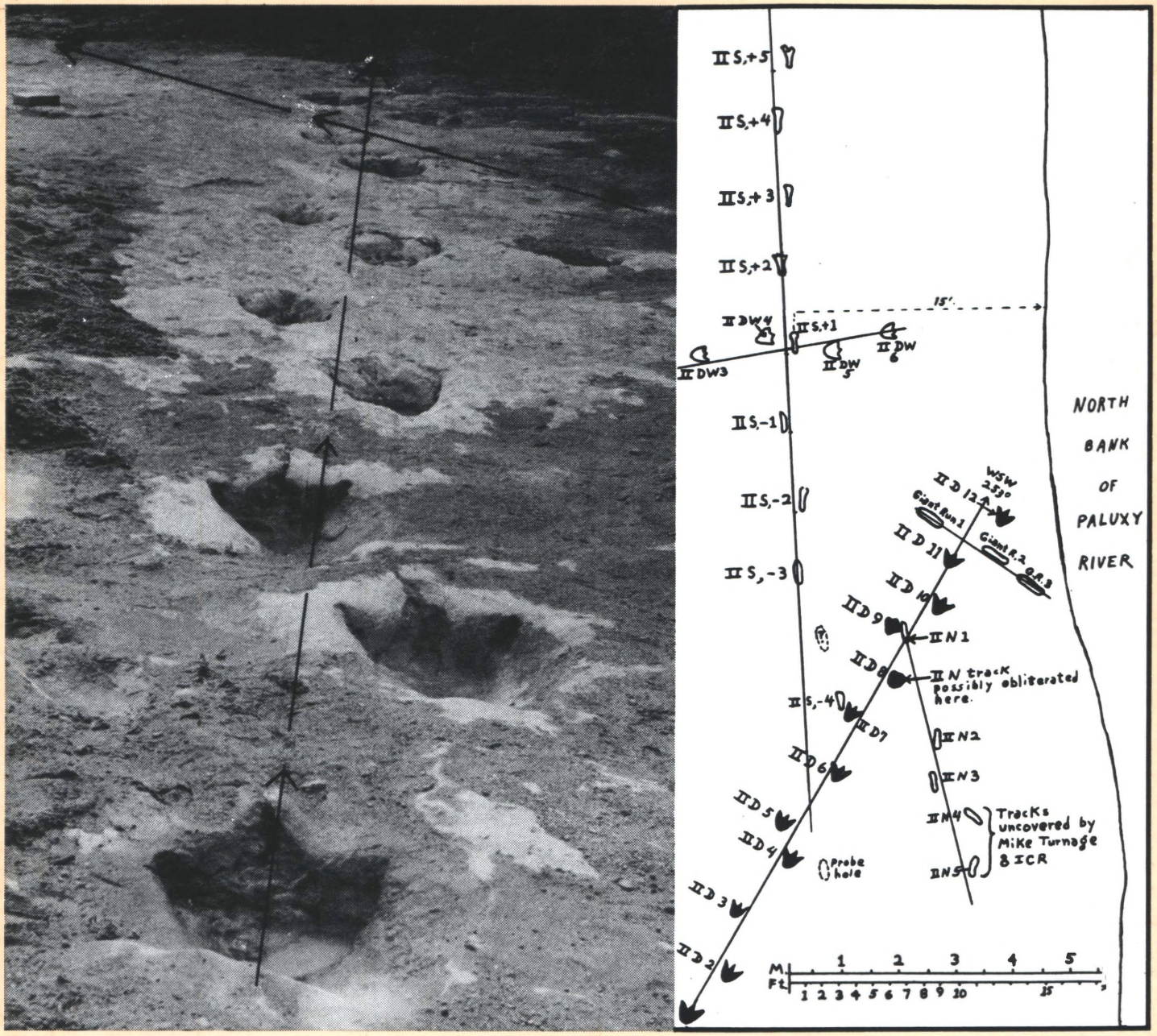
Pursuit

'Science is the Pursuit of the Unexplained'



Journal of SITU
The
Society for the
Investigation of
The Unexplained

Dinosaur tracks where "man" prints cross. See "Dinosaurs And Men: The Case for Coexistence," page 98

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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 photo: Courtesy of Dr. Rex Hess.

Cover map from *Paluxy River Exploration* by Wilbur Fields, 1979.

In the last issue of ***PURSUIT*** we reprinted "K: A Presumed Case of Telekinesis" by Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz. The article originally appeared in the *International Journal of Psychosomatics*, Volume 32, #1, 1985 and we thank Dr. Donald R. Morse of Temple University for granting us permission to publish it.

Some scholars and serious students of parapsychology expressed their criticism privately, feeling we were, perhaps, wrong or at least foolish to reproduce this article in ***PURSUIT.*** We heard such words as "Joey obviously fooled Bert with fifty-cent parlor tricks" or "the whole thing was a sham."

Before we decided to print the article we visited with Dr. Schwarz and observed his work with persons of reputedly exceptional psychic ability. And, we talked with Joey and also listened to some of his critics. Frankly, we are just not convinced that Dr. Schwarz was duped, that Joey is a "phoney" or that all of Dr. Schwarz's critics attempted to observe his efforts with full scientific objectivity.

Right or wrong or naive, as some even suggest, Dr. Schwarz is quietly and diligently looking for answers that need to be found. He has devoted a lot of time and personal funding in his quest for knowledge. We hope we shall be able to continue to report on his progress.

—The Editors

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Dinosaurs And Men: The Case For Coexistence

by John W. Patterson

"To raise new questions, to regard old problems from a new angle requires creative imagination and marks real advances in science."

—Albert Einstein

We should not box ourselves in with popular theory that excludes extant dinosaurs. *Homo sapiens* coexisted with the dinosaurs. Evidence of modern man appears in very ancient geologic strata. Sightings of animals resembling dinosaurs persist. Dinosaur folklore and 20th century encounters continue.

Here are some sample reports:

"Georg Gunther Freiherr von Forstner, captain of German submarine U-28 during WWI...belatedly reported on 7/30/1915, his U-boat sank the 600' British Steamer, Iberian. 25 seconds after the steamer plunged aft-first into the North Atlantic...the whole ship exploded. Blown clear out of the water was a crocodile-like monster about 60' long with 4 webbed feet and a long tail tapering to a point. It was gone in a few seconds.[1]

"East African legend tells of a swamp-dwelling creature that kills hapless tribesmen paddling by in canoes. The creature is said to be bigger than a hippo, with a long sinuous neck that snakes out to uproot plants along the shore...In a report in a recent issue of the journal, *Cryptozoology*, Congolese scientist Marcellin Agagna says he spent 20 minutes watching and filming the animal called Mokele-Mbembe...in a shallow lake."[2]

"...paramedic James Thompson reported seeing 'a pterodactyl-like bird' ten feet long glide like a model airplane across the road as he drove his ambulance along a highway 4 miles east of Los Fresnos...'it had a black or gray rough texture. I'm quite sure it was a hide-type covering...and a tail that ended in a kind of fin.' Again a similar description was given by three San Antonio school-teachers who were driving from one campus to another when they spotted two large birds circling over some cattle south of San Antonio. In the school library they found drawings and photographs of fauna restorations; those which closely resembled the creature they saw were of the pterodactyl."[3]

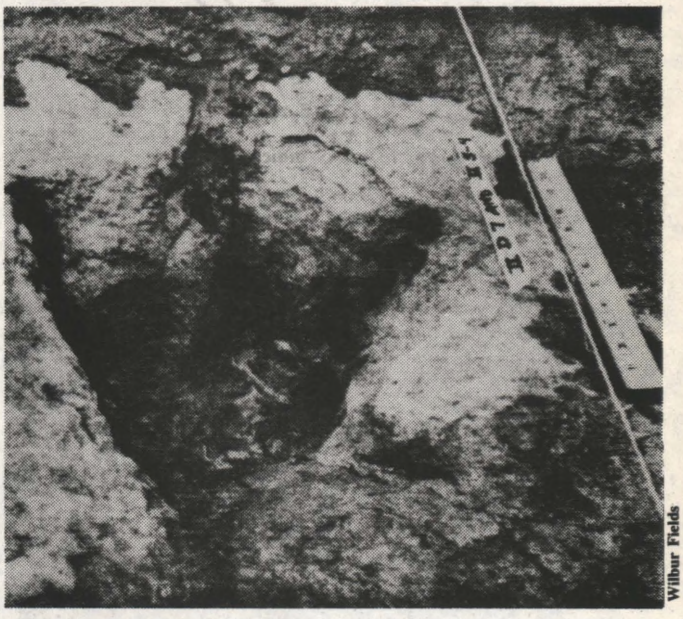
All these reports are echoed and paralleled in other sources with sightings in other geographical areas far too numerous to recount at present.

In the spring of 1977 a Japanese fishing boat in the Indian Ocean hauled in a badly decomposed animal. It had a long neck, small head, and large flippers still intact. A set of photos and tissue samples were taken. Fear of disease and contamination of the fish haul dictated tossing the carcass back into the depths. Some have argued that the basking shark will decay into a form of pseudoplesiosaur, but the tissue samples further analyzed were inconclusive at best.

If all such accounts were only eyewitness reports, then it would be possible to dismiss them as delusions or doctored photographs. However, there are more tantalizing items, such as artifacts we can handle, measure, and ponder.

"Five unrelated sites in the Americas have yielded artifacts inscribed with clear depictions of the dinosaur in terra cotta, stone, and metal. All of which have survived the skepticism of scientists and historians during the 25 to 60 years since discovery; so far none has been proven fraudulent."[4]

Granted, these artistic endeavors need not be interpreted as evidence that the artisans actually saw such creatures. If the artisan did not actually see the animal, then by oral tradition or other lost motifs, the animal, due to its unique character, may have been passed on and venerated. One object, the Granby Stone, shows not only a brontosaurian animal but a woolly mammoth as well. Among the Julsrud Collection of ceramic figurines again there is the curious mixture of supposedly extinct reptiles as well as extinct mammals. The argument that the ancients dug these creatures' bones from the earth, correctly assembled them, and reconstructed the musculature and external morphology only to carve the product on a sword blade or clay tablet is unconvincing. It is known that men hunted and hallowed the woolly mammoth, and it follows that its image found its way into man's art forms. Is it not odd that we also find the dinosaur on the flip side of the Granby Stone? Dinosaurs etched on an ancient two-edged sword cut deep into our psyche. Today's experts argue over correct representations of the dinosaur. Scientists of the past put dinosaur thumb bones on the creature's skull, mixed several types of creatures' bones into one, and so forth. Yet we dig up the generally accepted picture of the animals in question crafted by men living thousands of years ago!

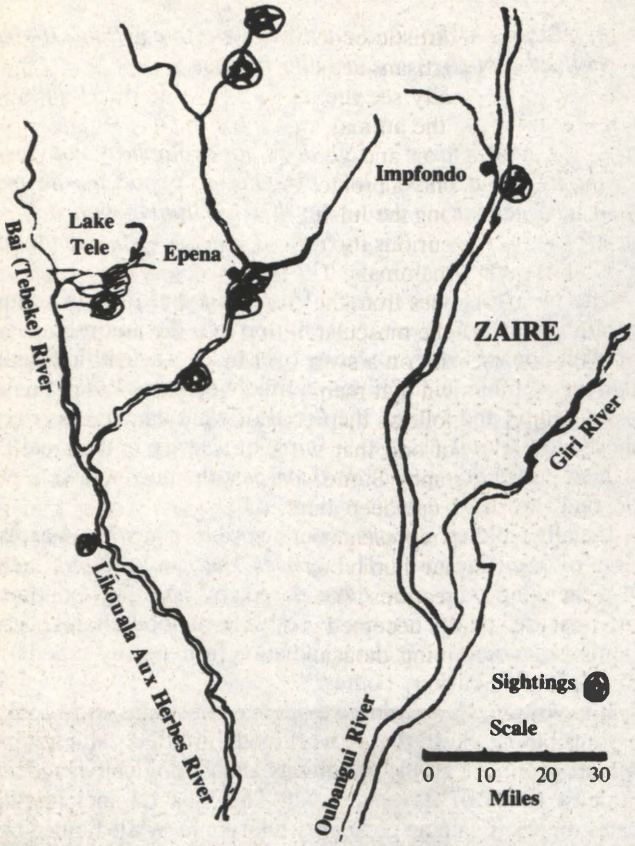


Wilbur Fields

Dinosaur Track II, D-7 (see cover).

Eyewitness reports, artifacts, and dinosaur petroglyphs on canyon walls still may yet leave some unconvinced. However, human *and* dinosaur footprints exist in the *same* strata and *overlap* one another! After authorities arrived there was confusion, digging, research, reporters, and the local media blitz. Some still say hoax, mis-interpretation, and uninteresting. This controversy is still alive and well in not only Glen Rose, Texas along the Paluxy River but a similar chain of events is transpiring in the Soviet Union's southeastern Turkmen Republic according to the *Moscow News*, (#24, p. 10, '83).

We could interpret the tidbits in our literature concerning monsters, dragons, and the like, and pass it all off as products of primitive imagination and ancestral superstition. It is said that legend has its basis in truth. In even the Old Testament, in the book of Job, there are two passages in chapters 40 and 41 that allude to some good candidates for dinosaurs in ancient writings.



African dinosaur map. Circled stars indicate area of Mokele-Mbembe sightings.

One creature described is very dragon-like. The other animal's description reads like recent interviews of natives guiding men into the Congolese swamps seeking living dinosaurs near Lake Tele. These biblical passages are well worth reading for they come from one of the oldest portions of the Old Testament and provide detailed accounts of incredible creatures the writer had encountered.

Furthermore

"New discoveries at a number of geographic locations far from Europe are challenging our traditional assumptions about the first Homo sapiens, and the date for their first appearance is steadily being pushed backward."
—Jeffrey Goodman[5]

"In his own subject every man knows that all discoveries are made and all errors corrected by those who ignore the 'climate of opinion.' "
—C.S. Lewis[6]

Laetoli, Tanzania is rich in hominid evidence of yesterday and beyond. In 1976 Mary Leakey uncovered the footprints of three hominids, dated at 3.75 million years. It seems Dad, Mom, and Jr. were out for a stroll on some warm volcanic ash, watching the local show of fireworks.

They "walked with a bipedal stride indistinguishable from that of modern humans. Furthermore, the feet were not those of some supposed simian 'missing link'...they were as modern in form as yours and mine," & "Excavations revealed more than 20,000 footprints of all sorts over a...small area, giving the paleontologists a glimpse of an ancient community that could not be matched by the fossil bones common in the area."[7]

These African prints do not exhibit as much quality as those found in Texas, yet the Leakey find was soon hailed to be hominid. Why are the Texas prints so controversial?

An anthropological expert who has studied the Paluxy River footprints made these observations:



Rex Hess

"Hominid" tracks cross dinosaur tracks.

The prints are badly eroded, misinterpreted dinosaur prints. Hominid toe prints are suggested by the surrounding rocks but are not really there. Imprint pressure ridges or rock lines in between the toes are the fossilized trails of an ancient arthropod. Concerning a "handprint" near a spot where the hominid apparently slipped in mud, again the up-pushed ridges between the fingers are the work of arthropods.

I asked this expert, "If further data and study proves the prints in question to be human and coexistence with dinosaurs is indicated, what happens to macroevolutionary theory? Is the model plastic enough to adapt for survival?"

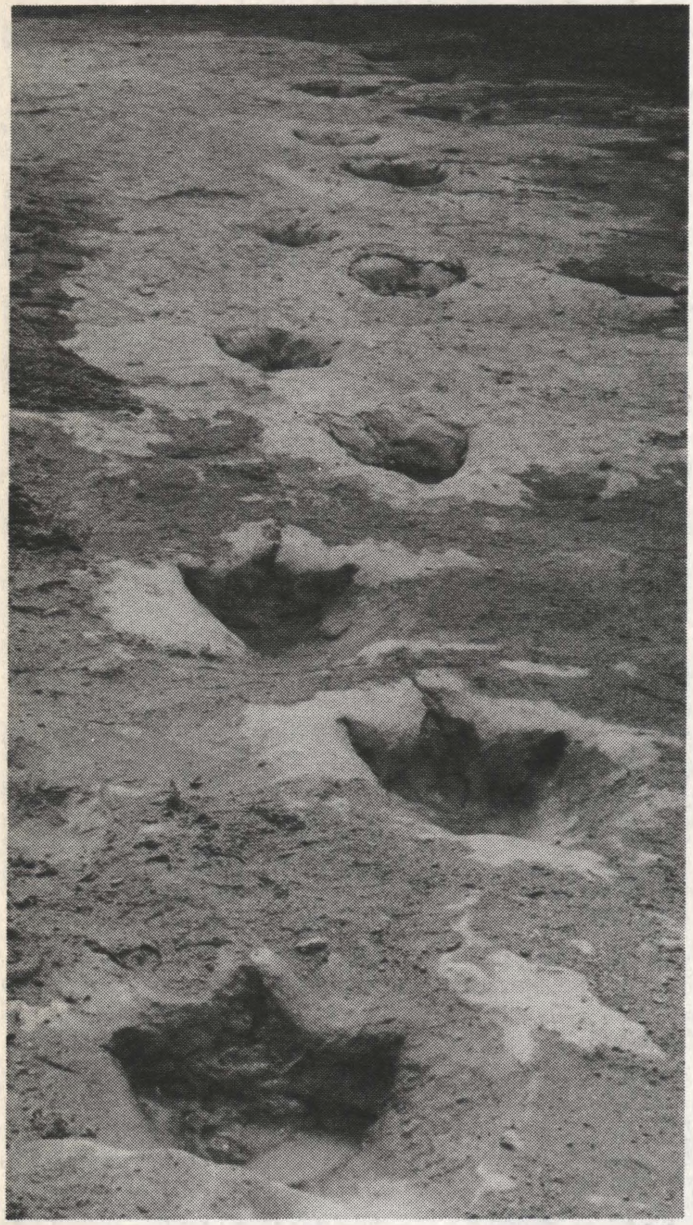
The response offered these points:

One localized find is not enough to be major. Dinosaurs survived longer than we've thought. These Paluxy River prints do not show 140-million-year-old man but show recent dinosaurs. Maybe the limestone softened after millions of years, humans walked in it and it rehardened, leaving a misleading record of the past. Maybe some type of dinosaur had human-like footprints. Macroevolution need not be cast aside.

Not fully satisfied with artistic arthropods repeatedly intersecting dinosaur prints, and also creating mock hominid handprints, I then turned to the creationist researchers. I was sent a 1983 videotape documentary, "Enemies Survived Together for Awhile." "Live" excavations of a hominid trail by scientists who arduously pried up a limestone shelf revealed "fresh" prints still coated in a type of soft marl. A non-creationist scientist

assisting in the dig came away a "believer." He subsequently began uncovering prints on his own, stating, that in his opinion, the prints were definitely those of man.

Man is not the only mammal represented in this Cretaceous strata along the Paluxy River; "...bear, sabre-toothed tiger, mammoth, *and* dinosaur tracks appear together."[8]



Dinosaur tracks in the Paluxy Riverbed.

Also from Texas, there are "prehistoric walls...in Cretaceous clay sediments near Rockwall...symmetrical blocks with beveled edges...partially grooved on one side."[9] A hammer 17 cm. long was found encased in solid limestone (dated a mere 300 million years old) in the same state near London, (See the magazine *Ex Nihilo*, April, 1983, p. 5 for photos). In Antelope Springs, Utah, there are sandal or "shoe prints in Cambrian strata (500-600 million years ago)."[10] This set of prints includes a fossil trilobite imbedded under the heel portion of one print. This is an *abbreviated* list of similar findings.

"There is always hope if we keep an unsolved problem fairly in view; there's none if we pretend it's not there."
—C.S. Lewis[11]

Bringing It All Together

"I will continue to root for heresy preached by the nonprofessional."
—Stephen Jay Gould[12]

"Straws in the wind are always worth catching. If you collect enough you can build bridges."
—F.W. Holiday[13]

"A new scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents, but rather because its opponents die and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it."
—Max Planck[14]

The case for coexistence of dinosaur and man is complex enough, yet along the way we bump into the amorphous giant of evolutionary theory towering over today's scientific frontiers. Its feet crumble and splinter as time wears on. When this colossus totters and sways, the dread of what damage may befall those closest to it prompts a flurry of activity in the local Darwinian pub. Let's go on, walking past the pub, to a safe place beyond the shadow of the giant.

Usually children's books about dinosaurs end with no explanation of their demise. The causes that are offered include "...changing climates engendered by shifting continents, or...disease, competition and collapse of food chains...variation in solar output,...cosmic radiation from nearby supernovae, to impacts of various bodies."[15]

It is written, "...geologic evidence constrains us to look for a contributing cause that is worldwide in effect, able to exterminate groups in all major habitats and geologically sudden for at least some of its results."[16] The idea of ancient global catastrophes is gaining popularity with some, while limited major disasters seem more believable to others.

Encounters with asteroids and the like have dotted the earth's past. Those rallying to the call for evidence look into the 550' deep meteorite crater in Arizona. Measuring 3,900' across, this astrobleme records an impressive impact that occurred an estimated 15 to 50 thousand years ago. Similar fossil collision sites in Canada exhibit crater lakes 19 miles wide. A nickel-rich complex in Canada was just confirmed another ancient impact zone. An asteroid or a 100,000 m.p.h. comet may be the extinction culprit. If theory compels one to choose, the menu offers a periodic rain of bombardment every 26-28 million years with dinosaurs being the most recent victims. Either Planet "X" or Nemesis, the death star, is predicted to be sending extinction projectiles our way again, like it or not.

Our planet has endured geomagnetic reversals, wandering poles, and the enigmatic carving of great submarine canyons by forces long ago. Data returning to us from the other planetary members of our solar system has revealed one scarred face after another. Krakatoa's volcanic explosion of 1883 gives us the view of a terrestrial event that caused 36,000 deaths by the resulting tidal wave, and darkened skies for years. Tunguska, Siberia in 1908 suffered a 12-megaton, above-ground-level explosion with a 12-mile-high fireball to follow.

Catastrophists under conviction by the evidence at hand, have their views reinforced as research continues. Fossils indicate death and relatively quick processes of burial under enough medium to prevent aerobic deterioration. Worldwide, however, we find thousands, even millions of animals packed together, apparently buried alive, in fossil graveyards. The famous woolly

mammoths of Siberia were found frozen, food in their mouths, and undigested food in their digestive tracts. As their meat thawed, trail dogs ate without ill effects. Herds of animals in Alaska, twisted together, torn apart, silently screaming from the frozen muck, look like some ghastly tossed salad. Have we ears to hear the story they tell?

There is a strong hint of sudden disaster(s) in most of the fossil record. Repeatedly we can infer; life, burial, death, and little evidence for the intervention of time.

In 1978, Robert Makela found dinosaur fossil nests with baby dino skeletons in Montana. Mother's skull was found nearby. More nests were found with eggs, newly hatched one-and-a-half-foot babies and somewhat older five-foot babies. What enveloped this normal, everyday situation so quickly and completely enough to survive until discovery?

In October 1983, a news article related the discovery of a "large bed, of fossilized fish in western Canada...one fish was preserved with its mouth open wide and another fish in its mouth,"[17] buried alive, appearing frozen in action.

How is it possible for "a fallen 90' fruit tree with ripe fruit and green leaves still on its branches,"[18] to place itself in the frozen ground of Russia's polar region? Fossil plants at both poles indicate warmer polar regions in the earth's past. There is an explanation.

An aqueous cataclysm followed a major collapse of a unique earth-cloud. This event pushed not only the majority of dinosaurs out the exit doors but many other life forms as well. While this deluge was tossing sediment everywhere, the earth's crust was being shifted and twisted. The extent of the reshaping of the pre-flood earth is subject to much debate. Just what type of flood are we considering? Has mankind ever fully realized what actually took place? Can it happen again?

There is the question of when this took place. Winkler, Cyr, Vail, Dollow, Patten, Morris, Westburg, and Moses have written about the "Flood of Noah." The writings of these men and others present evidence that not only dates a major flood but also alludes to a very different pre-flood earth-atmosphere model. Ancient written records detail a misty world where rain and rainbows were nonexistent. The atmosphere was literally encased within a "vapor canopy resting on top..."[19] Arguments raised against the Noachian deluge typically point out the present atmosphere's lack of enough moisture for a global flood. This is true for today but this logic will not hold water for an unknown yesterday.

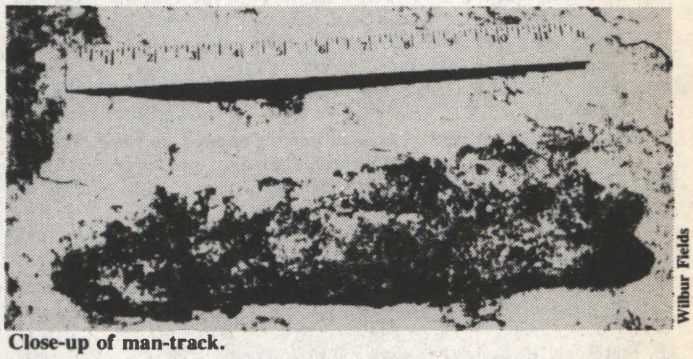
Something upset the equilibrium of this water-atmosphere and the "sky" fell as Chicken Little cried. For the duration of one year between 2400-4000 B.C. this flood devastated most life on this planet. In this gone-but-not-forgotten world various vapor-canopy effects would have left evidence for discovery.

One would be "the greenhouse effect...warmer atmosphere... uniform temperature from equator to poles...light winds, no storms and no rain!"[18] Perhaps increased atmospheric pressures in this world permitted easier lift for dinosaurs found in Texas with an astounding fifty-foot wingspan. Could such pressures have promoted the montrous sizes of flora and fauna? Hyper-oxygen levels would have been a welcome condition for such creatures as Ultrasaurs, standing some six-stories tall.

Such an atmosphere-earth model is quite controversial but not impossible. At least it throws light on such things as the sudden freezing and sediment burial of plants and animals, en masse, in the earth's polar regions. Once this vapor canopy was gone, drastic changes slashed this planet. Such marked climatic changes would have been unmercifully cruel to survivors — survivors which were still adapted to a world suddenly buried beneath the muck and still-receding flood waters.

Ocean-going creatures may have survived this worldwide catastrophe. Written records show that specific representatives of other fortunate creatures found refuge in a more than seaworthy ark. Various versions of this flood-survivor tale exists in the literature and culture of over 200 tribes and tongues around the world.

We have our Nessies, creatures of fresh-water lakes as well as the sea with their cryptozoological mysteries. Africa holds more surprises near Lake Tele. Expeditions continue into the Congo to find answers. Tales of monstrous winged lizards and folklore implicating a variety of dinosaurian relics persist. Soon we may find a live dinosaur or more human fossil artifacts inescapably situated among dinosaur remains.

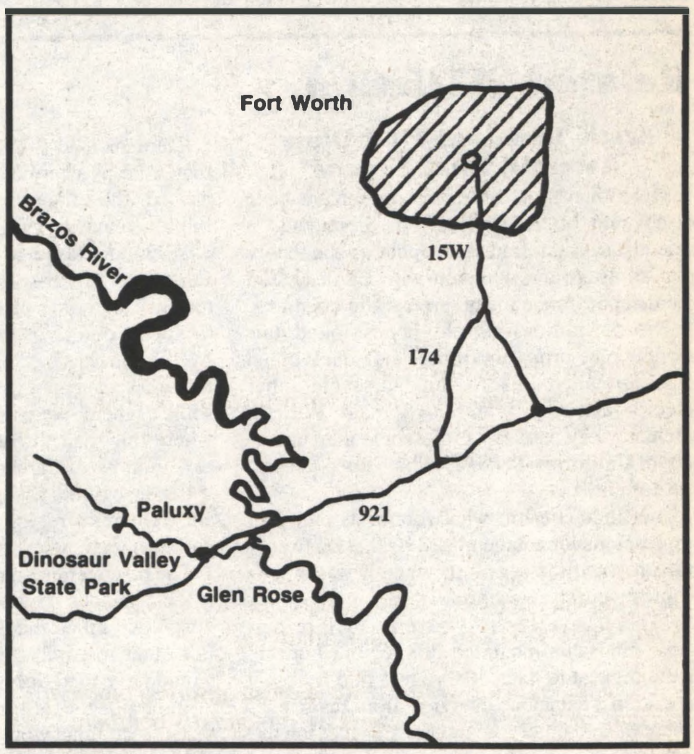


Wilbur Fields

Close-up of man-track.

In conclusion it should be noted that enough anomalous evidence exists to prompt further research into a saur/man coexistence theory. Along with such investigations, the ancient earth-cloud model is an intriguing springboard for revised studies in archaeoastronomy and paleobiology.

A cohesive scenario covering dinosaur extinction, puzzling fossil artifacts, extant dinosaurs, mechanisms for the Deluge of Noah, and the pre-flood world's peculiarities has been concisely presented here. It is hoped further study will be pursued by others.



Dinosaur Park located 60 miles from Forth Worth, TX.

Epilog

When the unthinkable rises from the murky depths and stares back at us, I venture to guess that *we* will be the ones more surprised.

"The human mind seems to have a remarkable faculty for self-induced blindness despite any amount of scientific training."

—F.W. Holiday[20]

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8. See Bibliography, #21, p. 7
9. See Bibliography, #10, photos 18-26
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18. See Bibliography, #30, p. 2
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20. See Bibliography, #17, p. 21



Related SITUation

Arctic Dinosaur Find Dims Asteroid Dust Theory

More than 150 dinosaur bones have been discovered on Alaska's North Slope, and a scientist says the find casts doubt on the theory that an asteroid's collision with Earth caused the disappearance of the prehistoric creatures.

The 65-million-year-old bones found this month come primarily from a large duck-billed dinosaur called a hadrosaur, but several other species also are represented, said William Clemens, paleontology professor at the University of California-Berkeley who helped unearth the fossils.

The finds confirm what footprints and skin impressions long have hinted — that dinosaurs once roamed the far north when it was a subtropical, coastal swamp.

"There have been discoveries before that show dinosaurs inhabited this region, but this is the biggest to date. It's a great find for us," he said in a telephone interview from Fairbanks, where he and other researchers are studying the fossils.

Clemens said the find discredits the theory that a large asteroid colliding with the Earth caused the dinosaur's extinction about 65 million years ago. The theory holds that a huge dust cloud caused by the impact plunged the Earth into darkness for up to two months, exterminating some plant and animal species.

Not all dinosaurs would have been affected by the darkness, Clemens said. "The North Slope discovery suggests that dinosaurs, at least some of them, were adapted to an environment where they had to contend with six weeks to two months of darkness."

Because of the tilt of the Earth's axis, Arctic and Antarctic regions experience months of darkness each year.

The discoveries do not rule out the possibility that a sudden temperature drop caused by the dust cloud killed the dinosaurs, Clemens said. But other research suggests that more species would have died during a sudden cooling, and even proponents of the asteroid theory concede that the cooling would have been less severe along ocean-tempered coastlines, he said.

The North Slope discovery also challenges scientists' views about how Arctic dinosaurs survived the annual periods of darkness, Clemens said.

Though research on that question is just beginning, Clemens speculated that the creatures could have survived a dark period, going dormant. "I'm wondering, if that Arctic winter night happened to be warm, whether the animals couldn't settle down for several weeks and not require much food," he said.

The climate of the Arctic was warmer 65 million years ago than it is today, Clemens said. The temperature during the age of dinosaurs appears to have fallen below freezing only rarely, he said.

The research team, comprised of scientists from Berkeley and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, started digging Aug. 1, and found bones the first day.

SOURCE: AP in The *Wilmington Morning News*, DE 8/15/85

CREDIT: H. Hollander



Lost and Sunken Lands of Scotland

Jon Douglas Singer, M.A.

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Scotland is best known for its scenery, folktales about lake monsters such as the Loch Ness creature, its castles, bagpipes and kilts. Yet there are also less well-known tales of lost lands and there is at least one legend of a sunken city. There is also geological evidence for the submerged countries and some archaeological discoveries have verified the existence of sunken ruins on the bottom of lakes or even on the ocean floor off the Caledonian coast.

Despite the abundance of evidence for underwater ruins and drowned lands, there are only a few legends about them. This is because for unknown reasons, the Pictish pagan myths of pre-Celtic Scotland were apparently never written down and preserved. The Picts and Celts of Scotland converted to Christianity very early, in the sixth and seventh centuries, and some of their traditions were lost. But it is rather odd that while the Christian priests of Irish and Welsh stock preserved their forefathers' pagan myths, none of the Pagan and Christian Pictish myths of lost lands or sunken cities have been preserved, if indeed, they ever had any such tales. Thus the tales we have today are ultimately of Irish Gaelic origin, for the Irish were the ancestors of the Gaels who sailed from Ireland to Caledonia. Nobody knows where the Picts came from or when they arrived. It is possible that some of their tales were inherited by the Celts, who translated them into Celtic. Some of the Scottish tales may be Welsh as that people also had settled in southern Scotland.

In a monograph on Hyperborea, the lost land of the far north, I mentioned a legend of the Shetland and Orkney Islands which seems to be of Norse origin. This tale describes the underwater town of Finfolkaheem, capital of the king of the Finfolk or Merfolk (mermen and mermaids). The name Finfolkaheem is Norse but the spirit of the legend and the description of the Finfolk king's dancing hall of crystal sounds Celtic. Perhaps the Norse colonists inherited the tale from the Celts. This tale could be dismissed as a myth except for the fact that in 1973 I. A. Morrison of the Geography Department of the University of Edinburgh found a submerged broch foundation in the Shetland Islands. The brochs are the famous prehistoric round stone towers of unknown origin.

One of the most detailed discussions of lost lands in Scotland can be found in Rev. James MacDougall's *Argyllshire Folk and Hero Tales* (1891). MacDougall discussed the country called Domhan Toir (World of Pursuit), a country beyond the western ocean. It has its unusual name because men are still trying to find it. In modern folklore America lies beyond it.

In the same work there is the legend of a second island beyond Domhan Toir called An T-Eilean Uaine an iomall an Domhan Toir. That aweseome name means, "The Green Island at the Extremity of the World." It is sometimes said to be floating like a vast natural raft or sometimes it vanishes and then reappears. At still other times it is called the Land Under Waves (a land identical to the Irish mythical place of the same name). The Land Under Waves was sometimes visible between Cape Wrath, Scotland and Cape Clear, Ireland. Oddly enough, as we shall see in a moment, there is geological evidence for recently submerged land around Scotland. There is also important archaeological evidence which was unknown until a few years ago. Had the Scots inherited an authentic tale from the prehistoric Picts which was then translated into Celtic?

The legend describes this second lost land as always green, with fruit trees, a mountain, valley, lake, and stream. Its coast has a rock wall where griffins nest. The inhabitants are magicians who have magical apples of two varieties; one kind can kill while the other can cure. Unlike the British legends of Avalon, however, the Green Island can only be visited by the living. In the Welsh tales of Avalon, that land can only be visited by the dead. One is tempted to suggest the possibility that here is a vague story about a pre-Christian Scottish voyage to some temperate region of North America.

In William Corliss' sourcebook, *Strange Planet, Vol.E1,* there is a terse mention of a lost land of Caerecennfinn located between Scotland and Ireland, and of a more well-known Scottish lost land, the drowned island of Inis Flaith. That latter country was located west of central Scotland and north of Northern Ireland. This land's name is sometimes spelled Flaith Inis or Flath Inis. The country was surrounded by clouds and tempests, so it is quite likely that skeptics might suggest that it was a tale inspired by mirages at sea and distant fogbanks which resembled rolling hills. Or it could be an authentic tale, made glamorous by bards' constant retellings and embellishments, describing a true sunken land.

Indeed, Peter Haining's book, *The Leprechaun's Kingdom,* claimed that the island was inhabited by druids who sank it accidently when they chanted the wrong spell. This quaint legend reminds us of modern theories of the more famous lost land of Atlantis, suggesting that wizards misused their power and sank the continent.

What geological evidence is there for the existence of sunken land around Scotland? In *The Island Sunrise* (1976) Jill Walsh included a map of Britain after the end of the last Ice Age. As recently as 6,000 B.C., the British Isles were connected to each other and to mainland Europe. Where the stormy North Sea now roars against the cliffs of Caledonia there was once dry land, a vast plain covered here and there with forests and marshes. This plain connected the Scottish Isles to both Scotland and the coasts of northwestern Germany as well as northeastern Ireland. The melting of glacial ice gradually increased the sea level so low-lying areas such as this nameless North Sea plain gradually submerged. Since prehistoric tribes had already walked across that land its submergence could have given rise to tales of sunken countries.

Geological evidence is supported by archaeological evidence of submerged land in Scotland. The most dramatic evidence for drowned regions in Caledonia comes from none other than Loch Ness, home of the legndary long-necked monsters. I will not discuss the evidence for and against their existence, but perhaps in antiquity prehistoric pre-Celtic Pictish tribes built temples to the creatures and sacrificed animals or people to them. For stone circles similar in appearance to Stonehenge have been discovered, quite by accident, at the bottom of the Loch.

The dramatic discovery of sunken stonework is reported in *Man: 12,000 Years Under the Sea* by Robert Burgess. Although this book is primarily an account of the hunt for sunken ships, it has some interesting data on the far more fascinating hunt for sunken cities and temples. A case in point is the Martin Klein Expedition to Loch Ness in 1970. Klein is the president of Klein Associates, Inc., an undersea research firm in Salem, New

Hampshire. In the late 1960's he became interested in the mystery of the Loch Ness Monster. He teamed up with a number of scientists who had already begun investigations using up-to-date technology such as advanced sonar devices which could detect one or more of the elusive creatures deep below the murky surface of the lake.

On one expedition they found a mammoth bone and evidence of cave openings in the sloping shores of Loch Ness. It seemed that there were miles of caverns beneath the area around Loch Ness. On one occasion, around 1976, a team of divers found a stone circle 30 feet underwater. It actually consisted of two concentric circles, the outer one, 30 feet in diameter and the inner one, 15 feet across. On another expedition, the divers found in even deeper water (at depths of over 80 feet) two large stone circles, one 100 feet in diameter and the second one, 50 feet across. On a sonargraph, taken by sonar measurements, it appeared that twenty dots, possibly stone piles or menhirs, connected the two rings. At least two separate sites of stonework, clearly the work of ancient people and not natural rock formations, were found on several dives. These two sites were somewhat jokingly referred to as "Kleinhenge I and Kleinhenge II." A photograph of the Kleinhenge I site, depicting an area seventy-five meters long, shows an extraordinarily complex array of stone circles, stone rings, stone hourglass-shaped structures (as seen from above) and a bizarre structure, which, when viewed from above, resembles a human spine. The discoverers all agree that these are clearly man-made buildings of some sort. The mystery is how they arrived at the bottom of the loch. These structures must have been built at a time when these portions of the lake were still dry land. Since they are similar in appearance to Stonehenge and its contemporary monuments, they must be at least 4,500 years old, dating to the middle of the Bronze Age, the time of the last widespread submergence in the British Isles and northwestern Europe. But considering the great depth of the ruins, they could be even older than that. We won't know until carbon-14 dates are obtained or other scientific methods of determining the age of ancient sites are applied there.

It is not improbable that some of the Scottish legends of sunken lands could have been derived from lost Pictish tales inherited from prehistoric tribes' accounts of the submergence of stone structures such as those in Loch Ness. I wonder if the Arthurian legend of the Lady in the Lake could be a distorted, half-forgotten myth of a prehistoric water-cult.

In *Atlantean Traditions in Ancient Britain,* Anthony Roberts suggested that many of the pre-Celtic megalithic structures of Scotland could have been built by colonists from Atlantis. He did not mention the legends of Domhan Toir or Inis Flaith. Nor did he refer to the remarkable discoveries made by Klein and his divers. Nevertheless, the geological evidence presented by Walsh and the stone circles on the bottom of Loch Ness may be evidence supporting the old saying that even some of the wildest theories and the strangest myths may ultimately be based on fact.

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Note 1.

Fridtjof Nansen in Vol. I, p. 377 of *In Northern Mists* (New York, 1969) wrote that a Norse writer named Bjorn Jonsson of Skardsa called the mythical island of Frisland south of Iceland "Villi-Skotland." The term *Villi* or *Villu* ment mirage or illusion; Villi-Skotland was either one of those phantom islands occasionally encountered in obscure sea stories, or it could have been a real volcanic island which sank.

Note 2

After completing this report an article on submerged Iron Age settlements in Scotland came to my attention. T. N. Dixon of the Institute of Maritime Archaeology at the University of St. Andrews in St. Andrews, Scotland, reported on the discovery and excavation of dozens of sunken settlements in the Scottish lochs.[1] Scientific surveys and excavations of these sites were conducted by members of the Edinburgh University Department of Archaeology and the Edinburgh University Subaqua Club. The most recent series of surveys and digs took place between 1973 and 1981.

In Loch Awe, Dr. I. Morrison and Dr. D.McArdle led teams which discovered in 1973 no less than twenty crannogs. Crannogs are prehistoric settlements (towns, villages or individual houses) built atop artificial mounds which are sometimes surrouded by stockades of wooden stakes. Some crannogs may date to the Bronze Age but most date to the Iron Age after 1,000 B.C. At about the same time, the same team found seventeen crannogs in Loch Tay. Twenty-five of the thirty-seven crannogs were completely submerged all year or for most of the year. The sites were submerged as lake levels increased.

T. N. Dixon discussed the results of the 1980 excavation of a crannog called the Oakbank Crannog because it is near Oakbank Cottage in Fernan village on the north coast of Loch Tay. The crannog remains consisted of a flat-topped mound constructed of large stones. Oak posts left by the original builders were still preserved. The mound was between fourteen and eighteen meters across and 2.5 meters high. Aside from wooden posts a whistle, part of a bucket, a potsherd of Bronze or Iron Age style and a spindle whorl were among the more interesting artifacts unearthed. Dixon compared the crannog to others in Loch Tay and Milton Loch which had been dated by the carbon-14 method. He suggested that it dated to between 475 B.C. and the first century B.C. He did not refer to any legends about sunken towns, however.

Note 3.

More evidence of submerged land around Scotland can be found in Herbert Schutz's book, *The Prehistory of Germanic Europe.*[2] On page 32 Schutz has a map of Europe in 14,000-12,000 B.C. There is a depiction of the former coastline of northwestern Europe. Of interest to us is the now-vanished plain which connected Britain to Denmark, northwest Germany and the Low Countries. Part of this land was attached to eastern Scotland. At this time, western Europe was inhabited by several Stone Age cultures. The one in the North Sea area was the so-called Hamburgians. We do not know what they called themselves as they lacked writing. That name is derived from Hamburg, Germany, where artifacts of that culture were first found and identified as belonging to a distinct people. The people hunted reindeer.

Three thousand years later, the sea level changed and the northwesternmost part of the North Sea land began to sink. The portion near Scotland submerged except for a narrow region around the eastern coasts of the Lowlands. The rest of the North Sea plain remained above the waves for several thousand more years. The people of this time were called the Ahrensburgians

by archaeologists because the first identified relics of their culture were unearthed near or at Ahrensburg, Germany. Those people were also reindeer hunters who lived around 9,000 B.C. That, oddly enough, is the same time in which the legendary continent of Atlantis sank. Were the original Atlanteans primitive reindeer hunters? It is an interesting thought.

Note Number 4

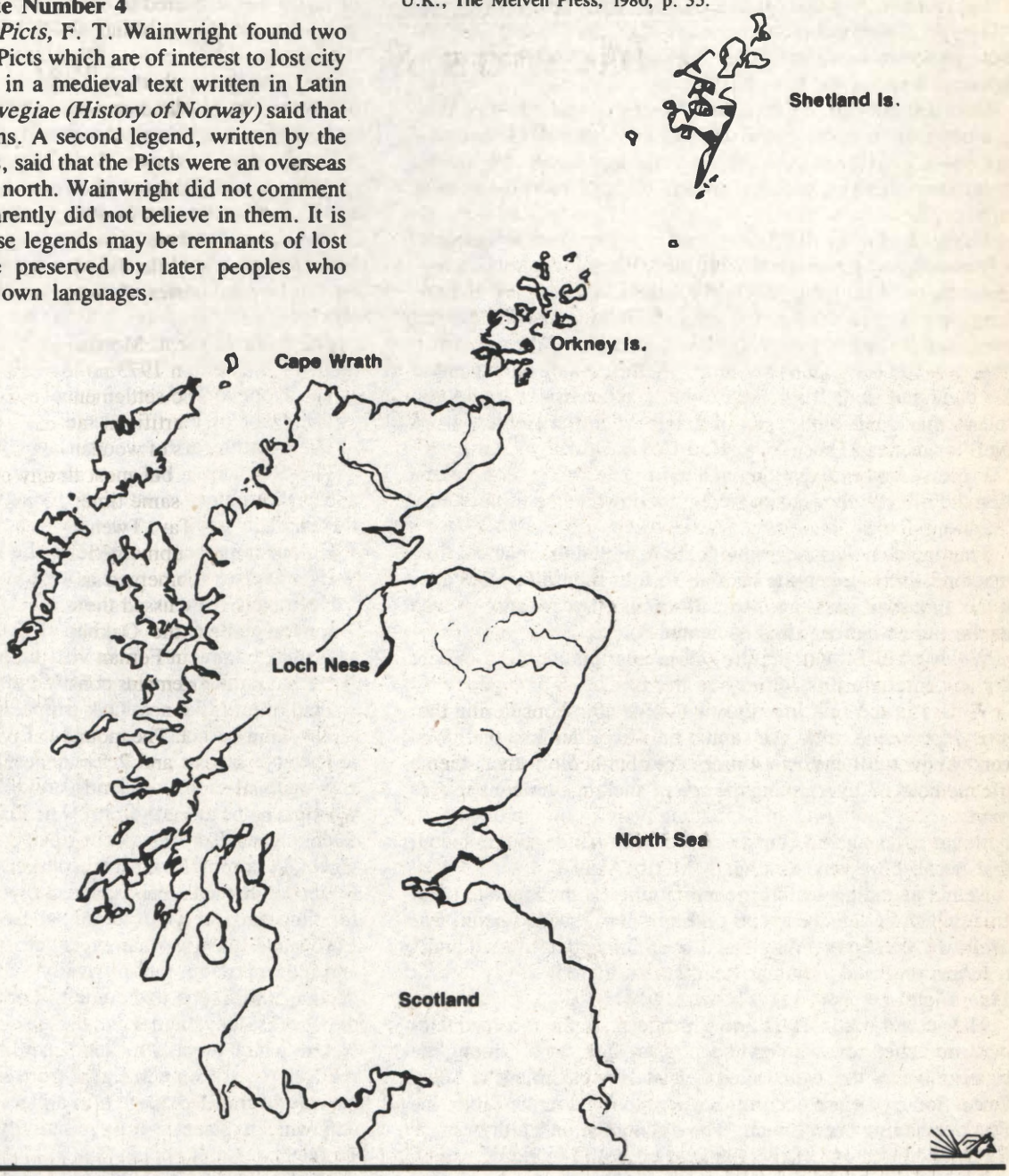
In *The Problem of the Picts,* F. T. Wainwright found two obscure legends about the Picts which are of interest to lost city hunters. The first legend, in a medieval text written in Latin and entitled, *Historia Norwegiae (History of Norway)* said that the Picts built walled towns. A second legend, written by the Dark Age historian, Gildas, said that the Picts were an overseas people who came from the north. Wainwright did not comment on these legends and apparently did not believe in them. It is possible, though, that these legends may be remnants of lost Pictish tales which were preserved by later peoples who translated them into their own languages.

Source

[1]Dixon, T. N., "Preliminary excavation of Oakbank Crannog, Loch Tay: interim report," *The International Journal of Nautical Archaeology and Underwater Exploration,* February, 1981, pp. 15-21.

[2]Schutz, Herbert, *The Prehistory of Germanic Europe,* New Haven, Yale University Press, 1983.

[3]Wainwright, F.T., editor, et al, *The Problem of the Picts,* Porth, Scotland, U.K., The Melven Press, 1980, p. 35.



Related SITUation

4 Roman Forts Found In Scotland

An aerial survey of Scotland has led to the discovery of four Roman forts and hundreds of other unrecorded ancient structures, the Scottish Office announced in a statement.

The buried edifices showed up in aerial photographs because the exceptionally dry summer weather in certain regions had sharpened the contracts in height and color of vegetation at the outlines of the structures, the statement said.

The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, which ordered the survey, said the biggest find was a three-acre Roman fort near Drumlanraig Castle in Dumfries, a southwestern county that straddles the English border.

The fort is surrounded by a complex system of ditches and was probably occupied several times in the late first century and in the middle of the second century, the commission said.

Two smaller forts were found in the same region and a fourth was spotted four miles east of Lanark, some 20 miles southeast of Glasgow.

Among other findings were about 20 "souterrains" — mysterious stonewalled underground constructions — between Dundee and Perth along the eastern Scottish coast, it said.

The Romans came to Britain in 43 A.D. and pulled out some 400 years later.

SOURCE: AP in The *Asbury Park Press,* N.J. 7/23/85

CREDIT: Member #432

The Wars Of Gods And Men

by Zecharia Sitchin

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I invite you to join me in a Journey Into Time. ...

To enter, with me, a magical time machine that can take you both backwards and forwards, that can show you the future — because it can show you the past.

It is a highly gratifying, enlightening, and mind-boggling journey that each and every one can undertake. It is a journey for which you do not need sophisticated spacecraft or elaborate computers. All you need is just one piece of equipment: your mind.

I have chosen to call this time machine The Earth Chronicles. My own first step into it had taken place when I was a schoolboy, fortunate to be studying the Old Testament in its original Hebrew language. We reached chapter six of Genesis and the teacher explained that when the Deluge had occurred was the time when "there were giants upon the Earth." At this, young Sitchin raised his hand and said: "But excuse me, teacher, Sir, why do you tell us that the Bible speaks of giants when the Hebrew word Nefilim means 'Those Who Had Come Down' to Earth?"

I received no explanation but a reprimand: "You don't question the Bible," the teacher said. "Sit down and don't ask silly questions."

That incident was the point where *I* entered the magical time machine. It has taken me back — to four thousand years ago, to six thousand years ago, to half a million years ago — even to the time when Earth was created.

Where shall I invite you to join me on this journey? Where do *you* enter, in this Journey to the Past?

We are in the fourth century B.C.; we are about to join that most renowned Greek, Alexander the Great. He had set out on his own quest, on his own Journey Into Time. He went in search of the Past. Why? Because he was seeking the Future. He journeyed, conquering and subduing peoples on the one hand, building cities and an empire on the other hand; and he did all that because he was seeking IMMORTALITY.

Man's unending search for immortality is the vantage point from which I relate the events on Earth in my second book, *The Stairway to Heaven.* Why has it been imbedded in mankind's recollections, and in human beliefs, that there is a way to beat Man's fate?

The answer lies in The Earth Chronicles, in the recorded tales of a privileged few who had been taken aloft, to be among the superior beings that were called Celestials or Guardians or Shiny Ones. Some of those occurrences are recorded in the Bible, the first one having been Enoch, who did not die on Earth because he had been taken off the Earth to be with the Lord.

That Alexander the Great was aware of such traditions — even of the incidents mentioned in the Old Testament — is evident from the writings of the historians he took along to record his feats. He was certainly aware of the Egyptian traditions of Pharaohs who — embarked on a "journey to the afterlife" because they were demigods — offspring of the mating of a Neteru with a human female. And the first destination of Alexander was Egypt because it had been whispered in the court of Macedonia that Alexander's real father was a god — the *Egyptian* god Ra-Amon, meaning "RA, the Hidden One."

Arriving in Egypt, Alexander first followed the custom of a pilgrimage to the sacred city Anu, the one called by the Greeks Heliopolis. Lying astride the Great Pyramids and the Sphinx of Giza, the shrine to the Great God had on display, available to be seen once a year, the actual — yes, the actual — celestial barge in which the great god had arrived in Egypt from the skies. But the god himself was no longer there; he had become a "hidden one;" and Alexander was directed by the priests to go to a distant oasis in the western desert, there to receive an oracle.

Was it true, he asked, that Pharaohs, if they were the sons of gods, could go to a certain place and there be taken aloft, and then become as immortal as the gods?

In answer, the priest read to him from the Pyramid Texts. Describing a Pharaoh's "Journey to the Afterlife," the texts related how he had gone to a place from which the "Boat of Heaven" was launched. Putting on a special suit, he was strapped to a seat in the rocketship's nose, between two pilots; and then, on a command,

The Door to Heaven is open!
The Door of Earth is open!
The aperture of the celestial window is open!
The Stairway To Heaven is open. ...

and as the engines roar and the rocketship rises and is skyborne, the Pharaoh is on his way —

He encompasses the sky like the god Ra,
He traverses the sky like the god Thoth,
He travels over the regions of Horus,
He travels over the regions of Seth.
He has completely encircled the heavens twice,
He has orbited over the two lands of Egypt. ...
The king is like a falcon, surpassing the falcons;
The king has become a Great Falcon.

The ancient greeks were fascinated by their discovery that the Egyptians of their time held similar beliefs in superior beings who had come to Earth from "The Planet of Millions of Years." Such ancient historians-cum-travelers as Herodotus recounted Egyptian chronicles of dynasties of demigods who had ruled Egypt before the Pharaohs, and of divine beings who had reigned for thousands of years before the demigods. Like the Indo-Europeans, the Egyptians recalled and recorded tales of love and intermarriage, and of rivalry and war, among the descendants of those who had come to Earth from the heavens. Like the Greeks, they did not call those beings gods; they called them Neteru which literally meant "guardians." And they stated that the Neteru had come to Egypt from elsewhere: from the south, by way of the Red Sea; from a place called UR-TA, meaning "the ancient place," or (read literally), from "the place called Ur."

The word "Ur" should ring a bell. It rang a bell for me. Ur was the birthplace of Abraham, the Hebrew patriarch: a city in ancient Mesopotamia, today's Iraq. The ancient Greeks called that land Chaldea — the land of Babylon.

It was therefore no surprise for Alexander when he heard the words of the oracle. Reportedly, his semi-divine ancestry was confirmed; but as to his fate and future, he was told that he must go on searching. First he had to go to another shrine in Nubia; then to the Sinai Peninsula; and finally to Babylon. There he did come face to face with the god he was looking for. But the god that had reigned over Egypt as RA, "The Bright One," and had become AMON, "The Hidden One" — the god that was known to the Babylonians as MARDUK, "The Pure Son"

— was dead. There was no one to take Alexander up into the Heavens. ...

Only then did Alexander understand the oracle. He would be immortal — but only by name, by being remembered — not physically. For he had found out that even the Shiny Ones, the Celestials, the Immortals of Greek tales — even they — were fated to eventually die, because they, like men, were once born.

What was so special about Babylon, the city whose name meant "Gateway of the Gods?"

The answer was provided by archeology. In 1843, Paul Emile Botta conducted the first systematic excavation at a site near Mosul, in northern Iraq. It turned out to be the royal city of the Assyrian King Sargon II. A few years later, Henry Layard discovered ten miles away the remains of a majestic city; its tablets and inscriptions revealed that its name was Nineveh; it was the very same Assyrian capital we find mentioned in the Bible. Then the remains of a city named Nimrud were found and the scholars began to treat the biblical information with more respect, for Nimrud is mentioned in the Book of Genesis (chapter 10) together with Nineveh and other ancient cities and ancient kingdoms. By 1914, when archeologists led by Walter Andrae excavated Ashur, *all* these ancient cities mentioned in the Bible were found, one after the other!

Assyria and Babylonia had come back to life — just as stated in the Bible. But the Bible also spoke of even earlier cities, such as Erech and Ur; and it spoke of a land named Shin'ar as the very first place where mankind built cities after the Great Flood. And the scholars of a century ago asked themselves, Could there really have been a civilization, with royal cities and temples and palaces, with priests and kings, even before Assyria and before Babylonia? The possibility seemed amazing, for Assyria and Babylonia had already taken us back almost four thousand years.

Well, as we now know, this indeed was the case. The further the archeologists went south in Mesopotamia, in the great valley between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, the older were the remains they dug up. More and more frequently they came upon inscriptions that were not in Assyrian or Babylonian but in a strange language which was obviously older. The biblical city of Erech was found, and Ur was found, and other great cities. As we now know, these were the remains of the civilization referred to in the Bible as Shin'ar. Today we call that land Sumer, but the correct pronounciation is SHumer. Would it surprise you to learn that the name of that ancient land meant "Land of the Guardians?" It is the exact same name by which the Egyptians called their gods.

It is in my first book, *The Twelfth Planet*, that I take you back in my time machine to that ancient civilization. It is a journey that transports us back in time — not just through the two thousand years that had passed since the beginning of the Christian era, and not yet another two thousand years to the days of Abraham, but still another two thousand years — to an amazing *six thousand* years ago.

It is there that our most ancient available source, the Old Testament places mankind's earliest events: the Garden of Eden; the Deluge; the Tower of Babel (i.e., Babylon). It was from there that mankind spread, first dividing into the three branches of Shem, Ham and Japhet, then to their descended nation-tribes. It was there that Man's one language was confused, to become many tongues. It was there that the mythical land of Shin'ar was, where Ur was: the birthplace of Abraham, the fountainhead of the Hebrews.

We tend to think of human progress as a process of gradual evolution. The fact that puzzles all scholars is that in Shumer (or Sumer) a high civilization blossomed out *suddenly* and *unexpectedly*. Without a precedent, from "nowhere," there sprang out a civilization that had great cities, high-rise temples, palaces, courts of justice, commerce, shipping, irrigation, metallurgy, mathematics, medicine; whose people included kings and priests, judges and doctors, dancers and musicians. ... and above all, a written language, scribes, schools, a literature, epic tales and poems. Every aspect of a high civilization that we can think of had its "first," its beginning, in Sumer.

Most amazing of all was the Sumerian knowledge in the field of astronomy. The astonishing fact is that all the principles of a spherical astronomy, which is the basis of modern astronomy, were inherited by us from the Sumerians. The concept of a celestial sphere, an axis, the plane of orbit, the circle of 360 degrees, the grouping of stars into constellations, the division of the skies into twelve "houses" of the Zodiac — even the pictorial depiction of the Zodiacs and their names — everything you can think of, we find in the Sumerian astronomical tablets.

We learned at school that Copernicus, in 1543, was first to suggest that the Sun and not the Earth is in the center of our planetary system. Not so! The Sumerians knew the true composition of our solar system and they even depicted it. One such depiction is found on a cylinder seal that is now kept in the Museum of Near Eastern Antiquities in East Berlin. I reproduced it in my first book, and it clearly shows the sun in the center, surrounded by all the other members of the solar system. all in the correct order and in their relative sizes (see Fig 1).

The familiarity of the Sumerians, thousands of years ago, with all these members of the solar system is astounding. Until rather recently, we ourselves did not know that there were more planets beyond Saturn. Uranus was discovered in 1781. It may tell us something about our ignorance if we realize that when Botta and Layard were discovering in Mesopotamia the tablets with all this astronomical information, we did not even know of the existence of Neptune; for Neptune was discovered only in 1846. And Pluto, the so-called "outermost planet," was found not visually but mathematically only in 1930 — just over fifty years ago.

And yet, six thousand years ago, the Sumerians knew all that! How?

How, to compound the puzzle, could they have written down texts that actually describe the outer planets, calling Neptune "Planet of Swamplands" and Uranus "Planet of Bright Greenish Life," and giving Mars a name that indicated the presence of water on it? How could they measure and record the *distances* between the planets? And for what purpose?

How explain the fact that they called Earth "The Seventh?" We all know, don't we, that Earth is the *third* planet from the Sun, preceded by Mercury and Venus?

But this very puzzle is the clue to the answer: For Earth *is indeed the seventh planet — if one begins counting from the outside going inwards:* Pluto would be the first, Neptune the second, Uranus the third, Saturn the fourth, Jupiter the fifth, Mars the sixth — and Earth would be the seventh planet!

Now, who would count from the outside inwards? Only someone who is farther away from the Sun than the rest of us, someone whose own home planet is more distant than all the other planets. Who could that "someone" be?

To all these puzzles, our scholars have no answers. But the Sumerians did have an answer. "All that we know," they said in their tablets, "was taught to us by the Anunnaki."

The Anunnaki. A most interesting word! Literally it meant "Those Who From Heaven Came to Earth" — the very meaning of the Hebrew (biblical) word NEFILIM. And, more astounding: In several places in the Old Testament it is clearly



Fig. 1 - Sumerian depiction of the solar system.

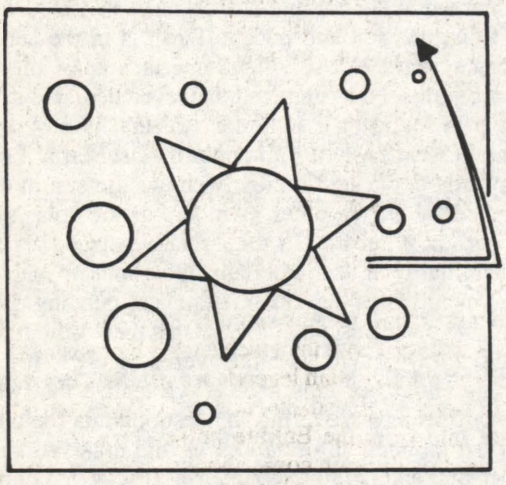


Fig. 2 - Enlargement of Sumerian celestial map.

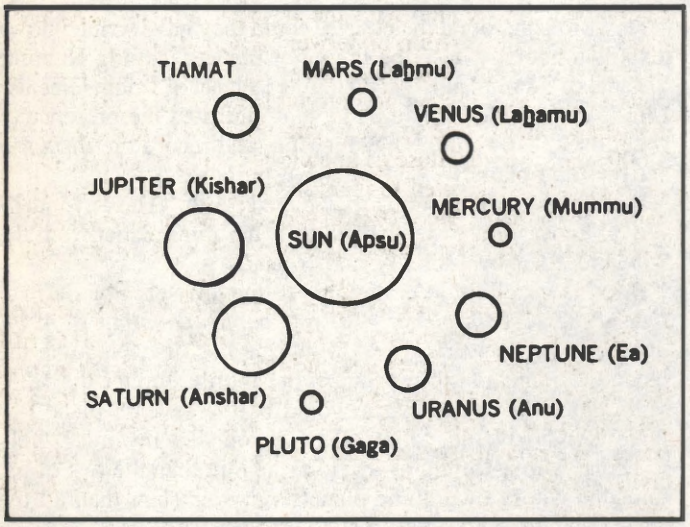


Fig. 3 - Related celestial etymological names.

Figs. 1, 2 & 3 above are from Z. Sitchen's book *The Twelfth Planet* (figures 99, 101 & 105 respectively).

stated that the Nefilim and the *Anakim* were one and the same. In my latest book, *The Wars of Gods and Men,* among the many insights into the meaning of biblical terms, I show what should have been evident by now: that *Anakim* was simply the Hebrew spelling or pronunciation of the Sumerian word *Anunnaki.* The biblical Nefilim, those who had come down to Earth, those who had married the daughters of Man, were thus one and the same with the Sumerian Anunnaki, their so-called "gods."

Who were these Anunnaki? Where did they come from, and why?

For an answer, let us put our time machine in motion again. Let us join the ancient peoples of Mesopotamia, gathered for their New Year Festival. Highlight of the celebration was the reading, after sundown on a certain night, of a cosmological poem. It was first written down by the Sumerians; archeologists have found its Babylonian version. It is titled *Enuma Elish.* Scholars treat it as a myth, but as a thorough analysis in my first book shows, it was a scientific text. Though written as a dramatic tale for the masses, it describes with great knowledge how our solar system came into being. Step by step, it describes the order in which the planets were created, and it tells us that between Mars and Jupiter there existed a very old planet called TIAMAT — "Mother of Life." But not too long after these planets were formed, an "invader" appeared from outer space. The Sumerians called it NIBIRU; the Babylonians named it MARDUK, in honor of their national god.

Dramatically, we read how Marduk was drawn into the solar system by the gravitational pull of the outer planets. More and more its orbit bent inward towards Tiamat, and finally the two met in a series of collisions.

As a result of that "celestial battle," Tiamat broke into two parts. One part was smashed to bits and pieces and became the asteroid belt and the comets. The other intact half was thrust into a new orbit and became the planet Earth. Pulled with it to the new orbit was the chief satellite of Tiamat — "Kingu," our Moon. Thus, as the Book of Genesis states, were the "Hammered Bracelet" and the Earth created.

But what happened to the "invader," to Marduk?

Marduk was caught in orbit around the Sun in a great elliptical orbit, like a comet. Some comets, as we know, have vast orbits that last tens of thousands of years. The orbit of Marduk, according to the Sumerians, lasts 3,600 years; once every 3,600 years it appears between Jupiter and Mars. On such occasions it is seen from Earth as a bright celestial body which shines even in daytime. Pictorially it was represented as a high-orbiting, "winged" planet, a radiating planet. Do not be puzzled by the fact that its symbol was the *Cross*; for its Sumerian name, Nibiru, meant "Planet of the Crossing."

In the nine years since my first book was published, our knowledge of the solar system has greatly advanced. Manned and unmanned flights to the Moon have discovered that it was subjected to catastrophic collisions some four billion years ago. We have found out that the distant planets have satellites — that there is water, perhaps not all of it frozen, upon them — that they have atmospheres. On Mars there is evidence of water erosion and other enigmas. On our own planet, the continents were indeed all on one side at one time and a great cleft — the Pacific basin — as on the other side. All that confirms the Sumerian information!

Were they right in saying that the Anunnaki who had come from Nibiru had taught them all that? Well, isn't it really asking, Were they right in the contention that there exists such a twelfth member of our solar system?

Two years *after* my first book was published, astronomers

at the U.S. Naval Observatory concluded that irregularities in the orbit of Pluto suggested the existence of such a celestial body farther out. Two years *after* my second book was published, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration agreed, and put the two Pioneer spacecraft, which were by then headed beyond Jupiter and Saturn, on such trajectories that they could, in time, determine the mass and distance of such a celestial body. And last year, IRAS — the infra-red astronomical spacecraft geared to locate celestial bodies that reflect infra-red light — had indeed located such a body, some four times the size of Earth, about where a 3,600-year orbit would put it — *moving towards* Earth!

This information, I regret to say, came to be known only through an unscheduled interview by the science editor of the *Washington Post* with two astronomers involved in the project. Right away, NASA and all other agencies involved in the IRAS project clamped down a curtain of silence. When asked about the disclosures by the two astronomers, the official answer was: *They don't know what they are talking about...*

So — is there another planet out there?

The answer is YES. And when it is found, I will insist that it be given its ancient Sumerian name, Nibiru. If we accept the Sumerian writings as factual information, if we are willing to take the Bible more literally, we can re-create a scenario of what really happened in prehistory. I have told the story piecemeal in my first two books. In my latest book, *The Wars of Gods and Men,* I put the chronology together, event-after-event, continuously co-related with the Bible.

The dramatic tale of these Ancient Astronauts begins on their own planet Nibiru some 450,000 years ago. There, life faces slow extinction as the planet's atmosphere erodes. There are great debates on what to do; there are disagreements, rivalries, struggles. A member of the royal family, Anu, seizes power in a coup d'etat. The deposed ruler, Alalu, escapes in a spaceship with his loyal followers and crash-lands on Earth. Ironically, it is these fugitives who discover that Earth has gold — gold whose particles, when suspended in Nibiru's atmosphere, can assure survival on that planet.

Should they let Nibiru perish and be its only survivors on an alien planet, or should they disclose their discovery? In exchange for a pardon, they tell the new rulers of Nibiru about the gold. And one of their years later (but 3,600 Earth-years later) the first group of 50 Anunnaki lands on Earth. They are led by Enki, a son of Anu, a scientist of great genius. He establishes Eridu (Earth Station 1) on the shores of the Persian Gulf.

The plan is to extract the gold from the saltwaters of the gulf. More Anunnaki arrive on Earth, including Enki's half-sister Ninharsag (to serve as chief medical officer) and his son Marduk. But as the planet completes orbit after orbit, the extraction of the gold proves unsatisfactory; and, 416,000 years ago, Anu arrives on Earth with Enlil, the heir apparent. It is decided to obtain the vital gold by mining it in southern Africa. Drawing lots, Enlil wins command of Earth mission; Enki is relegated to Africa, and thus are planted the seeds of future conflict on Earth!

Seven functional settlements in southern Mesopotamia include a spaceport (Sippar), mission control center (Nippur), a metallurgical center (Badtibira), and a medical center (Shuruppak). The ores arrive by ships from Africa; the refined metal is sent aloft to orbiters manned by Igigi, then transferred to spaceships arriving periodically from Nibiru.

Eighteen Nibiru-years after the first landing there are 600 Anunnaki on Earth and an additional 300 in the skies, manning the orbiters and shuttles. The latter are called Igigi meaning "Those Who Observe and See."

Gaining the support of the Igigi, and with Enki's connivance, Alalu's grandson attempts to seize mastery over Earth. It is the War of the Olden Gods; it is won by the Enlilites. It is only the first of a series of Wars of the Gods on this planet Earth — wars which eventually also engulfted mankind.

Have I taken you, in our time machine, too far back? Are we traveling too fast? Or does it all sound as if I were reading to you the script of a science-fiction movie?

Indeed, on the cover of one of my books the publisher found it necessary to state in bold letters: "This is NOT science-fiction." Everything I have been describing is told in the ancient texts, first written on the Sumerian clay tablets, then copied and translated by the Babylonians and Assyrians, the Egyptians and the Hebrews, the Greeks and the Phoenicians.

It is all there, in these ancient texts, accompanied by ancient pictures. But all along, all the scholars have treated these writings as products of primitive imaginations; in other words: as *mythology*. I asked myself when I began my research 30 years ago, and I ask you to ask yourself: What if all these "mythologies" are *not* fiction, not imagination? What if they are, instead, records of what ancient men heard from their "gods," — not fairy-tales, but records of prehistoric events that had actually taken place?

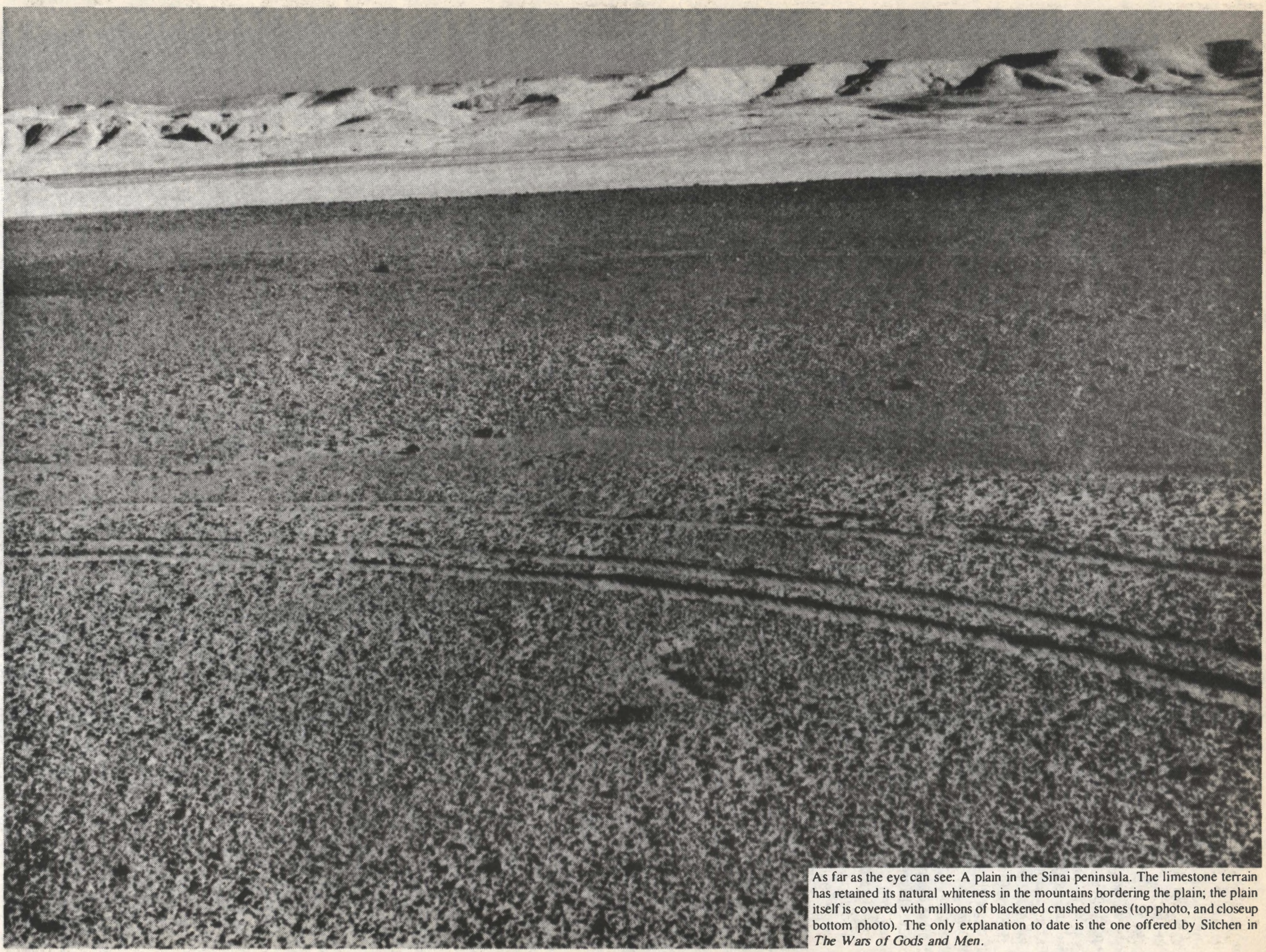
This is how, in my series The Earth Chronicles, the ancient Greek tales of the battles of Zeus and the wars with the Titans assume a realistic meaning, as do the Vedic (Hindu-Aryan) tales of the wars of Indra and Vritra. The Who and the Why and also the When questions are answered for the first time. And, above all, a link is forged with the much earlier Egyptian and Sumerian tales. For in the Egyptian legends we get the story of the House and Enki and his descendants, and in the Sumerian tales the conflicts are told from the Enlilite point of view.

How did this division come about? For the answer, we have to stop our time machine in the days of the Deluge — the very days of chapter six of Genesis. For then, as I detail in my third book, the Sumerian and the biblical stories merge into one, complement each other and explain each other.

The Deluge was a watershed in events on Earth, more than figuratively. In its aftermath the whole relationship between mankind and the Nefilim underwent a complete change. Man — at first a primitive servant, then a sexual plaything — was now needed as a partner for survival and reconstruction on a devastated planet. And so, each time Nibiru neared Earth, every 3,600 years, another dose of knowledge, of technology, of advancement, was granted to mankind. You can check the textbooks, if you wish; from Paleolithic to Mesolithic to Neolithic and the Sumerian civilization, the intervals were always 3,600 years!

The ancient chronicles describe how the Anunnaki decided to interpose an intermediary, a king, between themselves and the human masses — and how they divided the Earth among themselves and mankind, granting mankind three regions and keeping one an exclusive or "sacred" region for their own purposes. We now recognize Man's three regions as the distinct civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt and the Indus River civilization.

This division is echoed in the "table of nations" in chapter ten of Genesis: the three branches of mankind named after the three sons of Noah. There were the lands of Ham, the African domains, granted to the six sons of Enki; the lands of Japhet, the Indo-European lands, granted to the youngest son of Enlil and to his grand-daughter, the one called Ishtar; and in-between were the lands of Shem, which meant the "Lands of the Rocket-



As far as the eye can see: A plain in the Sinai peninsula. The limestone terrain has retained its natural whiteness in the mountains bordering the plain; the plain itself is covered with millions of blackened crushed stones (top photo, and closeup bottom photo). The only explanation to date is the one offered by Sitchen in *The Wars of Gods and Men*.

Figure 4



Figure 5

ships," the lands known today as Lebanon and Israel. And then there was the sacred fourth region. It was called Tilmun, literally meaning "Land of the Missiles." It was, as I show with considerable evidence, in the Sinai Peninsula.

Our attention should focus now on the space facilities because some of them *still exist*, either as they were built in those ancient days, or as sites deemed holy and sacred to this very day.

Before the Deluge, the spaceport was in Mesopotamia, at a place called Sippar; and I have shown in my first book how all the other places were located in relation to it, how the Holy City of Nippur was in the center, serving as mission control center, and how the landing corridor was marked out, its tip based on the twin peaks of Ararat. But all of that was totally destroyed by the Deluge, buried under millions of tons of mud.

Planning the post-diluvial space facilities, the Anunnaki again focused the tip of the landing corridor on the twin peaks of Ararat. Then they incorporated into the plan a vast platform that remained intact from the days before the Deluge. We know of its ancient existence because it played a role in the adventures of Gilgamesh — a Sumerian king who, 2,500 years before Alexander, went in search of immortality. Because he was the son of a goddess, he was considered to have been two-thirds divine; therefore, he argued, why should he die as a mortal? No, he said, he should instead be allowed to be taken aloft — as was done to other Chosen Ones before him — and enjoy the never-dying of the gods.

To achieve his purpose, Gilgamesh embarked on distant journeys full of danger, adventure and drama. Scholars have never taken the targets of the Gilgamesh journeys literally; they see in all only a moral tale, that the efforts of Man to become immortal ended in futility. But when I read the texts with my own searching eye, and especially as I read the original texts rather than their opinionated translations, a vast source of information on our subject opened up.

I found, for example, that Gilgamesh made not one but two separate trips. The first was to a mountain on which there was a "landing place;" these are not my words — these are the words of the ancient text. The size, the mechanical guards, the secret tunnels of this landing place, are all described in detail. It was a place that had been built before the Deluge, and it survived the avalanche of water.

Fortunately, the ancient texts give the precise location of the place: in the Cedar Mountain. That was — and there is no argument about it — the ancient name for the mountains of Lebanon, renowned for their tall and unique cedar trees. Fortunately, the place *still exists*, in Lebanon; it is the vast platform, more than 500,000 square feet in area, at Baalbek. Its size, construction, functions and history are detailed in my second book. Here I mention only one of the platform's amazing features: the huge stone blocks that form its base. Some of these stone blocks weigh over 1,000 tons each. And "someone" not only cut the stones in single blocks but transported them from a quarry in the valley up the mountain to a height of some 4,000 feet and placed the megaliths side by side in perfect fit. Even nowadays there does not exist a piece of equipment that can lift and carry 1,000 tons. Yet in time immemorial, the feat was achieved without apparent problems.

Mission control center was on the site of the future Holy City of Jerusalem — called, as Nippur was in earlier times, "The Navel of the Earth." It lay on the center line of the landing corridor, equidistant from all the other vital sites. The landing corridor, in turn, was anchored at its wider end on two sets of twin peaks. Two were natural peaks in the southern part of the Sinai Peninsula, mountains which tradition holds sacred to this day; and two were artificial mountains at the northwestern end of the corridor. These artificial mountains also exist to this very day: the two great pyramids of Giza.

My conclusion that the Anunnaki had built the pyramids of Giza contradicts the long-held notion that the Great Pyramid was built by a Pharaoh named Cheops (Khufu in Egyptian), the second one by his successor, and so on. The only support for this theory was the discovery, within the Great Pyramid, of hieroglyphics markings that apparently spell the name of that Pharaoh. But as I show in *The Stairway to Heaven*, those markings were the work of a forger, a British colonel by the name of Howard Vyse, in 1837.

Incredible as it may sound, the fact is that two years ago a resident of Pittsburgh had written me a letter: "I have read your book," he wrote. "What you say about the forgery *has been known in my family for the past 150 years!*" It turned out that his great-grandfather, a master mason from England, was in Egypt at the time, was hired by Vyse, and was an eye-witness to the forgery! When he protested, he was summarily dismissed and barred from returning to the site. He wrote all this to his father, back in England. So the family not only knew the story but even took the letters with them when they migrated to America.

If Cheops and Khephren and Menkara did not build the unique pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, who did?

My answer, that the Anunnaki had built the pyramids as landing beacons, that there was a spaceport in the Sinai, was well known to the ancient peoples. Both Sumerian kings and Egyptian Pharaohs had strived to reach the spaceport and be taken aloft, to become as everliving as the Anunnaki. The Pyramid Texts, describing a Pharaoh's journey to the afterlife, detailed how the journey began from the pyramids, following the gaze of the Sphinx precisely along the thirtieth parallel north. Gilgamesh, having failed at the landing place in Lebanon, embarked on a second journey. This time he went to the "place where the rocketships rise," and as I show in my book, he passed by such clear landmarks as Jericho and the Dead Sea on his way to the spaceport in the Sinai.

Indeed, I show conclusively that the Sumerians knew of the Giza pyramids, represented them pictorially, and dealt in many texts with the purpose and the construction of the pyramids. They also left detailed records about the events which I chose to call, in my latest book, the Pyramid Wars.

Yes, there were two such wars. One is described on the walls of the temple of Edfu, in Egypt, and on a papyrus which describes the war between the gods Horus and Seth. The other war was what we would call today a World War, which extended throughout the then-inhabited lands. It was a war to determine who would control the space facilities, and its last battle took place at Giza, where the Enki-gods under Marduk made a final stand against the Enlilites under Enlil's first-born son Ninurta.

How did the Great Pyramid come to be empty and void of all the amazing instruments that had been installed within it? How, why and when was the ascending passage plugged? Why and by whom was the so-called well-shaft cut through the masonry?

It all had to do with the Pyramid Wars, and with the final use of the Great Pyramid as a sealed tomb in which to bury Marduk alive as punishment for causing the death of his younger brother. It had to do with a "Romeo and Juliet" love affair, a tragic love affair between a goddess and a god from different clans — thousands of years before Shakespeare.

Baalbek stands. The Pyramids stand. Jerusalem still has the



Fig. 6 - NASA photo showing charred area in lower Sinai Peninsula (see arrow).

sacred rock where the temple was later built. Mount Moses and its twin mountain are still venerated. But what about the spaceport? Does *it* still exist?

Alas, no; and the manner in which it had been obliterated, the manner in which the Great Pyramid was emptied of its masterful beacons and pulsating crystals, are described in my third and just-published book, *The Wars of Gods and Men.*

We all think it was at Hiroshima, forty years ago, that nuclear weapons were first used on Earth. Not so. They were first used in the year 2024 B.C., four thousand years ago. It was then that the struggle for supremacy on Earth reached its climax. Coming out of exile, Marduk marched on Babylon at the head of an army of followers; at the same time, his son Nabu was organizing uprisings in the Lands of Shem, aiming to seize the spaceport.

It was then that, in desperation, the Great Council of the Anunnaki resorted to the final weapon, and permitted the gods Nergal and Ninurta to obliterate the spaceport with nuclear devices. And it was then, in 2024 B.C., that a nuclear cloud of death spread from the Sinai Peninsula, the site of the explosions; driven by the prevailing winds towards Mesopotamia, it brought to an end the Sumerian civilization.

This was a time to which we may not want to go back in our time machine, for we would not want to witness the death and devastation. But, just as in the case of the forgery within the Great Pyramid, so it was that an eyewitness lived to recall the nuclear event. He was none other than Abraham, the Hebrew Patriarch. He was not just an observer, but a principal participant in those momentous happenings.

I have found Sumerian texts which parallel, almost word for word, the biblical text describing the "upheavaling" of Sodom and Gomorrah, the two "evil cities" that had served as Nabu's headquarters. It was then, these texts reveal, that the southern bank of the Dead Sea was pierced, letting the deadly waters submerge the plain where the evil cities used to be.

Is there other, physical evidence for that? Yes, High levels of radiation are found in the area, to this day.

Is there evidence, other than the ancient texts, for the nuclear destruction of the spaceport in the center of the Sinai?

Yes — A huge plain covered with millions of blackened pieces of broken rock — a most peculiar phenomenon, for the geological makeup of the area is *white* limestone, and here we have a vast amount of blackened stones.

And yes — a vast crater, and cracks for hundreds of miles in the peninsula, can be seen from space (see Figs. 4 and 5).

I have taken you on a voyage, back into prehistory. But the same time machine of The Earth Chronicles can also take you forward. Why? Because I believe that we can foretell the future by looking at the past. Because I firmly believe that what has been done on Earth by beings from another planet will be done by *us* in the future, on some other planet. We may think that it is up to us, that we go into space by choice; but I believe that it is built-in, into our genes, that it is all preordained, by the one who is truly the Lord of the Universe.

The Past, my friends, IS the Future.

The above lecture was given by Mr. Sitchen at the 10th Annual Ancient Astronaut Conference in Zurich, Switzerland on September 20, 1985. (See conference report, page 127).

Mr. Sitchen is the author of three related books on this subject. His latest, *The Wars of Gods and Men* was reviewed by Barbara Clow in the first issue of ***PURSUIT*** for 1985, Volume 18, #1.

Continental European Big Cats

by Ulrich Magin

Unlike the British Isles, continental Europe was the habitat of big cats in historical times. Lions, that are now only to be found in Africa, lived in Greece in Homer's time. To kill a lion was one of Heracles tasks, and Homer mentions lions in Greece (*Odyssey*, IV, 130). Pictures of lions can be found on some ancient Greek monuments, such as the castle of Mycenae. Seals of Knossos and knives from Mycenae show lions, too.

Ulysses (*Odyssey*, X, 212) encountered lions and wolves when he visited Circe on the island Aia. A German author who followed the old Greek's trail, Hans Steuerwald, identifies Aia with the Scottish Isle of Fair, so that this would be the earliest account of British big cats. Other authors place Circe on Ischia, Elba, Ustica or Lipari, Italy, or at islands in the Black Sea or Baltic. So wherever you place Aia, the fact remains that this is one of the earliest references of European lions.

In the following sections, I will concentrate upon the sightings of Pumas (by country) within the last 40 years in Europe.

GERMANY:

In September 1974, over 30 people saw a bear walking around in Hamburg. Police found footprints, samples of hair, etc., but concluded nevertheless that it was a hoax. No bear was missing anywhere. This is interesting, as we will find pumas in the very area where this had happened. (*Suddeutsche Zeitung [SZ]*, 23 Sept, 1974, p.7c)

Eight years later, the area around and north of Hamburg became the stage for the first real German puma wave. Early in July rumours began to spread that a puma was on the loose, and sightings were being claimed. Police said it might be the puma that had been seen the previous ten years at the southern border of Denmark, but it was not stated if this puma was an escapee or not. At least there had been a wave of sightings just across the border some weeks before, and people concluded that the puma had crossed the border and now was in Germany. The search took a dramatic turn when Uwe Sander of Rantrum claimed he was attacked by the animal. Fifty hunters and 25 policemen combed the area, but found nothing — no footprints, no hair, no further reports. Sander had some hair of the alleged puma to prove his claims, but closer investigation revealed it was hair from a rabbit. (*Rheinpfalz [RHPF]*, 28 July 1982 and *SZ* 28 July 1982, p.32b)

The number of sightings grew after Sander's dramatic announcement. A watchman saw it near Kiel one night, a farmer noticed it at the same time near Husum and 6 people of Dithmarschen watched it and definitely described it as puma. However, police did not take the claims very seriously after they found out what really had attacked Sander, and the Ministry of Agriculture suspected frightened people were only imagining things. But not every puma was imaginary nor simply a rabbit. A pensioner who encountered the beast northwest of Hamburg had the courage to investigate and found a monster model with glass eyes. And puma hunter, Thies Groth and a fellow named Schroder tracked the puma near Tellingstedt — this time a picture was painted by painter Gerhard N. Nolte. (*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung [FAZ]*, 13 Aug. 1982, and *SZ* 4 Aug. 1982, p.30 and also *RHPF* 13 July 1982)

The Hamburg puma was soon forgotten only to appear again in July 1983 near Hannover. This time the sightings were substantiated by footprints and police caught an alsatian which they claimed was responsible for the sightings. The owner of the dog, however, proved that this couldn't have been the case since his dog had only been away for some hours. So here the mystery remains. (*Fortean Times* 42, p.41 and *Bild*, 9 July 1983)

In the same summer another puma was reported from Merzig-Wadern in the Saar-region. A newspaper reported the animal had been seen walking through nearby forests. No more details, but the paper again suggested it was an escaped animal though no puma was missing. (*Neues Deutschland*, 15 Aug. 1983)

And in 1985 the 'Hannover Puma' appeared again. In June a jogger saw a 'lioness' near Delligsen in Lower Saxony near Hannover and not far south from the Hamburg area. Again an investigation by local police followed. They found footprints but could not find the animal itself, even though they flew over the area with a helicopter.

A police official declared the prints were definitely those of a large cat, but a veterinarian told reporters they were definitely of dog origin. Which version is true I cannot say. However, an escaped animal was ruled out as an explanation by police. (*SZ*, 24 June 1985, p.8e and *FAZ*, 24, June 1985, p.7a)

Two days later several new reports came in. A motorist saw the cat 15 kilometers from the place of the first sighting. It crossed the street and disappeared in a meadow. Police received several additional calls about sightings, but no details. (*RHPF*, 25 June 1985)

FRANCE:

In medieval times France was haunted by strange beasts. Waves of sightings occurred in 1573, 1731/34 and 1764. (*Science & Vie*, June 1980)

But the modern reports begin in 1977. In March of that year strange killings were reported from Epinal in the Vosges, victims being sheep and cows. Farmers began to organize hunts as the killings grew rapidly in number. But, strangely the beast always took its next prey at a place where no hunt had been organized. At the end of the year the mysterious beast had killed more than 200 animals and no one seemed to have seen it. However, rumours began to spread about an animal 'big as a bear, with eyes like a lynx and mouth and fur of a wolf.' Somebody said the beast was a big dog, trained by an unknown person. Several dogs were shot, but the killings went on. In November farmers swore the monster would not survive the winter, as they intended to follow its tracks in the snow and kill it. But when the weather became colder, the animal got more dangerous, killing cows without eating their flesh and drinking their blood — now in broad daylight. (*RHPF*, 15 Nov. 1977 and *SZ*, 15 April 1977, p.40ab and again 19 April 1977, p.28c)

The winter went by and the animal was not killed. But, there were better and closer sightings as summer approached. A police officer saw two big cats through binoculars. The owner of a gas station saw them 200 yards away and said that they seemed not to be afraid of men, he said and, "were more like big cats but bigger than a dog. They were definitely not just wildcats, which we often see in the area, but were much bigger and totally black." Other witnesses declared the animals were like big cats with short legs and a weight of 40 kilos [90 pounds]. They had dog's paws, big eyes and a shiny black fur.

Police concluded, after having been helpless for most of the time, that the animals (often seen in pairs) were pumas that

had escaped from a zoo, although, as always, no zoo reported them missing. (*Schwarz-Walder Bote*, July 1978)

Two years after they had first appeared, the animals disappeared leaving no trace or clue. Hunts had been conducted covering more than 50,000 kilometres [30,000 miles], but didn't produce any results (radio station *SWF* 3, 15 Jan. 1979)! However, the cats reappeared in other parts of France. Early in 1980 P. Diolle saw a panther at Chablis on the River Yonne in Burgundy (*Barloy Newsletter*, Nr. 20) and in February 1983 a large feline appeared in the area of Valescure in the south of the country. (*Fortean Times* 43, p.47)

SWITZERLAND:

The mountains of Switzerland are just the right place for any monstrous wild animal, and we actually have modern dragon reports from that area. But pumas have been seen as well.

In September 1974 two hunters saw a tiger near Chur in Graubunden. They observed it kill a deer but then it vanished when the hunters approached. No tiger had escaped from any zoo in the region...(*SZ*, 5 Sept. 1974, p.32c) Only a month after that footprints of a Yeti were discovered, again near Chur. This is a funny coincidence, as the 'Hamburg Puma' first appeared in the form of a bear in the same year. The 'Bunden Yeti,' however, was a newspaper hoax, (*SZ*, 14 Oct. 1974, p.8ab)

ITALY:

In the summer of 1984, while a big cat frightened people in Lancashire, England, its cousin was busy doing holidays in the south of Italy. People living near Foggia found 50 dead calves, lambs, sheep and pigs, which had been killed in June with a bite into the throat. Locals and scientists couldn't find an explanation until the director of the Abruzzes National Park got the idea that it may have been the two pumas which had been seen the year before at Bari, some 70 miles from Foggia. He suggested that these pumas had come up to the mountains at Foggia, but he couldn't even guess where the pumas came from originally. (*Berliner Tagesspiegel*, 20 July 1984)

Explanations

One explanation to be considered is that all these big cats are, in fact, animals that escaped from zoos or circuses. I have collected all relevant escape reports from the period mentioned and offer here a list showing that such animals are usually caught within hours after their escape, or at least days later:

1971 — Lion escapes from a transporter near Recklinghausen, West Germany. Killed some hours later. (*SZ*, 11 May 1971, p.32b)

1972 — Jaguar escapes from zoo at Darmstadt, West Germany. Fate unknown. (*SZ*, 27 Sept. 1972, p.44c and 28 Sept. 1972, p.40c)

1974 — Two wolves escape from a circus at Oldenburg, West Germany. Shot dead. (*SZ*, 28 Jan. 1974, p.6b)

1975 — Lion escapes from zoo, caught some hours later at Hannover, West Germany. (*SZ*, 16 July 1975, p.30d)

1975 — Lioness escapes, caught hours later near Neusiedler See, Austria. (*SZ*, 18 July 1975, p.32c and 19 July 1975, p.12b)

1977 — Another large cat (cheetah) escapes at Luneburg, West Germany. Fate not known. (*SZ*, 18 June 1977, p.12c)

1977 — Pet puma killed at Sovicille, Toscana, Italy. (*Welt*, 26 Aug. 1977)

1977 — Puma escapes at Saalfelden, Austria. Shot dead two days later. (*SZ*, 13 Oct. 1977, p.48c and 15 Oct. 1977, p.13b)

1979 — Puma escapes in France, no details (*SZ*, 7 Mar. 1979, p.40d).

My own solution is less spectacular as their possibly being living fossils and perhaps, not even indigenous to the areas where they are seen. There have been several attempts to reestablish wild lynx in Europe and some of these attempts may have been secret. Lynx which were freed in Alsace some years ago were all shot by farmers who feared for the lives of their own domestic animals. It's likely that ecologists would not announce that they exposed lynx to avoid public panic. Wild lynx can only be found in the Pyrenees, the Alps and in the Jura mountains. (*RHPF*, 2 Aug. 1982)

Another explanation may be wolves. They still live in parts of France as well as most of eastern Europe. Although wolves no longer exist in West Germany, wolves were killed in October 1979 at Madgeburg and in June 1982 at Genthlin in East Germany. (*SZ*, 4 June 1982, p. 52c)

Another number of sightings are due to misinterpretations, hoaxes, fakes and mass hysteria. Lynx, wild cats, escaped big dogs, etc., may be the origin of most of the reports (it is strange that most of the footprints discovered at the area of the sightings are dog-like), and fakes like Sanders rabbit/puma or the model cat that appeared near Hamburg in 1982 may not be too rare. Di Francis, unaware of the number of continental European reports, suggests an unidentified species of cat, but as sightings come from all over Europe, it is unlikely that such an animal would not have been discovered by now.

While it is obvious that something was, in fact, around in the Vosges area in 1977/78/79 (Michel Meurger, who interviewed farmers there, thought it was a wolf), there is little evidence to suggest the other reports are genuine.

However, Denmark, Hamburg and Hannover form one area, the Saar-region, Vosges and Burgundy another, and Bari and Foggia a third area from where we quite regularly have reports of unidentified big cats. If we want to believe the eyewitnesses, we can conclude that pumas still live in these three regions, though I personally find this hard to believe.



1. Denmark
2. Lower Saxony (Hamburg)
3. Hannover
4. Saar-region
5. Vosges
6. Burgundy
7. Var
8. Foggia
9. Bari
10. Chur

Some Psychic Experiences of a Chief Medical Officer

by Dr. Rauni-Leena Luukanen

Rauni-Leena Luukanen, M.D. is the chief medical officer of Lapland, Finland. She is fluent in six languages and has co-authored (with her deceased grandmother who communicated through automatic writing) a book, There is no Death *already translated into a half-dozen European languages and soon to be printed in English.*

Dr. Luukanen was an exchange student in the U.S. and has lived, as well, in several European countries and Asia. Presently, she is completing her doctorate in parapsychology.

To define parapsychology: It is a science that investigates the paranormal. And what is the paranormal? That's a good question! I will try to tell you the paranormal experiences that have happened to me.

We know that in America, the American Society for Psychical Research, has been doing research for 100 years. This year, 1985, is the centennial for ASPR. In Finland, our oldest society was formed in Helsinki in 1905 and today we have 15 psychical research societies or parapsychological associations throughout the country in the major cities, the northern most being Rovaniemi in Lapland in the Arctic Circle where I come from.

We live close to the Soviet Union. We have 2000 kilometers of common border with the Soviets and Lapland, itself, has 550 kilometers of that common border. Lapland also has 750 kilometers of common border with Norway and, as a nation, we have 350 kilometers of common border with Norway with Sweden, too. So we have, in a way, been a bridge between the East and the West throughout our history. Therefore, we also get the good sides from both countries, both the Soviet and the Scandinavian western regions, and sometimes also the less-than-good sides of both places.

If we think of Soviet research, we have to start with the idea that the Soviets believe that psi is produced by low-frequency, collective mental fields. Now, unfortunately, in Finland the medical profession is totally unaware of this fact. In my medical school training I did not receive one hour of education in parapsychology and I understand this is the case also in the United States. However, in the United States a lot of research has been done. For instance, in the Mind Science Foundation in Texas, William Broad states that he suggests, "Some people can alter the sympathetic-nervous-system activity of others at a distance." Now *that* if anything, I think, should be taught in American medical schools. But it isn't, yet. What brought me into the field and what brought, I think, just about everyone of us into the field is personal experience.

I was about 15 years old when my cousin casually stated, over a cup of tea, that she has been married to her husband three times in three previous lives. I was flabbergasted as a 15-year-old teenager and couldn't understand what she meant, but the seed was sown and I started reading about the subject. It took me 20-25 years before I started grasping what the psychical field was about. And as often happens to other people it actually happened to me in a crisis.

I had an abdominal operation and all of a sudden, during anesthesia, in the middle of the operation, I felt my consciousness rise above my physical body. I, a young graduate fresh from medical school, was watching my own abdominal operation from the ceiling! I was watching it enthused until I saw the surgeon take up a scalpel. I knew he was going to make a mistake. Somehow I knew he was going to cut a small artery. I tried to stop him from doing that because I knew that would be catastrophic but I couldn't do anything but watch. Sure enough, he took the scalpel and he cut my artery and the blood zoomed to the ceiling. At that moment, I felt I was being drawn to a tunnel, a dark tunnel. There was a bright light at the end of the tunnel and, in my case, this bright light was as big as the Statue of Liberty. It was in the form of what I had seen in religious books drawn of Christ. But it was so bright that I couldn't look up into the eyes. I had to kneel down and I could look only up to the knees. I saw that the feet had sandals on them and there was a white tunic — a big white robe above them. At that moment, while I was kneeling, I was told what my mission on earth would be and that I should start doing it. I was also told about my personal relations, and I was told about the medical profession and what to do with *it.*

At this point I asked a question — a single question — about my husband. I was told to turn around and I looked and saw something like a sea-bottom filled with pearls, white pearls all over. I somehow understood that all these pearls were human beings, human souls. They looked beautiful and were all equal except for one — one was a black pearl very, very much behind all the other white ones. I understood, somehow, that black pearl represented my husband, not that being black was bad or evil in any way, but it was not on the same level or pace as probably my own growth was. I understood I was to leave it behind.

After that I was pulled back to the tunnel and I opened my eyes and the operation was over. I later checked with the charts and sure enough an artery had been cut, according to the records.

When I tried to talk to my husband and my family about the mystical experience I had had, they said that I lost so much blood and therefore had had a deficiency of oxygen in my brain, but it would be alright.

A few years passed and my husband and I were divorced as I saw in that vision.

I was driving from Turku, which is the second biggest town in southern Finland, to Salo where I was working in the hospital. At that moment, when I was driving, I decided (I said to somebody up there) "Now I'm ready. I'm ready to do whatever you want me to do. I'm ready for my mission." And strangely enough, when I arrived at the hospital, the secretary handed me the latest Finnish medical journal. I opened it up and there was a vacancy notice. The position of Chief Medical Officer of Lapland was now open. But this was Friday morning and the application should have been sent to Lapland to be there by Monday noon. I knew it was impossible to get the papers so fast and that the position was probably meant for somebody else and that's why they announced it this way. I was angry, threw the

magazine away and started my rounds. Then, in the middle of my rounds, the nurse came in and said, "Excuse me doctor, there's a call for you." I got furious and told her that I was not to be disturbed during my rounds. She said she was sorry but it was a doctor calling from Lapland. I went to the telephone and sure enough it was an old colleague who had never, in all his years in Lapland, called me. He said, "I just came to think of it. You do know that the Chief Medical Officer's position is vacant. You should apply." I told him that I had only found out about it 5 minutes ago and didn't have time to apply. He said, "Sure you have. You have a whole weekend!" I told him that I would have to take an exam in the Swedish language, because Finland is bilingual, and all government officials need to have a fluency in both languages and I didn't have that certificate. He said that I still had time. I told him that the nearest university was 100 kilometers away and he said, "So what! Drive it!"

As it turned out, I did get the exam that night and the next morning I sent, by express, all my applications. And that's the way things went. When I took up the office I decided that this is where I'm going to be for the rest of my life. And when I decided that, *somebody* (whom I didn't see) said "No, not the rest of your life — 10 years." I looked around and I didn't see anybody. I thought, "This is very strange. Why should I be there just ten years?" This year [1985] my ten years are up and my government wants me to go to WHO (World Health Organization) in Geneva — a strange coincidence!

In Rovaniemi I joined a meditation group and that was a coincidence also. Somebody just called and said, "Would you like to join our group?" I had never even heard of a meditation group. I said that sure I would join. I was ready for anything new. The group consisted of less than 10 people who once a week gathered in a friend's home to meditate and to develop psychical abilities. We sat around in a circle for one hour once a week with a candle in the middle of a table in silence, listening to meditative music. And very soon people started developing — everybody but me! An army captain became a trance speaker. He started giving speeches in trance which were more beautiful than I have ever heard any priest or minister preach in any church. They mostly dealt with love (unconditional love), helping others and things like that. The hairdresser in the group became an automatic painter but nothing happened to me. I sat in the group for 3 years, once a week, and felt like I was having a spiritual sauna bath every time I came home. But nothing happened until one night in 1979 when my hand suddenly went up into the air during the meditation. I was very surprised and I opened my eyes and tried to pull it down. But it wouldn't go down. There was an unseen force that took it up and it started doing the sign of 8 which, sideways is, the sign of eternity. I realized that when I tried to pull it down with the other hand and it didn't come down that this must be something that I don't understand. Maybe it's automatic handwriting. So I said, in my mind, please write into the air. Immediately that 8 motion stopped and started spelling out with block letters S O L V E I G and then it dropped and my arm became normal again. Solveig — that was the name of my cousin who, when I was 15, introduced me to the paranormal phenomena and who had just died two months earlier.

I had thought it would probably be natural that she would like to open up the spiritual realms to me this way. I brought a pen and a pencil the next week just in case my hand started going funny again. Sure enough, it did, like an electric current went through it! It felt like it was swollen but I looked at it and it wasn't. It looked normal but it didn't feel normal. I placed a pencil in my hand and put it down. It started writing by itself. It stated the whole name of Solveig, "Solveig Aker — I am alive," and then my hand dropped again.

I knew I was dealing with something that I was not too familiar with and so I started reading more about automatic writing. After a few times I asked, "What is the meaning of this automatic writing to me? Why should you be coming through except that you're trying to tell me that you're alive?" The answer came, again in block letters, A B O O K. I was very surprised. A book? "Yes, you are going to write a book in 1981. It will be a bestseller and will be translated into many languages." I thought that this was incredible! I'm a doctor and I don't write books and Finnish books are not translated into many languages. Well, I soon learned how little I knew.

Then there came a message which stated, "You are going to Malaysia." Malaysia?, I thought. I didn't even know quite where it was. What would I be doing in Malaysia? I have a regular job in Lapland and plenty to do there.

I was at the National Board of Health in Helsinki two weeks later when an emergency telephone call came during the meeting. "The International Red Cross requests a medical advisor immediately to Malaysia. Can you leave?" I almost dropped the telephone! I told them of course I could leave and had already known about this for two weeks. They told me that this was impossible as "it was only decided yesterday and the Telex came today." I said, "Sorry, but I have it in writing that I was to leave for Malaysia."

I got worried because I was just beginning with the automatic writing. I was frightened to try it alone and needed the group. In my mind I asked, just before I left, what am I going to do? I wouldn't like to leave at this stage of development by going to Malaysia. The answer came very quickly, "Leave it up to us and we'll take care of it." Well, I thought, "Great, you take care of it, I'm not going to worry." And sure enough, somebody did take care of it. I had been in Kuala Lumpur for 2 weeks and I was attending a luncheon given for the Red Cross ladies in the blood donation group. It was at the Swiss Embassy and there was a big smorgasbord. A little Chinese lady came up to me and said (opening words), "Would you like to join us? We have a group of meditation with 7 women and we meet once a week. We would like you to come with us." I almost dropped over because I realized that this would take care of the automatic writing and this was what was meant. I joined that group and I did automatic writing all of the 6 months I was there. So that was taken care of.

During that time I started asking more and more questions, mentally. I always asked a question and I always got an answer. Strangely enough, the answers dealt also with my past life, with my family relations, friends, etc. I asked, for instance, why do I dislike this particular man? The answer came back immediately. "He bullies you because you bullied him throughout your previous life." I asked, "What did I do and who was I?" The answer was, "You were a drunken soldier in the British army and promoted to Captain. He was a soldier among your troops and you bullied him. Now he is your chief and he's getting back at you by bullying you." After I found this out I thought that this served me right, then, and he and I almost became friends after I learned this fact, true or not.

I also asked why I loved the cousin of mine so much. I was told, "because she was your daughter in your previous life." Well, at least the likes and dislikes I was told about, and my likes and dislikes in this life coincide. If I was an army captain it explains why I have always liked uniforms and epaulettes, and why I feel at home in the mess for the officers. I've gone

through military training in Finland for 15 weeks which no woman ever does, so maybe there is something to it.

The funny part of this was that I once had a "vision" when I was a teacher at a Red Cross course youth camp for European Red Cross volunteers in Lapland. I greeted and said hello to all the people in my class. One was a young Danish nurse and as we exchanged hellos, I looked into her eyes and started trembling and sweating. I didn't understand the reaction at all. Afterwards I lay down and thought that I wanted an answer, what is this and who is she? I was shown, as in a film, a vision where I was fighting. A mansion was being attacked, a two-story mansion, and there was a young girl about 18 years old clothed in a long, white, nineteenth-century dress (with a high neck) standing scared on the balcony. There was a robber group attacking that mansion and people were fighting. They were fighting with clubs and swords and all kinds of things. I attacked the place trying to save the girl and my family, which evidently it was. And then suddenly, somebody just pierced a sword through my abdomen and I died. The last thing I remember seeing was this girl in the white high-necked dress. I screamed "Elizabeth" and then I died. The Danish nurse's name was Elsa and that is the same as Elizabeth in Danish, and she looked exactly like the girl on that balcony.

At least this explains my reaction if it really is true that I lived before and I died fighting with a sword and that she was the last sight I saw. Therefore I would, of course, get an emotional reaction seeing her again in this life and recognizing her eyes. There is no way to easily verify all this but it did help me to understand a few things. I think that the main thing about a past-life "reading" is that it helps people to understand themselves and their own reactions.

I had read about out-of-body experiences so I decided one day that I was going to try to do it if I could. It was about 8 p.m. and I lay down on my bed. For some strange reason I laid down with my knees up. I started concentrating so that my blood circulation would all come from the periphery (the hands and the toes) to the heart and towards the brain as one technique said to do. Very quickly I started feeling very, very cold. The room was empty and all the doors and windows were closed. There was no draft but I started shivering to the extent that the hair on my arms stood up. And then I started feeling vibrations, in 5 or 6 stages, that went from my toes to my head. My body started stiffening and all of a sudden, in a second or so, there was a blackout and I was a double of myself floating above my physical body laying on the bed. What surprised me most was that I was floating with my knees up exactly in the same funny position! I don't know what I had expected, probably to stand up or sit or whatever. I would never have thought that I would be on my back with my knees up, in the air looking down. I knew immediately that I had succeeded and I got a bit frightened because I didn't know what to do. I hadn't thought about what I should do next. So I started looking at my physical body and, being an M.D., I got worried. I've worked as an anesthetist so I learned to count up to 60 seconds without a watch. I counted the breathing of my physical body. It was only 10 times a minute (the norm is 20 times a minute), thus it had dropped to half. I was very surprised to see that all my emotions, my thoughts and my intelligence were in the energy body which looked like skimmed milk in the air, and nothing, nothing at all, was in the physical. And, yet, I knew that my brain lay in the physical body but it was not thinking at all. It was like I was looking at somebody else's corpse.

I got worried about the breathing so I decided to take the pulse of the physical body. With my energy hand I took the physical pulse which was 32 times a minute instead of the normal 60. Then I really got worried and thought that my body was dying. It meant *I* was dying! It was very stiff as I touched the face from forehead to nose. It is a strange feeling, touching yourself, and feeling it with the energy-body hand. Sure enough the body was cool and I knew that the vital signs were going from the body. I was terrified so, like men at war, I called for my mother. I said "Mother, help me," and I immediately was transferred 1000 kilometers to Helsinki, the capital of Finland, to my parent's living room where I saw my mother sewing a long dress with flowers, and my niece playing on the floor drawing some pictures of a red house and things like that. They were chatting. I couldn't hear what they were saying, but I knew it wasn't anything important. I thought, "Well where is my sister?," because my mother was babysitting for my niece. Now I realized I didn't even see my energy body — I had just my consciousness, there, like a point. And as I thought that, I was immediately transferred to a fashionable cocktail party where I saw my sister among the guests, flirting with a family friend. I thought, "Oh! Now I want to go home," and immediately I was transferred back, in a second, to Rovaniemi 1000 kilometers away, and I was again floating above my physical body. There I was again seeing my floating energy body and I was making a rocking movement. I didn't see any silver thread connecting but I could feel it. There was something connecting "us."

I started feeling seasick and I wondered, "Who is going to throw up — me up here or she down there?" I got really worried that me up here would do it because, if so, she [down there] would suffocate. I just wanted to go back. I said, "Oh, I just want to go back," and a pull took me back just like a snap. And there I was again, all in one piece, stiff and cold. I opened my eyes and then fell asleep.

The next morning I called my parents and my father answered. I asked him, "What was my mother doing at 8 p.m. last night?" He said, "I can't tell you because she was making a Christmas present for you," so I told him that I knew what the present was — a long dress sewn by hand with flowers on it. He asked me, "How do you know?" I told him, "I was there." There was dead silence. Now, my father is a hard business man but when I had told him what I had done he said, "It runs in the family." It was the first time, ever, that I learned that he was clairvoyant, etc., and also had precognitive dreams. He had never, ever talked about it before.

Then, I called my sister to ask what she had been doing the night before. She said that she couldn't remember. I said, "Well your daughter was being babysitted while your husband is on a business trip, and you can't remember you were at a cocktail party with Mr. so-and-so?" There was a long silence then and she said to me, "Don't interfere with my affairs," and she hung up. So what could I think except that I had really been there.

I began to think that I might be able to do some good for myself with automatic writing. I was busy travelling around and I had to take an exam in medical administration. I didn't really have time to study so I decided to ask, in automatic writing, for the books or paragraphs to read for the exam. I wanted to know what questions would be asked. The answer came sort of like this: You should do some things for yourself but alright, since you are so busy, read this and this and this. I read only those paragraphs and took the exam at the National Board of Health. There were 8 questions on the exam and 6 of them were given to me. And so I passed. That was quite something, I think!

One night, in 1981, I was awakened, told to get up and write. I thought to myself, it's midnight, it's dark, there's no one around and I have to get up out of bed and switch the light on.

Again, somebody said that I wouldn't need the light as I wouldn't be doing the writing myself. I sat up, took a pencil in my hand and all of a sudden my hand started flowing. It went so fast that I could hardly see it going. It wrote 30 pages in one hour and then it dropped again. I fell asleep thinking that nobody would be able to read it. There probably was nothing since I couldn't see it. In the morning I opened my eyes and looked at the text. The writing was in old-fashioned script written in the style at the beginning of the century in my dead grandmother's handwriting. It was a beautiful text about life, the meaning of illness, death transition, and how one's whole life has been set up.

I knew then that any medical diagnosis saying this all comes from one's own subconscious is false. I couldn't physically write 30 pages in one hour and I could not know how to write in such a beautiful script and compose such a beautiful text. I took that text to a graphologist (who is also a theologist in Finland) and he confirmed that it was impossible that I could have written it myself. He compared my normal writing with the automatic writing and said that "the personality who has written through you in the automatic writing thinks this way and behaves that way in thoughts and so forth." He gave a full description of my dead grandmother (formerly a midwife who, eventually, wrote an entire book through me).

Now, being a high government official in Finland it is no wonder the book became a best seller. In fact, a few psychiatrists called our Director General of Health and said that I should be locked up for writing such a book. But the Director General told them that he knew me personally and suggested that they would do better to read the book and think about what is in it.

I really feel that there is a mission for me and for all of us who are interested in this field. One of the big missions is to influence the medical professional to take these phenomena seriously or at least to study them. I know that in America, in the last 10 years, there have been 700 scientific publications of near-death experiences. In August of 1985 the *American Journal for Psychiatry* published an article by Dr. Bruce Grayson on near-death experiences. So a breakthrough is slowly coming but we all have to help with it.

There is one more story that I would like to tell you. I was going to come to New York in March to take part in a dinner party at the Harvard University Club marking the 100th anniversary of the American Society for Psychical Research. I had my ticket bought, my airfare; everything was all set. About two weeks prior to this trip, automatic writing stated that my trip to New York would not succeed because of "wholeness," because of "the universal plan." I didn't understand this at all. I thought that this must be something crazy. Why wouldn't it succeed?

A couple of weeks before, on a Saturday, I was going on a skiing trip (with a very negative mind). Before going, I sat down and did some automatic writing and never in all my 45 years have I been told so harshly not to do something. I was told not to go on this trip. It said, "You are absolutely forbidden to go on this trip because you can't change your destiny and you're trying to do it. And for obedience and wholeness, *do not go*!" I got so furious that I threw the pencil away and said, "You're not telling me what to do." I jumped in the car and drove 14 kilometers only to find that I was on the wrong road. I thought, "Oh, you're trying again, but I'm going to make it." I braked and put on my left-turn directional. As I turned I started sliding on new snow. I looked into the mirror and saw a big bus coming about 100 kilometers per hour and I thought, "I hope it doesn't crash into me." And that's the last thing I remember for awhile. I still have amnesia about that accident.

They tell me the bus crashed and ripped off half my car. The car was like an accordian and the bus stopped just at my back. When I opened my eyes after being unconscious, I saw an entity. I thought at first that it was a human being, of course — somebody next to me, helping me. It was dark and I couldn't see whether it was male or female but I saw its head, trunk and hands. Its hands seemed to be moving very fast as if it were repairing my energy body. The hands were about 20 centimeters away and didn't touch me physically but they were treating my liver region. I didn't understand anything. I just looked at it and understood that somebody was helping me. And then the ambulance and police came and pulled me out. I said, "Hey, we're two. Take the other one, too." They said, "You're alone in the car." I said, "No, no! There are two of us!" They just looked at me and I heard them say, "She's hallucinating, she's been hit on the head." And then I realized that my companion wasn't a human being. I was the only one seeing it. All of a sudden it vanished and I again went unconscious. I was taken to intensive care and later found out that I had liver damage, which, as you know, can be life-threatening when it is bleeding. So, I certainly did get the proper first-aid that was needed at that point.

My cousin who lives about 1000 kilometers from Lapland called my father to see how I was doing. But before she could dial (she told me later) our dead cousin appeared in front of her. He had died of myocardial infarction a year earlier. He smiled at her and said, "Rauni is going to make it, she's going to be alright and nobody else could have done it." Then he disappeared. Now she couldn't have been hallucinating! She, at least, was not hit on the head as I was.

It was a very strong experience for me and I didn't dare do automatic writing for a month because I thought, "Oh, oh! I'm going to get it." But I didn't really get it. There was only one very tender sentence: "You still haven't learned the lesson of obedience. You would have died if we hadn't interfered and you're not even thankful for the chance we gave you for completing your life's work."

Today, I *am* thankful. I'm thankful I am here. I'm thankful that we are all here and I hope that we can understand the very important message — *there is no death*.

In closing, I would like to repeat a 12th-century poem written by a mystic named Rumi, from Persia, and it goes this way:

I died as a stone and I became a flower.
I died as a flower and I became an animal.
I died as an animal and I became a human being.
So why should I be afraid of death?
Did I at anytime become worse or less through death?
Someday I'm going to die as a human being
And I will be an Angel of a dream, a light being,
But my way goes forward.
Everything but God disappears.
I will be such which nobody has heard of,
Which nobody has seen.
I will be a star with all stars —
The star that lightens life and death.

The above lecture was given by Dr. Luukanen at the New Frontiers Center Conference held August 22-25, 1985 in Madison, Wisconsin. A taped copy of Dr. Luukanen's lecture and other conference lectures may be obtained from Prof. Walter Uphoff (see conference report - page 127).

Ice That Fell From Sky in Connecticut

Several members and readers sent individual newsclippings about this event, but we particularly thank George Earley for the following material, all in the Hartford Courant. *We also thank freelance photographer, Dennis Yonan for allowing* **PURSUIT** *to reproduce his photo of the scene in cooperation with* Courant *staff writer, Constance Neyer.*

Tuesday, June 25, 1985

Experts in astronomical and meteorological phenomena were puzzled Monday by what three Hartford residents described as a massive piece of ice that came hurtling out of the sky into the backyard in Hartford's South End.

Michael Torbicki, 13, said the piece of ice appeared to be about 5-feet wide and crashed near him and a friend in Torbicki's backyard at 79 Linnmoore St. at about 3 p.m.

Torbicki and Logan Miclette, also 13, said they heard something "whirling" in the sky and saw the ice just before it slammed into a wooden fence.

"When it hit, I fell on the ground. I thought it was going to hit us," Torbicki said.

Sheila Slattery said she was in her backyard at 85 Linnmoore, which is adjacent to Torbicki's yard, when she heard a noise like an airplane or a helicopter above.

Slattery said she looked up and saw what looked like "a sheet of newspaper" come twirling down. She said she then heard the "cracking of board and the splintering of wood" as the ice hit the fence between her yard and Torbicki's.

She said she saved a piece of the ice about 10 inches in diameter and put it in her refrigerator.

M. Roland Laro, head meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Windsor Locks, could not explain the falling ice.

"Strange things are happening, so I can't say," he said. "It's probably from a plane. I don't know."

Theodore M. Pas, air worthiness inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration in Connecticut and western Massachusetts, said it would be "very unusual" if the ice came from an airplane.

He said de-icing equipment melts ice that forms on airplanes and that if the equipment failed a large piece of ice would break up in the atmosphere before reaching the earth.

"It's very unusual to have that sheet of ice falling from anywhere," he said.

Walter S. Houston, regional director of the American Meteor Society, said the ice could have come from a comet.

"A lot of people who are bright like to say it can't happen. They're very horrified at it," he said.

He said a 50-pound piece of ice fell in North Chester in 1974 that he also believed came from a comet. Scientists then surmised it was a hailstone, but Houston disagreed, saying hailstones do not get larger than three or four pounds.

Many scientists disagreed over the origin of that piece of ice, Houston said, some saying it fell off an airplane, but he believes it could have fallen from a comet.

Arthur R. Upgren, professor of astronomy at Wesleyan University in Middletown and head of its observatory, disagreed with Houston.

"It certainly isn't from any comet. ...It would have melted it if was a comet. Ice particles are vaporized by the heat of the sun," he said. "Besides, there is no comet nearby."

Upgren said his theory was that turbulence during the thunderstorms that passed through the area picked up the chunk of ice from somewhere and carried it until it fell into Torbicki's backyard.

Joseph Caruso, an astronomy instructor at the University of Hartford who operates the telescope at the Wesleyan, said the ice probably came from a jet engine very high in the atmosphere.

"It certainly is no astronomical phenomena. No ice could survive the trip into the earth's atmosphere."

●

Wednesday, June 26, 1985

Scientists at two universities will try to determine the origin of a large piece of ice that fell from the sky Monday into a Hartford backyard.

David H. Menke, director of the Copernican Observatory and Planetarium at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, said Tuesday geology and physics staff at the university will study the ice and report on their findings today.

Houston said the university tests will determine whether the ice was formed in the earth's atmosphere. He said if the ice is pure, it could have had cosmic origins.

Sheila Slattery, who was in an adjacent back yard, also saw the ice fall from the sky and smash into the fence. "After it had fallen, I was amazed and very thankful it wasn't closer to me because I'm sure I would have been killed. There was no time to move at all," she said Tuesday.

Menke said it was his guess that the ice fell from an airplane that doesn't have de-icing equipment.

●

Thursday, June 27, 1985

The large piece of ice that fell from the sky into a Hartford backyard Monday is terrestrial in origin and probably came from an airplane, tests conducted at Central Connecticut State University show.

David H. Menke, director of the Copernican Observatory and Planetarium at CCSU in New Britain, said Wednesday that chemical studies of the ice show that it is very similar to rainwater and has many air bubbles that indicate it was formed rapidly in the atmosphere.

"It's pretty clear and pretty clean. I believe the ice formed quickly as it would on a wing tip," Menke said. The ice contained small amounts of sodium and nickel, which are found in rainwater, Menke said. "There isn't any iron, which rules out a comet," he said.

After talking to people who saw the ice fall into the yard at 85 Linnmoore St., and after studying the damage it did to two fences, Menke said the piece probably was 6-feet long, 7-inches thick, weighed 1,200 pounds and was moving at about 200 m.p.h.

Walter S. Houston, regional director of the American Meteor Society, said he was not convinced by Menke's studies that the ice has a terrestrial origin and he will send a piece to the Institute of Meteorite Studies at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz.

Houston who believes the ice could have come from a comet, said that theory is reaffirmed by Menke's discovery of nickel in the ice. He said comets always contain nickel. "In my book, it's still an open game."

●

In a letter to the Editor titled "Peril of Ice 'Bombs' from Aircraft," Doris M. Novak of Newington, CT writes:

Sunday, June 30, 1985

I read about the ice "bomb" that fell on Linnmoore Street in Hartford with great interest (article, June 25, "Large Chunk of Ice Falls Into Back Yard").

Although we were experiencing severe weather conditions in the area at the time and the possibility exists that this was an accumulation of ice formed in the atmosphere, just as hailtones are formed, the fact that an aircraft was seen flying in the vicinity just before the ice crashed to earth suggests another explanation.

For more than 25 years my brother has been monitoring the environmental impact of heavy air traffic at London's Heathrow Airport.

In addition to structural damage from the noise and vibrations from aircraft, he has 139 documented cases of falling ice, at least 24 of which involved leaks from aircraft. The number of incidents that occur over unpopulated regions or are unreported can only be imagined. However, the potential health risks posed by the problem of ice "bombs" are real and serious.

Scientists recently investigating mysterious outbreaks of cholera found two cases in France that defied explanation. However, the location of the outbreak was directly under a major airline route. It now is theorized that cholera germs in an airliner's leaking sanitary system could have survived in the ice that formed on the outside of the craft and were contained in the eventual droplets of water that descended on earth.

Police in the London area have analyzed an ice "bomb" and found it contained galley waste and human fecal material that could have leaked from an aircraft. Galley waste and sanitation system water leave commercial airplanes via heated pipes. If the heater malfunctions or the system leaks, large blocks of ice can form on the exterior of the plane. Eventually, the ice can fall from the plane as it passes overhead.

The problem of falling ice is on the increase and poses a serious health threat. In addition to the risk to life and limb, there also is the potential for ice "bombs" to spread the many illnesses carried in human feces material.

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And, in conclusion:
Friday, July 12, 1985

The large piece of ice that fell into a Hartford backyard June 24 was almost certainly from a small airplane, an official of the Copernican Observatory and Planetarium at Central Connecticut State University said Thursday.

Planetarium officials reached that conclusion after analyzing radar readings from Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks.

"We located an aircraft over the same vicinity and at the same time that the ice fell," said Craig Robinson, planetarium curator and a former pilot.

Those readings showed a plane that had dropped from about 10,000 feet to 400 feet, probably because it accumulated ice when it flew through a rain cloud, Robinson said.

Based on a computer printout of the radar readings, Robinson theorized the pilot had apparently considered making an emergency landing at Brainard Airport but abandoned that plan after the ice dropped off the plane's wing.

But Brainard facility manager Anthony Torchia said his tower received no distress calls or reports of icing.



Shiela Slattery of Hartford looks through a gap in her fence caused by a large chunk of ice that crashed into her back yard Monday. A fragment of the ice chunk rests on the crossbar of the fence.

"It sounds wild to me," he said.

The ice crashed into the backyard at 79 Linnmoore St. about 3:12 p.m.

A neighbor, Sheila Slattery of 85 Linnmoore St., said she was in her backyard, when she heard a noise like an airplane or a helicopter above.

And two 13-year-old boys, Michael Torbicki, into whose yard the ice fell, and Logan Miclette, said they heard something "whirling" in the sky.

Memo

Anyone wishing to submit original material for possible use in ***PURSUIT*** such as a manuscript, book review, a letter to the editor, etc., please be reminded that it should be typewritten, or if that is not possible, handwritten in block letters, double-spaced on one side of each 8½ x 11 inch sheet of paper with at least one-inch margins on all four page edges. This facilitates easier editorial corrections and comments.

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The Lake Como Monster

by Gary S. Mangiacopra

Among the traditions of almost all nations are the legendary "monsters" which are said to inhabit the deepest lakes and longest rivers that scarify the surface of our planet. Only a few nations are seemingly bereft of chapters in their national folklore which describe such aquatic animal wonders. One such nation is Italy.

To comprehend the severe shortage of lake-monsters reports indigenous to Italy, one needs first to understand the nation's geographical features. In the narrow, boot-shaped southern region are six lakes — all so small as to be scarcely noticeable on an atlas map. The broad northern region, by contrast, has five sizeable lakes plus a scattering of little ones. Three of the four largest lakes either cross or lie within eyeshot of the Swiss frontier. In west-to-east array, their names are Maggiore, Lugano and Como. No information is available concerning mysterious aquatic animals in Lake Lugano or Lake Maggiore. But an awesome lake-monster legend arose almost full-blown from the waters of Lake Como in the wake of World War II.

Lake Como is situated about nine degrees longitude by about 46 degrees latitude, not far east of the border between Italy and Switzerland. The lake's surface is more than 500 feet above sea level. Its shape resembles an inverted Y. The overall length, including the body and two "legs," is about 30 miles; the maximum width is about three miles. A shoreline of approximately 100 miles encompasses a surface area of about 130 square miles.

The lake is deep and steeply banked. The waters contain low amounts of nutrients but abundant oxygen at all depths. Water circulation is by holomixis: wind-driven circulation of the water that mixes the contents. From the eastern leg the Adda River flows southward and joins a network of other rivers whose combined waters empty into the Adriatic Sea via deltas that sprawl randomly down the coast from Venice on the north to Comacchio on the south.

The first sighting of a monster at large in Lake Como was reported in a United Press International dispatch from Rome, datelined November 20, 1946. A 100-foot-long monster, "rose-colored" with great horns and huge scales, was charged with responsibility for the overturning of fishing boats following an "attack" by crewmen when the monster first appeared before their startled eyes.

Seven days later, a follow-up report from the Associated Press claimed that the Lake Como monster had been captured, killed and eaten. A subsequent dispatch to the Milan newspaper *Corriere Lombardo* confirmed that the colorful creature had been identified as a "large sturgeon." The report went on to say that two unnamed youths, ages 17 and 21, had sighted the creature as it cavorted near the shore while they were sitting at a table in the Delphin Hostelry, sipping wine. Hastily rowing to the spot, the youths succeeded in killing the sturgeon after a two-hour battle. The remains were immediately consigned to the cooking pot and devoured.

With that kind of gustatory epitaph, the Lake Como monster should have been allowed to pass from the earthly (or watery) scene and the story left for later enhancement by writers of children's books. But no. Three months later, the Lake Como monster was "caught" again — this time by a correspondent for the Rome newspaper *Il Messagero*. His report asserted that the supposed creature was no monster at all; it was, instead, a real mini-submarine used by smugglers to transport high-value cargo from Switzerland to Italy. Reputedly built in Milan, the one-man submersible had been making nightly voyages carrying meat, rice, flour, textiles, tires, watches, tobacco and whatever other merchandise could be concentrated in small space to realize maximum profit while achieving 100% tax avoidance. Unhappily for its investors, the little submarine was discovered by Swiss authorities as it was being loaded with presumably stolen merhcandise for one of its nightly runs. The smugglers were arrested, their vessel confiscated and, according to the story picked up from *Il Messagero* by United Press International on February 24, 1947, the Lake Como monster was slain by history only to rise to new heights among the taller stories told and retold about "conditions" in postwar Italy.

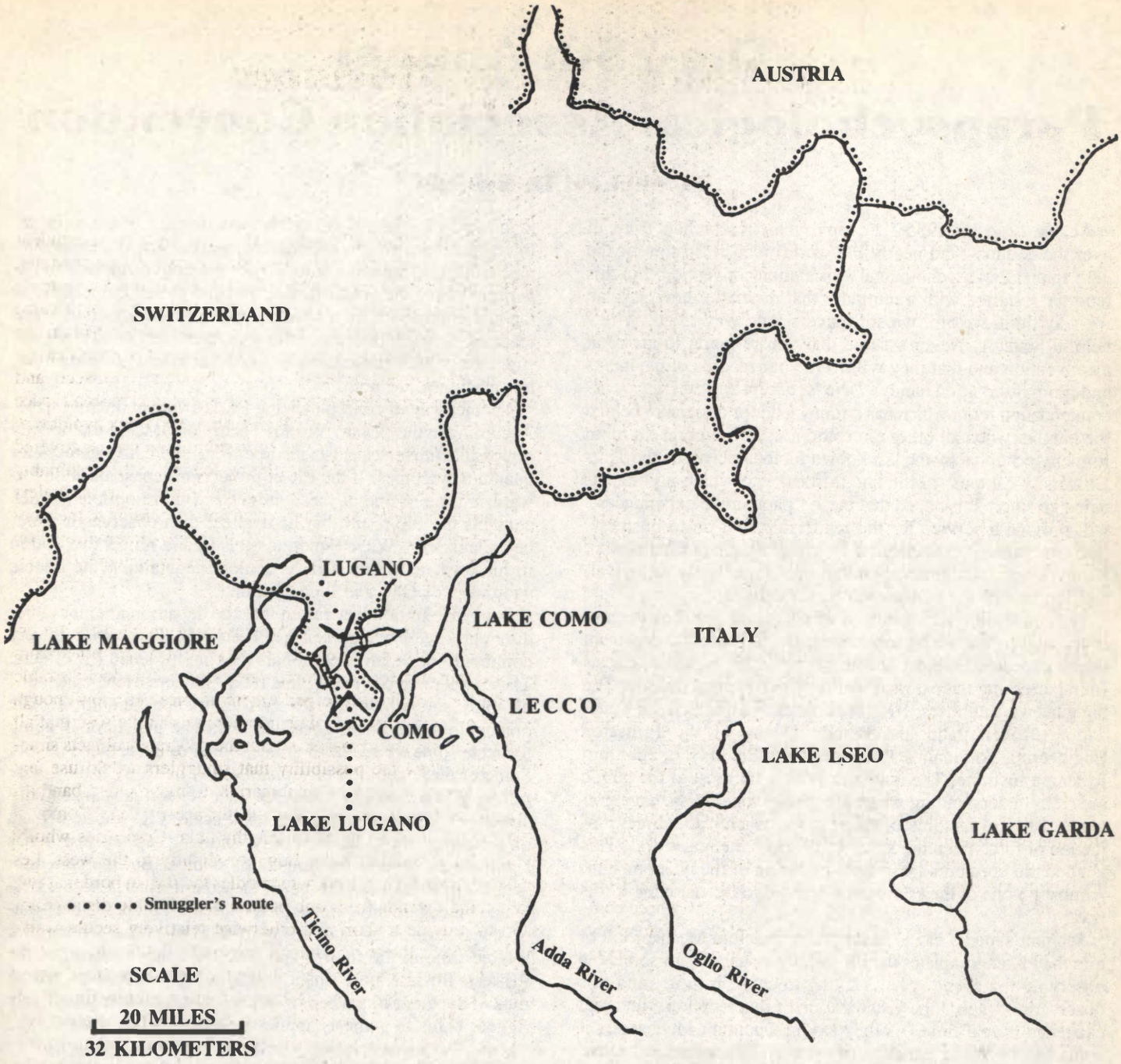
The truth, however, is easily bent when initial facts are erroneous. In this case, the error could have resulted either from garbled transmission or editorial carelessness. It is demonstrable that only a partially submerged watercraft presents a low enough profile to bobble and undulate convincingly in the way that all water monsters are supposed to. But the geographical facts simply do not allow the possibility that smugglers would use any type of vessel, much less a submarine, to move contraband international freight on or under the surface of Lake Como.

Although it is 30 miles in length, Lake Como lies wholly within Italy. Smaller Lake Lugano. slightly to the west, lies mostly within Switzerland but straddles the Italian border at two points and extends from one point a considerable distance inland to provide a short and otherwise relatively secure water route between the two countries. Beyond a doubt, this was the route the smugglers followed, plying their nefarious trade across Lake *Lugano* in a midget submarine that apparently did its job and should not be blamed for the disaster that befell its operators.

With the man-made monster (a.k.a. submarine) now disqualified from further competition for top billing in this media melodrama from the Italian lake country, we return to the all-natural monster of Lake Como for consideration of additional evidence.

The sturgeon that was caught and cooked was most likely a member of the Eastern Atlantic sturgeon family *Acipensar sturio*. Its habitat includes the Mediterranean Sea and those bays which are large enough to be called seas in their own right, as for example, the Adriatic. By a complicated series of interchanges, the outflow from Lake Como through the Adda River eventually reaches the Adriatic. For an adult sturgeon to fight its way upstream from sea to lake would cetainly be difficult, but marine scientists have learned that spirit, hunger and experience can drive the lower orders of life to accomplishments which we denizens of the highest order tend to resent and therefore discredit.

Also to be considered is the possibility that the sturgeon capture provided no more than a simple and convenient "explanation" of a true, unknown monster which was and may still be



resident in Lake Como. Dr. Roy P. Mackal has frequently asserted the theory that some of the lake monsters on this planet may in actuality be migrant sea monsters. For whatever reasons, these marine monsters migrate upstream through tortuous river systems into freshwater lakes far distant from their seaside outlets. According to Dr. Mackal and his supporters, these animals are sustained in a freshwater environment for a short period of time; then they migrate back into the sea when they sense an impending change of conditions inland. Could this be the scenario that nature played out in 1946?

The region surrounding Lake Como may be richer than we know in folklore inspired by the local lake monster. Since Lecco and Como are the only nearby towns of visible size, it seems unlikely that a few casual sightings would cause much of a stir beyond the immediate area. The wisest course for outsiders may be to let the Lake Como monster rest undisturbed in whatever surroundings of land, water or imagination best befit its current lifestyle. Perhaps one day in a less-prioritized age some researcher will be able to determine whether the Lake Como monster should join some of its brothers and sisters in the realm of truth, or simply be added to the world's monstrous stockpile of trivia.

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The 28th Annual Parapsychological Association Convention

by Michael D. Swords

August 12 to 16, 1985. The top psychic researchers from all over the country (and nearly the world) met in Boston for the 28th annual Parapsychological Association convention. For this reporter it started with a reminder that no matter how psychic we may think we are, we still have a long way to go. A few helpful hints: 1) Never assume that you're going to arrive at a convention and that they will have your records of payments and room reservation handy; 2) Never accept any emergency accommodation room which has a funny letter or designator behind the number when all other rooms do not; 3) Never take a room formerly occupied by the last known football player on the Tufts University campus (in the late thirties) into which no one has dared go since. It is hoped that these "paranormal experiences" will provide a service for the readership, but on to business. (P.S., the American Society for Psychical Research Chairperson, Fanny Knipe, straightened all that out immediately on arrival, and the rest of the convention was a delight.)

The convention was so full of wonders and Forteana that only the highlights can be mentioned. On day one the dominant theme concerned a great debate over PK. PK is psychokinesis (mind affecting the external world by paranormal means). The big guns were all there: Helmut Schmidt of Mind Science Foundation, Robert Jahn and Brenda Dunne of the Princeton Engineering Anomalies Research Lab, Ed May of Stanford Research Institute. The issue shows how far most of the public are from understanding where the parapsychologists have gotten to. Most of us think of PK as some psychic and direct projection of force from the Pk-er's mind into the real world. This is good old common-sense-style picturing of the phenomenon. Almost no one at the convention seemed to be visioning it this way.

Schmidt's model of PK incorporates Quantum Mechanics. For him the PK-er completes the PK-task by visualizing or somehow observing the event as he is trying to cause it to be, and this observation "gels" the visualization of that "option" into real existence in real time. As they say in Quantum Mechanics, it collapses the Wave Function (it takes an indeterminate or probabilistic group of possibilities and "materializes"/concretizes one of them). In the bizarre world of QM this seems like acceptable behavior: The observer participates in the creation/reification of the observed. How the PK-er manages this special sort of observership, no one knows. It must be somewhat special since all of us aren't PK-ing all the time, at best not that we notice. Robert Jahn and Brenda Dunne seem to be partly in this camp as well. Schmidt attempted to solidify the data for his "observer" theory by creating a "pseudo-PK" (but QM-like) experiment rather mind-boggling in its results and implications. Without giving the specifics of design here, the experiments' computers would secretly produce a result which the human PK-er would try to "cause" to be one way or the other. (In a QM world this observer-dependent trial might make sense.) Despite our common sense belief that the results were already "in," upon observation the PK-er seemed to have had a significant PK-effect on them. If that isn't weird enough for you, try this. Schmidt then created a way that an animal would "observe" the computer-generated result *before* the PK-er tried to influence it. The PK-er *couldn't* any longer create a variance. Interpretation: PK, this experiment, and the world *are* quantum mechanical. Quantum events do not gel until observed. In experiment two, the goldfish observed and gelled the results, so the late-coming PK-er wasted his time on already concretized realities. Schmidt disregards the computer itself as an observer, suggesting that "consciousness" is the key, and goldfishes are, but machines are not.

Another way of conceptualizing PK is a variant on this theme. According to the "Many Worlds Theory of QM," a multiplicity of possible universes exists incorporating alternative choices for quantum outcomes. If the PK-er projects his consciousness forward in time to one of these universes (future options) which contains the PK-result that he desires, then observes it there, he collapses the Wave Function (gels it) and reifies that option in his own real time. This is a model containing the double weirdness of QM *and* Precognition.

But Precognition has gotten into the debate in another rather different way, which eliminates PK entirely. This applies to very commonly-done lab experiments looking for small PK effects. These experiments typically involve a "random event generator" of some sort which the PK-er tries to non-randomize. The precognition argument goes like this: The generator is going to create some weird distributions sooner or later; that's its job. Some of these could *coincidentally* look like PK, if they were rolling at just the right time. But since several labs are so consistent in showing apparent small-scale PK, those offbeat distributions must be regularly showing up at test times significantly beyond the bounds of chance. But the generator *is* random, so how can this be? If the experimenter, unconsciously and precognitively, viewed/felt/sensed a "proper," bent-out-of-shape series of signals ready to roll out of the generator at a fixed time in the future, and (unconsciously) scheduled the PK-tests for just those times, then the PK-er would be getting runs of apparent hits when in fact the game was precognitively rigged. (This hypothesis applies to any "chance driven" and "active" (i.e., *some*thing's going to happen) tests in ESP as well.) Ah, the splendid and contorted subtlety of the parapsychological mind. The "problem" is that the SRI team just got some powerful evidence to support this view. Goodbye to PK? Well, maybe goodbye to PK in this sort of lab test. Elsewise, who knows? The Princeton Group, by the way, *also* delivered data which fit this intuitive recognitive test-rigging scenario.

Also, on day one, a brief list:

a. Introversion and "feeling-style" decision-makers were roughly correlated to psi-ability;

b. some faith healers when hooked to an EEG (brain wave measurer) showed rhythms of greater than 30 cycles per second, a rate often producing epileptic seizures otherwise;

c. fire-walkers report similar pre-trial mental states as faith-healers (timelessness, congruency with surroundings, an energy flow, a feeling of letting go/just "being"); Joyce Goodrich, a LeShan healer, expressed this as "letting go to an intensified point of quietness to a state where caring is the milieu;" Daniel Benor spoke of totally shutting up

the noise of the "Left (analytical) Brain;"

d. Marilyn Schlitz of Mind Science Foundation correlated a subject's biological PK-ability (e.g., healing) with their physical PK-ability;

e. films of Chinese Qi-Gong ("GeeGung") masters doing martial arts tricks, healing, and clairvoyance combined with PK were shown. The "science" shown was painfully bad. The clairvoyance is doubtful since a member of the visiting U.S. "team" (Marcello Truzzi of the *Zetetic Scholar*) caught a percipient cheating in an attempt to read a concealed target.

f. a new videogame "Psi-Invaders" is out, perhaps a Christmas gift for a paranoid friend. With all our concerns over Evil Eyes, Possession, and the Dark Side of the Force, this is probably all we need to (literally) "psych out" the society and eliminate all these phenomena parapsychologists are studying for good. Our famous past paranoid, Sigmund Freud, spoke of his terror as the ultimate ego-invasion threatened by psychic power — losing "self" in an Oceanic Tide of the invading All-Other. The parapsychologists themselves fear this and other psychic negatives, and feel that this fear of confronting the POWER "in the raw" retards their discoveries by driving labs to more "sanitized" experiments wherein they learn more and more about less and less. It seems parapsychologists, too, watch too many bad movies.

Well,onto the next and shorter day...

To this author, the major piece of revelation in the second day was the paper (read by a colleague) by the absent Michael Persinger. All persons interested in anomalies should know Persinger. If you don't, shame, go stand in the corner and order a copy of *Space Time Transients and Unusual Events*, wherein he proposes that many "damned facts" and events which don't seem readily understandable occur at locations of geophysical strain and peculiar electromagnetic field changes. He has been scaring the willies out of the ufologists with this idea for years. Now it may be parapsychology's turn. (Although they, strangely, didn't seem to mind.)

The paper took 25 cases of post-mortem apparitions from a work by Ian Stevenson, and showed that general geomagnetic field strengths were significantly lower at the time of the experience than previous or afterwards (i.e., there was a general depression, a "well," in the magnetic field of the earth). Taking 78 cases from the old Gurney, Myers, Podmore study of apparitions he found the same pattern. Looking at 57 cases of spontaneous, powerful telepathy reported in *FATE* magazine, he found the same depression. But in 56 *FATE* cases of precognition, he found *no* correlation. A paper by Marsha Adams of the intriguingly named Time Research Institute found the geomagnetic field quieter in the period before successful "remote viewing" (a type of clairvoyance) lab tests, and more stormy before unsuccessful ones.

The parapsychologists seemed fired up over this, since they tend to view altered states of consciousness as potentially conducive to psi. Odd geomagnetism moments might be a mind-altering "psi trigger." Maybe they are unaware that Persinger has used this theory to *debunk* UFOs, seeing odd geomagnetic moments as a mind-altering "craziness trigger." Such electromagnetic-induced craziness could go far to discrediting the spontaneous cases Persinger reports upon. As for Marsha Adams' lab tests, even they might not be safe from this debunking fate...extra erraticness and craziness in the experimenters might not produce the most reliable results afterall. As of now, Persinger plus Parapsi seem a happy couple. Only time will tell whether he is playing the wolf-in-grandma's clothing to their Little Red Riding Hood.

The PA's Presidential Address was given this day, and contained at least one serious point which must be important to all anomalies researchers if they're ever to be taken seriously and get the prejudices of the scientific establishment off their backs. Robert Morris (chair of Parapsychology, University of Edinburgh) requested that all parapsychologists become intimately aware of and continually vigilant against all those circumstances and things which can be *mistaken* for psi. This is not only the *only* appropriate way to do research (i.e., seriously considering the alternatives at all times), but it is the most sociologically feasible way of eliminating knee-jerk, backlash hyperskepticism. Parapsychology (as most other subjects we read in ***PURSUIT*** is continuously being gaffed by the hyperskeptics. Their "game" is simple. Catch you being ignorant, gullible, or biased and nail your hide to Science's bathroom door. The way to beat this game is obvious. Don't be ignorant, gullible, or biased. Be knowledgeable, analytical, and open-minded: On *all* the alternatives. In short be the "ideal scientist" as close as that mythical cryptozoological beast can be approximated. You then bring *their* biases into sharp relief, and *their* hide goes on the bathroom door. And better yet, the media comes to *you* for *your* opinion, and the whole world grows smarter ever after. Charles Fort would've liked that. "All the alternatives" getting their proper due was where he was at. Congratulations, Robert Morris.

Several other "happenings" in brief comment:

a. At the University of Delaware has been developed a device for detecting PK on the swimming motions of microorganisms (ex-green algae). Of more interest to this author than the preliminary PK data was the pre-testing phenomenon of a powerful behavioral change elicited by a distant spark in the lab (with attendant noise) on the algae's swimming habits — a sign of the exquisite sensitivity of life forms to their environment.

b. A Hungarian physicist reported on PK-tests with school children (moving aluminum foil floaters on the surface of water) in a fairly ingenious (and cheap!) experiment. Maybe it was even true.

c. SRI attempted to detect radiation photons produced by Qi Gong Masters (as the Chinese allege they do) with their hi-tech equipment. Result: Maybe.

d. The famous California parapsychologist Russell Targ reported on Remote Viewing tests. This is mentioned to show a "sociological" happening in the field. He felt that this ability was now so well established that he didn't need any more than six data bits (tests) to make his case. With all due respect (and he *is* a very bright man), methinks such behavior is premature.

e. Successful "Remote Viewers" (Clairvoyants who seem to see from afar) were given a battery of psychological tests to see what sort of folks they were regarding problem-solving style, general mental approach, and Jungian personality types. They tended to be a very few categories out of all the possible mixes. The commonest was a multi-dimensional (doing a lot of things at once), analytical-yet-creative "Seeker of Truth" sort. Probably what you'd expect. But the second heaviest cluster was of poorly developed and purely "reactive" thinkers. The message here seems to be: if you think that you're a dud, you may be a psychic...Hmmm.

New days dawned but the convention was past its revelationary peaks. Several panels dominated day three. Five magi-

cians convened to tell the researchers that they better get into the magic business sufficiently to spot expert tricksters. George Hansen, a psi researcher himself, bluntly criticized several other researchers' work by name; some of whom were sitting right there in the audience. Russell Targ, who did the Stanford Research Institute testing of "super psychic" Uri Geller, rose at one point to warn his colleagues of the extreme measures false psychics will go to fool them (meddling about the labs, sending in agents, stealing stationery, "planting" items). The point seemed well taken by the crowd.

A panel entitled "Psi and Consciousness" might better have been entitled "Psi and Unconsciousness," as the audience snored through a series of disjointed and largely "winging it" type talks. One good idea emerged as mild skeptic Susan Blackmore offered to meet JFK University's Julian Isaacs "out-of-the-body" somewhere on the astral plane for purposes unknown. This unique proposition seemingly catching Dr. Isaacs with his, er, guard down, the motion died for lack of a second.

The third potentially exciting panel, "Clinical Parapsychology," also remained "potentially," as only veteran researcher Stanley Krippner seemed well prepared. He took the crowd on an interesting tour through world cultures reminding us of the usages of Shamanism and folk healing as time-honored forms of "clinical parapsychology." Other than that possibility the best anyone could suggest was that there may be a need for professional "Ghostbusters."

The final day was dominated by honors to the American Society for Psychical Research (having its 100th Birthday), but also included some talks of research discoveries. Russell Targ appeared again to speak of a trial study of precognition, a human faculty which he feels is already scientifically established by studies at Princeton. The main points of interest to this writer were his mentioning that such work is inspired by application of psi forecasting to silver futures (*that* ought to solve the funding crisis), and his observation that the existence of precognition shows that we have a fundamental misunderstanding of the nature of time. He believes that the future is "retrocausal" upon the present (roughly a cause-backwards idea, which, if you think about it too long you are guaranteed psychic distress).

British researcher Serena Roney-Dougal spoke of the psi-inducing effects of the harmaline vine, known to be used by technologically primitive cultures in Amazonia. The vine is used for psychic therapy, and Roney-Dougal thinks that she is on the track of why. The active ingredient, harmaline, is very similar to the brain hormone Serotonin (which governs the sleep and dream states). Harmaline is what chemists call a Beta-Carboline, such compounds being hallucinogens and inhibitors of the important brain enzyme, monoamine oxidase. Roney-Dougal thinks these effects center upon the pineal gland, the legendary focus in the brain of clairvoyance ("the third eye"), and produce altered states of consciousness which open awareness to psychic phenomena. From the audience, Scott Rogo seconded this idea with remarks that harmaline showed such powerful ESP-inducing properties in the 1930's at the Pasteur Institute that it was given the nickname "Telepathie." Maybe, but this writer knows one other important thing about monoamine oxidase inhibitors — they produce *schizophrenia.* For some reason this wasn't brought up.

Faith-healing researcher Glen Rein then spoke of lab tests on the famous superpsychic, Matthew Manning. These also involved monoamine oxidase, but this time just in test tubes. Manning held the tubes for five minutes each in an attempt to affect the enzyme's "power" or activity. The results showed that sometimes the activity seemed to go up, sometimes down. Rein was excited about this for some reason. But as someone who has struggled with enzyme activity measurements in the past, this writer suggests that a lot more testing needs to be done on these most fragile and difficult-to-control systems, especially considering the up and down nature of the results. For some strange reason about 80% of the psi-researchers seem to want to do the least number possible tests and then quit. Maybe it's funds, maybe it's time, but it'll never be accepted as "science" until the numbers and controls strengthen.

Lastly, John Palmer of the Institue for Parapsychology at Durham, N.C. addressed the question: in the 100-year history of the ASPR "Have we established psi?" His refreshing candid answer: *NO.* He stated that psychic researchers have clearly established that anomalies exist, anomalies which are replicable and have not been adequately explained by "normal" means. *But,* they have not proved that *para*normal agencies are at work. All alternatives have not been eliminated; all alternatives are probably not even yet known. But mystery still resides here, and research must go on. To all that, this writer says "Amen," and go for it.

Much else went on during this paranormal gala, but we've pretty much sized things up for this year. It's nice to know that all the mysteries aren't solved; but if you hear of strange things going on in the Silvers Market, maybe we better get in touch with Dr. Targ...but he would have expected that already, wouldn't he?

Report on Three Conferences by Robert Warth

I was pleased to be able to attend the following three conferences during the 3rd quarter of 1985. There were no major disappointments with any of the three.

The U.S. Psychotronics Association (formerly the U.S. Radionics Association) met this year at the Bergamo Center, Dayton, Ohio, July 10-14, 1985.

Significant lectures (some with demos or workshops) included: E. Rauscher & Tom Bearden "Introduction to the 'Tutorial Day on Tesla Physics';" Mary Hardy "Theory of EM Chemistry and How It Relates to Color Therapy, Homeopathy, and Psychotronics;" Jack Houck "A Conceptual Model of Paranormal Phenom., Information Transfer & Mind-Brain Interaction;" Henry Montieth "A New Approach to Electromagnetics;" Ron Vanmeter "Color and Achieving Balance;" Elizabeth Rauscher "Examination of Physical Models/Remote Connectedness Phenomena;" Lutie Larsen "Tuning Into Medicine Well Consciousness;" Pharis Williams "The Dynamical Theory, A New View of Space, Time & Matter;" Dr. Wm. Nelson "Quantum Energetics Medicine;" Moray King "Macroscopic Vacuum Polarization;" Gary Fleck "A Kirlian Look at Gems and Crystals;" Tom Bearden "Foundations of Scalar Electromagnetics;" Henry Montieth "Overlooked Unifying Principles in Physics;" Paul Patchum "Magnetic Zone Therapy;" E. Rauscher, Tom Bearden, Henry Montieth, Jack Houck, Pharis Williams, Eldon Byrd, Moray King, et al "Panel Discussion on Tesla Physics;" Joyce Morris "Reiki, A Healing Modality."

L.A. Surgalla "ELF Effects on Cellular Membranes;" Barbara Hero "International Harmony Based upon a Music of Planetary Grid;" Andrew Junker "Systems Eng. Based Methodology to Describe Brain Entrainment to ELF Visual Stimuli;" Annamary Bierley "Tesla, The Man and His Creativity;" Eldon Byrd "Trancendental Medication;" Paul Esch "Psychotronic Engineering;" Ken Moore "Experiments with a Bedine/W. German Type Pulsed DC-Motor;" Sam Lentine "Prelim. Report on Extension of Functional Approach to Psychotronic Biosynthesis;" Tom Valone "New Technology for 'The New Age,' ELF Measurement & Demo.;" Kathleen Joyce "Mathematical Analysis of Kelly Radionic Rates;" Frank Meyer "Beyond Space & Time: The Third Sector of the Human Universe;" Dr. Alice Shilling "Therapist and Operator Protection: Dispelling Negative Entities;" Fred Blau "Physics of Telepathy, Psychokinesis, and Biophysical Healing;" Dennis Stillings "History of Radionics, Part #1;" Andrija Puharich "The Final Solution to the ELF Problem;" Peter Kelly "Interdimensional Sciences Water Purifier;" Preston Nichols "Demonstration of Tesla High-Voltage Transformer;" Rocky McCullom "The Bergamo Chart;" Eldon Byrd "Spoon Bending Party."

Jack Dea "Fundamental Fields and Phase Information;" Jerry Fridenstine & Peter Kelly "Applying the Tesla Physics to the Farm;" Al Bielek "Counter-Measures II — A New Approach to the ELF Problem;" Ed Skilling "Infrared Detection in Psychotronics;" Marty Stewart "Bringing Everything Into Balance;" Tom Bearden "Soviet Weather Engineering Over North America;" Jerry Fridenstine "ELF In Agriculture and Home and Our Solution;" Bill Van Bise "Acoustic Lasers — How to Disable Surveillance Satellites;" Tom Piecynski "Animal Health & Crops;" Bob Beck "Advanced Electronic Sensors of Occult Influences in Health and Disease;" Bast, Stewart, Kelly, & Fridenstine "Panel Discussion on Agriculture;" Elizabeth Rauscher "Theoretical Examination of Nonlinear, Far from Equilibrium, Self-Organizing Phenomena:" Rozanne Bazinet "Effects of Wearing Quartz Crystal on Measures of Stress Tolerance in Individuals;" Joseph Gambil "Paranormal Photography and Enlargement — with Interpretation;" Marcel Vogel — "Electro-physiological Changes in the Body of Crystals and Crystal Healing Techniques;" Jan Brice "The Esoteric Worldview, A Ready Made Conceptual Framework for Psychotronics."

J. G. Gallimore "Proof of Unusual Energy Field;" Dennis Stillings "History of Radionics, Part II;" Eugenia Macer-Story "Matrix Model of Time Density and Teluric Field Characteristics May Describe Gravitational Anomalies;" Peter Kelly "Standards & Ethics of Frequency Generation Equip.;" Robert Beutlich "Three Dimensional Plot of 8 x 8 Matrix/I-Ching — Time, Electric, Magnetic & Gravity Fields."

The New Frontiers Center held two seminars, "Healing Modalities, Psychic Phenomena & Survival Evidence — II;" "Alternative Approaches to Health Care," at the Concourse Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin, August 22-25.

First Seminar Program: Prof. Ian D. Currie & Carole Davis "Hypnosis, Age Regression and Past Lives;" Dan Carlson "Music, Hormones and Plants;" Walter H. Uphoff "How the Media Treats Psychic Phenomena;" Lee Pulos "Trance States and Healing;" Alan Neuman & Lee Pulos "Filming Paranormal Phenomena."

Prof. Ian D. Currie & Carole Davis "Hauntings and Poltergeists;" Bruce H. Lipton "Communication at the Cellular Level;" Leslie Lemke "Concert;" Alan Neuman "Filming Psychic Phenomena;" Lee Pulos & F. Farrelly "Trance States and Healing;" Dan Carlson & Dennis Stillings "Music, Hormones and Plants;" Lynn Gardner & Carol Young "Psychic Counselling;" Bruce H. Lipton & Shelley Jordan "Cosmic Influence on Cellular Life;" Mary Jo Uphoff "Understanding the Psychic Child."

Dr. Rauni-Leena Luukanen "Psychic Experiences of a Physician;" Coral Polge "Communicating with the Unseen World via Psychic Art;" Dennis Stillings & Walter A. Frank "Metal Bending Party."

Dr. Andrija Puharich "Psychics and Healers I Have Known;" Dr. C. Norman Shealy "The Range of Health Care Modalities;" W. Uphoff, Dr. Shealy, C. Polge, I. Currie, Dr. Luukanen "Panel Discussion — Some Prerequisites for Good Health, Here and Hereafter."

Workshops: Sai Baba "The Holy Man;" Erlendur Haraldsson "Research on Clinical Death;" Rev. Henry Rucker & Henry Boshears "Psychic Diagnosis and Healing;" Dr. Rosemarie Mieg & Dr. Frances Ehrlich "Color, Sound, Energy Fields;" Dennis Stillings & Lee Jewell "Fire Walking & Metal Bending;" Walter Frank & Mr. & Mrs. Laird "Shamans and Psychics;" Frank H. Meyer & Otto H. Schmitt "Expanding Concepts in Physics."

Second Seminar Program: Dr. C. Norman Shealy "The Need for Broader Perspective in Health Care;" Lee Pulos "Health Through the Eyes of a Clinical Psychologist;" Dr. Andrija Puharich "(ELF) Magnetic Fields in Healing;" Bruce H. Lipton "New Findings in Cell Biology;" Dr. Rauni-Leena Luukanen "What Medicine Can Learn From Parapsychology."

Friedrich M.W.Plog"Homeopathy, Laser Technology, etc.;" O. Schmitt, B. Lipton & F. Plog "Panel Discussion — Research and Inventions in Medicine;" C. Shealy and others "Panel Discussion — Choices Before Us."

Workshops: Dr. Friedrich M.W. Plog & Dr. Rosemarie Mieg "Homeopathy, Acupuncture and Other Healing Modalities;" Rev. Henry Rucker, Bill Boshears & Frank Farrelly "The Role of the Mind, Prayer Laying on Hands, and Psychic Healers; Dr. Hans Naegeli "Psychiatry and Possession;" Dr. Andrija Puharich & Dr. Frances E. Ehrlich "Use of Ozone, Color Sound and Electrical Stimulation;" Katherine Ankenbrandt & Alan Neuman "Traditional Healing in Other Parts of the World."

The Ancient Astronaut Society held their 10th World Conference in the Hotel Nova-Park, Zurich, Switzerland, September 20-21.

Peter Krassa & Victor Farkas "And The Gods Created Man;" Dr. Martina Steinhardt "Comparison of Chromosomes form Different Hominoidea for Possible Artifical Changes;" Zecharia Sitchin "The Wars of Gods and Men;" Dr. Walter Murawski "Mayan 260-Day Calendar — a 3000-Year-Old Computer;" George Sassoon "Long-Delayed Radio-Echoes From Outer Space;" Prof. Dr. Dileep Kumar Kanjilal "Sanksrit Texts on World Cataclysm and the Advent of the Gods;" Johannes Fiebag "Traces of Extraterrestrial Intelligences Throughout the Ages?;" Peter Fiebag "From the Depth of the Universe."

Ing. Gerardo Level "Warrior or Genius?;" Johannes Freiherr von Buttlar-Brandenfels "Extraterrestrials Are Observing Mankind;" Dr. N. Mahalingam "The Puranic Ages;" Gerd von Hassler "Can a Highly-Developed Civilization Disappear Completely?;" Ing. Hans Herbert Beier "Eye-Witness Ezekiel;" Prof. Dr. Harry O. Ruppe "The AAS Hypothesis From a Space-Travel Perspective;" Erich von Daniken "New Chariots of the Gods."

Accomodations were comfortable in the out-of-the-way Dayton, Ohio location.

The Wisconsin "Uphoff Conference" — which, in my opinion, it should rightly be called — approached a full, four-star rating. Unfortunately, some of the hotel services, in this reviewer's opinion, detracted from an otherwise splendid gathering.

In contrast, the continental accomodations at the Hotel Nova-Park, well-accustomed to conferences, brought out the best of the 10th annual Ancient Astronaut Society meeting.

Individual tapes and related information available from each conference organization.



Danger Under the Waves

The Giant Octopus of the Mediterranean

by Ulrich Magin

Perhaps the most common archetype of sea monster is the Kraken — the fabulous, giant, shapeless monster with innumerable arms full of cups, which suck human blood, and a huge parrot-like beak that mutilates any diver unlucky enough to encounter it. We find this legendary creature in all seas of the world, from Polynesia to Japan, the Bahamas or British Columbia (even in H. G. Wells' famous novel, *War of the Worlds*!).

From the end of the 19th century onward, all these tales were regarded as reports of giant squids, but in recent years the idea that a new species of giant octopus lives in the Bahamas has been supported by many. Though dispute still goes on as to whether the famous carcass found there in 1896 was that of a whale or octopus, the beast has got a scientific name: Octopus giganteus verril.

The Kraken of the Mediterranean has no latin name, but first reports of it date back to antiquity.

Ulysses encountered a monster of six necks with ugly heads and three rows of sharp teeth, according to Homer which he called, Scylla. This may have been a giant octopus, if the creature ever existed, because it lived in a hole in a rock, unlike the giant squid, which is a high-sea animal. Some place Scylla at Kyle in Scotland, but most authors agree that she lived in the straits between Italy and Sicily.[1]

Another possible monster of that kind is the Hydra or Lerna, a monstrous watersnake reputed to have seven heads (other authors give a number of 50, or 100 heads). It allegedly was killed by Heracles, the Greek hero. Lerna is a swampy place in Greece.[2]

No other but St. John is the next witness. In 98 AD he stayed at Patmos, Greece, where he saw a monster coming out of the sea, "with seven heads and with ten horns." This monster was a mixture between Scylla and the Hydra, and it's very likely not based on an actual observation, but on folklore, fit into the religious pattern of the prophecy. It's not easy to evalute visionary testimonies, so this tale should be taken with caution.[3]

Aelian, a Roman author of the third century, is the last of the writers of antiquity to mention the beast. He recorded the story of a giant octopus as big as a whale which, he claimed, could be found near Italy. His source, however, was Pliny, who placed his octopus on the Atlantic coast of Spain, and gave somewhat smaller figures of its size.[4] There is a long span of time until we find a brief note from the 17th century about a dragon with seven heads reportedly seen on December 15th, 1608 near Malta, as depicted on an engraving now in the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris.[5]

Next is a short but enigmatic observation of "a monstrous fish ... floundering in shallow waters on the Banclas Rocks, not far from the Island of St. Honorat, near Cannes, (France)" which had a beak like a parrot. Oudemans, who records the story (of August 1889), comments that it was "most probably ... a (giant) calmary." As far as I know no giant squids were ever found in the Mediterranean, so that this may be another octopus, but who knows?[6]

Then, another time gap, and now we're in the 20th century. At Point Lobos, Toulon, Var, France, not too far from Cannes, a diver saw a really monstrous octopus with arms four metres long, giving it a tentacle span of 9.6 metres, which is too big even for an oversized octopus of British Columbia, much less the Mediterranean. I can give no more details, beyond the date of 1912, because I have several versions of the report that differ not only in location but also as to the name of the witness.[7]

In January 1920, an octopus attacked Mrs. Tattersall Dodd near San Tropez in France. The aggressive beast was killed, and its arms measured some 50 centimetres. This did not prevent some newspapers from giving figures as high as 12 metres, making it a direct rival to its Bahamas "cousin."[8]

Jean Negri, a professional diver, claimed he had seen a giant octopus at Málaga, Spain in 1932. He was doing salvaging work in the harbour of that town, where two ships had collided some days before. One of them had had a cargo of frozen meat, and this "attracted all the ugly monsters of the sea. A giant octopus attacked Negri, who defended himself. When the diver was pulled on deck he was freed of the eight slimy arms that had Negri in firm grip." This sounds very sensational, and in fact, Cousteau identifies Negri as a hoaxer in a different context in his book *The Silent World*.[9]

In August 1936 another attack occured while Selwyn Guy Phillips, an English pupil, dived for sea urchins at Lerin Island, near Cannes, France. The 13-year-old boy from Willesdon, London, was walking between the rocks when his foot was grabbed by what he first thought was a jellyfish. He soon realized that it was the arm of an enormous octopus, which proceeded to entangle the boy in its other arms. A 55-year-old English swimming instructor, Captain Dudley, heard the desperate shouts of the boy and came to help him. Fortunately, he had a knife with him, with which he blindly jabbed into the ugly beast, finally killing it. No size for the octopus is given, and I couldn't find confirmation of the story in the *London Times*. I feel it is evident that this could not have been a common octopus.[10]

Another boy diving for sea urchins on July 19, 1939 at La Spezia, Italy, was the target of yet another attack. Mario Bergonzelli, 19, was at the bottom of the sea when "a big octopus" seized him. The monster had some of its arms fixed at the bottom, and the others wrapped around the victim who was unable to escape. After a dramatic submarine struggle Mario killed the giant with a sharp stone. When he reached the surface in an exhausted state his body was covered by wounds made by the suckers of the brute.[11]

In November 1953 *Science Digest* reported that a diver had encountered a giant octopus with eyes "as big as saucers" at Piraeus, Greece. He accended as quickly as he could.

I have two other similar-sounding encounters, but, I'm not sure that both reports do not relate to the same incident: Egon Larson reported the story of a British diver who went down near Plataea, Greece (which is near, but not identical to Piraeus). He found a cliff with many holes underwater, and rashly put his arm into one of them. "A sort of slimy, rubber trunk" appeared. Sensing danger the diver drew back his hand and when he stared into the darkness of the cave, he "saw two ugly, evil eyes ... the lids slowly moved down until they covered half of the eyes, then moved up again." The report notes that the witness could discern the monster's ten arms — obvious nonsense, because giant squids do not live in caves. [12]

The most recent encounter sounds like those mentioned before: Mark Caney, a British diver was nearly killed by a giant octopus at Kata Paphos, Cyprus. If I interpret the report correctly, the octopus had a tentacle span of about 6 feet, which would make it big, though not giant. It gripped Mr. Caney's back and head with tentacles as big as an upper arm and egg-sized suction cups, tearing off his victim's diving mask. When Mr. Caney managed to get into shallow water, the creature disentangled itself and darted off.[13]

From the foregoing, it is clear that some unidentified large octopi have been seen in the Mediterranean Sea. It's a pity that only a few of the reports I have give any size, but all mention that the creature in question was 'large,' 'huge' or 'giant.' The common octopus (Octopus vulgaris) has a maximum tentacle span of 3 metres (10 feet). The length of one tentacle can be as much as 50 or 60 centimetres. (It is clear from some reported incidents that even small octopi are able to kill a human. Hans Hass told of the tragic death of two Japanese divers that were killed by a common octopus at Ischia, Italy, in 1967. The small [14 kg] octopus held both divers firm in its arms until they drowned. The animal was finally killed by another diver.)[14]

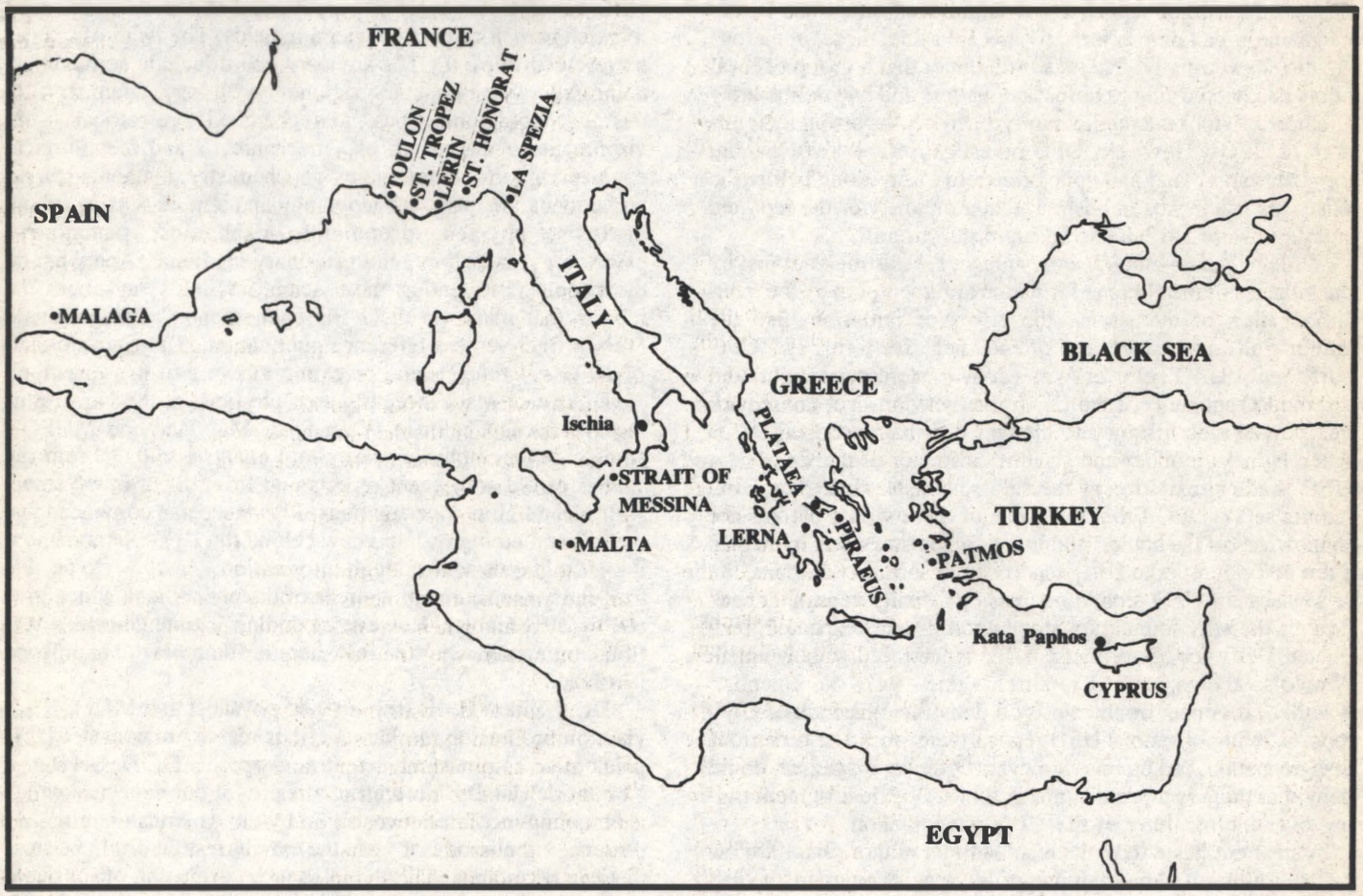
While some of the reports quoted here may come from oversized specimens, others, like the two Greece reports from the 1950s, or Aelian's Italian monster, were of bigger proportions. Also noteworthy is the continuous line of reports, and the geographical distribution of the encounters. And, lastly, Jean Jacques Barloy told me that the people of Provence, in the south of France, do have folktales of giant octopi in the area.[15]

Certainly a closer examination of the sightings is required.

Many thanks to Michael Raynal and Jean Jacques Barloy for information.

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'Bad Science, Bad Journalism'

Discover Magazine Scolded for Article on Hudson Valley UFOs

by Thomas Burch

As its feature article for November 1984, *Discover* magazine published a special report on the media-grabbing wave of UFO sightings that originated from the Hudson Valley region of southeastern New York State. The Hudson Valley UFO flap, which occurred during the first half of 1983, involved the reported sighting of huge, slow-moving and brilliant boomerang-shaped lights or objects by thousands of area residents. One of the most significant periods of mass sightings since the advent of the modern UFO era, the Hudson Valley wave is unique in that it involves not only a large quantity of sightings, but an impressive number of reports documenting very close-up UFO sightings as well.

The *Discover* article, written by Glenn Garelik, was trumpeted as the definitive solution to the sensationalized Hudson Valley sightings; area residents, *Discover* maintained, were simply the gullible victims of a sophomoric group of local hobbyist pilots who had been flying their small, single-engine airplanes in tight formation in an attempt to mimic UFOs. These pilots, according to *Discover*, had been enormously successful in their efforts, and in the true spirit of their highjinks had even named themselves "Martians."

Being familiar with the Hudson Valley events prior to reading *Discover's* special report, I was somewhat chagrined at the magazine's cavalier efforts to sweep aside these numerous sightings so casually. There is little doubt that a group of local pilots had been trying to obfuscate matters and had deliberately attempted to fool the public into erroneously reporting their aircraft as UFOs. However, UFO investigators had known about the "Martians" and had gone on record to say, long before the *Discover* article was published, that a minority of the reported sightings were attributable to prankster aircraft.

While re-reading the *Discover* piece, I was struck not just by the fallacies of the airplane formation argument, but by the oversimplication of the issues, the errors of omission, and the author's all-too-frequent use of such negative terms as "UFO buff" and "UFO believers" as a ploy to stereotype, taint, and discredit proponents of the UFO phenomenon. Yet the remark that proved most irksome to me was one that described Dr. J. Allen Hynek, founder and scientific director of the Center for UFO Studies, as "one of the few scientists who takes UFO reports seriously." From the seeds of these words blooms the shallowness of the author's thinking. Scientists, many more than a few to be sure, take UFO reports quite seriously. In fact, the seriousness of UFO reports, increasing steadily in number each year, is the very foundation-stone upon which the heated, protracted UFO debate has been based since the day of Kenneth Arnold's landmark UFO report in June 1947. No scientist, whether proponent or skeptic, will deny the existence of UFO reports. Without serious UFO reports there would be no serious disagreement. And no one, not even *Discover* magazine, could deny that there is a heated and, at times, hostile argument raging over the meaning of the UFO phenomenon.

In apparent haste to make his deadline, author Garelik blew his credibility in paragraph one of his special report. If he had chosen his words with more care, he might have written that *few scientists are committed to the idea that UFO reports constitute positive proof of extraterrestrial visitation.* Certainly such a statement would have been a far less-demanding one to justify, and one which would probably be agreeable to both sides of the controversy. But what might have been said is not the issue here. What the author stated so categorically, and what *Discover* permitted to be published with so much ballyhoo, was *"few scientists take UFO reports seriously."* This is the point that must either be refuted or be allowed to stand.

Do more than a few scientists take UFO reports seriously? My understanding of UFO research and investigative activities compels me to say that many scientists do take the issue seriously. But, unlike *Discover* magazine, I am aware that I must present my findings and then let readers judge the validity of my claim.

Who are the scientists that take UFO reports seriously? The scientists that constitute the 67-man Mutual UFO network (MUFON) advisory board of consultants might be a suitable group to begin with. These physical and social scientists, 56 of them holders of doctorate degrees, were recruited to serve in an advisory capacity to MUFON, to apply their expertise to UFO cases under MUFON study, and to conduct advanced research in their respective scientific fields. The fields of science represented in MUFON's advisory board include aeronautics, anthropology, astronautics, astronomy, biology, chemistry, interstellar communications, and chemical / electrical / environmental / mathematical / mechanical / and metallurgical engineering; also, entomology, geochemistry, mathematics, internal medicine, physical geography and remote sensing, photo analysis, physics, propulsion mechanics, psychiatry, psychology, radiology, and veterinary medicine. And what do the people representing these scientific fields say about the reports that make up the UFO phenomenon? Using Ronald Story's finely-edited reference publication, *The Encyclopedia of UFO's,* I found some revealing answers to this question:

•Dr. Bruce Maccabee, research physicist at the Naval Surface Weapons Center in White Oak, Maryland and MUFON advisor on laser physics and photo analysis said, "From my studies of old and recent reports and from direct involvement with several UFO investigations, I have become convinced that there is something real and new behind the UFO phenomenon. I don't think we have enough information . . . to be able to identify the source or sources of the phenomena which give rise to UFO reports. However, I think it is time that the scientific community admitted that there is some new phenomenon involved."

•Dr. William F. Hassel, applied physicist and MUFON advisor on propulsion mechanics, finds reasons to consider UFO phenomena for practical, scientific purposes. Dr. Hassel states, "I consider UFOs to represent a reality of our existence which is obtaining increased recognition by the American public. My personal orientation is toward the extraterrestrial origin because that can be more steadily handled as an extension of, or quan-

tum jump beyond, our present-day science and technology. I am in favor of an intensive research program on UFOs in the hope that we may eventually be able to develop the appropriate physics and technology to build a similar type of craft."

•Walter Webb, former assistant director of Boston's Hayden Planetarium and one of MUFON's consultants on astronomy, has similar leanings toward the extraterrestrial hypothesis. Regarding his position, Webb has said, "After personally investigating the UFO matter for over a quarter of a century, I continue to believe that very strong circumstantial evidence exists supporting the extraterrestrial origin for UFOs."

•Dr. Michael Schultz, MUFON consultant on sociology, maintains, "The extraterrestrial hypothesis appears, so far, to be the explanation best supported by the facts."

•And finally, in direct response to the claim that few scientists take UFOs seriously, Stanton Friedman, MUFON consultant on nuclear physics, replies pointedly, "The notion that most people and most scientists do not believe in UFOs is pure fiction, concocted and repeated over and over again by ancient academics, naysaying newsmen, and fossilized physicists who form a very small, but very vocal minority full of false platitudes, illogical reasoning, misinformation, and usually egotistical notions about their own knowledge and importance."

Other scientists, speaking through organizational bodies, have voiced their opinions regarding the legitimacy of the UFO phenomenon as a subject for scientific inquiry. The following statement, issued in December 1968 by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), gives support to Mr. Friedman's allegations. The AIAA went on record to say, "the UFO issue cannot be resolved without further study in a quantitative scientific manner and that it deserves the attention of the engineering and scientific community." Another example of a group scientific opinion supporting the seriousness of UFO reports is the result of a poll conducted by professor Peter A. Sturrock of Stanford University. According to Dr. Sturrock, "53% of the respondents to a 1977 American Astronomical Society (AAS) survey said that UFOs certainly or probably do deserve scientific study." The respondents to Dr. Sturrock's AAS survey were by no means alone in their opinions concerning the legitimacy of the UFO issue. As David Webb, senior scientist at American Science and Engineering Inc., pointed out, "A 1971 survey of *Industrial Research* magazine indicated that a majority believe UFOs exist, and over three quarters believed the government is concealing UFO information and that the conclusions of the Condon Report were not definitive."

At this point it becomes somewhat obvious that *Discover's* claim that few scientists take UFO reports seriously is more an exercise in wishful thinking than a statement of truth. Not isolated from the real world, but very much a part of it, many scientists take UFO reports seriously for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the fact that *people* take UFO reports seriously. This fact was confirmed by a 1978 Gallup Poll which found that 57% of the U.S. population believes UFOs to be real, and that 9% of the U.S. population (13 million) thought they had witnessed a UFO. People from all walks of life, of educational and economic backgrounds of infinite variety, are convinced that they are indeed seeing something real. And the fanciful, sometimes insulting explanations provided by the skeptics have not stemmed the tide of these sighting reports.

Contrary to the decades-old claims of the armchair experts, UFOs are not a fad, nor are they the product of postwar nerves and/or mass hysteria. Despite the ridicule hurled their way, responsible people have continued to report UFO sightings. It would seem that for no reason other than its sheer persistence, the UFO phenomenon should be *studied.* One need not be a scientist with leanings toward the extraterrestrial hypothesis to arrive at this conclusion. Dr. John B. Carlson, Director of the Center for Astronomy at Maryland University, notes that, "People do have UFO experiences and, in this sense, there is certainly a complex UFO phenomenon that is worthy of careful investigation regardless of how the underlying experiences may eventually be understood." Sociologist/writer Ann Druffel also acknowledges the people-oriented need for seriously studying the UFO enigma. Says Ms. Druffel, "UFOs present an urgent problem, not only to researchers but to the witnesses themselves and the population in general. The mystery of UFOs must be solved by a combination of physical and social scientists, humanists, and philosophers. No facet of man's knowledge should be overlooked or slighted in the attempt to unravel this enigma."

Consideration of the UFO phenomenon is, at present, irrevocably linked to the study of UFO reports. Therefore, the most credible opinions pertaining to the UFO issue will be those expressed by people who have the greatest knowledge of UFO reports. Little consideration should be given to the uninformed opinions of others who, regardless of their education, political influence or economic station, are unfamiliar with the characteristics of the UFO phenomenon as defined by the UFO reports.

In a letter written to me recently, a U.S. Congresswoman offered little encouragement. "While I am unaware of any reported siting (sic) since 1980," she wrote, "I do believe that much of the investigative work involved in this area does not provide any insight or substantiated facts to allow us to better understand what is happening." This statement, or should I say confession, is a perfect example of an uninformed opinion that should not and, frankly, cannot be given any credence when debating the seriousness of the UFO question. The Congresswoman disqualified herself as a source of meaningful opinion when she admitted that she was *"unaware of any reported siting (sic) since 1980."* Had she been aware of the facts, she would have known that UFO sightings are currently and extensively reported by responsible people, not only in this country, but all over the globe. In defense of the Congresswoman, however, I hasten to say that she is by no means alone in her ignorance. Many, if not the majority of our senators and congressional representatives are as equally uninformed about UFO reports.

If we wish to learn the facts about UFOs we must turn to those individuals who have the greatest familiarity with the contents of UFO reports. The insights provided by these knowledgeable individuals will then give us the clearest indication of whether UFO reports are, or should be, taken seriously by science. In his assessment of UFO reports and their meaning, Thomas Olsen, of Teledyne Energy Systems in Baltimore, Maryland, noted that "the existence of a hard core of sighting reports is established. These are so clearcut, detailed, and unambiguous, and of such unconventional nature, that they cannot be from rational misinterpretations of natural or man-made phenomena. The UFO phenomenon may be beyond our present comprehension, but we have good reason to study it intensively." Dr. John Derr, a supervisory physicist with the U.S. Geological Survey stated, "Much careful work has been done identifying hoaxes, misidentifications and misperceptions, and the real hardcore seems explicable only in the terms of unconventional intelligent behavior and advanced technology. These latter cases are worth all the effort we can apply, in hope of obtaining a quantum leap in our understanding of science and the universe."

In agreement with Dr. Derr's position as it relates to the intelligent and seemingly purposeful behavior of UFOs, Raymond Fowler, of GTE Sylvania's Minuteman Missile Program Office, volunteered this opinion: "I am certain that there is more than ample high-quality observational evidence from highly trained and reliable lay witnesses to indicate that there are unidentified machine-like, solid objects under intelligent control operating in our atmosphere. I am reasonably sure that if qualified civilian scientists and investigators are able to come to this conclusion, the U.S. Air Force, supported by the tremendous worldwide facilities at its disposal, has come to this same conclusion long ago. However, past and present official policy has deliberately sought to discredit and minimize the validity of UFOs."

Noting that some UFO reports, due to the nature of their sources, should be considered more reliable, and therefore more meaningful, than others, University of California professor James A. Harder said, "Quite apart from the tens of thousands of volunteer reports, the thousands of reports from law enforcement officers, military officers and others with the duty to report, should convince anyone familiar with the evidence that UFOs are objectively real, and that the least complicated explanation is that they are extraterrestrial spacecraft."

Also aware of the large quantity of UFO reports that defy prosaic explanation, Dr. Ronald L. Sprinkle and the late Dr. James E. McDonald have both expressed similar opinions regarding the potential cause of the UFO phenomenon. Dr. Sprinkle, Director of Counseling and Testing at the University of Wyoming, summarized his assessment of the UFO phenomenon by saying, "The status of UFO evidence is a deluge, not a delusion. In my opinion, the present evidence for the UFO phenomenon indicates (tentatively) that the Earth is the object of a survey by intelligent beings from some other civilization." The late Dr. James McDonald, formerly the senior physicist at the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, was one of the first members of the American scientific community to advocate the serious treatment of UFO reports. A consultant to many federal agencies, Dr. McDonald conducted intensive research, interviewed hundreds of UFO witnesses, and lectured widely in an effort to place the UFO issue on the national scientific agenda. Prior to his death in 1971 he said, "The type of UFO reports that are most intriguing, and point most directly to an extraterrestrial hypothesis, are close-range sightings of machine-like objects of unconventional nature and unconventional performance-characteristics, seen at low altitudes, and sometimes even on the ground. The general public is entirely unaware of the large number of such reports that are coming from credible witnesses because ridicule and scoffing have made most witnesses reluctant to report openly such unusual incidents. When one starts searching for such cases, their numbers are quite astonishing."

Dr. McDonald's attempt to lift the shroud of ridicule from the UFO issue seemed to have little effect on the scientific community as a whole, but some individual scientists, after making their own personal excursions through the tracts of UFO reports, began arriving at conclusions similar to those of McDonald. Astronomer Terrence Dickinson, former editor of *Astronomy* magazine and the former assistant director of the Strasenburgh Planetarium said, "My own research leads me to believe that there are logical reasons why extraterrestrials would be interested in, and capable of visiting Earth. UFOs provide tantalizing evidence that this is happening now."

Many scientists who today testify to the need for serious study of UFO reports, were skeptics in the past; however, their exposure to the data contained in the expanding mass of UFO reports ultimately led them to the realization that UFOs were serious business. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, today's dean of the pro-UFO movement is a "converted skeptic." Recruited in 1948 to serve as the astronomical consultant to Air Force UFO investigative projects, Dr. Hynek spent the next eighteen years debunking UFO reports. His metamorphosis took place in 1966 when, as Hynek recounts, "I slowly realized that I wasn't being scientifically honest. The sightings needed further investigation, but we were disregarding them, throwing data away."

John Macvey, the prolific British science writer, experienced a similar conversion in attitude. A fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and a member of both the British Interplanetary Society and the American Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Macvey wrote in his book, *Interstellar Travel*, "The writer, for his part, must confess to a time when quite arbitrarily he dismissed all UFO reports as simply due to some peculiar hysteria of the times. Now, very sincerely he believes this to be no longer possible. Undoubtedly, many reports are fakes, undoubtedly many are false, but all do not come into these categories." As Dr. Richard Henery, former Deputy Director of NASA's Astrophysics Division, once noted, "History is replete with examples of scientists who have kept their noses so close to the grindstone that they don't see the next big advance in knowledge that is coming, often even after it has arrived. Whatever is the underlying cause of the (UFO) phenomenon, it seems to me that investigation of it is warranted."

In light of the testimony provided here by these physical and social scientists, it is clear that author Garelik was substantially incorrect in his assessment of science's reaction to UFO reports. Many scientists, we have seen, do take UFO reports seriously. Why is it then, that writers like Mr. Garelik can be so off-base in their reporting? Why are skeptical scientists so unwilling to give UFO reports the attention they seem to merit? And why are both groups so inclined to discount witnesses' accounts of large, silently hovering, seemingly manufactured, machine-like objects in favor of fanciful and shopworn prosaic explanations? Dr. Olavo Fontes, who instructed at Brazil's National School of Medicine before his death in 1968, addressed this perplexing question. He said, "The violent (scientific) emotional responses stem from the fact that the idea of vehicles from another planet or star system attacks one of the basic tenets of our world picture. It is not easy for the scientific man, who believes, very sincerely, that his life is entirely rational, to accept or appreciate that he remains a human scientist and that his reactions are emotional. Therefore, in this special case, he manages to overlook a very basic tenet — that observational data should never be discounted on the basis of authority and/or theory."

It would seem that Mr. Garelik, while not a scientist by profession, has been victimized by the same emotional frailty that afflicts many of today's skeptical scientists. In promoting his "Martian air force" theory as the explanation for the Hudson Valley UFO events, he has ignored or conveniently sidestepped the testimony of reliable individuals who reported seeing large, boomerang-shaped objects hovering at treetop level in their own backyards. Discounting hard observational data, as Dr. Fontes pointed out, is bad science. Misstating the facts, as any news editor will tell you, is bad journalism. Being a writer, we can hold Mr. Garelik accountable for one transgression, but not for the other. However, *Discover* magazine, which proclaims itself "The Newsmagazine of Science," should be held accountable for both bad science and bad journalism.

Explaining Visions of Virgin Mary

Reports of miraculous appearances by the Virgin Mary, a recurring phenomenon in Roman Catholicism usually treated cautiously by the Vatican, frequently can be explained as hallucinations arising from the loss of loved ones or repressed sexual feelings, a social scientist says.

"I'm constantly amazed at the ease with which well-documented accounts of apparitions can be explained in non-miraculous terms," Michael P. Carroll, a sociology professor at the University of Western Ontario in Canada, said in a telephone interview.

The most-discussed apparitions currently are those of Jesus' mother that six teenagers in the Yugoslav hamlet of Medjugorje say they have seen almost daily since 1981.

The Vatican confirmed in June that it had urged Italian bishops to discourage pilgrimages to Medjugorje while a church investigation continued. Tens of thousands of Roman Catholics have traveled to the out-of-the-way hillside in southern Yugoslavia, and at least three books have been published favoring the authenticity of the claims.

Carroll said, however, that a tell-tale clue to the psychological origin of the accounts is the information that the first adolescent who said Mary appeared and talked to her had recently experienced the death of her mother and that her father was away working in another country.

Psychoanalytic studies show that hallucinations in young people are "quite often hallucinations of parents who have recently died," Carroll said.

The teenage girl at Medjugorje reportedly saw the Virgin Mary and asked how her mother was. "We're dealing with the same sort of mixed-up logic that we find in dreams. The Virgin Mary was a substitute mother, but the association comes out in the question she asks," Carroll said.

The scholar, who studied at Stanford University, has published some of his interpretations in the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion and is completing a book on the subject for Princeton University Press to be published early next summer.

Potentially the most controversial of Carroll's interpretations is his effort to apply Sigmund Freud's theories of hallucinations and the Oedipus complex as a reason for some apparitions of Mary. He said he believes he is the first to do so.

Freud's theory of the Oedipal process, greatly simplified, says that young children of both sexes develop their first sexual attachments to their mothers but that girls later transfer their desires to their fathers and wish to have babies by them. The son's desire for his mother is repressed, in Freud's view, because of the son's anxiety about the threat of castration by his father. The male's desire becomes a repressed desire for exclusive access to the mother.

Carroll noted that Freud contended that religious obsessions, including apparitions, arise from a blocked impulse or restrictions that are vented by focusing on old fixations.

In 50 well-documented cases of seers between 1100 and 1896, Carroll found that 80 percent of those who said they were visited by Mary were either adolescents "who lacked any obvious sexual outlet" or celibate adults.

"These apparitions occur to males because such apparitions are sublimations of the male's sexual desire for his mother," Carroll said, "while they occur to females because they provide these females with a way of identifying with Mary and thus enjoying the ultimate Oedipal fantasy."

For some devout Catholic women, according to this theory, the ultimate fantasy would be sexual inercourse with the father — in this case, the Father in heaven, despite biblical-doctrinal teaching that it was a spiritual impregnation rather than a physical union of God with Mary that resulted in the birth of Jesus.

Carroll said the theory was reinforced when he found that 93 percent of the male seers saw no male figure along with Mary in their visions.

"The young boy's Oedipal wish is not simply to have sexual access to his mother but rather to have exclusive sexual access to her," Carroll wrote. By contrast, 50 percent of the female seers saw an adult male — the adult Jesus or a male saint — with Mary, he said.

Although the visions are not overtly sexual, Carroll said, "there is always an element of disguise" in visions and dreams, according to psychoanalytic research. The male seer, for instance, "would not accept an overly sexy Mary," he said.

Nevertheless, when females have reported visions of Jesus Christ, he said, we "quite often" find disguised sexual imagery.

Carroll contended that the social scientist, as opposed to the religious believer, must view apparitions as either hallucinations (when the seer is the only person perceiving anything) or illusions (when images are stimulated by a light, statue or other object).

Psychologist Paul Pruyser of the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kan., and Princeton Theological Seminary's Donald Capps, editor of the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, said they find Carroll's thesis on the Freudian basis for Marian apparitions well-argued.

Although visions of Mary and accounts of her "messages" have inspired widespread devotions among Catholics and claims of miraculous cures at Marian shrines, the Roman Catholic hierarchy tends to treat reported appearances skeptically. Over the centuries, only a small number of thousands of alleged apparitions have been blessed by Rome as worthy of belief, and even then the church does not require belief.

The Rev. Joseph J. Farraher of San Francisco, a Jesuit who answers fellow priests' questions in a Catholic magazine column, said in an interview that even when the Vatican extends its blessings to accounts such as the one reported in Lourdes, France, in 1858, the church is "really only approving of the message; they are not guaranteeing that there was an appearance by Mary."

Father Farraher said the church tries to "exclude any other explanation before it accepts (what was said) as supernatural. They investigate whether it is a case of self-deceit, evil spirits or something else."

Regardless of the church hierarchy's rejection of some alleged appearances, Father Farraher said, "anything that seems to be supernatural still draws thousands of people."

The Diocese of Brooklyn has termed inauthentic the purported visions of Mary by Veronica Lueken, a Bayside, N.Y., homemaker. In Chile, the archbishop of Valparaiso discounted as baseless in 1983 the sightings reported by a teenage boy.

In Medjugorje, the local bishop, Pavao Zanic, has asserted for years that the young people reporting apparitions were victims of "collective hallucinations." The recent letter from the Vatican to Italian bishops stated that Bishop Zanic said the accounts "create confusion among believers" and hinder the church's investigation of the sightings.

Mary often "speaks" to seers, who are usually ordinary lay Catholics, bypassing the official church, which is supposed to be the mediator between God and the faithful. Thus, some observers have said that questions of religious authority influence the Vatican's reluctance to validate visions.

Carroll said he had not studied the politics of church approval but had concentrated on trying to determine why individuals say they have seen and heard the Virgin Mary.

written by J. Dart, *LA Times*

SOURCE: The *Philadelphia Inquirer*, PA 8/4/85

CREDIT: H. Hollander

Books Reviewed

THE MOON AND THE PLANETS: A CATALOG OF ASTRONOMICAL ANOMALIES, compiled by William R. Corliss (The Sourcebook Project, P.O. Box 107, Glen Arm, MD 21057), 1985, 377 pps., hardcover, illus., $18.95.

Reviewed by Robert Barrow

William R. Corliss has his critics, I suppose. Their primary long-term objection involves his abandonment of the original looseleaf format in favor of the hardbound handbooks and hardbound catalog style.

The seasons of the critics' discontent will not be debated here, but an important consideration should be noted in Corliss' defense (not that he needs one). Simply put, think back from the 1950's and onward to the current day, and reflect upon the plethora or private phenomena-related research organizations that attempted, in good faith, to embark upon various ambitious studies — projects that either never got off the ground or failed before completion, *not* for lack of admirable intentions but, indeed, usually for lack of funds, personnel and time.

Yet, here are Corliss and his Sourcebook Project, now some 12 years into their research journey, truly survivors in the "war of intent," grinding out the *twenty-first* in a series of handsome volumes which clearly pin organized science to the floor merely by compiling endless examples of contradictory or embarrassing discoveries harvested mainly from scientific journals of the past.

The preface of the current release provides insight into Corliss' position on the project:

> ...my major conclusion is that this is an amazingly fruitful activity. In fact, organized science should have been doing the same searching and compiling for the past 200 years. It is simply astounding that a Catalog of Scientific Anomalies does not already exist to guide scientific thinking and research. It is at least as important to realize what is *not* known as it is to recognize the well-explained...for every anomaly or example that can be legitimately demolished, ten more take its place. Nature is very anomalous or, equivalently, Nature is not yet well-understood by science. Much remains to be done.

TMATP, the fifth volume in the *Catalog of* series, branches out beyond the generally earthbound mysteries explored in the four previous compilations and tackles the portion of universe which contains the known planets of our solar system. Using dozens of illustrations and nearly 1,000 sources of references, Corliss helps to threaten concepts of an orderly cosmos with reprints of some real brainteasers. A random sampling of a few intriguing topics:

Mercury's Orbital and Spin Anomalies; Jupiter's Remarkable Galilean Satellites and Ring; Lunar Geology Problems; Lunar Luminous Phenomena; Anomalous (lunar) Telescopic and Visual Observations; Martian Geological Anomalies; Unidentified Active Ingredient in Martian Soil and the Possibility of Life; (from Saturn) Sudden, temporary Cessation of Radio Emissions; Mysterious Rings of Uranus; Bright Objects resembling Venusian Satellites. Corliss' customary quadruple indexing system completes the volume.

While astronomical anomalies seldom conform to our standards of time and space, we trust that the Sourcebook Project itself will dazzle us again, very soon, with another timely, however timeless, tektite of publishing excellence.

UFOS AND OUTER SPACE MYSTERIES by James E. Oberg; The Donning Company/Publishers, Norfolk, VA; 1982; 192 pp. paper; $6.95

Reviewed by George W. Earley

At 6'8" tall, James Oberg is the biggest — and least obnoxious — of America's Big Three UFO skeptics. The others, of course, are Robert Shaeffer and Philip J. Klass.

Oberg is an ex-USAF captain who opted out of the Air Force rather than transfer away from the Johnson Space Center where he had been involved with NASA's space shuttle program. He currently works as a civilian for a major aerospace contractor in NASA Mission Control, Houston, Texas.

A prolific writer, he is a frequent contributor on both UFO and space topics to *OMNI* magazine and has written on these subjects for a number of other publications as well. His earlier books — *RED STAR IN ORBIT*, an in depth assessment of the Soviet space program, and *NEW EARTHS* — have been well received by the American technical/scientific community.

Oberg graduated from college with honors in mathematics and Russian [which he both speaks and reads] and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He has acquired additional honors since his 1966 graduation.

I mention all this because I rather suspect that many Forteans are unfamiliar with the depth of talent this skeptic can bring to bear on the UFO controversy.

His book is actually a pastiche, consisting mainly of articles and papers Oberg has done earlier for various publications. Many of the "mysteries" examined here have a space connection, to be expected given Oberg's background, and while his tone is reasonably objective for the most part, he can be harsh when it comes to the deliberate hoaxers in the UFO field.

His introduction, "Suggestions From A Sympathetic Skeptic," is the expanded version of his winning entry in the 1979 Cutty Sark UFO Essay contest and in it he presents UFO believers with some cogent suggestions for improving the quality and accuracy of their UFO report investigations.

[In that connection, it is interesting to note that at the Beverly, MA MUFON UFO Forum in August 1985, MUFON's Central U.S.A. Regional Director Dan Wright was scathing in his assessment of the qualty of MUFON's investigators and their techniques. MUFON now plans to beef up its selection, training and certification procedures for its investigators to answer Wright's (and Oberg's?) criticism.]

Of the 9 chapters in Oberg's book, 6 are on UFOs with one ["The 'Jellyfish UFO' Dilemna"] dealing with Russian UFO reports. I would like to have seen more on that subject. Other chapters examine "The Sirius Mystery," "The Tunguska Echoes," and "The Mystery of Russia's Missing Cosmonauts." While interesting, the first two fit better into the 'ancient astronaut' mythos of Erich von Daniken et. al., while the third is totally non-UFO in nature. I have the feeling Oberg was being lazy here, persuading his publisher to take three already written pieces rather than taking the time and trouble to write three new chapters on other aspects of the UFO controversy. Certainly there is no dearth of material for a skeptic to comment on!

The best chapters are those dealing with the Apollo II UFO hoax pictures, with George Leonard's fantasies about alien moon mining operations, and with several UFO hoaxes. His examination of the hoaxes — particularly those by Simpson and

Monteleone — is most instructive in demonstrating that there is no substitute for determined legwork by an investigator, plus a large dose of skepticism about the tale being told. As Oberg shows, both Simpson and Monteleone scattered ample clues to the falsity of their tales. Credulous investigators simply ignored them as they travelled down pre-conditioned paths towards unquestioning belief in what they were hearing.

While frankly admitting that "the claim of the super-skeptic — that unsolved UFO cases can all easily be dismissed as unrecognized hoaxes — is unsubstantiated," Oberg also notes that "the claim of UFO eager beavers — that the hoax problem is under control — is equally unsubstantiated."

With, as noted above, the hopeful exception of MUFON, the UFO community seems not to really be taking Oberg's message to heart. The resistance of CUFOS and others to accepting the strong possibility that the Brewster, NY, 'boomerang' UFO reports are more likely due to misperception by witnesses of specially lighted night-flying light aircraft, rather than one or more UFOs, is a recent case in point. It seems clear that the fact of Oberg's skepticism, the company he keeps in that skepticism, and the careful selectivity of cases he chooses to closely examine [he has, for example, chosen to do no investigation of the Cash/Landrum case, despite its close proximity to him], has automatically caused the UFO organizations to tune him out, thereby missing the main point of his book: Studying UFO cases *is* worthwhile, but we've got to continue to improve the way we do it and take nothing for granted while doing so. Hopefully MUFON's improved program will start a trend.

In the main, this is a much better book than I expected it to be when I first sat down to read it. I've gone back to it several times since that first reading and continue to find more to agree with than to disagree with. There are a number of illustrations but I am sorry to report there's no index. Either Oberg was too lazy to compile one or his publisher was too cheap to include one — either way, it is a lack that hampers re-use of the book.

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THE ARCHETYPE EXPERIENCE, by Gregory L. Little, Ed. D., Rainbow Books (P.O. Box 1069, Moore Haven, Fla. 33471), 1984, 204 pps., $14.00 ppd.

Reviewed by Robert Barrow

Naturally, when yet another publication appeared whose author portends to explain what the late, eminent psychiatrist Carl Jung *really* meant about UFOs, this reviewer scurried to dust off and pull out my copy of Jung's 1959 book, *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies* — and, while this may appear trivial, one must admit to some disappointment in the fact that *The Archetype Experience*, whose recurrent theme revolves explicitly around Jung's book, consistently spells the last word in Jung's title as *Sky*.

Nevertheless, Dr. Little, who holds a doctor of education degree and a master's in psychology, tries hard to consider all areas of UFO controversy here, even to the point where he concedes that "it is probable that many people will not want to know or believe the...theory proposed here."

Complexity apparently is the adjunct theory to that outlined by Little as he defines the relationships of UFOs to such terms as archetypes, archetypal splinters, synchronicity, eschatology and ethnocentrism.

In basic terms, we can say that the author elaborates upon Jung's ideas of the 1950's to formulate a UFO explanation for the 1980's. In this book, UFOs are not alien spacecraft, nor are UFOs even UFOs; indeed, UFOs represent *archetypes*, which "are considered to be patterns or images that are pre-existent in the unconscious of all people regardless of culture, intelligence or experience. In periods of crisis or stress," continues Little, "these images become 'energized' and become dominant in the psychological state of the individual under stress. As Jung noted, archetypal images often become dominant and energized in a society as a whole."

Not surprisingly, those whose lives are marked by religious influences will find much to either contemplate, cherish or despise here, as Little is gravely intrigued with religious prophecy. Expounding upon archetypes at one point, he advises that "archetypes have an opposing polar nature. In our morality-oriented world we tend to categorize these polarities as good or evil. But it is also important to see that archetypes exist in non-moral terms such as male-female, the wise man-the fool, left side-right side. Only one archetype, the mandala, is an exception." We are then told that "the mandala, like God, seeks to pull together opposing forces into a unified, meaningful whole. When experienced, the mandala archetype serves to heal and resolve conflict."

Experience, obviously, is not a book about specific UFO sightings, nor has it been served up as pleasant reading in regard to our world's future. "Jung saw the modern UFO," Little pointed out, "as a part of the openly visible flurry of archetypal activity that signaled the transition between ages."

A confession: I did discover a ticklishly plausible line of thought among the conjecture, though I remain personally unable to accept this admittedly involved theory for UFOs related phenomena. Further, I agree with the author, whom himself had the decency to admit that many people might stay unconvinced.

For one thing, we must realize that at the time Jung engaged in his theories prominent reports of UFO landings and actual witness abductions were rarely regarded. Jung's concerns rested primarily — as his book title suggests — with "things seen in the skies." If, as recent activity indicates, some UFO witnesses have not only seen but have actually been abducted by UFOs *for days at a time*, something far more illustrious than archetypes is at work.

Whether archetypes or aliens, however, the UFO processes continue to drive us all crazy. In the meantime, pass the potatoes and another dish of psychological UFO concepts, please...

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THE BICAMERAL CRITIC (Selected Shorter Writings by Colin Wilson), Edited by Howard F. Dossor, Salem House, Salem, New Hampshire, 1985, 271 pages, $9.95 paperback.

Reviewed by Dennis Stacey

PURSUIT purists, if such creatures there be, will readily recognize Colin Wilson as the author of such non-fiction works as "*The Occult*" and its companion volume, "*Mysteries*", or of thematically related novels like "*Mind Parasites*" and "*Space Vampires*," the latter recently rendered into a celluloid special effects extravaganza (and little else) as "Lifeforce." No fault of the author's, of course.

Wilson has been turning out books, many of them paranormally inclined, in fact, ever since his 1956 critique of Western philosophy and literature, "*The Outsider*," became an overnight bestseller. His output over those three decades has been prodigious, probably 60 or more books, and hundreds of individual articles, essays and introductions to the works of others. The range of subject matter, from poltergeists to encyclopedias of crime, is almost as wide.

Yet as far as I know, these shorter works have never been collected between covers before. Salem House partially redresses the problem with this thick collection of 16 previous Wilson

pieces dating from 1960 to 1980. An introduction by editor Dossor is also included. The essay of most interest to Forteans is probably Wilson's 12-page introduction to authors A. Roberts and G. Gilbertson's *"The Dark Gods,"* an attempt to link Men in Black and other nebulous, notorious entities with disembodied 'satanic' forces. Not having read the book in question, I can't comment to what degree they might have succeeded, but the feeling from Wilson's intro is that too much might have been bitten off to comfortably chew. He seems less then enthusiastic about his task, at any rate.

With other subjects, however, Wilson has more freedom to roam and the results are all the more salutary as he usually argues his own case in the process. Only the autobiographical *"A Memoir of the 'Fifties'"* falls largely out of this category, though Wilson collectors will find it amusing enough. A few other short essays touch on literary figures like Robert Graves, Daniel Defoe, Christopher Isherwood and George Bernard Shaw.

What should be of interest to ***PURSUIT*** readers, assuming the workings of the mind fall within the purvey of Forteana, is Wilson's insistence on higher states of consciousness, particularly a form of active imagination and/or intuition he refers to as "Faculty X." Using the physiological analogy of the brain's two divided hemispheres and their apparent different modes of perception (hence "The Bicameral Critic"), Wilson postulates a creative or vital evolutionary force that has both blessed and cursed its foremost recipients, namely humankind.

On the one hand, argues Wilson, we are possessed of a remarkable 'robot', or left-brain hemisphere capable of learning and then assimilating complex neurophysiological activities such as speaking French and steering a car through rush hour traffic. Unfortunately, given the opportunity, the robot tends to take over perception altogether. Then, in Auden's words, "life fails," and 'we' wonder "what's the use of going to Wales," or anywhere else for that matter? Put another way, once the robot has learned a task, it becomes bored. To remain at an efficient operating level, we need to take in new information, sensations and impressions.

The Romantics erroneously thought it was up to the World "out there" to provide these nourishing mental vitamins; when it failed to do so, so did their 'lifeforce,' and a goodly number subsequently committed suicide. the problem (and the solution), says Wilson, is that it's up to us to consciously seek out these nutriments by bringing Faculty X. the brain's right and holistic perceptor half to bear. Consciousness is weblike and each of us is a spider sitting at its center. Or, to quote the familiar Fortism: "One measures a circle beginning anywhere."

One can also discover Wilson by opening this book at practically any page, though the meat of the matter is to be found in the essays of "Civilisation and Individual Fulfillment," "Existential Psychology: A Novelist's Approach,"and "Dual Value Response' —A New Key to Neitzsche." The titles may sound rather ponderous *en masse*. but Wilson's style is actually breezy and controversial.

"The Bicameral Critic," then, is recommended to those in search of a general introduction to Wilson's writings, as well as to the collector who will welcome this gathering of articles from diverse and obscure sources.

I admit to not being familiar with Salem House, but other than few minor quibbles they have done an admirable job of making this material available in a pleasingly produced trade paperback. There are, for example, a number of typos, including the Contents page proofing slip that lets "The Dark Gods" read "The Dark Days".

Memos & Miscellany

We Recommend...

Arcturus Book Service as a source for UFO literature and other Fortean material which they have available at fair prices, with good packaging and prompt service.

SITU receives numerous requests every year for new and old books about UFOs and other phenomena. In the past we have recommended a dozen or so works by our founder, Ivan T. Sanderson, and others who have upheld his standards of quality in research and writing. These are included in Arcturus' listings along with others in which you may be interested: Write to:

Bob Girard
Arcturus Book Service
PO Box 2213
Scotia, NY 12302

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William Corliss
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UFO Newsclipping Service
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Plumerville, AR 72127

William L. Moore
Publications & Research
4219 W. Olive, Suite 247
Burbank, CA 91505

We are not affiliated with any of these organizations in any way but are pleased to call them to the attention of our members as good places to obtain research material and books that respond well to one's interest in the Unexplained.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In reference to your article "Electricity in Ancient Times" in ***PURSUIT***, Vol. 18, No. 1, for your information and maybe for your archives, I enclose copies of pages of a book *Forsvunnen Teknik* (Disappeared Technology) which was published in Sweden in 1961 by engineer Henry Kjellson.

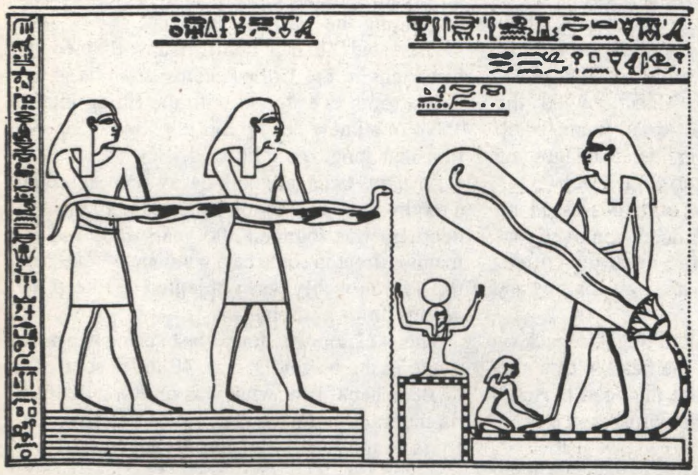


Fig. 1

In Fig. 1 here Kjellson shows a picture from Dendera Temple, Hall No. 5. Mentioning the well-known electric eels he thinks that the ancients pictured electric current as eels — or snakes, if you like—and adds: It's called "seref" which means " to glow." He further observes how the "lamp" is connected with a wire to some kind of a "power kit" on which a tiny goddess is sitting, carrying the sun-symbol on her head, the symbol of power, light and warmth. But even more puzzling is the double-lining of the men carrying the eels — Kjellson thinks it symbolizes protective garments.

In Figs. 2 & 3 here two snakes are shown, guarding the corridor to vault No. 2. The French Egyptologist Mariette interprets the text in Fig. 2 as follows: "I am, says the snake, the safeguarding snake of the highest goddess of the temple. I am the one who guards the temple's gate, and the vaults, and at the same time the guardian of the divine pictures there." And in Fig. 3: "I am the holy snake of Tentyr temple the guardian of the gate, and one who is awake to put the enemy to flight. I am the one who shields both sides of Hathor temple so that no one can see what is going on inside. I am the one who guards the vaults."



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Kjellson says that surely there were no snakes set to watch. If there was electricity, there was a simple burglar alarm.

Figure 4 here shows further pictures from Dendera Temple, with double-lined eel-carriers and texts whose symbols, according to said scientist Mariette "are easy to interpret although their meaning escapes us entirely."

Kjellson adds that he is not trying to offer any detailed explanation of his own, he just gives the impression a trained technician gets looking at pictures which amaze trained archeologists.

—Tuuri Heporauta

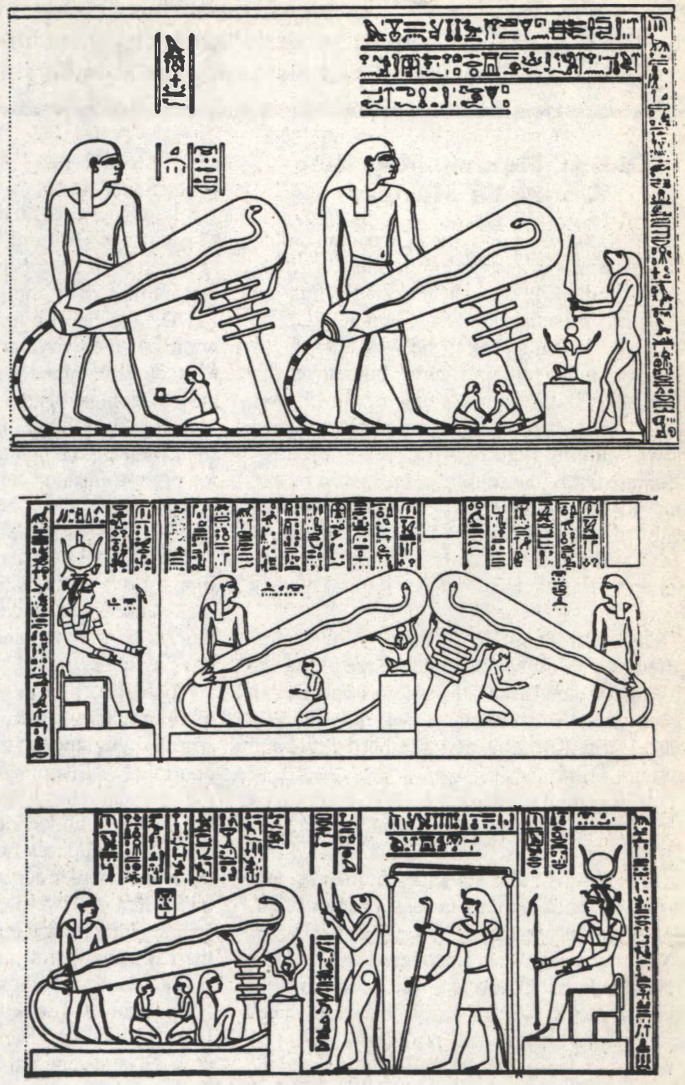


Fig. 4

In order as they appear, Figure 1 is on page 81 of Kjellson's book. Figures 2 & 3 are on page 82 and the picture of Figure 4 is on page 158, according to Mr. Heporauta.

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).

'Oldest' Mummy May Help Unravel a Mystery

Some 8,000 years ago, the occupant of Tomb 761 was a man of respect in the seaside settlement — perhaps because he excelled at hunting or fishing, scientists say. So when he died, he was made into a statue to be worshipped.

Today, archaeologists have unearthed the fallen idol and restored some of his former status. They believe it is mankind's oldest known mummy here in Africa.

Scientists say the mummy, preserved by the bone-dry Atacama Desert and an elaborate deathbed treatment, is 7,810-years old, about 2,600 years older than his senior Egyptian counterpart, Seker-Em-Sa-F, a 6th Dynasty prince.

"Occupant-Tomb 761" and 95 other mummified men, women and children are being examined for clues about the origin of an Indian society that lived along a 300-mile Pacific coastal strip of what is now northern Chile and southern Peru.

Dr. Marvin J. Allison, a U.S. pathologist heading the team of mostly Chilean researchers, says the age of this so-called Chinchorro culture could help prove that advanced human society existed in the Americas far earlier than scientists commonly believe.

The mummies were uncovered by accident in November 1983 during a water company excavation at the base of a 130-foot-high sandstone mound in this arid port city.

Allison, 64, announced his findings about the mummies last month to a seminar at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, from which he has retired to chronicle the Chinchorros.

The culture was named by a German archaeologist, Max Uhle, who dug up the first mummies here 70 years ago but lacked means to determine how old they were. Their ages were established last year by Carbon-14 dating.

In an interview at the University of Tarapaca in Africa, where he now works, Allison said the mummies ranged from 3,670 years on upward, challenging the assumption that the Chinchorros came into existence during the period of the 16th Century Spanish conquest.

"I think we have found this society was a lot more complicated than originally believed," Allison said. "Their system of burial obviously required a well-developed social structure."

Until now, scientists thought mongoloid Asian people reached Alaska 30,000 years ago and migrated slowly down the west coast of the Americas.

But Allison contends that the Asian people could not have moved quickly enough to reach the Southern Hemisphere by the date of the earliest proven Chinchorro settlement here.

"We really don't know where they came from," he said.

Silvia Quevedo, an anthropologist at Chile's Museum of Natural Science, claims their knowledge of anatomy "was much superior to that exhibited by the mummies of Egypt."

The ancient Egyptians disembowled the bodies of their royalty, salt-dried them for up to 70 days, wrapped them in linen bandages and buried them with their gold and jewelry.

The early Chinchorros, who possessed no such wealth, skinned their dead, removed major organs and muscles, fire-dried the corpse, and reinforced the bones with straw matting and carved wooden struts.

Then, tribal doctors pulled the skin back on like a glove and covered the head with a clay mask and a wig made from the dead person's hair. Next they painted the corpse and erected it as a statue.

"Our theory is they believed that the body of an excellent hunter, for example, would emit spiritual guidance to the living in the matter of hunting," Allison said.

Later mummies from the same cemetery were not skinned and were covered with a thin layer of cement, apparently to make a better statue, the researchers reported. Most of the mummies had fallen and were damaged.

The Chinchorros left no writings as clues to their origins — only their uniquely-preserved bodies. But even those are in limited supply.

Because of a lack of research funds, more than 100 bodies were left inside the now-covered cemetery at the Arica mound, and other known burial sites remain untouched.

"The desert is a better preserver of these mummies than any museum, so they will stay buried until future generations can take care of them," said Rene Lara Quiroz, a university spokesman.

SOURCE: AP in *The Star Ledger,* Newark, NJ 7/5/85

CREDIT: Member #432

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Dental Filling Is 2,200 years Old

A tooth containing the world's oldest known dental filling was found in the skull of a middle-aged warrior who was buried 2,200 years ago, an Israeli archaeologist said.

A bronze wire was inserted into the canal, a treatment the patient probably thought would stop "toothworms" from burrowing into the decaying tooth, and it probably caused great pain, said Joe Zias, curator of Israel's Department of Antiquities.

Death may have come as a relief, he said.

"This guy's mouth was a mess," Zias said. "He had four abscesses, two impacted teeth, an extra tooth in front and an enlarged molar."

Because the bronze oxidized, the tooth turned green, attracting the attention of scientists examining the warrior's skull.

Zias said he had confirmed with medical historians in the United States that this is the oldest tooth ever found with the filling intact. "No one knew people did this kind of operation that long ago," he said.

Ancients believed tooth decay was caused by a toothworm. The notion persisted until modern dentistry was founded 300 years ago, and remains current in some backward areas. Zias said the wire probably was implanted to "keep the worms from climbing in."

The skeleton was found last spring in a mass grave in the Negev Desert, 40 miles southeast of Beersheba, near what was once a guardpost on the trade route from Egypt to Palestine and Syria, said Zias, who also is a physical anthropologist. Zias immigratred to Israel from Ypsilanti, Mich.

Zias said the man died about 200 B.C., was 40 to 50 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall and powerfully built.

Healed fractures in his skull, forearm and ribs indicated he had been a soldier of Nabatea, the desert kingdom of Arabia tht flourished between 300 B.C. and 106 A.D. The kingdom was centered at Petra in what is now Jordan.

There was no physical evidence to indicate what caused the deaths of the warrior and the 24 other people in the grave, most of whom were women and children, Zias said. No bodies of young men were found, and the archaeologist said they may have been taken as slaves.

"When we examined the skull we saw the green tooth," the archaeologist said. "It had been worn down from the sand and the grit and salt in his diet, and the root canal was exposed. An X-ray showed a bronze wire one-tenth of an inch long."

Bronze is toxic and corrosive, and why it was used for a dental filling is a mystery. Zias said he believed the Nabatean was duped into thinking the wire was gold or silver.

"Whoever cheated this guy did us a favor," Zias said. "If the wire was gold or silver the tooth would not have turned green, and we never would have found it."

Dentistry dates back about 5,000 years. Egyptian literature mentions the wiring together of teeth to prevent bad teeth from falling out. A drilled tooth was found in a Neolithic jaw from 3,000 B.C. in Denmark.

SOURCE: AP in The *Burlington Free Press,* VT 9/4/85

CREDIT: Member #2692

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'Pharaoh's Curse' an Allergy, French Doctoral Thesis Claims

"I have succumbed to a curse," British Egyptologist Hugh Evelyn-White wrote in his own blood in 1924 just before he hanged himself.

He was among the first to enter the tomb of the pharaoh Tutankhamen following its discovery in November 1922, and one of two dozen explorers who were to die shortly after entering the tomb. The "Pharaoh's Curse" theory was born.

Now a French physician says the "curse" was mostly severe allergic reaction to mold.

Dr. Caroline Stenger-Philippe has concluded that at least six of the deaths were directly linked to the penetration of the tomb. Evelyn-White's suicide and the mysterious demise of many others were not among them.

The tomb of Tutankhamen, dating to about 1350 B.C., was found in the Valley of the Tombs near Luxor, Egypt.

In her doctoral thesis submitted recently to the Strasbourg University School of Medicine, the Frenchwoman concluded that the directly linked deaths were due to the same illness from the same cause — allergic reaction to fungi, or mold, which grew in the airtight chambers of the tomb.

According to Stenger-Philippe, the victims contracted allergic alveolitis, a severe inflammation of the tiny air chambers in the lungs, and died of pulmonary insufficiency.

She said the fruits and vegetables the Egyptians placed in the tomb to nourish the pharaoh through eternity, as well as all other organic substances, decayed over the centuries, creating molds and later organic dust.

Much of the fungi did not survive the millenia, but the microscopic dust did "and may have, in fact, increased its antigenic properties," she said.

Stenger-Philippe said the dust could have remained in the tomb for up to two years after its opening, but then it dissipated and there were no more victims.

She told The Associated Press in an interview that the explorers "came to look for gold and treasures and paid no attention to the pink, gray and green patches of fungi on the walls. That's what killed some of them."

She dismissed such theories as the presence of deadly rays, bacteria or dormant viruses as unsupported hypotheses.

"Many more would have died if there were radioactive materials or bacteria deliberately placed in the tomb." she said.

Dr. Arthur Maier, one of France's pioneers in allergy studies, agreed. As head of pneumology at the Saverne hospital in eastern France, he supervised Strenger-Philippe's research and was among the physicians to review her findings.

But he admitted that the thesis offers no more than "a very plausible" scientific explanation. "We can never recreate the original conditions and we will never have absolute proof," he said. Those who believe in the pharaoh's curse, he added, "may go on believing."

On returning from interviewing Strenger-Philippe, this reporter's car broke down on a country road in the middle of a fierce summer storm.

SOURCE: AP in The *Schenectady Gazette,* N.Y. 7/30/85
CREDIT: Bob Girard

•

Missing Man Took Walk Found In Florida

The search for a 79-year-old man who was believed lost in Schenectady ended last night when Berger Hauge was located at home in St. Petersburg, FL.

Police had been looking for Hauge when his stepdaughter reported he didn't return from a morning walk. Hauge, had been visiting Beverly Laiak at her Elliot Avenue home.

Patrols continued their search into the evening, using tracking dogs from the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Department. But if Hauge was thinking about leaving for Florida when he went for his walk, he didn't tell anyone.

"He went for a walk and ended up in St. Petersburg," said Lt. Frank Ranucci.

Detectives earlier said Hauge enjoyed walking and speculated he may have become disoriented on unfamiliar city streets due to the hot weather.

SOURCE: *Schenectady Gazette,* NY 7/10/85
CREDIT: Bob Girard

•

450-Mile "Cat Walk"

After three years and 450 miles, Barbara Paule's cat has returned home to Dauphin, Pa., content but bearing scars from his two-state odyssey, his owner said.

Mrs. Paule said that when Muddy Water White jumped out of her stepson Bill Paule's van near Dayton, Ohio, in June 1982, "We figured that was it — it was, 'Goodbye, cat.' "

But three years later almost to the day, a filthy, scrawny cat came to Mrs. Paule's house in this central Pennsylvania town and plopped down like he owned the place, she said. "I just passed him off as a stray."

But after feeding him for several days, Mrs. Paule said, it dawned on her that her 4-year-old feline had returned home.

"His markings are the same. He looks the worse for wear but he looks the same otherwise," she said. "He has the same personality."

"The little pads on his paws are like shoe leather...He smells like a garbage dump. I know a bath would really help, but he doesn't think so," she said.

SOURCE: *Asbury Park Press,* NJ 7/23/85
CREDIT: Nancy Warth

•

Timber Wolf Returns to Mate

A timber wolf washed away from a wildlife refuge during flooding last week has returned to her mate, officials say.

The 8-year-old female joined her mate in their fence-enclosed lair, said Lynn Cuny, executive director of the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation center.

Based on reports of sightings from the public, the animal traveled more than 15 miles before returning to the center.

"It's unusual for a wild animal to make such a concentrated struggle to get back," Ms. Cuny said.

The wolf, who had been missing four days, was covered with mud but otherwise healthy, said Ms. Cuny.

SOURCE: AP in The *Asbury Park Press,* NJ 6/13/85
CREDIT: Member #432

•

Lightning Bolt Ends Quibbling Over Beard

Francis Bock was debating whether he should shave off his beard, but a lightning bolt made the decision for him.

"When we were struck, it shaved off half his beard," his wife Claudia Bock, 32, said.

Francis Bock, 38, his wife and three children — Renee, 6, Jill, 4, and Andrea, 9 months — were in a tent on campgrounds in Quinby, Va., when a lightning bolt richocheted off a tree and struck them.

"It split the tree from top to bottom before it hit us," Claudia Bock said.

She and doctors called the family's survival a miracle. "Even the people in the trauma center said it was suprising to have one of us survive — but for all five of us to survive it was a miracle."

A lightning bolt from the same storm that swept northern Delaware cost the life of an Atlantic County, NJ teen-ager who was tent-camping in Alloway Township, Salem County.

Thomas McGee Jr., 13, of Absecon died shortly before 2 a.m. at Elmer Community Hospital after being struck by lightning in his tent at Camp Roosevelt. A companion, Robert D. Hickman Jr., 13, of Egg Harbor, NJ was treated and released.

But the only injuries the Bocks suffered from their ordeal were reddish bruises, although Claudia Bock also had her artificial fingernails on one hand blown off by the bolt.

Doctors told the family the skin reddening had occurred where the lightning entered and exited their bodies.

In the relative safety of their home at 703 Colgate Lane, they realized that their encounter with the lightning bolt had left a psychological scar.

"It was thundering and lightning, the following night, and the power went out," Claudia Bock said. "We were scared. I felt like a 5-year-old ... We never really paid attention to a thunderstorm before."

Claudia Bock said the incident made her appreciative of life, but not too keen on camping.

"I won't go [camping again] maybe, unless it was in a Winnebago — but definitely not in a tent."

She said her husband took off the rest of his beard at the hospital. The side the lightning shaved was smoother, without any razor burn, she said.

SOURCE: *Wilmington Morning News,* DE 7/17/85
CREDIT: H. Hollander

Researchers Study Climatic Peculiarity

Scientists are studying a strip of land in northeast China where temperatures mysteriously plunge below freezing in summer and soar to balmy warmth in winter, a newspaper said.

The "bizarre spot" lies along a narrow stretch of land 1,000 yards long and 15 yards wide running down a hill to a river in Huanre County in China's northeast Liaoning Province, the official *China Daily* newspaper said.

SOURCE: UPI in The *Nashville Tennessean,* TN 9/6/85
CREDIT: H. Holland

●

Haunting Voices Give Way to Shovels, Picks

Cranczia Hernandez is dead now, but her friends still remember how she spoke of hearing voices at night.

Now they think they know why. Hernandez lived next to buried ruins of a 300-year-old Spanish mission and graveyard. The site is now under excavation by archaeologists who say it may be the oldest European structure in Texas.

Seeing the centuries-old skeletons from the mission burial ground convinced Josie Holguin that the voices her old friend spoke of were more than just imagination.

"We didn't believe her," Holguin said during her first visit to the dig. "Now I do."

Pointing to the ruins of Hernandez' small, three-room house at the edge of the site, Holguin recalled how friends and relatives sometimes stayed the night with the old woman.

"She was scared to stay by herself. Sometimes we came here, but we wouldn't hear anything," Holguin said.

Holguin said she never knew the burial grounds and old mission were underneath the cotton farmland until recently, when archaeologists began excavating.

The 3½-year-old excavation project is being supervised by Rex Gerald, an anthropology professor at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Gerald said he started scratching around the site after hearing oldtimers talk about the mission.

He already has found a 100-foot long church with 7-foot thick walls. The mission dates to the late 1600s, which makes it the oldest European sructure in Texas, Gerald said.

He has uncovered a burial ground and a convent near the mission. And although he hasn't found it yet, Gerald is sure that a Piro Indian pueblo will be uncovered in the surrounding area.

The Spanish built the mission after fleeing from the Pueblo revolt in New Mexico, accordng to Gerald and Ben Tice, who is writing his masters' thesis about the site.

Tice called the site the "focal point of development of the Spanish and Indian cultures." He said analysis of the infant and child skeletons reveal they suffered from malnutrition.

He said their parents were "fighting Indians day and night and could not get the crops planted," Gerald said.

"It's not often that you get to see old skeletons," he said. "It's like sharing our heritage."

The land at and around the archaeological site now belongs to their families, who are supporting the excavation. But Gerald said the property should eventually be acquired as a public entity.

SOURCE: AP in The *Houston Chronicle,* TX 7/6/85
CREDIT: Jim Parker & R. Nelke

●

Aspirin Intake Blamed For Mystery Music

An elderly woman who kept hearing phantom music has been freed of her affliction by cutting down her daily dose of aspirin, a doctor says.

Heavy aspirin use sometimes causes ringing in the ears, but the physician said this appears to be the first case on record of someone hearing whole tunes hour after hour because of the painkiller.

The 70-year-old victim, described as "intact mentally," had arthritis and otosclerosis, an ear disease that causes deafness.

Dr. James R. Allen, of the Minneapolis Clinic of Psychiatry and Neurology, said the woman first believed the music was coming from another apartment, but friends couldn't hear it. Then she thought she might be picking up a radio station on her hearing aids. But the songs she heard weren't being broadcast on the radio.

She said the only medicine she was taking was 12 aspirin tablets a day. She was told to cut that to six.

"She called back several days later to express her delight and appreciation that we had 'stopped the music,' " Allen said.

SOURCE: AP in The *Wilmington Morning News,* DE 9/5/85
CREDIT: H. Hollander

●

Amorous Fish Hums a Human Headache

A loud nocturnal hum that has been driving houseboaters daffy for a decade in this otherwise idyllic community may be just "the romantic hoo-hooing" of some toadfish in love, marine biologists said yesterday.

"These critters could be it," said John McCosker, director of San Francisco's Steinhart Museum. Ten of the fish have been captured, including specimens of mating size, he said.

For more than a year, specialists from Berkeley's Frank Hubach acoustics firm and others have been trying to get at the source of the noise, concentrating on the possibility of a mechanical device.

Hubach said his people have investigated all sorts of possibilities, including a bayside sewer plant, electrical generators and some defunct railroad switching gear.

"But it isn't mechanical because 'hot spots of sound' move around under the water," declared Hubach.

McCosker, who said he got the idea from San Francisco State University ecologist Thomas Niesen, said the toadfish is the "prime suspect" in the maddening hum that vibrates through Richardson Bay.

For about 10 years, people have been complaining. The noise starts in May or June in the late evening, lasts all night and stops around dawn. Many of the 450 houseboaters say the noise keeps them awake or wakes them up.

The humming is so strong it is able to penetrate even the steel-reinforced concrete hulls of some houseboats, say people who live in the bay.

After listening to a tape of the noise, recorded by the Berkeley firm, John Hewitt, the aquarium's associate curator, described it as something like a "squadron of planes."

He said aquarium officials will wait awhile for the fish to "settle down" from the shock of capture, then set up a tank and eavesdrop on them "at night with a microphone."

He said the humming is a romantic noise to the fish, generated by the males only, and happens only in the summer mating season. McCosker described the sound as a "romantic hoo-hooing."

McCosker said his only concern about the experiment is that his random catch has some males in it, since only they make the noise.

If the fish are to blame, there is nothing that can be done about it, according to Hewitt.

SOURCE: AP in *The Star-Ledger,* Newark, NJ 8/8/85
CREDIT: Member #492

●

Campers Say Bearlike Animal Told Them to Get Off Property

A couple claimed a bearlike animal attacked their campsite near Greenwater, and "ordered" them off the property.

Greg and Stephanie McKay told Pierce County sheriff's deputies the animal was 8 feet tall, ugly and smelly with curly brown hair. It attacked their tent before dawn.

"You may think this sounds crazy, but the bear talked to us," Stephanie McKay, 35, said.

"It asked us what our names were and asked whether we had permission to use the campsite," she said. "We said we had gotten permission, but the bear told us to get off the property immediately. We ran like anything."

While the couple gathered their belongings from the campsite, located about five miles off Highway 410 in Pierce County, Stephanie said the bear stood on its hind legs and began throwing rocks at them.

"It must have weighed almost a ton," she said. "He was big, hairy. It didn't sound human. It had a very high-pitched voice."

Sheriff's Sgt. Terry Schmid said Greenwater Fire Department officials visited the campsite but could find no signs of a struggle. The only visible tracks, he added, were those of a large dog.

"We pretty well figure if it's anything it was probably a bear," Schmid said. "It could be a complete hoax, but we don't know. We're investigating."

SOURCE: UPI in The *Houston Chronicle,* TX 7/8/85
CREDIT: Jim Parker & R. Nelke

4th Burial Proves Final For Shepherd In Kenya

This time Musyoka Mututa stayed in the ground when he was buried in his home village of Kitui.

It was his fourth and final funeral.

Mututa, 60, was buried without fanfare or publicity in a simple ceremony at Kitui, about 100 miles east of Nairobi, the Kenyan News Agency said.

Mututa was a legend in Kenya, known as the man who had cheated death. Three times he was pronounced dead only to disrupt his own funeral and rise minutes before burial. He last "rose" from the dead in May.

His last and apparently final death was about 12 days ago. The exact cause of death was not disclosed.

"We had no expectations of another miracle. He told me that the fourth time would be for good," his brother Timothy Mututa said.

Timothy Mututa said his brother had been disappointed because Pope John Paul II refused to grant him an audience during his visit to Kenya in August.

Mututa's third death came in May. The Kutui district surgeon pronounced him dead after a short illness suspected to be cholera.

But when the pallbearers came to fetch his body and sprayed it with insecticide to ward off flies, Mututa revived after a day of laying in state and demanded a drink of water.

Mututa, a shephard, first "died" at the age of three. His body had been wrapped in sheets and blankets and was being lowered into the ground when he let out a cry and was hauled back to the surface.

He died again 19 years later when, after a search of six days, his apparently lifeless body was found. Mututa forced open his coffin lid as it was being lowered into the ground.

SOURCE: UPI in The *Nashville Tennessean*, TN 9/23/85

CREDIT: H. Holland

•

'Dead' Baby Found Alive In Morgue

A premature baby who was pronounced dead two days after birth was discovered alive after a night in a hospital morgue, doctors reported Monday. They had no scientific explanation.

"It is a miracle of San Francesco diPaola to whom I always turn in moments of deep sorrow," said the infant's father, farmer Vincenzo Arena, 31, of the nearby village of Malito, Italy referring to the 15th century Franciscan saint.

Dr. Oreste Lombardi, chief of obstetrics at Annunziata Hospital, said 2-day-old Mario Arena had stopped breathing several times leading to fatal cardiac complications.

"There is no doubt that the baby was dead," Lombardi said. "No one can explain what happened."

The infant, pronounced dead was taken to the hospital morgue after a required two-hour waiting period, during which his parents certified the death.

One of our nurses went back to the morgue with another baby who died during the night," Lombardi said. "She was about to leave when some movements caught her attention. That's how it was learned the little Arena was not dead.

"The little one is doing well now," he said.

The infant weighed only 2 pounds when born to Rosetta Arena, 34, after 27 weeks of pregnancy.

Lombardi said he is still having attacks of apnea, temporary halts in breathing, but is overcoming them easily.

"Scientifically, the phenomenon is not explainable," he said.

SOURCE: UPI in The *New Haven Journal*, CT 9/17/85

CREDIT: Jon Singer

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Remains of Peking Man Shrouded in Mystery

Call it an urban renewal project for one of the oldest neighborhoods on the planet: a craggy, shadowy hill of wild glens, damp caves and limestone scree that was home to Peking Man, an apelike human who died half a million years ago.

Chinese authorities have announced plans to close a huge cement plant about half a mile from the cave-honeycombed hill where remains of one of man's earliest ancestors was discovered on Dec. 2, 1929, about 30 miles southwest of downtown Peking. Today the place is called Zhoukoudian.

The decision hurts. Peking desperately needs cement for new housing. The plant will be shut this year "because it has caused serious damage to the remains of the ape man," the Peking evening news announced.

"Sinanthropus pekinensis," a bony-browed fellow who stood about five feet tall, dwelt in deep holes within this hill during the Middle Pleistocene Era, about 500,000 years ago.

He had about three-quarters as much brain as modern man has, hunted, used tools extensively, probably could talk and, most importantly, was the first creature on Earth who understood how to keep a fire burning.

His precious skull and other skeletal fragments were lost in the turmoil of World War II in China. Their unexplained disappearance lends a further tinge of mystery to a spot that has fascinated paleontologists for decades. Research still goes on at Dragon Bone Hill, and the area, which was closed to tourists as late as 1981, can now be visited.

Half a million years of progress have taken their toll.

There is a coal storage yard with bulldozers roaring back and forth in it, limestone quarries where distant dynamite explosions regularly shake the earth and fill the horizon with brownish dust, a long black railway line and nondescript brick outbuildings all across the valley. Dragon Bone Hill has been engulfed in the urban sprawl of Peking, even though it lies in neighboring Fangxian County.

The archaeological site itself is still rather pretty, and there is a fine, rippling landscape of greenish blue hills behind it. A small souvenir stand, museum and reception room do not obtrude too much on the prehistoric atmosphere.

But on a recent visit, some of the caves were seen to be littered with cigarette wrappers, plastic cups and other trash.

Thousands of frog bones, snake bones, dove bones and crow bones found around the caves here indicate that Peking Man was not a finicky eater. He drank from cups fashioned out of deer skulls, and used the antlers, hardened by fire, to scrabble worms and beetles out of tree bark for food.

Great differences in human development can be seen at various levels, and Upper or late Peking Man, who lived here a bare 100,000 years ago, was little removed from us in intelligence, if brain size is any measure.

Six complete skull caps, nine skull fragments, six pieces of facial bone, 15 lower jaws, 152 teeth and seven fragments of limb bones belonging to about 40 different people have been found here, most of them belonging to Upper Peking Man.

But the jewel of the collection, the skull found in 1929, has vanished. Only a piece of tibia (lower leg bone), a jaw and some teeth found in 1959 are as old as that skull: half a million years.

After being scrupulously measured, photographed and cast in plaster, the skull and other bones were packed and smuggled out of Peking in 1941, to prevent their falling into the hands of the invading Japanese. Soon afterward, somewhere, somehow, they disappeared and have not been found to this day.

It is a loss that still vexes the Chinese. All the skulls of Peking Man you see today in China — at Zhoukoudian, at the Museum of Chinese History in Peking and elsewhere — are copies of the casts made soon after the discoveries by German anatomist Franz Weidenreich (whose careful work, incidentally, is nowhere acknowledged by the Chinese).

A 1975 guidebook, written while the Cultural Revolution was just winding down, tersely says the bones "have disappeared in the hands of certain Americans,"

SOURCE: *Asbury Park Press*, NJ 7/5/85

CREDIT: Member #432

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Dolphin-Like Fossil Bones Identified

Fossilized bones found in Antarctica appear to be of a previously unknown dolphin-like mammal, an expert on fossils said.

Dr. Edwan Fordyce of Otago University said fossil deposits found in February were assembled into the skull and upper jaw of a creature estimated to be 4 million years old.

He said it was the first find of a relatively young fossil.

SOURCE: AP in The *Tennessean*, TN 9/29/85

CREDIT: H. Holland

The Notes of Charles Fort

Deciphered by Carl J. Pabst

ABBREVIATIONS

ab	about
Ac to	According to
A 1	[?Almanac?]
An Reg	*Annual Register*
Annals of Phil.	*Annals of Philosophy*
An Soc Met de France	*Annales de la Societe Meteorologique de France*
Ap.	April
Aug	August
BA	*Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*
BCF	*The Books of Charles Fort*
BD	*The Book of the Damned*
bet.	between
Bib. Brit	*Bibliographie British* [?]
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 approbrious to the Scientists for their *odor*, 'B O' " (*The Fortean*, #3, p. 14, c. 1)
chars	characters
(CO)	[?]
C.R.	*Comptes Rendus*
D-176	*The Book of the Damned*, p. 176
Dec	December
Dept	Department
det. met.	detonating meteor
D-fog	dry fog
Disap	Disappearance
Eclectic Mag.	*Electric Magazine*
Edin N.	*Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*
Eng.	England
etc.	et cetera
(F)	*Fletcher's List*
Feb	February
Fr.	France
Gelat	Gelatin
Gent's Mag	*Gentleman's Magazine*
Ghst	Ghost
Gr Elong.	Greatest Elongation
h	hours
Inf Conj	Inferior Conjunction
It	Italy
Jan	January
Kiesewetter	"An enterprising new member has undertaken the task of checking the references in Charles Fort's NOTES as printed in the Magazine, especially and primarily, those gathered from the Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. This welcome refinement of details is forwarded by H. A. Kiesewetter, of Buffalo, who is assisted in the work by Mrs. Kiesewetter" (*The Fortean*, #10, p. 146,).
L. An. Sci	*L'Annee Scientifique*
Lat	Latitude
L'Institut	[?]
Lloyds W. News	*Lloyd's Weekly News*
Long.	Longitude
L.T.	London *Times*
Mag Pop. Sci.	*Magazine of Popular Science*
Mems. Boston Soc	*Memoirs of the Boston Society*
Nat Hist	*of Natural History*
Met	*Meteor*
Metite	*Meteorite*
M. Perrey	*Monsieur Perrey*
Myst	*Mystery*
N.S.	*News Series*
N	*North*
N and Q	*Notes and Queries*
N.C.	North Carolina
N.M.	No More
N.Q.	*Notes and Queries*
Nov	November
Oct	October
Op. Mars	Opposition Mars
p	page
Phil Mag	*Philosophical Magazine*
Polt	Poltergeist
Pop Astro	*Popular Astronomy*
q	earthquake
Q.J. Roy. Inst.	*Quarterly Journal of the Royal Institute*
Rec. Sci	*Recreative Science*
Ref	Reference
Religio-Phil Jour.	*Religio-Philosophical Journal*
Rept. 54/85	*Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*
/// Reverse side	probably not related
Rev. Timothy Alden	Reverand Timothy Alden
S. Baring-Gould	Sabine Baring-Gould
Sc Am, NS	*Scientific American*, new series
Sept	September
S. Lat.	South Latitude
Smithsonian Inst. Report	*Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institute*
St. Bart	[?]
surr.	surrounded
Symonds Met	*Symons' Meterological Magazine*
Timbs Y.B.	*Transaction of the Devonshire*
Assoc	Association [?]
U.S. col	United States of Columbia
Volc	Volcano
W	West
(YRA/++)	library call letters

(continued from **PURSUIT** *Vol. 13, #1, page 48)*

Mr. Pabst brought to our attention the fact that a group of notes were omitted by us several years ago. We will include them now in this and the next issue for those readers who are documenting a complete file.

1810 May / Wild dog of Ennerdale appeared suddenly and the destruction began. Often killed seven or eight sheep a night, bit into the jugular vein and drank the blood. /

[Reverse side] *Chambers' Journal* 81-470 / Hunters organized. If reported in the daytime plowmen unyoked their horses and rode bare-backed. Said that milking, cutting of hay, feeding of horses neglected for these fruitless [Second page] hunts. In July a fund was raised to buy a good pack of hounds. There were two or three hunts a week, but the animal always eluded. Once when a hunt went [Reverse side] past a church, the whole congregation ran out to join. The vicar threw off his surplice and joined. There were long hunts ending 15 or 20 miles away and nothing run down.

[Third page] On 12th of September, it or a dog was seen to enter a cornfield. This animal was shot, wounded, chased by dogs and killed.

[*BCF*, pp. 643-644:

In the month of May, 1810, something appeared at Ennerdale, near the border of England and Scotland, and killed sheep, not devouring them, sometimes seven or eight of them in a night, but biting into the jugular vein and sucking the blood. That's the story. The only mammal that I know of that does something like this is the vampire bat. It has to be accepted that stories of the vampire bat are not myths. Something was ravaging near Ennerdale, and the losses by sheep farmers were so serious that the whole region was aroused. It became a religious duty to hunt this marauder. Once, when hunters rode past a church, out rushed the whole congregation to join them, the vicar throwing off his surplice, on his way to a horse. Milking, cutting of hay, feeding of stock were neglected. For more details, see *Chambers' Journal*, 81-470. Upon the 12th of September, someone saw a dog in a cornfield, and shot it. It

is said that this dog was the marauder, and that with its death the killing of sheep stopped.]

1810 July 3 / [London *Times*], 3-e / Witchcraft at Burton.

1810 ab. July 15 / Fulleh-Ghur,Shahabad, India / Stone fell. / *BA* '60.

1810 July 26 / Destructive hurricane at Chatillon, France / *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, Aug. 12, p. 250.

1810 July 30 / Began violent qs at Azores which continued into 1811 / *BA* 54.

1810 Aug., etc. / Polt home of Mr. Chave, of Sampford, Pevcrell, near Taunton /

[Reverse side] S. Baring-Gould, *Devonshire Characters*, p. 286.

1810 Aug. 10 / (F) / Tipperary, Ireland / Stonefall / 7 ¾ lbs. / 11:30 a.m. / *BA* 60 /

[Reverse side] Mooresfort, Tipperary.

1810 Sept. 4 at least to 13th / Began eruption of Vesuvius — unusual, but was not preceded by drying up of wells. / *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, Oct. 21, p. 330 / (not a mistake in year, see 1809).

1810 Sept. 10 / night / Vesuvius / *Gentlemen's Mag.* 80-374 / night 13th greater / great on 12th — 81-75.

1810 Sept. 22 / A dried pond at Luton, Bedfordshire, suddenly filled. / This phe had recurred before at time of

[Reverse side] q in Lisbon, in 1755. / *Gent's Mag* 80-379.

1810 Oct. 5 / [London *Times*], 3-b / 18-3-c / Vesuvius.

1810 Oct. 18 / [London *Times*], 3-c / 22-3-c / Sampford Ghst / See Aug. 27.

1810 Oct. 24, 25, 26 / Fearful hurricane, Havana, and earthquake / *Symons' Met. Mag* 3-5.

1810 Oct. 29 / [London *Times*], 3-a / Met / Waly[?].

1810 Nov. 9 / New Hampshire / violent shock / violent wind sprang up suddenly a moment before it / *BA*-54.

1810 Nov. 9 / (Ref) / 9:15 p.m. / Exeter, New Hampshire / Ac. by Judge Samuel Tenney — sound under his feet and a

[Reverse side] tremendous report. The atmosphere, dry, however [d]id not shake the house. / *Mems. Boston Soc Nat Hist* 2-16.

1810 Nov. 10-11 / night / Damaging high tide / Boston, England / *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, Nov. 18.

1810 Nov. 23 / (Fr.) / (F) / Sound near Orleans / ab. 1:30 p.m. / *Bib Brit* 45/397 / / at Charsonville (Meung) (Loiret) / 46/94.

[Reverse side] *BA*-'60.

1809 Nov. 29 / 1810 — Nov. 28 / 1820 — Nov. 29 / 1821 — Nov. 30 / 1822 — 28th / 1823 — 27th / 1824 — 27th / 1831 — 26th / 1839 — 29th / Athenaeum 1840-1013 /

[Reverse side] List of aerolites fallen last of Nov. by M. Capocci, director of Observatory of Naples / (noted).

1810 Nov. 28 / Aerolite? / See Nov. 29, '09.

1810 Nov. 28 / Fireball "evidently aerolitic fell between Cape Matapan

[Reverse side] and Island of Cerigo, Greece. / *BA* 60.

1810 Nov. 29 / Violent shock at sea south of Cape Matapan / 11 a.m. / *BA* 54.

1810 Dec. 3 / [London *Times*], 3-d / q / Travancore / Eng.?

1810 Dec. 10 / Vesuvius.

1810 Dec. 25 / It / 2 a.m. / Parm[a], etc. / *BA* 54 / severe shock and probable det. met.

1810 Dec. 25 / Emilia, Italy / I / [small quake / *BA* 1911].

1810 Dec. 25 / Formosa / Greece / I / [small quake / *BA* 1911].

[*BCF*, p. 49:

R. P. Greg, one of the most notable of cataloguers of meteoric phenomena, records (*Phil. Mag.*: 4-8-463) falls of viscid substance in the years 1652, 1686, 1718, 1796, 1811, 1819, 1844. He gives earlier dates, but I practice exclusions, myself. In the *Report of the British Association*, 1860-63, Greg records a meteor that seemed to pass near the ground, between Barsdorf and Freiburg, Germany: the next day a jelly-like mass was found in the snow —

Unseasonableness for either spawn or nostoc.

Greg's comment in this instance is: "Curious if true." But he records without modification the fall of a meteorite at Gotha, Germany, Sept. 6, 1835, "leaving a jelly-like mass on the ground." We are told that this substance fell only three feet away from an observer. In the *Report of the British Association*, 1855-94, according to a letter from Greg to Prof. Baden-Powell, at night, Oct. 8, 1844, near Coblenz, a German, who was known to Greg, and another person saw a luminous body fall close to them. They returned next morning and found a gelatinous mass of grayish color.]

1811

1811 Jan. / Azores / Volcs continue to Aug. at least. / *Gents Mag.* 81/2/275 / [Reverse side] L.T., March 21-3-c.

1811 Jan. 16 / (+) — ? / [London *Times*], 3-c / Disap of house and land.

1811 winter / Larvae / Saxony.

★★

[*BCF*, pp. 96-97 / See 1806 winter.]

1811 Feb. 1-9 / Violent submarine eruption off Azores. Again in June. / *BA* 54.

1811 Feb. 1 etc. / Azores / at Gineta / 25° 45 W; 37° 52' N / for several weeks been shocks — submarine volc Feb. 1 / *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, March 24 / had been shocks here in July, 1809 / at least to 5th / at St. Michael's /

[Reverse side] vast column of sludge rising from the sea.

1811 Feb. 18 / Small q / Rome / *BA* '11.

1811 Feb. 18 / Almutz / Fireball / *BA* 60.

1811 March 1 / Konleghowsk (Tschernigoff), Russia / Metite, weighing 15 pounds / *Gents Mag.* 81-2-181.

1811 March 12 / Kuleschovka, Pollava, Russia / Metite / (F).

1811 March 18 / China / III / [Violent quake / *BA* 1911].

1811 spring / Case of Mary Reynolds / *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, May, 1860 / One Sunday, spring of 1811, Mary, ab 19 years old, after for a year having been subject to occasional attacks of "fits," she had an attack of unusual severity. She was found insensible. When she recovered she

[Reverse side] was blind and deaf, and continued so 5 or 6 weeks. Hearing returned suddenly and entirely; seeing returned gradually. Ab 3 months later she was found in a state of sleep so profound that it was impossible to awaken her. After some hours, she awoke and had lost all recollection. Knew neither father nor brother.

[Second page] nor mother, sisters. She was ignorant of the commonest details of everyday life. Had no consciousness of having lived previous to the moment of awakening. Her mental condition was that of a new born infant. She used a few words, but showed that they had no meaning to her.

[Reverse side] But unlike an infant she rapidly learned to adjust to a new world. So she continued about 5 weeks, when one morning she awoke in her natural state or first state. She had no recollection of the state during the 5 weeks. All knowledge of her 19 years

[Third page] returned to her. A few weeks later, she lapsed, after another profound sleep into the second state, taking up the second life, where it had been interrupted by her return.

These alternations continued 15 or 16 years, and then the second

[Reverse side] state remained for the rest of her life. All transitions were during sleeps. First state said [to] be sedate, almost melancholy, mentally rather slow — 2nd = gay, given to versification said to been of merit.

[Fourth page] The two handwritings differ "wholly." / Resemblance to amnesia cases — once she went to visit her brother, and there changed — found herself in strange surroundings that she could not account for

[Reverse side] until saw her brother, who was known to her in both states.

1811 spring / Mary Reynolds / *Religio-Phil Jour.*, Jan. 11-6-1, 1879 / (YRA/++) / published a letter from Daniel Lott and a copy of an account of Mary by Rev. Timothy Alden, who knew her — after arriving at adult age — violent convulsions and blindness and deafness.

[Reverse side] No periodical regularity in her transitions — usually some foreknowledge of the change to other character.

1811 spring / See Fancher — that 5 different chars possessed her.

1811 March 25 / Comet / *Gents Mag* 81/2/280.

1811 March 26 / First great comet of century.

1811 March 26 / The comet appeared.

1811 / Comet coincided with great heat and fruitful vintage. / Flammarion, *Pop Astro*, p. 528.

1811 May 12 / Bonsall Peak of Derbyshire / whirl and fall of chunks of ice / *LT*, May 25.

[Reverse side] in BD 20th? / wrong / D-176.

[*BCF*, pp. 184-185:

Hailstones, we don't care so much about. The matter of stratification seems significant, but we think more of the fall of lumps of ice from the sky, as possible data of the Super-Sargasso Sea:

Lumps of ice, a foot in circumference, Derbyshire, England, May 12, 1811 (*Annual Register*, 1811-54); cuboidal mass, six inches in diameter, that fell at Birmingham, 26 days later (Thomson, *Intro. to Meteorology*, p. 179); size of pumpkins, Bungalore, India, May 22, 1851 (*Rept. Brit. Assoc.*, 1855-35); masses of ice of a pound and a half each, New Hampshire, Aug. 13, 1851 (Lummis, *Meteorology*, p. 129); masses of ice, size of a man's head, in the Delphos tornado (Ferrel, *Popular Treatise*, p. 428); large as a man's hand, killing thousands of sheep, Texas, May 3, 1877 (*Monthly Weather Review*, May, 1877); "pieces of ice so large that they could not be grasped in one hand," in a tornado, in Colorado, June 24, 1877 (*Monthly Weather Review*, June 1877); lumps of ice four and a half inches long, Richmond, England, Aug. 2, 1879 (*Symons' Met. Mag.*, 14-100); mass of ice, 21 inches in circumference that fell with hail, Iowa, June, 1881 (*Monthly Weather Review*, June, 1881); "pieces of ice" eight inches long, and in inch and a half thick, Davenport, Iowa, Aug. 30, 1882 (*Monthly Weather Review*, Aug., 1882); lump of ice size of a brick; weight two pounds, Chicago, July 12, 1883 (*Monthly Weather Review*, July, 1883); lumps of ice that weighed one pound and a half each, India, May (?), 1888 (*Nature*, 37-42); lump of ice weighing four pounds, Texas, Dec. 6, 1893 (*Sc.—Am.*, 68-58); lumps of ice one pound in weight, Nov. 14, 1901, in a tornado, Victoria (*Meteorology of Australia*, p. 34).]

1811 May 15 / Geneva and Paris / 8:30 p.m. / met and train like an S / *Bib. Brit.* 47/105, 203, 309.

1811 May 18 / Comet at Jamaica / midway between Orion and Gemini / *Gent's Mag.* 81/2-79.

1811 May 19 / Sheffield / Hail from 1 to 5 inches circumference / Rollo Russell, *Hail*, p. 8.

1811 May 24 / Op. Mars / (A 1).

1811 May 30 - Aug. 11 / (See if noted.) / Great q's / China / *BA* '11.

1811 June 8 (?) / Ice / Birmingham / (D 176) / N.

[*BCF*, pp. 184-185 / See May 12, 1811.]

1811 June / Volc / Kloet / Java / N.M. / *C.R.* 70-878.

1811 June 10 — etc. / Volc. / Azores / had been also in Jan / *An Reg* 1812-485 / was in sea near island

[Reverse side] of St. Michael's /

[Front side] etc. / q. / Caraccas.

1811 June 13 / Again off coast of Azores violent submarine eruption / See Feb. 1-9. / *BA* 54.

1811 July / Gelat / Germany / D-50.

[*BCF*, pp. 49-50:

According to Chladni's account (*Annals of Philosophy*, n.s., 12-94) a viscous mass fell with a luminous meteorite between Siena and Rome, May, 1652; viscous matter found after the fall of a fire ball, in Lusatia, March, 1796; fall of a gelatinous substance, after the explosion of a meteorite, near Heidelberg, July, 1811. In the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, 1-234, the substance that fell at Lusatia is said to have been of the "color and odor of dried, brown varnish." In the *Amer. Jour. Sci.*, 1-26-133, it is said that gelatinous matter fell with a globe of fire, upon the island of Lethy, India, 1718.]

1811 July 4 and Aug. 5 / Eruptions reported from N. of Norway. Said been doubtful. /

[Reverse side] *BA* 54.

1811 July 8 / Metite / (F) / village of Berlanguillas, bet. Aranda and Roa, Spain /*Bib. Brit* 48/162 / *BA* '77-149.

1811 July 15 / Italy / Modena / q / *BA* '11.

1811 Aug. 10 / Meteors so great not equalled until 1857 in Germany / *BA* 57-153.

1811 Aug. 29 / [London *Times*], 3-b / Sept. 3-4-b / 5-4-? / 12-3-b / July 6-3-b / Comet / Oct. 2-4-b / 10-3-e / 24-2-c.

1811 Sept. 10 and Dec. 16 and between the two dates / Many meteors seen / *Edin New Phil Jour* 31/301 /

[Reverse side] Quakes at Charleston, S.C.

1811 Sept. 11 / Tornado / Charleston, S.C. / *Finley's Rept.*

1811 Oct. 4 / Austria / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1811 Oct. 5 / Philippines / III / [Violent quake / *BA* 1911].

1811 Oct. / Etna / *Bib. Univ.* 11/191.

1811 Oct. 25 / (London *Times*], 3-d / Comrie / q.

1811 Nov. 9 / [London *Times*], 3-e / Met / London.

1811 Nov. 18 / Same as Jan. 8, 1812.

1811 Nov. 22 / Fireball / New Orleans / *BA* 60.

1811 Nov. 23 / Metite / Panganoor. In *BA* 60 says,

[Reverse side] "Iron-fall? Contains iron and nickel."

1811 Dec. 3 / [London *Times*], 2-d / q. / Portsmouth / Portsea / Gosport.

1811 Dec. 16 / 2 a.m. / Qs begin, New Madrid Mission, on Mississippi, 65 miles below mouth of Ohio. / *Smithsonian Rept* 58/42 / Lasted till 181[9?].

1812

1812 / Shocks at Bald Mt., Nor. Car. / *NY Times*, 1874, March 21-1-4 / (N.M.).

[*BCF*, p. 40:

Annales de Chimie, 85-266:

That a thick, viscous, red matter fell at Ulm, in 1812.]

1812 Jan. 6 / Q, New Madrid — took place after a long series of very heavy rains such as had never been known

[Reverse side] there before. / *Am. J. Sci* 3/20 / See Dec. 16, 1811.

1812 Jan. 8 / Shock and sound like discharge of cannon / *Edin N.* 31/115 / Oxfordshire and neighboring.

1812 Jan. 17 / Sudermanie / shocks / cloudless sky but a thick fog / *C.R.* 17-617.

1812 Jan. 27 / (q) / [London *Times*], 3-d / Oxfordshire / Telsworth / Islip / Blechingdon / Radley / Wolvercott.

1812 Jan. 28 / Carlsruhe / Fireball / *BA*, 60.

1812 Jan. 30 / Louisville / Fireball / *BA* 60.

1812 Feb. 8 / Severest of the New Madrid q's / *Smithsonian Rept.* 58/422.

1812 Feb. 9 / "Moodus" sounds / East Haddam, Conn. / *Am J. Sci* 39/399 / (2 explosions).

[*BCF*, p. 392:

Feb. 9, 1812 — two explosive sounds at East Haddam (*Amer. Jour. Sci.*, 39-339).]

1812 March 19 / Italy, Rome / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 March 22 / Rome / 3 a.m. / q and sound like thunder / *BA* 54.

1812 March 22 and etc. / Caraccas / q / Not a drop of rain had fallen for 5 months. / (*BA* 54).

1812 March 26 / 4 p.m. / Great q. / Caraccas / *Gents Mag* 82/1/581 /

[Reverse side] Holy Thursday / crowds worshipping / also La Guayra in ruins.

1812 March 26 / q / Caraccas / *Quar. Jour Royal Inst* 2-400 / For 5 months no rain had fallen. 20,000 perished in Venezuela. Q's continued days. As late as October a violent shock.

1812 March 26 / In following Dec, not ceased. / *An Reg.* 181 3-508 / *BA* '11.

1812 April 5 / Especially violent at Caraccas. / See March 26.

1812 Ap. / No q's in *BA* '11.

1812 Ap. 10 / (Stones) / Dordogne / Perigueux / globe of fire seemed size of moon to the south of P. / *Bib Brit* 50/62 / ab. 8 p.m. / and Toulouse / Detonations heard and stones fell. / See p. 159./

[Reverse side] *BA* '60 / great fall / L'Année Sci 4/169.

1812 Ap. 13 or 15 / (F) = 15th / Erxleben, Saxony / 4 p.m. /

[Reverse side] Stone, 4 ½ pounds, fell. / *BA* '60.

1812 Ap. 26 / Several thousand meteoric stones in Normandy / *Mag Nat Hist* 7-302 /

[Reverse side] ? / This near[?] Yazak[?].

1812 (May 1) / [London *Times*], June 23-3-d / 24-3-d / 26-3-d / 30-3-c / Volc. / St. Vincent's /

[Reverse side] See q-drought, Venezuela, U.S. Col., March 22. See if rains.

1812 May 1 / Ac to Schomburgk, ashes fell 500 to 600 miles to the east (windward) of Barbadoes.

[Reverse side] Not learn till the 6th that it was eruption upon St. Vincent.

1812 May 1 / Schomburgk's *Hist of Barbados*, p. 69 / Black rain and detonations / meteors or globes of fire and

[Reverse side] a glare in the sky "resembling the *Aurora Borealis*" / *large flocks of birds* / "sand and ashes."

1812 Ap. 30 / Eruption / St. Vincents / *European Magazine* 62-66 / Also at Martinique —

[Reverse side] at M. continued into June.

1812 May 1 / New / Zurcher says that May 1, 1812, detonations heard at Barbadoes and ashes fell. / Volc. at St. Vincents / 106 [?].

1812 May 1 / (+) / Distance phe / "The Phenomenon at Barbados" / *Phil Mag* 40/71 / About one o'clock in the morning "a very heavy and quick firing" was heard. The Governor hastened to take charge of the garrison, suspecting that a naval battle between French and English vessels was occurring.

[Reverse side] But in the morning the sun rose eclipsed by vast dusky blue clouds. Darkness increased. At 8 o'clock in the morning darkness was intense. A substance like "the dust of wood ashes" fell from the sky, but in greater accumulations. Was like powdered rottenstone. The inhabitants who ventured out carried lanterns.

1812 May 1 / (2) / See *Phil Mag.*, 40-60. / That it was St. Vincent volc / The writer of the letter preceding had no more knowledge of what it was all about than had the people of Montreal, Australia, etc. Being in a

[Reverse side] volcanic region, he hoped it was from a West Indian volcano and not of unknowable origin.

1812 May 1 / Neath / Gloucestershire / shock and sound like heavy artillery / *Edin N* — 31/155.

1812 May 1 / Distant from phe / 6:20 p.m. / Gloucestershire / noise like thunder and q. / *BA* 54-98 /

[Reverse side] *Gentleman's Mag.* 82/1/479.

1812 May 2 / Nantes, France / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 May 10 / Mercury / infer. conj / (Al).

1812 May 13 / Germany, near Cologne / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 May 24 / Venus / Gr Elong / (Al).

1812 June 12 / *N.Y. Sun*, 1911, Nov. 19-5-4 / Margaret Lyall, of Denniland, 3 miles from Montrose (Scotland?),

[Reverse side] fell asleep June 12 and not wake up for 2 days. Again on July 1 and slept till Aug. 8.

1812 June 18 / Oxfordshire and around / q and sound like gunfire / *Gent's Mag* 82/1/80.

1812 June 23 or 24 / Tidal wave / Marseilles / *BA* 54.

1812 July 5 / 8 a.m. / q in mist and rain at E. Haddam / *BA* 54.

1812 July 5 / "Moodus" sounds — E. Haddam, Conn. / *Am. J. Sci* 39/339 / one explosion.

[*BCF*, p. 392:

July 5, 1812 — one explosive sound at East Haddam (*Amer. Jour. Sci.*, 39-339).]

1812 July 6 / [London *Times*], 2-e / Vesuvius.

1812 July 17 / Germany / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Aug. 1 / 11 h / Venus / Infer conjunction / (A1).

1812 Aug. 5 / Chantonnay, Vendee, France / Metite / (F).

1812 Sept. 5-6 / Borodino, near Moscow, Russia / Metite / (F).

1812 Sept. 11 / Florence / / Sept. 15 / Naples / / / q's / *BA* '11.

1812 Sept. 13 / Segovia / Fireball / *BA* 60.

1812 Sept. 15 / Florence, Italy / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Sept. 22 / [London *Times*], 3-d / q / Shenton and Hoverington.

1812 Oct. 8 / California / III / [Violent quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Oct. 21 / California / II / [Medium quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Oct. 25 / Treviso, Italy / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Oct. 27 / A fresh eruption at Etna / *Gents Mag.* 82/1/77.

1812 Oct. 28 / Soldiers / C 209 +.

[*BCF*, p. 392:

Oct. 28, 1812 — "phantom soldiers" at Havarah Park, near Ripley, England (*Edinburgh Annual Register*, 1812-II-124). When such appearances are explained by meteorologists, they are said to be displays of the aurora borealis. Psychic research explains variously. The physicists say that they are mirages of troops marching somewhere at a distance.]

1812 November / The extreme cold wave that destroyed Napoleon's army in retreat from Moscow.

1812 Nov. / q and phe / Audobon's account of the New Madrid q as he saw and felt in Kentucky / *Science, N.S.*, 21-748 / He was jogging along on horseback when he saw "a sudden and strange darkness rising from the

[Reverse side] western horizon. He had gone about a mile when he heard what he thought was the distant rumbling of a violent tornado. Then came severe shocks. "The feature convulsion, however, lasted only a few minutes, and the heavens again brightened as quickly as they had become obscured." — Continued shocks almost every day. / Began Dec. 16, 1911.

1812 Nov. 11 / Jamaica, B.W.I. / II / [Medium quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Nov. 15 / Carlsruhe and Vienna / Fireball / *BA* 60.

1812 Nov. 25 / [London *Times*], 3-c / q at Cannonore / Eng?

1812-14 Dec. 2 / [newspaper clipping] / Mystery Of War Of 1812. The mystery of the "blue lights," which appeared on the shores of New London harbor, Conn., on the night of December 2, when Commodore Decatur planned to run the British blockade, has never been solved. / [unidentified source, served by the Premier Syndicate].

1812 Dec. 7 / Japan / III / [Violent quake / *BA* 1911].

1812 Dec. 8 / Alaska / III [Violent quake / / California / I [Small quake] / / / [*BA* 1911].

1812 Dec. 21 / California / I / [Small quake / *BA* 1911].

1813 Jan. 27 / Brunn / det met / *BA* 67/415.

(to be continued)

The Society For The Investigation of The Unexplained

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ORIGINS OF SITU/PURSUIT

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

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

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

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

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

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