

Pursuit

'Science is the Pursuit of the Unexplained'



Journal of SITU
The
Society for the
Investigation of
The Unexplained

Stone sphere in courtyard of the National Museum in San
Jose, Costa Rica. See "Strange Stone Spheres," page 146.

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The Society For The Investigation Of The Unexplained

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

SITU exists for the purpose of collecting data on unexplaineds, promoting proper investigation of individual reports and general subjects, and reporting significant data to its members. The Society studies unexplained events and "things" of a tangible nature that orthodox science, for one reason or another, does not or will not study.

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

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The Society's journal *PURSUIT* is published quarterly. In each year the issues are numbered respectively from 1 through 4 and constitute a volume, Volume 1 being for 1968 and before, Volume 2 for 1969, and so on. Reduced-rate subscriptions to *PURSUIT* without membership benefits, are available to public libraries and libraries of colleges, universities and high schools at \$10 for the calendar year.

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Pursuit®

'SCIENCE IS THE PURSUIT OF THE UNEXPLAINED'

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We are pleased to announce that Dr. Stuart W. Greenwood and Dr. Michael D. Swords have accepted our governing board's offer to join SITU's Scientific Advisory Board effective immediately. (See a brief resume of both gentlemen on page 185).

Their positions on the Board fill the vacancies left by the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek and the retirement of Dr. John Napier.

Both Drs. Greenwood and Swords have written numerous articles for *PURSUIT* over the years and we look forward to their assistance in our effort to have Forteana research and investigation become more popularly accepted by society.

Cover photo: Robert C. Warth

Strange Stone Spheres

by Michael T. Shoemaker

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In the realm of archeology, Stonehenge and the Pyramids have long dominated the popular imagination. They, as well as the Easter Island statues, the American Indian mounds, and the Nazca lines, are famous for being among the most mysterious of ancient artifacts. But the stone spheres of Costa Rica surpass them all in strangeness, while remaining relatively neglected.

On the Diquis River delta, near the Pacific coast of southern Costa Rica, small and huge balls carved from stone lie scattered in the banana farm fields. They are almost perfectly spherical, and their sizes range from an inch to eight feet in diameter. The archeological literature records at least 186 spheres at various sites in the area. Many more are known to have been destroyed, and some are probably still lost in the jungles or buried in centuries of silt.

Although the most popular archeological mysteries do have a few baffling aspects, they all provide us with some basis for understanding them. They are all comprehensible in terms of ordinary human experience: megalithic structures as architecture; menhirs and cromlechs as astronomical alignments; the Easter Island statues as statuary; the American Indian mounds as burial monuments; and the Nazca lines as processional paths for rituals.

The spheres, however, seem incomprehensible. We can think of many possible explanations for why they were made, but no explanation is entirely satisfactory. The absence of any apparent utilitarian purpose, the abstractness of the sculpting, and the scarcity of clues bewilder the theorist. It is as if the spheres were produced for the express purpose of puzzling us.

Discovery

Diquis means "large water," or "big river," in the language of the Boruca Indians, who live on the delta. Despite periodic flooding, this area has been inhabited since at least 300 B.C. The fishing life was good to the Indians, so they coped with the flooding by building their huts on stilts, or on ten-foot-high, earthen mounds. Today, the accumulation of silt has reduced the flooding, and the house mounds of the ancient people barely rise above ground level.

The first exploration of the region occurred in 1522, when Gil Gonzalez Davila led a Spanish expedition as far north as the Gulf of Fonseca. Although Davila visited the delta and had extensive contact with the Borucas, the Spanish chronicles never mention the spheres.

The spheres remained undiscovered until George P. Chittenden saw them while exploring and buying land for the United Fruit Company during the late 1930s. The natives knew about the spheres, of course, but they took little interest in them. Chittenden, however, recognized the spheres' archeological importance. He reported his discovery to Dr. Doris Z. Stone, the leading authority on Costa Rican archeology. Dr. Stone visited the region and located numerous sites between 1939 and 1941, and she published a short paper on the subject in 1943.

Perhaps because of the war, Dr. Stone's paper aroused little interest in archeological circles. Pursuit of the mystery languished for eleven years. In the meantime, the United Fruit

Company installed its banana farms. Any chance of completely solving the puzzle was probably lost during this period.

A large number of spheres were uncovered when the jungle was cleared. Collectors removed many of the smaller ones, while some of the larger ones shattered as the bulldozers tried to move them. Many of those that remained began to crack and crumble because, with the jungle gone, they were exposed to the sun and the consequent extremes of temperature.

The worst damage resulted from a remarkable rumor. Native workers destroyed a vast number of balls in the belief that they contained gold. It is easy to understand how this idea got started. Gold artifacts from the Chiriqui culture have been found in abundance there, so it is quite likely that a gold artifact was once found near a broken sphere.

The total number of spheres lost was probably in the hundreds, perhaps even thousands. As a consequence, it will never be possible to make a good estimate of the time and labor required for the entire output. More importantly, vital clues that might have elucidated the spheres' purpose were probably obliterated. Data for a statistical comparison of size and number were destroyed, associations with certain sites or artifacts were disrupted, and possible alignments were ruined.

Dr. Stone, who was engaged with other work, nevertheless succeeded in persuading one scientist to make excavations in time to learn a few facts. Dr. Samuel K. Lothrop, one of America's most eminent archeologists, conducted the study in 1954.

Production and Distribution

How the spheres were made is not a mystery. Although no specific evidence survives, we can imagine the process. A circle is easy to construct with a stick and string. From this, a template can be carved from wood and used to guide the later stages of sculpting.

All but three of the spheres are made of granite. Their surface finish is smooth, but grainy. The best comparison is to cement. I have had the opportunity to examine a three-foot sphere on exhibit at the National Gallery of Art, [in Washington, DC] and I could not see any trace of chisel marks. The spheres were probably abraded by some method in the final stage of production, just as we sand a finished woodcarving.

There is no local source for the granite, so it must have come from still undiscovered mountain quarries at a considerable distance up-river. The absence of tools in the delta indicates that the spheres were carved at the quarries and then rafted downstream to the delta.

The three exceptional spheres are composed of coquina, a soft type of limestone formed from fragments of seashells. One is shattered, and the other two have average diameters of 3 feet, 8.49 inches and 4 feet, 3.24 inches. The beach near the mouth of the Diquis River is the closest source for coquina; so to reach their present location, these balls must have been transported at least 20 miles up river and ten more miles on a small tributary.

The coquina spheres are also exceptional in another way. Each one has on it a rough, flattened spot, which probably

served as a base. They no longer rest on these faces because they have rolled down off one of the house mounds.

The best explanation for the coquina balls is that they are the surviving examples of the earliest phase of sphere-sculpting. They do not exhibit a high level of craftsmanship, and the flat spot suggests a time when the sculptors thought that such a base was necessary for stability. The motivation for the change in material may have been a desire for greater durability, or because a slip in the hammer causes a greater error in the soft coquina than in the hard granite.

Alternative explanations are also possible. The coquina balls may have been the practice pieces of apprentices, or of artists experimenting with a different kind of stone; or the coquina may have had symbolic significance in itself. But these alternatives do not explain the flat base as well as the first theory does.

The spheres are distributed throughout much of the Diquis River's drainage area. From the city of Palmar Sur, near the coast, they extend eighteen miles southeastward, along the Pan-American Highway, to Piedras Blancas. On Camarones Island, in the Diquis River, they are found on hilltops — providing us with evidence of rafting and of the great effort expended to place them in a particular place. To the north, others are also at high elevations in the Bruquena Mountains (which rise to about 3,300 feet), and beyond the mountains, some are near Uvita, in the Esquina River flood-plain.

Many of the larger balls are found along two upper tributaries of the Diquis, the Terraba and Cavagra Rivers, which lie more than 20 miles east of Palmar Sur. These sites are presumably closer to the quarries, so it is understandable that many of the big balls were kept there while the smaller ones (with exceptions) were shipped downstream.

Measurements and Analysis

The largest sphere that has been accurately measured (by Dr. Stone) has a diameter of 2.14 meters (7 feet) and an estimated weight of 13.5 tons. Another sphere is said to have an 8-foot diameter, but apparently no exact measurement has been published.

Dr. Lothrop gave his own measurements for 39 spheres found in the delta. Twenty-two were too deeply buried in silt to be completely excavated, so the diameters were measured by plumb bobs and tape. The diameters of the other seventeen were calculated from the measured circumferences. In eight of these cases only one circumference was measured; but in the other nine cases, five or more circumferences were averaged for each sphere.

So how near perfection are these spheres? The skeptic, wary of the usual exaggerations made by popular writers on archeological mysteries, will find for once an achievement worthy of awe. The best spheres are perhaps the finest examples of precision stone-carving in the ancient world.

The following list shows the percentage of error in all nine spheres with multiple circumference measurements. The percentage was calculated by comparing the average circumference to the difference between the longest and shortest circumference. Therefore, it should be remembered that the intermediate circumferences show even smaller percentages of error. In other words, *these figures represent the maximum error in each sphere*. The measurements have been converted to feet, and the spheres are listed by diameters to facilitate reference to the master list, yet to be presented.

Maximum Circumference Errors

Diameter	Difference in inches	% of Error
6' 6.99"	0.50	0.20
6' 6.99"	0.96	0.39
4' 5.80"	1.25	0.74
4' 8.49"	2.00	1.13
1' 11.97"	1.00	1.32
1' 11.83"	1.46	1.95
1' 9.68"	2.06	3.03
1' 7.99"	2.00	3.19
9.10"	1.21	4.23

As one would expect, the percentages show an almost perfect inverse correlation with the size. It is very surprising, however, to find that the two largest spheres in the group exhibit the smallest absolute differences.

Two possible reasons for this surprising result come to mind immediately. The larger spheres may have received greater care because they were more important, or because only the best artisans would undertake such a large job. These ideas are entirely speculative, however.

The evidence points to another explanation. The perfection indicates that these large spheres were made at a time when the craft had reached its technical peak. It is probable that the attempt to carve large spheres took place only after the craft had been mastered on smaller sizes. Supporting this idea is Dr. Lothrop's discovery that most of the crudest balls have diameters of 2-3 feet. Furthermore, the crudest of all are a few of the balls that are less than a foot wide. These were often poorly carved river boulders. On the other hand, some of the smallest balls are also among the best-crafted specimens.

These facts are consistent with one another, and they allow us to construct a probable sequence of events. At the beginning, small river boulders were carved, without the use of a template, into very crude, lopsided balls. Then someone thought of a template, and the craft was perfected, producing the outstanding small spheres. The template also made larger spheres practical. Lacking large blocks of stone, however, they had to look elsewhere for a supply. They first tried coquina, found it unsatisfactory, and then started using the mountain granite. Their early attempts at making larger spheres (perhaps between 2 and 5 feet) were crude because of the unfamiliar size and awkward increase in weight. In accordance with Dr. Lothrop's figures, the percentage of error would be greatest in the smallest of the intermediate sizes, those between 2 and 3 feet. Finally, upon reaching the pinnacle of their craft, they ambitiously produced the largest spheres, which are the most nearly perfect.

As we shall see, the distribution of sizes into three groups also supports my hypothetical sequence. But until a larger sample of spheres is analyzed, this sequence must be regarded as tentative. If my hypothesis is correct, it eliminates several explanations of why the spheres were made. Before we attempt to answer that question, however, we need a lot more facts.

The spheres' locations, sizes, and size differences all provide important clues. The next list shows all 40 measured spheres in order of decreasing diameters. Following the size, I have given the farm-location number and the diameter difference with the succeeding sphere.

The Measured Spheres

Diameter	Farm Number	Difference in inches
7' 0.25"	7	5.26
6' 6.99"	4-36C	0
6' 6.99"	4-36C	11.00
5' 7.99"	4-36C	11.50
4' 8.49"	4-36C	2.69
4' 5.80"	1	2.56
4' 3.24"	4-23B	1.25
4' 1.99"	6	1.00
4' 0.99"	4-36C	4.50
3' 8.49"	4-23B	2.22
3' 6.27"	6	0.28
3' 5.99"	1	0.74
3' 5.25"	4-36C	0.26
3' 4.99"	1	3.39
3' 1.60"	5	0.10
3' 1.50"	1	0.75
3' 0.75"	1	1.26
2' 11.49"	4-23A	2.50
2' 8.99"	6	2.24
2' 6.75"	5	0.76
2' 5.99"	5	0
2' 5.99"	4-36G	4.00
2' 1.99"	5	0.01
2' 1.98"	4-23F	0.99
2' 0.99"	4-23F	0.98
2' 0.01"	4-23F	0.04
1' 11.97"	4-23A	0.14
1' 11.83"	4-23A	0.07
1' 11.76"	4-23A	0.14
1' 11.62"	4-23F	1.18
1' 10.44"	4-23F	0.76
1' 9.68"	2	0.27
1' 9.41"	4-23A	1.41
1' 8.00"	2	0.01
1' 7.99"	2	0.25
1' 7.74"	6	10.64
9.10"	2	1.11
7.99"	6	1.95
6.04"	2	0.95
5.09"	2	

This list has some remarkable characteristics not discussed by Dr. Lothrop or anyone else. The most obvious is that the sizes are distributed in three distinct groups. We have a group of four small balls, followed by a large gap, 32 medium-size balls, another large gap, and four big balls. I classify the 5-foot ball with the third group because I think the third large gap is an aberration. This gap would be filled if we had measurements from the other balls on Farm 7, where there are at least ten balls between 5 and 7 feet. The occasional 3-and 4-inch gaps are probably the random result of spheres that were destroyed. This cannot be said of the large gaps, which are more than twice the size of the others.

As noted, my hypothesis explains this distribution of sizes. At each stage of development, a deliberately dramatic increase in size was attempted, which produced the distinct

demarcations between groups. Once the first leap was made, artisans subsequently carved spheres slightly larger or smaller, giving us the range we see in the middle group, until the next leap was made.

The distribution of sizes shows another, less obvious, pattern. Thirty-two balls form eleven clusters of two to five balls each. In eight clusters, the range of sizes is an inch or less. The other three clusters have two balls within 1.11 inches, three balls within 1.03 inches, and four balls within 1.28 inches. If we further sub-divide these clusters, we find that 22 balls form thirteen pairs with a size difference of 0.28 inch or less.

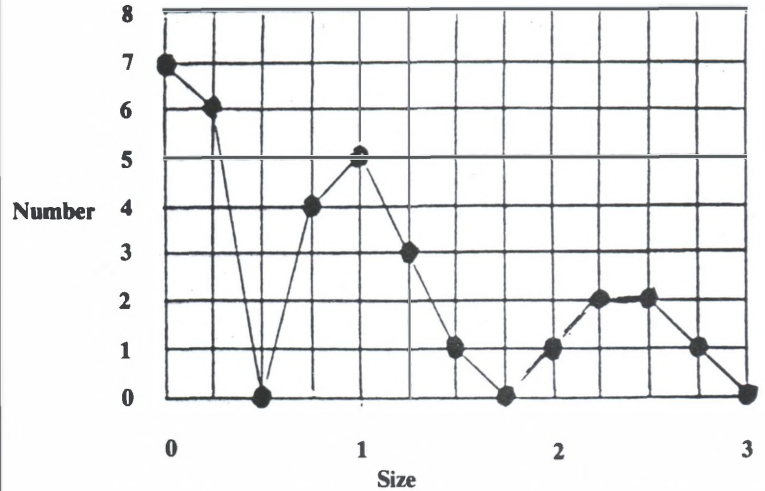


Figure 1. Number of intervals versus size of intervals

The pattern is best illustrated in Figure 1. This graphs the number of intervals (the size difference from one sphere to the next larger sphere) against the size of the interval (rounded off to the nearest quarter-inch). The seven intervals above 2.75 inches are not shown because they are widely scattered.

The dominance of the zero-inch interval is especially impressive because this interval covers only half the range (0 to 0.12 inch) of the other intervals. The overall trend is definitive: the smaller the interval, the more frequently it appears. This correlation is contrary to a random distribution of sizes and can have only one meaning. Most of the balls were deliberately carved to the same specification as one or more other balls, either from the same template (one for each cluster) or one of similar size, and perhaps by the same artisan (one for each cluster). In other words, the size differences within the clusters result from a normal margin of error in the carving process. This margin of error appears to have been roughly plus or minus half an inch or less, varying with the size of the sphere, the artisan's skill, etc.

We can also draw another conclusion from this graph. The seven intervals larger than 2.75 inches can be accounted for by the major divisions into three groups and by the destruction of some spheres. It is therefore clear that if the spheres were sculpted using a standard unit of increment, then that unit must be about 2.75 inches or smaller. (The top limit is only approximate, because if we calculate using the average diameters of the clusters, then some intervals will be slightly larger.)

Four successive clusters, with average diameters of 19.91, 21.84, 23.83, and 25.65 inches, do show similar increments of 1.97, 1.99, and 1.82 inches respectively. This would seem to indicate a standard increment of about 1.926 inches. But only one other cluster (with an average diameter of 37.28 inches)

falls into the pattern, having an interval (from the 25.65 cluster) that is 6.04 times the standard increment. The idea that this increment is a metrical standard is further weakened by the fact that it does not factor very evenly into any of the four cluster-diameters on which it is based.

In the absence of any other evidence, we must conclude that *the sizes are probably not based on any metrical standard*. This conclusion is important because it eliminates some theories about the spheres' purpose.

The locations of the spheres seem to correlate generally with their sizes. Nearly identical spheres are usually found close together. The best example is the cluster of five spheres (1' 11.62" to 2' 0.01") that are all found within a small area of one farm. This characteristic supports the idea that the spheres in such clusters were all based on the same template.

A perusal of the master list shows that spheres of similar size are also generally found at the same site. Farm 7, although represented with only one example, has numerous, very large spheres. Farm sites 4-36C and 4-23B also have large spheres. The five moderate-size spheres of Farm 1 have only a one-foot range of diameters. Next in size are the slightly smaller balls on Farm 5. A very homogenous group of balls (nine in a range of 4.5 inches) is found on the adjacent sites 4-23A and 4-23F. And most of the small spheres on this list come from Farm 2. Only Farm 6 exhibits a wide range of sizes.

Groups and Alignments

In addition to the association between site and size, there may be other meanings hidden in how the spheres are grouped. Unfortunately, the widespread destruction and movement of the spheres most affects their grouping and possible alignments. It would be interesting to see whether any relationship exists between the number of spheres at a site and their size. But information for such an analysis is scanty and wholly unreliable, because we have no way of knowing how many balls in a group may have been lost.

One fact appears certain. There is a large variation in the number of balls in each group. This cannot be accounted for by the destruction, because too many sites exhibit only a few balls (even as few as one), and some of these sites appear undisturbed.

The largest group, at Jalaca, has at least 45 balls. Camarones Island and the Ovando farm at Piedras Blancas have at least seventeen and fifteen respectively.

Any theory about the spheres' purpose must take into account this wide range of numbers.

Dr. Stone discovered the most interesting patterned grouping of spheres (see Figure 2). On Farm 7, over a distance of about 300 yards, ten balls lie in a slightly curved line. It is hard to say whether this is a deliberate alignment, but the pattern is probably significant. Pairs of balls alternate with single balls. Moreover, the pairs are about 5 feet in diameter, and the single balls are about 6 feet in diameter. What this pattern means is anyone's guess and will probably never be known.

Some of the balls do form definite alignments. The trouble with alignments is that they often occur accidentally — much more often than most people realize. Even if an alignment is deliberate, we have no way of knowing whether the sphere-sculptors created it.

Dr. Lothrop found an excellent example of an accidental alignment on Farm 1, where five balls formed a nearly straight line. The physical evidence showed that they had all rolled down from the top of the adjacent house mound.

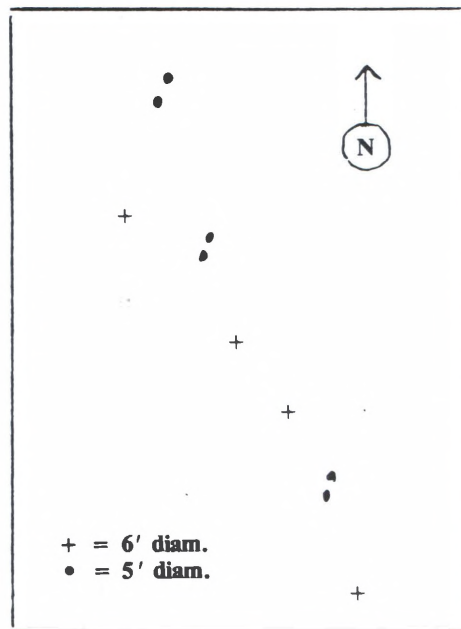


Figure 2. Farm 7 (after stone)

Dr. Stone reported the only alignments whose significance cannot be doubted (see Figure 3). Fourteen balls form two intersecting lines beside a house mound on Farm 5. Three balls have diameters of about 4, 4, and 3 feet, as indicated, while the rest are approximately 2 feet wide. One of the 4-foot balls lies at the intersection of the two lines. This is probably the most important clue that the alignments provide, but discerning its meaning is hopeless.

There is a tendency today to see an astronomical purpose in all alignments of ancient megaliths, including the spheres. Although many astronomical alignments of megaliths do exist (serving as sight-lines to mark heavenly events such as the winter solstice sunrise), the spheres almost certainly do not possess such a practical astronomical function.

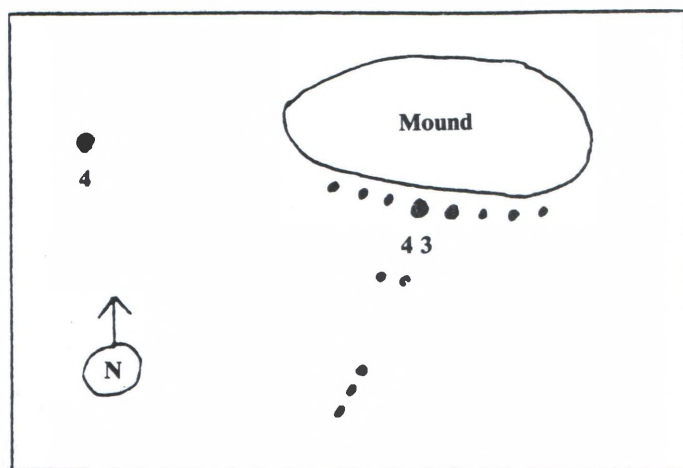


Figure 3. Farm 5 (after stone)

The alignments in Figure 3 are clearly not astronomical sight-lines, because eight closely spaced balls are not needed for such a purpose. Moreover, the arrangement of the balls suggests a purpose that has more to do with the mound than with the sky.

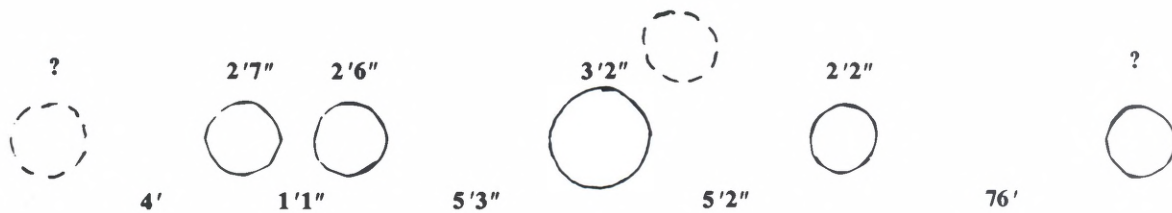


Figure 4. Farm 5 (after Lothrop)

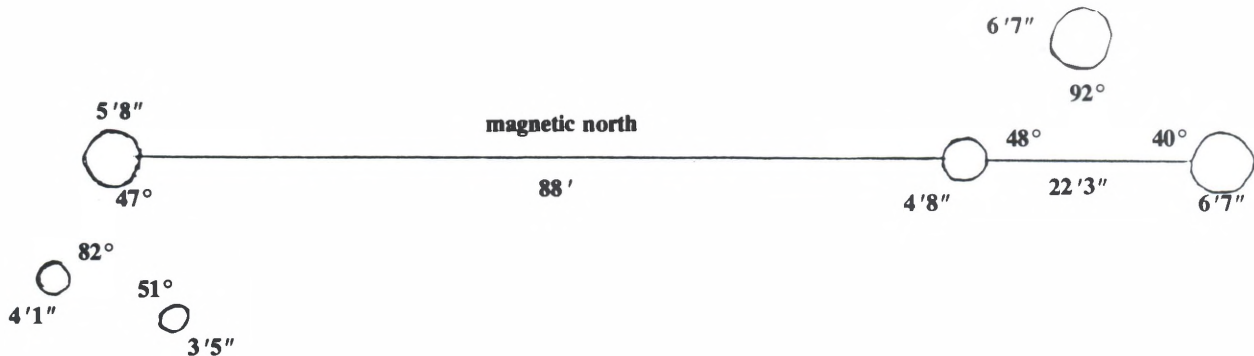


Figure 5. Farm 4-35C, in scale (after Lothrop)

Dr. Lothrop found three alignments of balls that appeared to be in their original positions. The significance of these alignments is debatable, however. In all three, extra balls next to the lines form “triangles” according to Dr. Lothrop. But this implies a relationship that is assumed rather than demonstrated. Only one of the alignments shows a grouping of three balls, whereas the other two have merely a single ball beside a line. A single flanking ball will *always* form a triangle with two balls in a line, so Dr. Lothrop’s observation is pointless.

Dr. Lothrop also discovered that two of the alignments were oriented toward magnetic north, implying that this has significance. A little logic shows that this orientation was probably a coincidence. Dr. Lothrop’s inaccurate use of language tempts us to think that one alignment confirms the other, and that coincidence is therefore unlikely. This is false. When stated objectively, the facts are quite different. Fact one: two alignments are oriented in the same direction for some unknown reason. Fact two: the direction coincides with the 1954 magnetic north.

The magnetic poles constantly move. This means that no matter how we interpret the alignments’ orientation, a coincidence of some sort has occurred. If Dr. Lothrop is right, then it is remarkably coincidental that the magnetic north of 1954 was identical to that at the time the spheres were “aligned.” In addition, an orientation to magnetic north serves no astronomical purpose and is harder to determine than is true north.

It is simpler to attribute the orientation to chance, or to hoaxers. The probability is not as prohibitive as one might think. If the measurements have an accuracy of plus or minus a half-degree, then the probability of chance occurrence is 1-in-179 (because 180° and higher would repeat the previous directions).

The longest of Dr. Lothrop’s lines, also found on Farm 5, is oriented east 10° south (see Figure 4). The dotted circles indicate depressions left behind by spheres that had been removed. The spheres’ sizes are within a foot of one another, but the sizes and the distances lack any detectable pattern. Although the number of spheres argues against coincidence, we have no clue to the alignment’s purpose. Again, an astronomical sight-line is doubtful because six spheres are unnecessary for that.

Four spheres of very similar size were found in a line on top of Mound F, on Farm 4, section 23, together with a fifth sphere that was out of line. Their location on top of a mound is of vital importance and will be discussed presently, under “Cultural Context.” This is one of the two lines oriented toward magnetic north.

The other line oriented toward magnetic north is on Farm 4, section 36, and serves as the basis for conjectures about astronomical purposes (see Figure 5). This is the only alignment that actually incorporates flanking spheres into two groups of three. Even these cannot be called “triangles,” however, because that attributes to them a geometric significance that may not exist. Any three balls not in a line form a triangle. For all we know, the significance of these groups may be numerical rather than geometric.

Aside from the two virtually identical, nearly perfect spheres, this configuration shows no consistency in its elements. The balls are all fairly large, but they have a wide range of sizes; the "triangles" are not very similar; and the fact that the alignment has two balls from one group and only one ball from the other group ruins the symmetry of the configuration.

Perhaps because the "triangles" lie both east and west of the alignment, Dr. Lothrop boldly suggested that the arrangement may be "related to seasonal changes in the arc traveled by the sun." The four lines extending east and west of the alignment could conceivably mark the sunrise and sunset positions at the solstices, but the unsymmetrical arrangement, the size differences, and the existence of the unnecessary alignment do not support this idea.

The alignment of three balls is not very impressive anyway and may be purely coincidental. It is easy to calculate the probability that a ball in one triangle will align with two balls in another triangle. A triangle has three alignments of two balls each. A third ball can align on either side of the other two, giving us six possible positions. If we again allow plus or minus a half-degree margin of error, then the chance of an alignment is 6-in-360, or 1-in-60. Since any of the other three balls can form the alignment, we get a probability of 1-in-20.3. Many horse race fans have bet worse longshots than that.

Dr. Lothrop's suggestion of an astronomical purpose was purely speculative and cautious. But sensationalistic authors of the "ancient astronaut" school (who believe that aliens visited Earth in the ancient past) have claimed that the stone spheres form maps of the constellations. This is utter hogwash. No one has ever demonstrated such an identification, which would probably be impossible to establish even if it had once existed, because too many spheres have been lost.

The biggest flaw in the idea that the balls are astronomically aligned, or that they serve as sky-maps, is that such formations would be useless and nearly impossible to make in the heavy forest of the Diquis delta.

Cultural Context

An examination of the culture that produced the spheres reveals important clues about the spheres' purpose.

Throughout southeastern Costa Rica, the tribes are related linguistically. The northern mountains isolated this area from the rest of Costa Rica, with very little cultural penetration in either direction. The Diquis culture was so closely linked with the neighboring Chiriqui culture of Panama, which is famous for its goldwork, that it is considered a northern extension of the Chiriqui culture. The Chiriqui culture was derived in turn from Panama's Veraguas culture.

This chain of cultural links extends all the way to South America. The strongest proof of this is that the language of the Diquis region is related to the Chibcha languages of Colombia and Ecuador. In addition, many of the motifs and stylistic traits of Diquis stone-sculpture derive from the coastal Tiahuanaco tradition of Peru. This tradition originated in Tiahuanaco, on the shores of Lake Titicaca, Bolivia, spread to Peru's coast, and was then carried by sea to Manabi, Ecuador; San Augustin, Colombia; Cocle and Bariles, Panama; and the Diquis delta. Another link is seen in the large variety of zoomorphic stone sculptures, which indicate an animistic, or nature-based, religion very similar to those found in the South American rain forests.

It was formerly believed that the culture of Mexico had spread southward throughout Central America, but now it is known that very little of Costa Rica's and Panama's heritage comes from the north. In the Diquis region, only one northern stylistic trait shows up in the stone sculptures; the Olmec tradition of carving arms and legs all around, which is also found in the later Teotihuacan, Toltec, and Aztec cultures. This trait was probably a late importation in Costa Rica. If we are to find a source for the sphere-carving tradition, we must look to the south.

Dr. Stone believes that the Diquis region was an artistic center, which developed a unique culture because of its general isolation. The small geographic range of the culture, the excellent anchorage and the barrier posed by the mountains have led her to think that the Diquis culture was a colony that arrived by sea from the south.

The development of the Diquis culture roughly parallels that of the Mayan civilization. Both reached their peaks at about the same time, but the Diquis culture did not collapse as the Mayan civilization did.

The earliest phase of the Diquis culture, known as Concepcion, lasted approximately from 300 B.C. until 0 A.D. Artifacts from this phase are very similar to those of the Chiriqui and Veraguas cultures.

The Early Aguas Buenas Phase (0-300 A.D.) succeeded the Concepcion. During this phase, the Diquis region began to develop distinctive artistic traits, while retaining elements of the older style. The sphere-sculpting probably began during this phase. Along some of the upland tributaries in the region, spheres are found beside boulders covered with petroglyphs (mostly spirals). These petroglyph patterns first appear on Pintada pottery, which is dated to this phase. Spheres have also been found in places actually containing pottery types from this phase, such as Fugitive Red Ware, but lacking later styles.

The Late Aguas Buenas Phase (300-800 A.D.) marks the end of the relatively isolated and peaceful Early Period Diquis. It represents the full flowering of a unique culture. The bulk of the spheres were probably carved during this phase.

After about 800 A.D., the region plunged into almost continuous warfare, either in response to outside intrusions, or in search of prisoners for sacrificial rites. The natives built many forts in the mountains during this time. This warfare and fort-building must have greatly disrupted the sphere-sculpting, which required a lot of time and labor. Nevertheless, the sphere-sculpting did not entirely cease. One undisturbed sphere has been found lying directly above a Chiriqui Alligator-ware figurine, which is dated to a period not long before the arrival of the Spaniards. Unless an older sphere was moved into this position at that time, the sphere must have been carved after the figurine. The continuation of sphere-sculpting through such a martial period shows that the spheres were of great importance to their sculptors.

The association of some spheres with certain sites provides the most useful clues to the spheres' purpose. In several places, spheres have been found on top of house mounds. The largest group consists of the five spheres at Farm site 4-23F.

The house mounds are themselves somewhat mysterious. They are constructed of an earthen mound surrounded by a retaining wall of elongated river boulders. Absent, however, is any trace of stairs, ramps, post holes, and hearths. Something would be needed to accommodate variations in the flood level, and a stairway or ramp would be better than a

ladder. One begins to think that perhaps these mounds were built to hold the balls instead of the houses. The lack of hearths and post holes (which are usually detectable even after they are filled in) reinforces this idea. Yet, one fact seems to prove that these mounds supported houses. Piles of refuse often lean against the retaining walls as if thrown out from the top of the mound. If huts did stand on these mounds, then they probably belonged to the rulers and priests, while the mass of people lived in stilt houses as reported in the Spanish chronicles. Since spheres are found where there are no mounds, but where stilt houses presumably stood, the spheres were probably associated with the houses of the great and lowly alike.

A second kind of mound, consisting of several feet of stones mostly below ground level, rises only a little above the surface. The modern Indians believe that these are grave markers, but excavations have disproved that idea. Dr. Lothrop suggested that these were the top level of silted-up house mounds, a paved floor for the hut, but this is unproven. It is hard to believe that only the top level could have washed away in so many other mounds, but that would explain the absence of hearths and post holes.

A few spheres were found on cobblestone platforms, which Dr. Stone identifies with Late-Period Diquis (c. 1200 A.D.). These platforms consist of a single layer of elongated river boulders lying in neat rows on the ground. They too may have served as floors during a long dry period, but they seem to have more the character of a podium designed to support an idol.

The spheres are also associated with death. The Diquis people buried their dead in unmarked, individual graves in cemeteries located on flat ground. Stone balls a few inches in diameter have been found in several graves along with such usual items as gold artifacts, tools, and ritually "killed" pottery. Dr. Lothrop thought this indicated that the balls were considered personal possessions, but offered no guess as to their purpose. The modern Boruca Indians said that these smaller balls are implements of war, presumably meaning either bolo balls or ammunition for slings. We can eliminate bolo balls, since they usually have a groove around them to hold the string, but they could be ammunition for slings. That raises the question: why waste time making spherical ammunition when ordinary rocks would do as well?

An even more intriguing connection with death was found at Changuina and Las Bolas, two sites on the Cavagra River. A 1954 expedition by the National Museum of Costa Rica discovered at Changuina a cemetery whose eastern and western boundaries are precisely marked by spheres with 4-foot diameters. Spheres at Las Bolas also appeared to be boundary markers for a cemetery. This is the most specific of all our clues, especially because eastern and western markers hint at a solar significance.

One very disturbing mystery emerges in examining the Diquis culture. The superb stone-carving skill necessary for the creation of the spheres was not applied to any other objects. Except for their forts and their mounds' retaining walls, which are *not* carved and fitted, the Diquis people made no architectural or engineering use of stone. There are no stone buildings, bridges, causeways, or roads. Furthermore, all their other stone sculptures are extremely crude, exhibiting a distinctly inferior level of skill compared to the spheres. This might tempt us to start speculating about some lost Atlantean civilization that left the spheres behind. But that would get us nowhere, since no more could be said. Even if the Atlantis

hypothesis was true, it would mean that the Diquis people had incorporated the spheres into their own culture. We could study that fact in itself, trying to understand what the spheres meant to these people, without regard to the Atlantis connection. So the Atlantis hypothesis and similar speculations are, at best, irrelevant.

A simpler answer is that all the skilled artisans spent all their time working on the spheres, leaving to amateurs the task of sculpting all the other objects. That is certainly a peculiar situation, but not an unbelievable one. It tells us that the spheres may have been enormously important.

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According to Mr. Shoemaker: "Stone spheres of such enormous size, perfection, and quality are found nowhere else in the world." In an upcoming issue of **PURSUIT**, he will present parallels, theories and conclusions on this phenomenon.

Seismic Effects In Inland Waters Whitefish Killed by Seismic Blast

by Luis Schoenherr

Beautifully located between mountains in Austria's Tyrolean alps is a lake called Achensee, about 40 kilometers northeast of the district's capital of Innsbruck.

Statistically, it has a surface area of 7.2 square kilometers, 929 meters above sea level, an average depth of 60.8 meters (maximum 133 meters), a total water volume of 481 million cubic meters and an average water temperature of between 8 and 10 degrees Celsius.

On the morning of May 7th, 1976 a great number of fish-eating birds drew everyone's attention in the area to the water's surface. For kilometers dead or dying Renkens (Coregonus, a whitefish-like species of salmon) were seen floating on the lake.

After an investigation of the dead fish by experts from the limological and the zoophysiological institutes of the University of Innsbruck, it was concluded that the fish had been killed by seismic shock waves from an earthquake in Upper Italy on the day before at approximately 21.00 hours, local time.

The epicenter of this earthquake was in the area of Gemona, Osoppo and Buia, north of Udine in the province of Friuli. With an intensity of 8 and 9 (Marcalli-Sieberg) it had a disastrous effect. Many buildings were destroyed, some hundred people killed and many more injured.

In the district of Tyrol and in Innsbruck, in particular, the intensity was between 4 and 5. No remarkable damage was done there, but in some of the higher buildings people panicked and fled onto the streets. It was reported that on the 20th floor of one of the higher buildings the water splashed over the edges of a bathtub. The owner of the apartment estimated that the sway of the building at that height must have been

around 60 centimeters (2 feet).

The investigation of the fish revealed the typical effects of shock waves caused their demise. Their air bladders had burst, effusions of blood were found in their muscles and there was vascular damage in their kidneys. There was no indication of any fish disease for having caused the mass death. The fish were quite fresh and their gills were found to be red. Except for shock waves, all other causes for their sudden death were ruled out.

Apparently other species of fish in the lake were not affected at all. This may be explained by the fact, that of the different fish species in this lake, only the Renkens are extremely sensitive to sudden pressure changes. As is known from dynamite fishing, only 5 to 10 percent of the fish that are killed by strong pressure waves actually come to the surface.

More than two centuries earlier on November 1st, 1755, Achensee was also the scene of an interesting phenomenon apparently connected with the earthquake at Lisbon. At the time of the quake (between 11.00 and 12.00) it was reported that there were large waves on the lake, its water line suddenly dropped more than one meter and it took 24 hours to recover its previous level. At the same time on the Hechtsee, a small lake of 0.3 kilometers near Kufstein, 70 kilometers northeast of Innsbruck, high waves were also seen. Mud, stones and trash were thrown ashore. And, during another earthquake at Lisbon on March 31st, 1761, a strong agitation was observed in the waters of this little lake, despite the fact that it was covered with ice.

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A Follow-up Commentary on David Robson's Reports

by Robert C. Warth

In two previous articles this year (*PURSUIT*, Vol. 19, Nos. 1 & 2) Dave Robson examined a report about an island allegedly appearing off the coast of Africa in 1882 following an earthquake in the Atlantic Ocean at that approximate time. Mr. Robson accounted for the possibility of the story being an April Fool's Day "joke" perpetrated by the editor or staff of the New Orleans newspaper *The Daily Picayune*.

Following the preparation and printing of the second part, the Fortean investigator and co-author, with Charles Berlitz, of the book *The Philadelphia Experiment*, William Moore, contacted Mr. Robson to inform him that, on April 23, 1882, the editor and staff disclaimed the report originating in the *Picayune* on the first of April of that year as an obvious April Fool's Day "joke."

We will continue to examine those data relating to this incident since several questions remain about the whole affair. Namely:

- 1) Did an island or piece of land surface in the Atlantic Ocean and were artifacts found by the crew of the *Jesmond* as was first printed in the newspaper, *The Daily Picayune* on April 1, 1882?
- 2) Was the publication and review of Ignatius Donnelly's book, *Atlantis: The Antediluvian World* after February 17, 1882 a factor in this so-called yarn?
- 3) Did the owners of the *Jesmond* try to avoid adverse publici-

ty in order to protect their business interests and encourage the editor of *The Daily Picayune* to declare his statement a hoax?

- 4) Did those critics of Charles Berlitz read the April 23, 1882 retraction by the publisher of *The Daily Picayune* and did they establish proof that it was an April Fool's Day hoax as such? Did they determine unequivocally that the publication of Donnelly's book was the cause and purpose of the April Fool's Day "joke."

We shall continue to gather information about the matter of the island's "appearance" to either prove or disprove the statement that occurred early in 1882 according to the newspaper report.

In the meantime, Mr. Luis Schoenherr resent the above article related to this matter that he had previously sent to our editor in 1976, which was not published then, but perhaps is relevant now.

While there is no proof a mysterious land mass emerged out of the Atlantic Ocean then, there is the Fort Note for 1845 July 12 (see page 190 here) and also the Fort Note for 1844 Nov. 15 on page 143 of the last *PURSUIT* regarding, respectively, a land mass that appeared unexpectedly from a body of water and a great number of dead fish that surfaced after a suspected sub-ocean eruption.



The Unknown Planet

by Stuart W. Greenwood

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The Solar System consists of a group of small planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars, resp.), a cluster of minor planets in what is called the Asteroid Belt, then a group of giant planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, resp.) and finally at least one other small planet — the one presently identified being Pluto.

Let us focus our attention here on the question: Did a planet once orbit the Sun somewhere between Mars and Jupiter and then disintegrate to form the Asteroid Belt? The question has been reviewed by Kuiper (Ref. 1), among others, and while we do not expect to find an answer to this enigma, we can examine what characteristics such a planet would have had if it once existed. The technique used here is only rough, but may stimulate critical comment and the development of an improved approach to the question.

Since the asteroids may be fragments of a planet and since such a planet would have been the tenth known in "routine" orbit around the Sun we will call this unknown, Planet X.

A major problem in attempting to outline the possible characteristics of Planet X is that its neighbors in space are Mars, a small planet and Jupiter, the largest of the giants. This presents us with a wide range of possibilities in regard to the size and mass of the unknown planet. The technique adopted here to try and narrow the uncertainties is to plot several characteristics of the planets in terms of their average distances from the Sun. The distances are specified in Astronomical Units (or A.U.). Earth lies at 1 A.U. from the Sun, so the distance of a planet in A.U. indicates its distance from the Sun in terms of Earth distances. Data has been plotted for planets as far as Saturn — the outlying planets are not significant for this investigation. The characteristics of each planet are given in relation to the Earth, for example the radius ratio is the ratio of the radius of the planet to that of the Earth.

All the data were taken from Ref. 2. On each plot a vertical line is shown at 2.74 A.U. This is the distance of Planet X from the Sun as indicated by the interpretation given by this writer in Ref. 3. However, the conclusions to be drawn will not be significantly affected by selecting any other distance close to the Bode's Law predicted distance of 2.8 A.U.

We will examine the plots of planetary characteristics one-by-one to see whether we can derive any reasonable conclusions from them. It must be emphasized that there is not necessarily a smooth variation between the data points in practice — for this reason we have joined the points by straight lines to indicate approximate trends.

Radius Ratio (Figure 1)

The planets progressively increase in size for the sequence Mercury, Venus and Earth, but then drop for Mars before rising sharply for Jupiter. The intersection of the Planet X line with the Mars-Jupiter line suggests a Planet X radius of about 4 earth radii. This value will be examined subsequently in relation to other data.

Mass Ratio (Figure 2)

The inner planets have such small mass in comparison with Jupiter that they can hardly be distinguished on the plot. The indicated mass for Planet X is about 100 earth masses.

Density Ratio (Figure 3)

This is a fairly smooth progressive variation. The indicated density of Planet X is about half that of the earth.

Surface Gravity Ratio (Figure 4)

The plot suggests a surface gravity for Planet X approximately equal to that of the Earth.

Number of Moons (Figure 5)

This is a comparatively smooth variation out to Jupiter. The indicated number of moons around Planet X is 5.

Orbit Eccentricity (Figure 6)

There is a wide variation in this quantity, which measures the extent to which the orbit of the planet departs from circular. However, a fairly substantial eccentricity of about .08 is suggested for Planet X.

Orbit Inclination to Ecliptic (Figure 7)

The orbit of Planet X is indicated as being inclined to the plane of the Earth's orbit (the Ecliptic plane) by about 1½ degrees.

So much for the characteristics of Planet X and its orbit as suggested by the individual trends for the planets. We will now show why some of the developed data are incompatible with each other, and attempt some adjustments to see whether we can get closer to a solution to our concept of the planet.

Relationships between Characteristics

Let us start with an obvious relationship. If we assume each planet to be truly spherical, and the density throughout to be given by an average value, then:

$$M = DR^3 \quad (1)$$

where

M is the Mass Ratio
D is the Density Ratio
R is the Radius Ratio

Consider the indicated numbers for Planet X given by our survey above. We had D equal to one-half (from Figure 3) and R equal to 4 (from Figure 1). This would give an M of 32 from equation (1). However, our deduction from Figure 2 was that M is 100. The numbers for M don't tally.

(text continued on page 159)

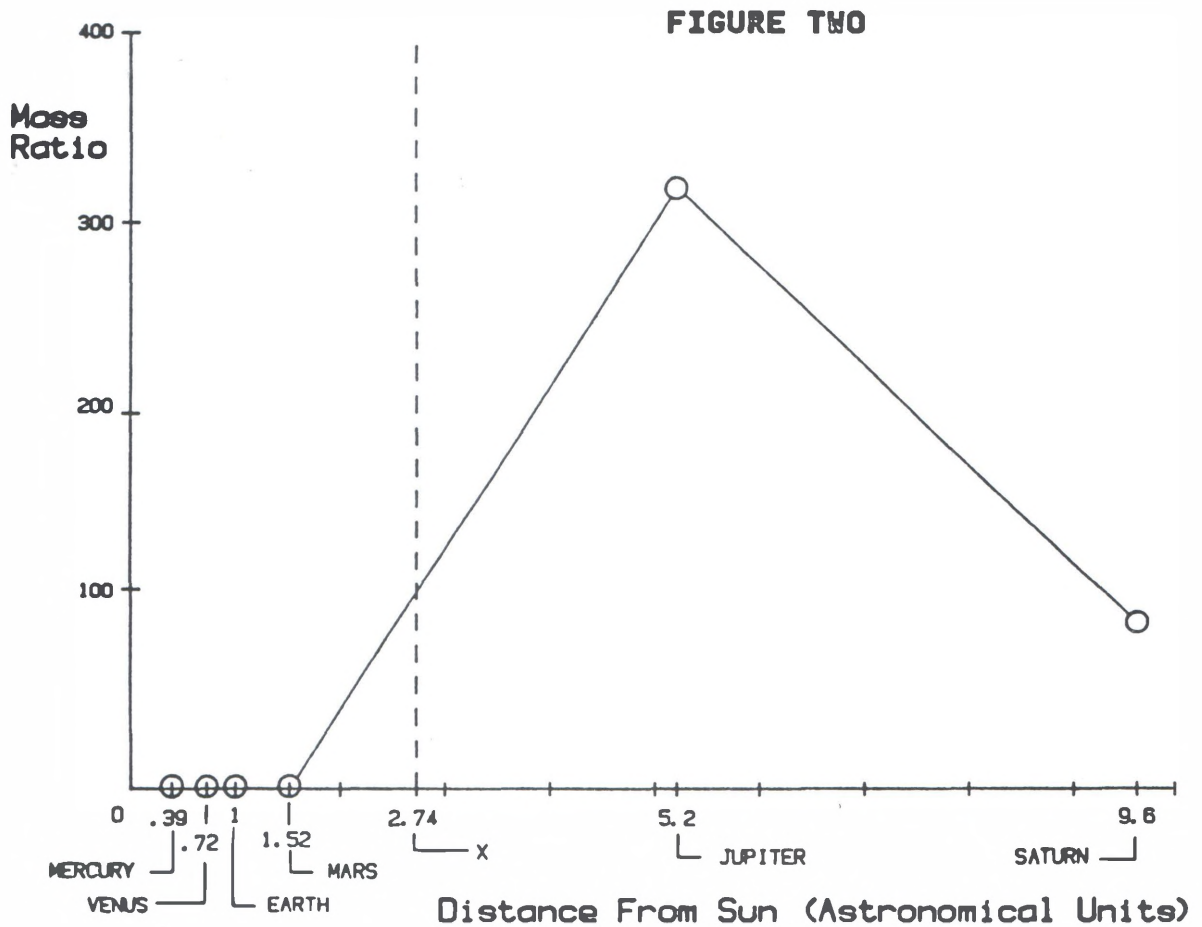
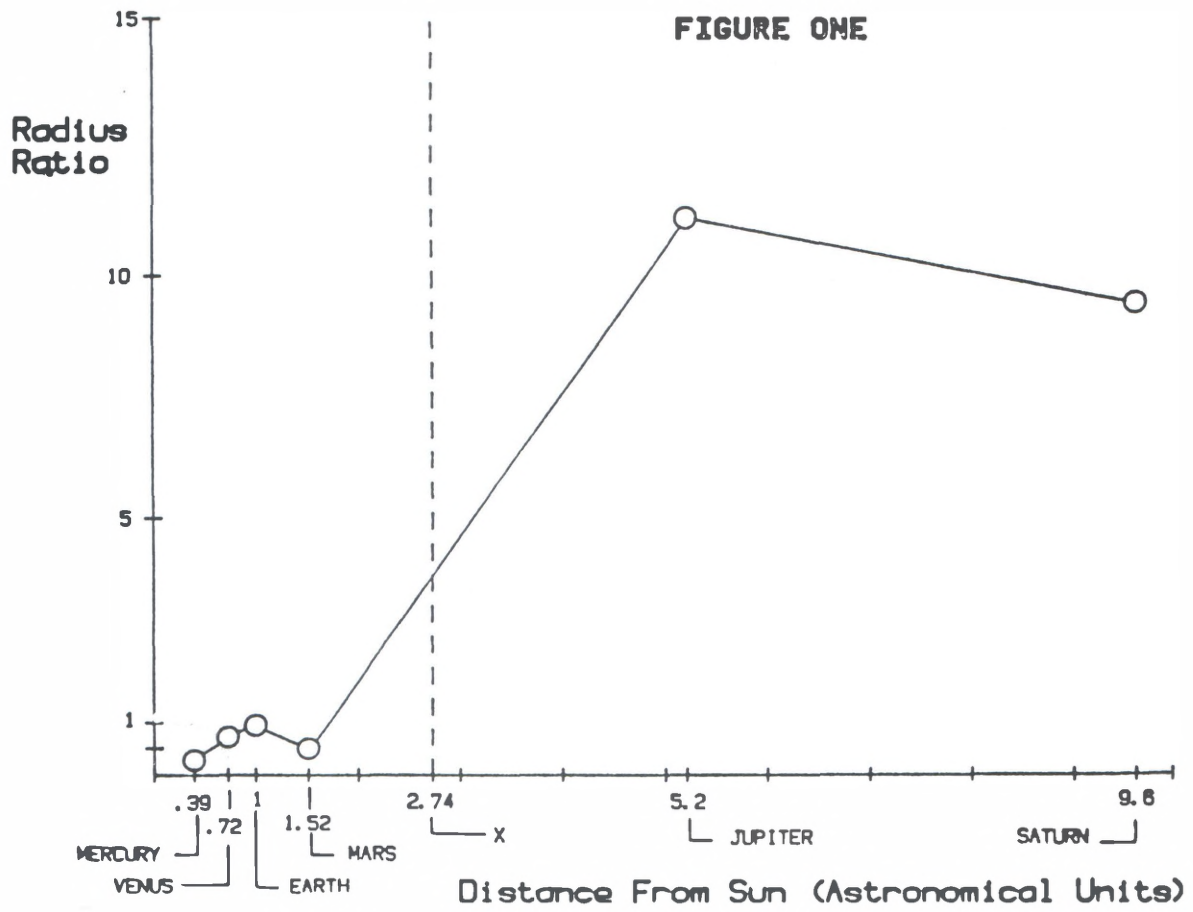


FIGURE THREE

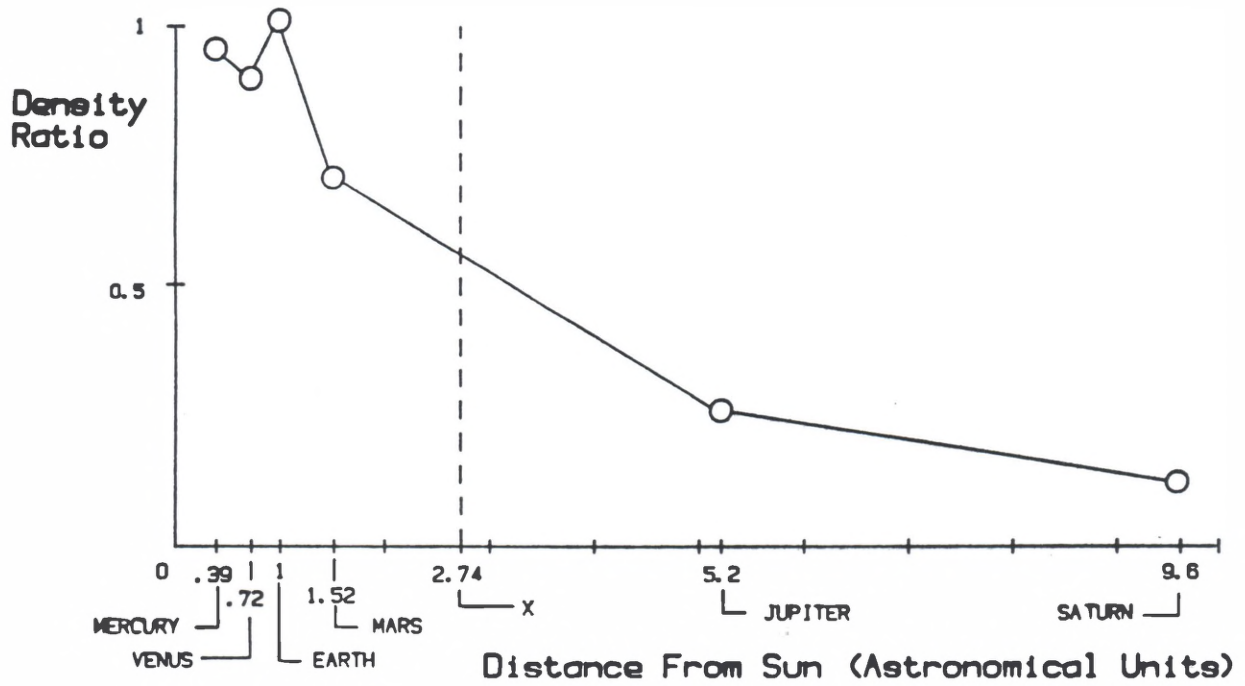
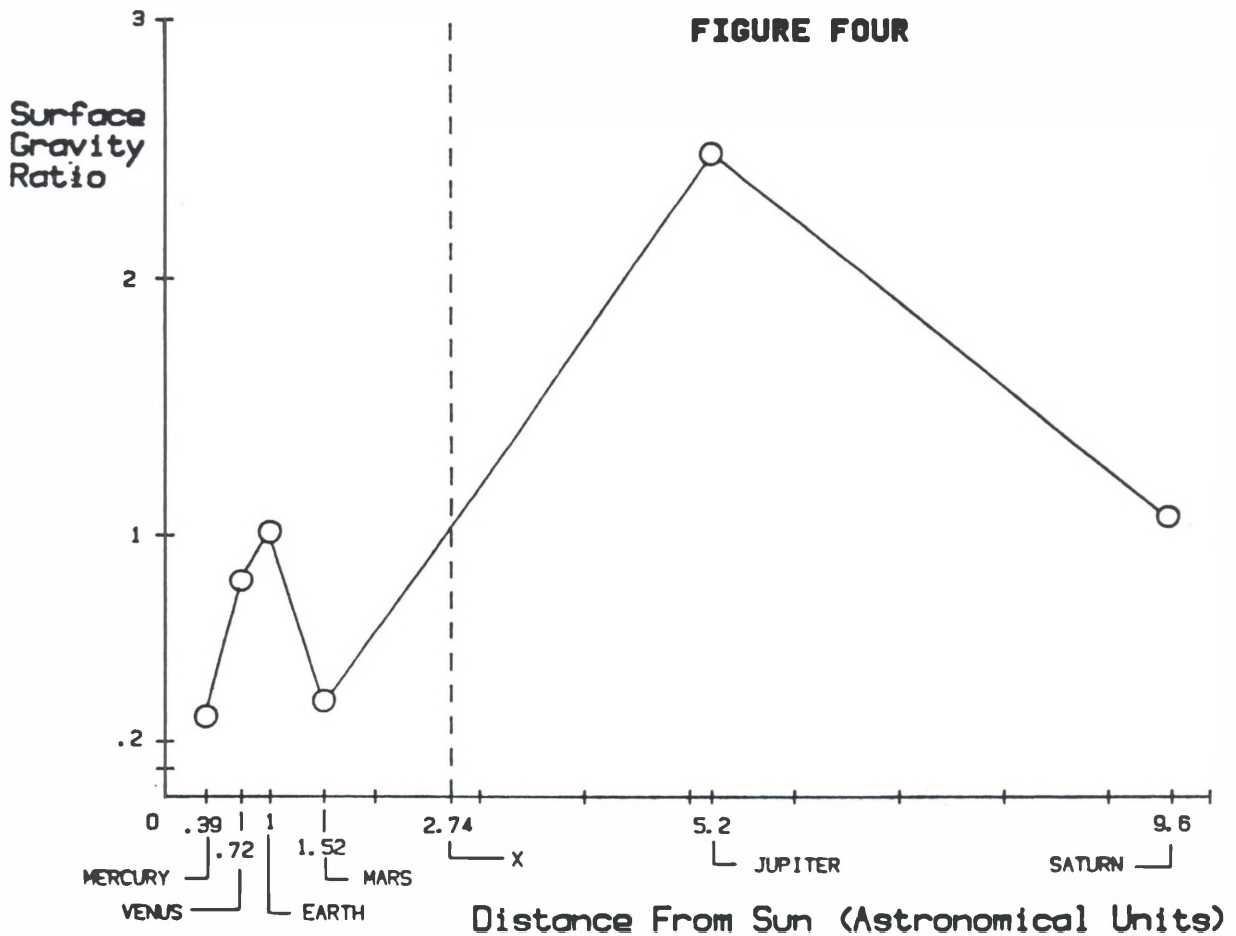


FIGURE FOUR



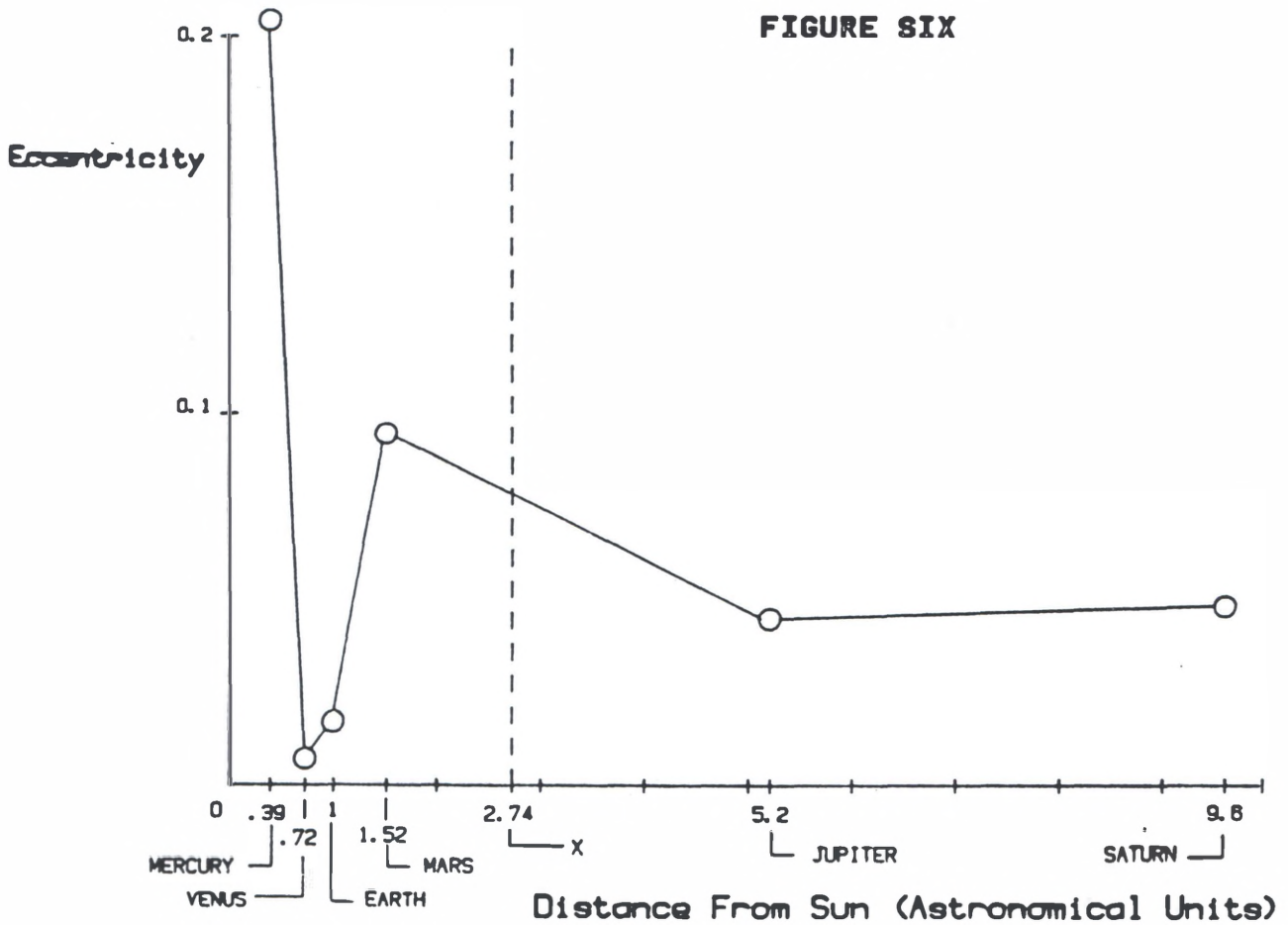
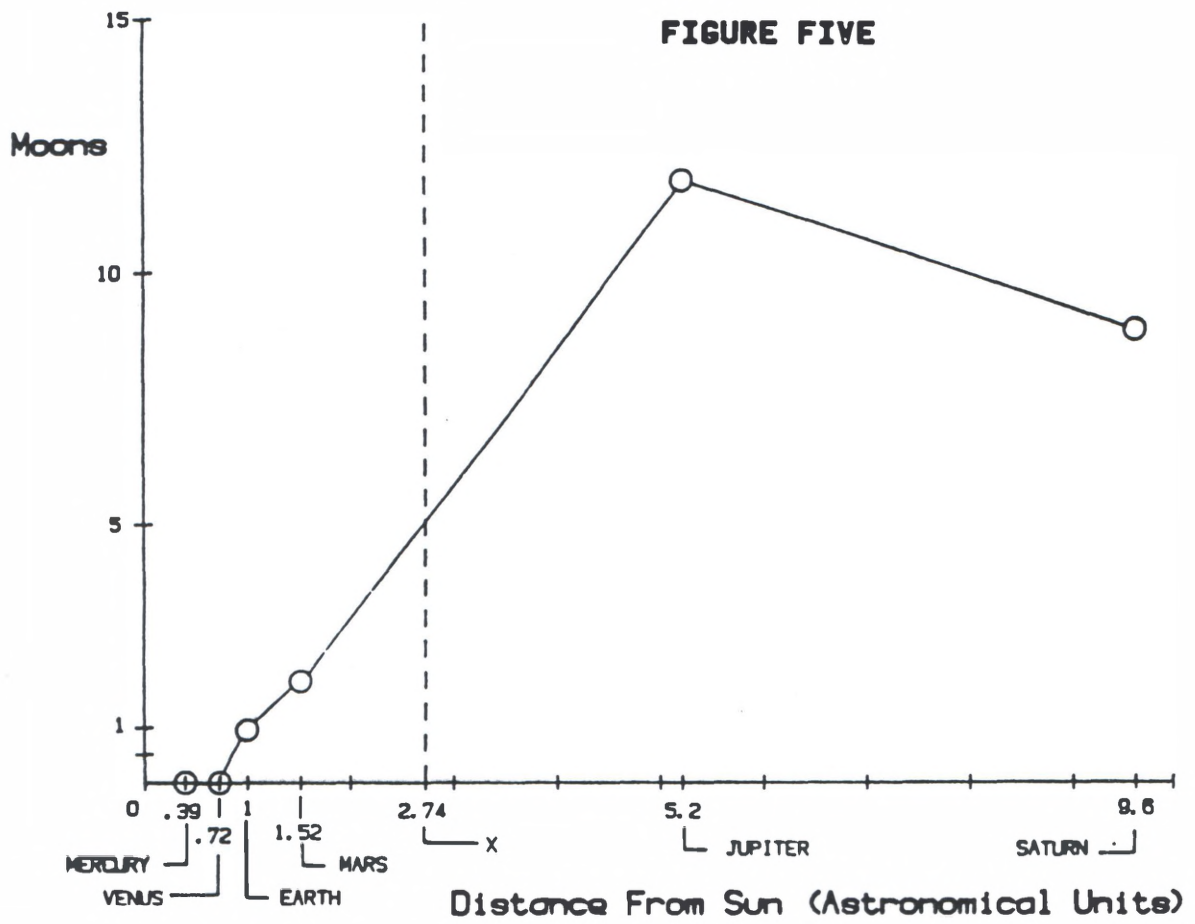


FIGURE SEVEN

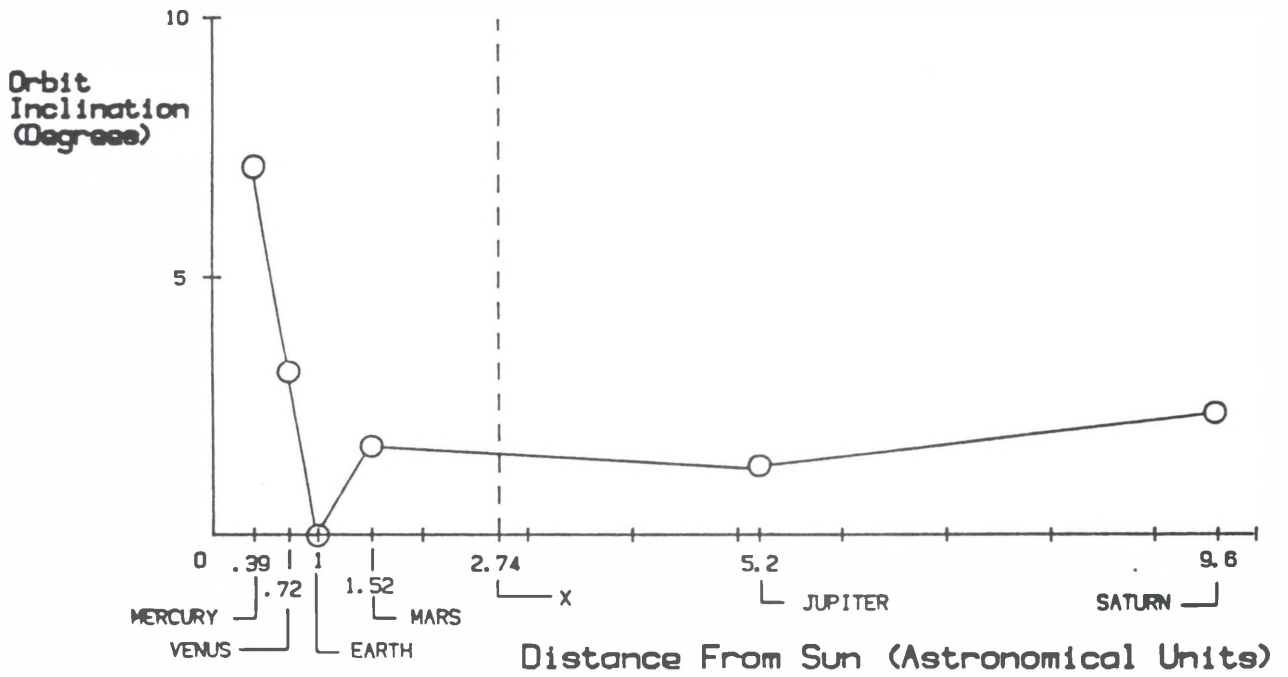
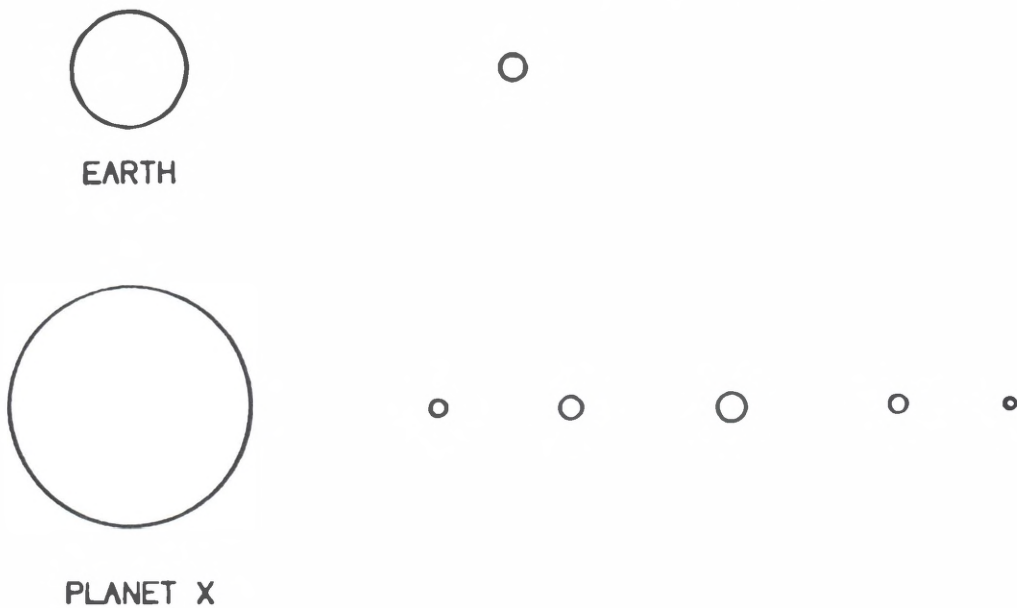


FIGURE EIGHT



Now the variation of D with distance in Figure 3 is relatively smooth, so we are probably justified in adhering to our value for D. This leaves us with the alternative of either increasing R or reducing M, or both. We will return to these options after inspecting the surface-gravity issue.

If we add to the assumptions used in deriving equation (1) the assumption of a non-rotating planet we have the simple relationship:

$$G = DR \quad (2)$$

where

G is the Surface Gravity Ratio

This relationship is accurate enough for our purposes. Using our derived values for Planet X of one-half for D from Figure 3 and of 4 for R from Figure 1, equation (2) gives a value of 2 for G. However, the value of G obtained from our interpretation of Figure 4 was simply 1. The numbers obtained for G, like those obtained for M, are not in agreement. Again, if we are comparatively confident regarding our value for D, we are faced with either reducing R or increasing G, or both.

Some Manipulations

At least it is now apparent why it is so difficult to pin down the characteristics of Planet X. The following manipulations represent a line of thought pursued by the author. No particular merit is claimed for them. Hopefully they will prompt the reader to come up with more convincing alternatives.

Note that in the case of M we considered the option of increasing R, while in relation to G we considered reducing R. For a start, let us retain the R value at 4 as given by Figure 1. We now have to reduce M to 32, and discard the value of 100 indicated by Figure 2. Similarly the value of G becomes 2 instead of the value of 1 suggested by Figure 4. This is one way of tidying up the data but it leaves us with an important problem — where did all that mass go? The total mass of the observed asteroids is certainly less than that of the Earth.

How much mass has impacted the planets and their moons is not known.

What other criterion might we apply in an attempt to zero-in on the planet's characteristics? We propose to introduce our concept of Planet X as an earlier home of our species (Ref. 3) and place confidence in the value of 1 for G, as indicated in Figure 4. In other words, we will suppose that the surface gravity on Planet X was the same as on Earth. We have already expressed our confidence in the value of D of one-half, so from equation (2) we now have a value of R equal to 2. From equation (1) we derive a value of 4 for M. It may still be difficult to account for where that much mass went, but it is a more comfortable quantity than that obtained previously.

Planet X

The characteristics of Planet X and its orbit, derived by the above manipulations, are given in Table 1.

Table 1

Radius Ratio	2
Mass Ratio	4
Density Ratio	1/2
Surface Gravity Ratio	1
Number of Moons	5
Orbit Eccentricity	.08
Orbit Inclination (degrees)	1-1/2

The unknown planet as conceived here is compared diagrammatically with Earth in Figure 8.

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Related SITUation

Meteorites Could Be From Mars

A group of eight similar meteorites found scattered on several continents may be pieces of Mars, say researchers at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena.

A large asteroid or comet could have hurled the Martian pieces into space after striking the surface of the planet, California Institute of Technology researchers John D. O'Keefe and Thomas J. Ahrens wrote in this week's issue of the journal *Science*.

The scientists said in a statement Thursday that a Martian origin was suspected because of the meteorites' geological characteristics and chemical composition.

The scientists had been puzzled by the manner in which the material could have escaped from Mars. They said large boulders would need to accelerate beyond the Martian escape velocity of 11,300 mph to get into space.

Through experiments, the scientists deter-

mined the angle an object striking the Martian surface would need to blast parts of the Martian crust into space. They found that a strike at an angle of 25 to 60 degrees from the surface would vaporize rocks, trapped water, carbon dioxide and other gases trapped in the Martian crust.

The blasted material could produce a jet of hot gas that would propel objects up to one meter in diameter off the surface of Mars and out into space, the researchers said.

"They probably...go into orbit around the sun," Ahrens said. "A small number leak out of the zone around Mars and eventually go into Earth-crossing orbits."

The meteorites are dubbed the SNC group because of the places three of them were found, in Shergotty, India; Nakhla, Egypt; and Chassigny, France. Five others were grouped with them because of their characteristics, but they were found in Antarctica, Nigeria, Brazil and the state of Indiana.

SOURCE: The Wilmington *Morning News*, DE 10/11/86

CREDIT: H. Hollander

Editor's Comment: We would like to obtain more data on what is known about the composition of the asteroids and how these objects differ from the composition of Mars? Is it possible that the meteorites found in eight locations are more simply themselves asteroids? If Greenwood's hypothesis is correct and since we have virtually no information about the meteorite material that the scientists at CIT in Pasadena have analyzed, nor when this material impacted with the earth, we can not help but question the asteroid collision-with-Mars theory.

We will attempt to contact CIT researchers O'Keefe and Ahrens to learn why eight so-called meteorites of similar composition are suspected to be of Martian origin and how they differ from known asteroid meteorites.

If any of our readers can answer this for us, we welcome their assistance in this matter.



On Listening to Voices

by John Sappington and John Hamilton

Dr. John Sappington is Professor of Psychology at Augusta College, Georgia.

Dr. John Hamilton is with Gracewood State School and Hospital, Augusta, Georgia.

Imagine what it would be like for a conscious mind to be trapped inside an entity so twisted and defective that it could not convey the simplest thought to the outside world. Imagine also if that consciousness was permeated by detached voices that offered advice, gave directions and occasionally demanded compliance. Such is the case with many quadriplegic victims of cerebral palsy who have been classified as retarded since birth. Damage to motor areas of the brain prevents co-ordinated movement so that they cannot gesture or speak as such. Rather, they are eternally captured in a grotesque dance, writhing and grunting in desperate frustration. They seem to want to communicate but simply cannot. Not surprisingly, many of these people are abandoned to institutions where they are assumed to be only dimly conscious, without the power to think or understand. More specifically, they are assumed to lack understanding of words, coin of the realm for intelligent beings. In formal measures of IQ, testers invariably "discover" retardation and aphasia among them. As we shall see, this may tell us more about measures and testers than it does about our subjects' mentality.

Through a combination of serendipity and painstaking work, the authors were permitted a good look at the private mental world of these special people. The outcome was unexpected to say the least. In spite of obvious and extensive brain damage, they ponder sophisticated questions about interpersonal relationships, sexuality and the cosmic mysteries. Even more astonishing, they routinely hear voices which they sometimes attribute to supernatural agents.¹ In one case, it appears that a voice imparted accurate information about events that were taking place miles distant.

Our subjects were nine residents of a state institution for the emotionally and mentally retarded. All had been tested with standard measures of intelligence and found to have IQ scores within the bottom 2% of the population. Their personal hygiene and feeding is carried out largely with the help of hired attendants. Decisions about their abilities and appropriate care is the province of educated professionals.

On one occasion, a nursing assistant, Mrs. P., very casually told a staff psychologist that her quadriplegic patients regularly talked to her. She said that they had dozens of ideas on their minds and concerns to relay. Being skeptical, he nodded politely and later checked out her claim like a good scientist. He approached a patient and said, "Please tell Mrs. P. to call me tomorrow at three o'clock." On the following day at 3:00 p.m. his phone rang and Mrs. P. asked what she might do for him. This supposedly retarded and language-less patient had understood, retained and communicated an accurate message. The method of communicating was interesting in itself. If you could only use two words out of your entire vocabulary, which two would you choose? Mrs. P. correctly reasoned that even these limited persons could make discrete gestures for "yes" and "no." She could then elicit thoughts from the patients by following the trail of their "yes" responses. A sample conversation might go as follows:

Mrs. P.: "Would you like to talk to me?"

Patient: "Yes" (gestured).

Mrs. P.: "Is it about a person?"

Patient: "Yes."

Mrs. P.: "Is the person male?"

Patient: "No."

Mrs. P.: "Does she work here?"

Patient: "Yes."

Having learned the technique, we were now free to explore the private mental labyrinths of our patients. These turned out to be far more sophisticated than anyone imagined. They were curious to know how ordinary people viewed them. In particular, "How would you feel if you were handicapped?". Several had questions about God and wondered about the possible benefits of afterlife to themselves. Each was aware of the moods and concerns of other quadriplegics and the fact that others heard voices although they obviously could not speak to each other. Two, a male and female, had somehow discovered romance and eagerly awaited the sight of each other. A graduate student, trained to communicate with the patients, was so astonished by the depth of their knowledge of each other that she asked the group if they could hear each other's thoughts. The reply was neither "yes" nor "no." They erupted in laughter. Was the concept ridiculous to them or had the student touched a bizarre secret? In one instance, a patient became distraught and painfully disclosed to the psychologist that she feared for her sister. The sister, she said, was under considerable stress. So certain was her conviction that the psychologist telephoned the sister to inquire. At first, the sister denied any unusual stress but later confirmed that she was in the middle of a painful divorce and was, indeed, very troubled.

There is great danger in extrapolating from anecdotes. Match an infinity of conjecture with subsequent real events and some will agree by chance alone. Even the worst two dollar bettors pick the right nags occasionally. Nonetheless, there was another strange dimension to this patient's conclusion concerning her sisters plight: the message was told to her by a voice. Auditory hallucinations are a familiar phenomenon in the literature of Psychology. They are prominent among schizophrenics and not unknown among hysterics and selected organic illnesses. Voices are occasionally heard by conventional people who are feverish, exhausted or suspended in the twilight between sleeping and waking. They had not, however, been reported among this population until 1985.² In all likelihood, no one had thought to ask.

As Van Dusen³ points out, voices occurring in cases of mental pathology usually have a persecutory nature about them. Indeed, this is true of some voices reported by our patients. They are often ordered and harassed when they ignore the instructions and support offered by the voices. Most voices are benign and some are believed by the patients to be the voices of relatives.

Despite the routine presence of auditory hallucinations in schizophrenics, it is not clear that voices are pathological as such. Jaynes' provocative theory of the evolution of consciousness pivots heavily on the role of internal auditory instructions.⁴ His major thesis concerns voices as a common ex-

perience of historical man. Noah, Abraham and others obeyed auditory commands with full confidence that they were being instructed by the gods themselves. In Jaynes' view, historical man did not plan and deliberate prior to acting as do some contemporary humans. Rather, solutions came to them full grown in the form of "divine" voices (albeit through a quirk of cortical circuitry). With exceptions, conventional people of today mistrust voices. Mention voices to a psychiatrist and a prescription pad will quickly materialize, if not a trip to a mental hospital.⁵ Notable exceptions include William Blake, the poet, and the genius Emanuel Swedenborg who not only trusted in their voices but used them well in the process of creative flow.

Indeed, the experience of hearing voices is so common in the general population that it could qualify as normal behavior. Jaynes notes data indicating some 71% of a college population acknowledging at least a brief encounter with voices. The familiar phenomenon of the child's "imaginary playmate" in many cases translates nicely as "hallucinated playmate." These ethereal companions frequently speak in such a distinct fashion that subjects can remember the voice pitch and quality years later.⁶ Popular actor Sherman Hemsley, who appeared in "The Jeffersons" has accepted a new role in a TV situation comedy, "Amen." With a voice "as clear as a bell" his mother has appeared to him offering advice on his new role. Mr. Hemsley is evidently very receptive to her counsel although she died some five years ago.⁷ Like Hemsley, our quadriplegic subjects often identified their voices as belonging to relatives, usually of their own gender. Spoken messages are generally admonitions and constructive ones at that. Cooperating with a treatment program would do as an example of such an admonition. Why then are psychiatrists so eager to find pathology in voices? Perhaps a sampling error is at the heart of the problem. When data on voices is gathered in mental hospitals should we be surprised to find that those hearing them are deeply troubled?

If Jaynes' theory is correct, auditory hallucinations are not necessarily symptoms but manifestations of a larger process known as consciousness. In this context, voices become clues and yard markers in mapping the topography of the human mind. Voices impart opinions, instructions and perceptions to the receptive verbal areas of mental process. In some cases, it has been possible to evoke voices by surgically stimulating the biological wiring of the awake human cortex.⁸ It is conceivable then, that nonverbal structures of the brain have their own programs for evaluating external reality. A message received in this fashion by the conscious, verbal area would be experienced in the only mode of which is capable; a statement. The source of that statement would seem to be external since it originated outside of verbal cognition. One point must be clarified here. The ultimate source of conclusions expressed by auditory hallucinations has not been established empirically nor is it likely to be. Tinkering with the printed circuits of a radio should convince us that electronic voices are impossible without the device. Nonetheless, that radio is not the source of the broadcast.

To argue, as some have, that retarded persons are simply broken devices is to create the climate for a costly mistake. Broken devices invite fixing and the "fix" in this case turns out to be heavy doses of antipsychotic medication. Indeed, our "retarded" patients are very cautious about revealing the existence of their voices. The phenomenon was shared with us only after considerable trust was established. "Fixing" by this method is to decide in advance that voices are pathological

and worthless as clues. Antipsychotic drugs also condemn users to a host of mind-fogging side effects that these patients are eager to avoid. Ironically, the minds of brain-injured people are frequently capable of feats that conventional minds find impossible. Even mainstream scientific literature now contains case studies of apparently retarded persons who play music without training, solve multiplication problems instantly, maintain awareness of exact time without clocks and perform perpetual calendar tasks.^{9, 10}

In this quarter at least, we regard the voices phenomenon as a window of discovery. Through lack of ordinary socializing or perhaps because of modified cortical wiring, these patients are able to hear internal speech. As to whether this phenomenon is pathology, the vestige of an ancient asset or something else entirely, remains to be seen. We recently completed a study which confirms the ability of these patients to report verbal ideas accurately. Now we are recording the content of prognostic material imparted by the voices. Readers are encouraged to "listen" closely for further developments.

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What Drs. Sappington and Hamilton are doing as described above should not be confused with the work of two other researchers from Harvard University who recently published an article in the American Journal of Psychiatry (Vol. 144:2, p. 222-225).

Briefly, Peter A. Bick, M.D., and Marcel Kinsbourne, M.D. in their published article "Auditory Hallucinations and Subvocal Speech in Schizophrenic Patients" stated the following: "Fourteen of 18 hallucinating schizophrenic patients reported that the voices they heard went away when they undertook a maneuver that precluded subvocalization.

"We carried out a pilot study of eight schizophrenic patients who complained of voices. Each patient was asked to perform two tasks, one of which, holding the mouth wide open, has been shown to prevent subvocalization in normal subjects. The other, a control task, was to clench the fists and squeeze tightly. Six of the eight patients reported that the voices disappeared when they held their mouths open but not when they clenched their fists....

"All the 18 psychiatric inpatients were taking psychoactive drugs. They all described hearing voices that spoke to them, gave them commands, or commented on their behavior.

"We found that mouth opening selectively dispels hallucinated voices."



The Kingman, Arizona UFO Enigma – A Closer Look

by Harry Lebelson

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Specific documentation detailing violations of air space security over both military and civilian nuclear installations by UFOs, long thought locked up in the files of the military, is now in the public domain. Through the Freedom of Information Act and private channels, many documents have come to light which focus in on incidents of this nature. Previously, in *PURSUIT* (Vol. 19 No. 1), I presented an overview of these occurrences at various nuclear facilities. Now, in microcosm, we focus in on one particular documented incident and present direct proof of it having happened, by one of the main participants.

At a 1981 luncheon with Stuart Nixon, then the editor of *Airline Pilot's* magazine in Washington, D.C., I was handed a three-page unsigned affidavit detailing the involvement of an individual in the investigation of a crashed UFO. Nixon had telephoned me at *Omni* magazine where I worked at the time as a contributing editor, stating he was in New York for the day on business and thought that since we both had an interest in UFOs, we might get together for lunch. He explained to me that he had been executive director for NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena) from mid 1971 to 1972 (this was later confirmed by other sources). The organization, consisting of high ranking military officers, former CIA officials, college professors, politicians and businessmen, had as its goal the scientific investigation of unidentified flying objects.

During our meeting, and after a lengthy explanation as to why he no longer had time for continuing UFO involvement, he handed me the mysterious document. It consisted of three typewritten pages of information about a UFO which had crashed in the Arizona desert on May 21, 1953. Although the name of the individual giving the statement had been blackened out with a magic marker, as well as the date and the name of a United States military project involved in the incident, one could still read these vital facts when the document was held up to a proper light source. Nixon claimed the reason he gave me the document was that he felt, through my contacts at the magazine, I might be able to find out more information concerning the event. The compelling, verbatim transcription of that document follows:

Brief Sworn Statement by witness

I, Arthur G. Stansel do solemnly swear that during a special assignment with the U.S. Air Force on May 21, 1953, I assisted in the investigation of a crashed unknown object in the vicinity of Kingman, Arizona.

The object was constructed of an unfamiliar metal which resembled brushed aluminum. It had impacted 20 inches into the sand without any sign of structural damage. It was oval and about 30 feet in diameter. An entranceway hatch had been vertically lowered and opened. It was about 3½ feet high and 1½ feet wide. I was able to talk briefly with someone on the team who did look inside only briefly. He saw 2 swivel seats, an oval cabin, and a lot of instruments and displays.

A tent pitched near the object sheltered the dead remains of the only occupant of the craft. It was about 4 feet tall, dark brown complexion and had 2 eyes, 2 nostrils, 2 ears, and a small round mouth. It was clothed in a silvery metallic suit and wore a skull cap of the same type of material. It wore no face covering or helmet.

I certify that the above statement is true by affixing my signature to this document this day of June 7, 1973.

Circumstances:

Project engineer for Operation Upshot-Knothole, Atomic Proving Ground, Nevada. This test operation was comprised of three atomic explosions: The first, an air drop; the second, a tower shot; and the third, an artillery shot. The event I am going to describe happened between the second and the third shots.

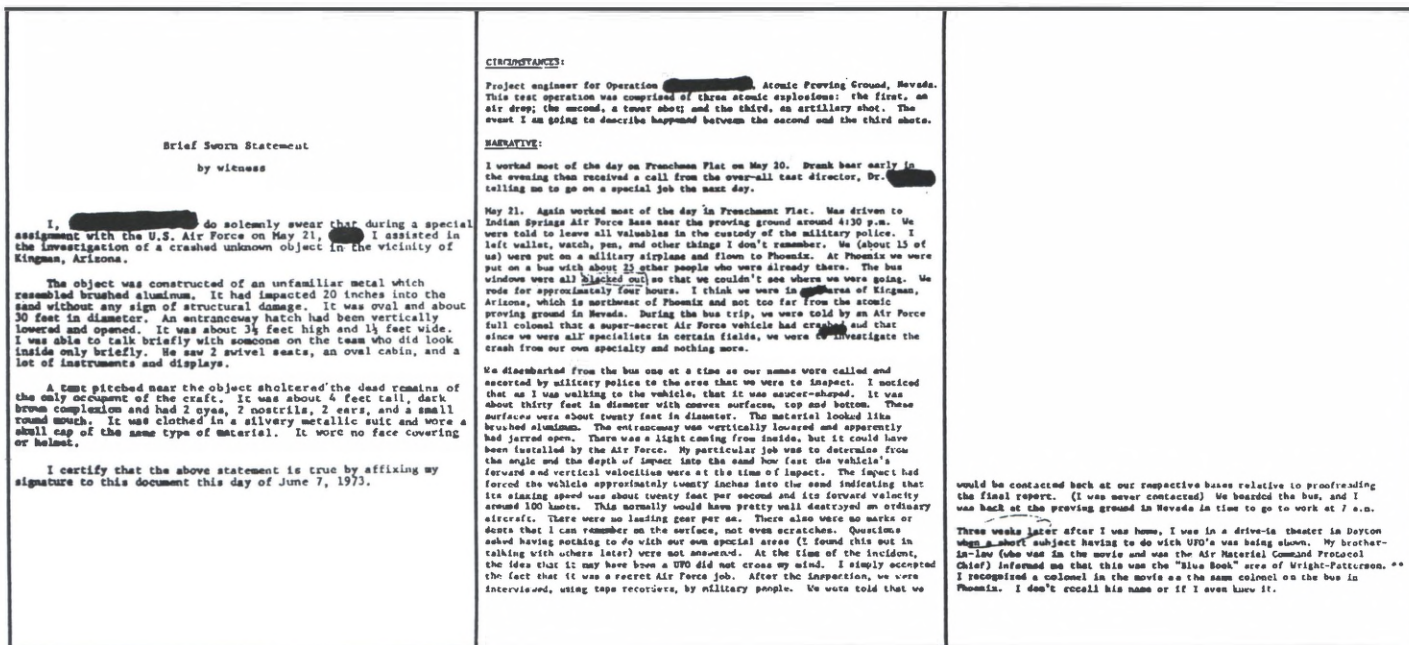
Narrative:

I worked most of the day on Frenchmen Flat on May 20. Drank beer early in the evening then received a call from the over-all test director, Dr. Doll, telling me to go on a special job the next day.

May 21. Again worked most of the day in Frenchmen Flat. Was driven to Indian Springs Air Force Base near the proving ground around 4:30 p.m. We were told to leave all valuables in the custody of the military police. I left wallet, watch, pen, and other things I don't remember. We (about 15 of us) were put on a military airplane and flown to Phoenix. At Phoenix we were put on a bus with about 25 other people who were already there. The bus windows were all blacked out so that we couldn't see where we were going. We rode for approximately four hours. I think we were in the area of Kingman, Arizona, which is northwest of Phoenix and not too far from the atomic proving ground in Nevada. During the bus trip, we were told by an Air Force full colonel that a super-secret Air Force vehicle had crashed and that since we were all specialists in certain fields, we were to investigate the crash from our own specialty and nothing more.

We disembarked from the bus one-at-a-time as our names were called and escorted by military police to the area that we were to inspect.

I noticed that as I was walking to the vehicle, that it was saucer-shaped. It was about thirty feet in diameter with convex surfaces, top and bottom. These surfaces were about twenty feet in diameter. The material looked like brushed aluminum. The entranceway was vertically lowered and apparently had jarred open. There was a light coming from inside, but it could have been installed by the Air Force. My particular job was to determine from the angle and the depth of impact into the sand how fast the vehicle's forward and vertical velocities were at the time of impact. The impact had forced the vehicle approximately twenty inches into the sand indicating that its sinking speed was about twenty feet-per-second and its forward velocity around 100 knots. This normally would have pretty well destroyed an ordinary aircraft. There were no landing gear per se. There also were no marks or dents that I



Three-page reproduction of documents as sent to PURSUIT by Mr. Lebelson to show censorship. (Reduced here to 35% of original size).

can remember on the surface, not even scratches. Questions asked having nothing to do with our own special areas (I found this out in talking with others later) were not answered. At the time of the incident, the idea that it may have been a UFO did not cross my mind. I simply accepted the fact that it was a secret Air Force job. After the inspection, we were interviewed, using tape recorders, by military people. We were told that we would be contacted back at our respective bases relative to proofreading the final report (I was never contacted). We boarded the bus, and I was back at the proving ground in Nevada in time to go to work at 7 a.m.

Three weeks later, after I was home, I was in a drive-in theater in Dayton when a short subject having to do with UFOs was being shown. My brother-in-law (who was in the movie and was the Air Materiel Command Protocol Chief) informed me that this was the "Blue Book" area of Wright-Patterson.** I recognized a colonel in the movie as the same colonel on the bus in Phoenix. I don't recall his name or if I even knew it.

Unfortunately for this writer, another 5 years passed before (in 1966) anything concrete was forthcoming regarding the events surrounding May 21, 1953. The first solid information came through the recently published book *Justice Downwind*, a documented history of America's atomic testing program in the 1950's. Author Howard Ball, Dean of Behavioral Science at the University of Utah, devoted six pages of his book to the Upshot-Knothole series of atomic tests which ran from March 17 through June 4, 1953.

A phone conversation with Ball revealed that a series of 11 atomic tests took place during this time span. Of particular interest was shot "Grable," the tenth test in the series. Through a tip from Ball and the subsequent acquisition of United States Government Defense Nuclear Agency documents, I learned that atomic test "Grable" took place at Frenchmen Flat, a dry lake basin in Nevada, during which time they were to test an atomic artillery projectile. The planned date for test shot "Grable" was May 21, 1953. However,

according to the DNA documents, shot "Grable" was postponed until May 25th. The reason given being that the previous test had fallen behind schedule therefore, pushing "Grable" ahead to the 25th of May.

In addition to confirming some of the facts in the witnesses' affidavit, the Defense Nuclear Agency documents for Upshot-Knothole also revealed that another facility named in the "crashed-UFO documents," Indian Springs Air Force Base, performed "radiation protection activities" by distributing radiological protection equipment to those in need of it.

At about the time I received the documents (see copies above), things began to snowball. An associate of mine, a private investigator with an interest in UFOs, made it known to me that the contents of my three-page UFO document had been published in a book by Raymond E. Fowler.

Formerly in the United States Air Force Security Service and a past chairman of NICAP, Fowler, a former project administration supervisor for GTE Sylvania, maintains a professional interest in UFOs. Fowler not only reproduced the "crashed-disc document" but witnessed and signed that original affidavit given by Arthur G. Stansel as well. Although guarded in his choice of words, Fowler was receptive to my inquiries regarding the documents. He admitted to me over the phone that he had witnessed the engineer's testimony regarding the UFO incident and, in fact, signed the original affidavit as shown in his book *Casebook of a UFO Investigator* (Prentice Hall, 1981). It should be noted that in his book, Fowler used the pseudonym Fritz Werner to conceal the witness's [A.G. Stansel] identity. In fact, he claimed I only possessed a small portion of a much greater amount of testimony given by the witness to the events of May 21, 1953.

In an off-the-cuff remark to me before he realized I knew the witness's real identity, Fowler discussed the death of Dr. Doll and how, a few months later, "U.S. Government agents came to his [Doll's] home, seized his files and carted them off." He also stated that Dr. Doll's wife was still alive and could confirm the incident. Unfortunately, when I disclosed

to Fowler that I knew the identity of the witness and felt it necessary to publish this information, he refused to cooperate further. When I pressed him to confirm the identity of the name on my copy of the affidavit, Fowler would not comply.

Continued research however, has shown that Dr. Ed Doll, allegedly responsible for sending Arthur Stansel to investigate the unknown crashed object, was an important part of the early atomic hierarchy in America. As early as 1944, when the Manhattan Project came into being under the leadership of then Brigadier General Leslie Groves, engineers as well as scientists were in great demand. Under the utmost secrecy, Los Alamos, New Mexico became the home of the Manhattan Engineering District, better known as the Manhattan Project. It was here that Ed Doll and others led studies on the ballistic behavior of bomb cases and aircraft release mechanisms. (*A History of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, Volume 1*, 1962 Richard Hewlett and Oscar Anderson, Jr.)

Further confirmation of Doll's importance to atomic weapons development comes from Bernard J. O'Keefe in his 1983 book *Nuclear Hostages*, (Houghton Mifflin Co.). Shortly after arriving at Los Alamos in 1944, O'Keefe, a naval engineer, was introduced to Ed Doll by his commanding officer, Captain William S. Parsons. O'Keefe recalls, "Dr. Ed Doll was a civilian, the associate leader of the Ordnance Division Parsons headed. He took me into his office and gave me a 30 minute briefing on the project. In a calm, quiet voice he described the whole project to me — uranium, plutonium, fission, chain reaction, gun-type weapons, implosion weapons, the whole ball of wax." Leslie Groves, Bernard O'Keefe, and Ed Doll, would maintain a high profile throughout the upcoming period of nuclear development. Although they did not meet, both O'Keefe and Ed Doll were present in 1953 when test shot Grable finally took place on May 25th.

Although postponement of the May 21st shot appeared suspicious due to the circumstances surrounding the Stansel affidavit, research turned up a reasonable explanation for the delay. On that date, while the local newspaper headlines were telling people in Nevada that the atomic testing programs were safe for "humans, animals, and crops," Washington's attitude spoke otherwise. Summoned to Washington, D.C. on the 21st of May, Alvin Graves, test director of Upshot-Knothole, and other personnel were questioned by AEC commissioners as to the safety of the tests. Fallout over St. George, Utah, had stirred the concern of the commissioners.

Although Dr. Ed Doll's entrenchment in the development of atomic weapons testing has been documented, proving his involvement in the events depicted in the Stansel affidavit appears more elusive. Once again, my investigative source shed some new light on the events of May 21, 1953 and Arthur Stansel. Unbeknownst to me at the time was the fact that another individual also was privy to the real identity of the man behind the affidavit and the events that took place that day.

William Moore, researcher and co-author with Charles Berlitz of the controversial book *The Philadelphia Experiment* (Grosset and Dunlap, Inc. New York, 1979) was intrigued by Fowler's documentation of the "Fritz Werner" incident and pursued his own investigation into the matter. What Moore came up with appears to contradict the circumstances surrounding the May 21st events as described by Arthur Stansel. In a letter to me dated August 20, 1986, Moore states, "I interviewed Mr. Dick Waters, former editor in the 1950's and 1960's of the Kingman, Arizona newspaper *The*

Mojave County Daily Miner. Waters, who knew virtually everyone in town, never heard of the incident. He said he could not imagine how such a thing could have happened near Kingman without there being some talk around town, especially in '53 when the place was really small!"

Moore's probing then led to a conversation with a Mary Jane Wienke in Kingman on July 7, 1980. She was deputy sheriff and secretary to sheriff F.L. Porter in 1953. "Wienke also knew nothing of the incident and said she doubted that it had ever occurred. Moore states "She also said that it was easy to tell if military people were in the area because the only place for them to stay was the local motels in Kingman."

The last of the law enforcement personnel interviewed by Moore was Floyd Cisney of the Mojave County Sheriff's Dept. "Cisney, who had been with Arizona's Highway Patrol as a lieutenant in 1953, and was stationed in Kingman since 1946, claimed he knew nothing of the incident, but did witness the crash of an Air Force jet in late May, 1953."

Perhaps the most important interview conducted by William Moore was with Dr. Ed Doll himself. "At the time of the interview on October 7, 1981, in California, Moore who had by then obtained from Ray Fowler the real identity of Fritz Werner, asked some significant questions of Doll. Moore stated, "Doll was an affable type who, as far as I could tell, was being completely honest. In any case, he knew he was dying of cancer and would have had no reason to lie."

When Moore gave Dr. Doll, Fritz Werner's real name, he could not recall such a person ever having worked for him. In fact, according to Moore, "He said he knew of no incident of any sort involving crashed UFOs and that he presumed he would have known as test director if there had been bonafide reports."

Still unable to verify through other sources the name of Arthur G. Stansel which appeared on my copy of the affidavit, I sought confirmation in a follow-up letter to Bill Moore. In reply to my request Moore stated, "My personal opinion is that Fowler's source, *whom both you and I have identified*, has for some reason concocted the story out of whole cloth and Fowler fell for it."

On September 20, 1986, in a telephone conversation with Ray Fowler, I confronted him with the facts gathered by Bill Moore and notified him that I had confirmed Werner's real identity. He then asked me to tell him Werner's real name, which I did. There was a long pause on the phone before he answered, "Well, now you've got it. I know you've done a lot of research and it's your prerogative to publish it. I'm just sorry the information got out." When I tried to solicit some additional documentation from Arthur Stansel's voluminous report in order that Fowler might add more credibility to his position in this situation, he refused. He claimed that if he did so, he would be breaking a confidence.

Is Ray Fowler's position regarding the documents justified due to confidentiality? Is that report and affidavit so sensitive in its entirety as to preclude its release to the public? If the documentation is valid, does the United States military have something to fear from those visitors monitoring us from the sky?

In summing up, it appears our nuclear godfathers in Washington may be suffering from the same type of paranoia expressed by General Douglas MacArthur in his farewell speech of July 4, 1961, when he stated: "We speak now in strange new terms of harnessing the cosmic energy, of ultimate conflict between a united human race and the sinister forces of some other planetary galaxy."

NEVADA TEST SITE

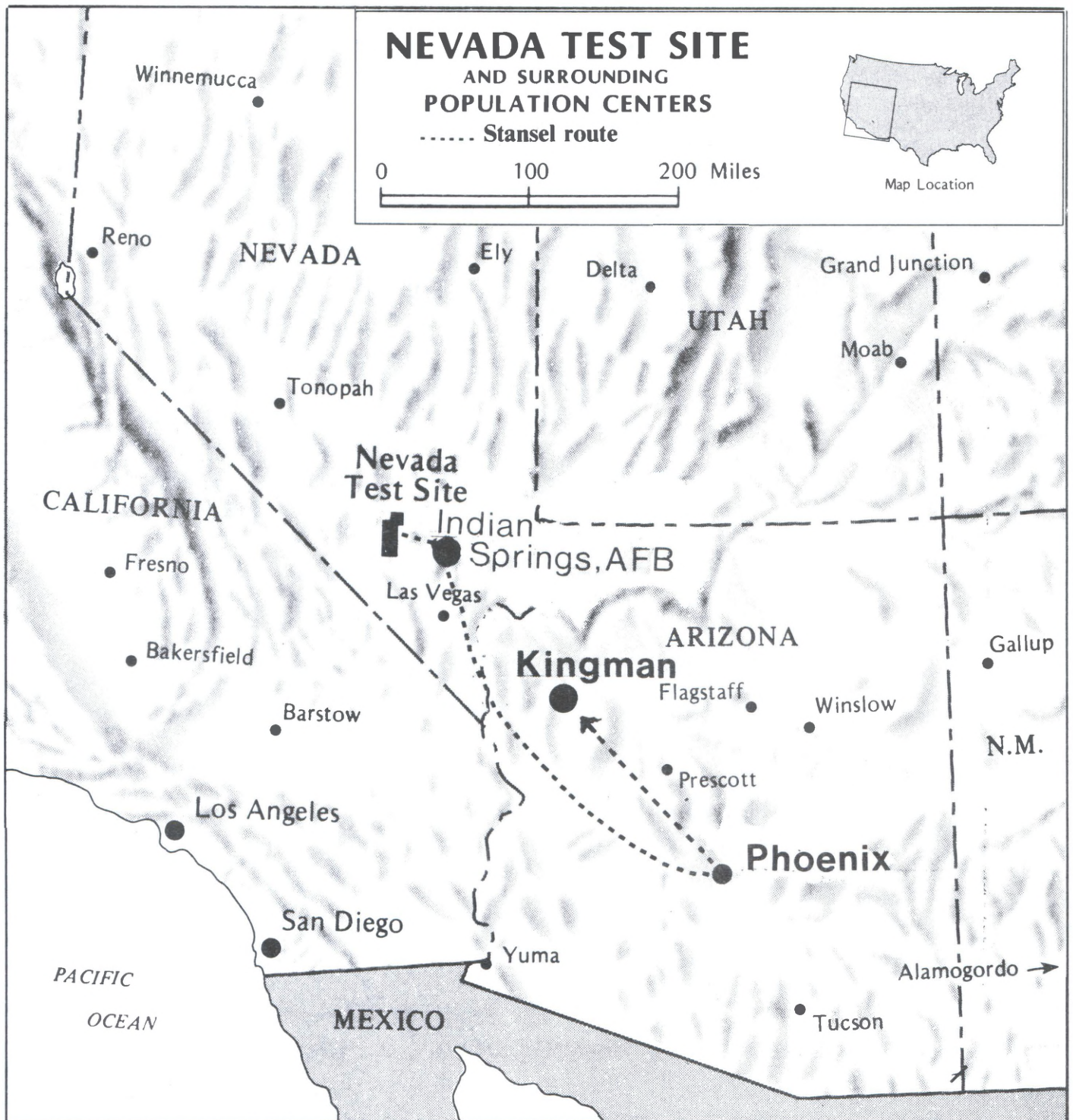
AND SURROUNDING
POPULATION CENTERS

..... Stansel route

0 100 200 Miles



Map Location



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Meeting the Neanderthal Man?

by Serhiy Davidich

In the vicinity of the Gissar Ridge in the Pamirs-Altai mountain-mass (Tajikistan) an expedition from Kiev searches for a representative of a branch of man's ancestors which is likely to have survived until the present day in some remote parts of the planet.

Footprints On The Scree

This story started in the Pamirs. In the summer of 1974, a mountaineer from Kiev, Igor Tatsl discovered half-meter long footprints on a scree. Before this he had heard from the locals about some "wild" people who allegedly inhabited the area. The giant's footprints, found on the territory of the mountaineers' camp, proved that these stories were not groundless. The enthusiasts became possessed with the idea of unraveling the mystery of the 20th century. Huge footprints had been found in the Himalayas and then in the Pamirs (USSR) as far back as the end of the 1950s and the beginning of the 1960s. When they were first discovered it was in the snow, hence the creature became known as the "snowman."

Several national and international expeditions have been organized since then, but they have not been lucky in meeting the "snowman." However, during one of the expeditions a scalp and mummified hands of an anthropoid creature were found in the Pangbosh and Khimjung (Nepal) monasteries. Many scientists believed that these were only fakes.

However, this point of view had its opponents. Several well-known anatomists and zoologists from Japan, the USSR and the USA who investigated the finds by X-raying arrived unanimously at the conclusion that about 300-400 years ago there were creatures living on Earth that looked like Neanderthal man. But this opinion was met with a lot of scepticism.

Enthusiasts Carry Out Research

The milling-machine operator of the Bolshevik Plant in Kiev, a mountaineer with 20 years' experience, Igor Tatsl, had difficulty in finding people who would share his views. There were very few who believed that the undertaking would be a success. This is why he began his research at the libraries where he read everything he could find on the subject. He was interested not only in the sensational reports by foreign news agencies about unusual meetings with the wild giant in various parts of the planet, but he also spent a lot of time reading thick volumes on history, zoology, and anthropology. He was convinced there was a possibility of meeting the hominoid and he managed to persuade others of his belief.

The first expeditions were not numerous and achieved little success. During the long winter evenings the enthusiasts worked out their methods of search and mastered every detail of the future expedition. The summer months were spent in the mountains where the search was carried out. As the expedition achieved success its membership grew. The trade-union committee of the Bolshevik Plant helped to purchase knapsacks, tents, sleeping bags and other equipment including night viewing devices and portable transmitters. The Institute of Criminalistics said it would process the data obtained by the expedition. The Darwin Museum in Moscow also began to render scientific assistance to the expedition.

So, what makes these people leave their comfortable apartments and spend their summer vacations high in the mountains carrying out a search in foul weather conditions?

Here are the opinions of the members of one of the

research groups from Kiev.

Heorhiy Kirilyuk, road engineer, 38: "What if it exists?" Svitlana Zaika, landsurveyor, 32: "I want to prove my point of view." Victor Hlotov, Lawyer, 32: "Our research enriches science." Victor Pavlovsky, physician, 30: "How could the expedition manage without a doctor?" Vasil Nepipenko, driver, 30: "I am learning a lot about the past and present of the Earth."

As you see, the enthusiasts carry out their search not only for some romantic ideal but are infatuated with the idea of contributing to science.

What have they achieved so far?

The stories by the locals who happened to meet the hominoid, have been recorded and systematized. Footprints have been found and casts taken. Visual contacts between the expedition members and the hominoid have also taken place. The area where this mysterious creature is thought to live and the season of its migration have been determined (this being the months of July and August when the wild fruits and berries are ripe).

The coming season brings new hopes and new troubles. There are plans to make observations in the twilight using night viewing devices while the day will be used for looking for the giant's traces on the slopes of the nearby mountain ravines. Control strips of land will be further loosened and leveled so that the creature will be able to leave its footprints on the surface. (Unfortunately, there are few places suitable for this as the surface is very rocky.) The expedition is hoping to take pictures of the hominoid.

Is It Really Possible?

"Man originated from an ape." These words by the great scientist once shook people's consciousness. However, Charles Darwin did not consider that Homo sapiens originated directly from some of the fossil ape species. For more than half a century now, researchers have been looking for the "missing link" in man's evolution.

It appears that the spreading genealogical tree had branches that gave no shoots. Neanderthal man represented one such branch. It is hard to get used to the thought that this creature, ousted thousands of years ago by its more developed contemporaries to regions where living conditions were not very suitable (mountains, watersheds) has managed to survive 'til today.

For example, the USSR State Prizewinner, professor Boris Porshnev, D. Sc. (Phil.) who forwarded the "Neanderthal man hypothesis" for the hominoid's origin, was convinced that our ancient ancestors could have survived in some parts of the planet.

Is it really possible?

Unfortunately, we still do not know our planet well. There are many "white spots" on it. It was only in 1898 that European scientists learned about the world's largest carnivorous bear, although the hunters of Kamchatka, Manchuria and Sakhalin had long known about its existence.

In 1900, zoologists for the first time discovered the existence of the planet's second largest animal after the elephant, the white rhinoceros, that has a height of 2 m and is 5 m in length. It was only in 1901 that the mountain gorilla, the male of the species reaching 2 m 70 cm in height was discovered, while the locals had long known about its existence. A new species named the "Royal Chita" became known to scientists only in 1926. The British scientist Richard Pococke could not cover his surprise that such a big animal could remain unknown to zoologists for such a long period of time.

Against the background of these zoological discoveries the possibility that an ancient anthropoid exists does not seem out of the ordinary.

The data provided by the Kiev researchers could have been doubted if it had not been backed up by numerous pieces of evidence from other sources. In the Himalayas this creature is called "Yeti," in Mongolia — "Almas," in the Northern

Caucasus — "Kaptar," in Yakutia — "Chuchun," in Malaysia — "Orang Dal," in Canada — "Sask Watch," and in the USA — "Bigfoot"...

Epilogue But Not The End

As seen from above, the object of the search is a two-meter high, erect, fleecy and very dexterous creature that is active at night in the remotest and inaccessible areas.

Data on accidental meetings with these creatures are regular, frequent, concrete and identical. Therefore, they can hardly be explained by superstition or mystification only. Then what is it? The search is being continued.

We would like to thank Dr. Vladimir Markotic for sending this article on to us which appeared in Ukraine, (Kiev, USSR), whole -122, October, 1986.



Related SITUations

Hunters Claim Attack By 'Two Big Foot Monsters'

by Warren E. Duliere

Two hunters claim they were attacked October 25 by two Big Foot on Dillon's Mountain near this rural community in Cacapon Bridge, W.Va.

The father and son team, both residents of the Maryland-District of Columbia area, declined to be identified. Both said they are businessmen afraid their reputations would be disparaged.

"It was a nightmare. It was the most frightening experience I have ever had," the father said. "It was crazy, and people will probably say we're crazy and that it never happened."

"People can think what they like," the son said. "Neither of us is crazy, and both of us know what we saw and what we went through."

Advised that *The Advocate* was skeptical of their claim, the father — who appeared to be in his late 50s — displayed a large tear in the right shoulder of a hunting coat. He said the rip occurred when he escaped from the grip of one of the Big Foot.

His son — who appeared to be in his early 30s — displayed eight strands of hair he claimed came from one of the Big Foot. He said he retrieved the hair from an underbrush snag at the site of the alleged encounter.

This reporter observed that the strands of coarse, black hair, varying from about one to two inches long, resembled hair from a horse's tail or mane.

The hunters said they were hunting wild turkeys when the alleged attack occurred.

When asked to indicate on a USC&G topographical map where the alleged incident occurred, the hunters pointed to a location at the top of the southeast side of Dillon's Mountain, about three miles southwest of downtown Cacapon Bridge, about 1,500 feet northeast from where one powerline crosses the mountain and about 5,000 feet southwest from where another powerline crosses.

According to the hunters, they arrived at the location about daybreak October 25. After selecting a large oak tree, the father sat at its base, with his back against the southeast side of the trunk of the tree. His son sat on the opposite side, facing northwestward.

They said they took turns operating slate and wood turkey callers in hopes that one or more turkeys would be attracted to their location. Both were armed with pump-action, 12 gauge, shotguns.

"It was overcast, drizzling rain and foggy," the father said. "We could only see about 50-75 feet away through the fog and the woods. After we had been there about an hour, we heard movement out in front of my son but beyond where we could see."

"We thought it was a flock of turkeys," his son said. "But then something strange happened. It sounded as though a turkey flock had split up, and part of the flock was circling to our left and part were circling to the right."

"Then I heard some branches break," the father said. "From those sounds, I knew it couldn't be turkeys. I became worried that two hunters had heard our turkey calls and were stalking us. After listening to the sounds for about a minute more, I was certain it was two hunters. To let them know we weren't turkeys, I said, 'Hello.' Then the sounds stopped."

We silently remained at our location for "about five more minutes." During that time, we heard "faint sounds that sounded closer and kept moving around us in a circle," the hunters said.

"I decided it was two deer. I wanted to see them," the son said. "So I got up and started walking softly and slowly toward where I had heard the last sounds off to my left.

"I walked about 40 feet from the tree. Suddenly, through the fog, I saw in the woods what looked like a big, black gorilla about

eight feet tall. It was off to my right and about 15 feet away. Its legs were behind a bush that was in front of it. I didn't know what the hell it was, but it scared me so bad I couldn't move. I even forgot I had a gun in my hands," the son said.

"The thing and I stared at each other for a couple of moments, and then all of a sudden it growled like a gorilla and lunged at me. I turned and ran back toward the tree," the hunter said.

The father said he had remained at the tree, watched his son stalk forward, saw him stop, stare to his right, then spin and run back toward the tree.

"I heard a growl and something big running after him," the father said. "I thought a bear was after him. I jumped up and threw my shotgun up and aimed at the sounds. Suddenly, I saw this thing running after him and about 20 feet behind him. It looked like a giant man dressed up in a gorilla suit. Besides that, I didn't know if the thing was human."

His son said he dropped his gun during his terrified run.

"I saw my dad raise his gun and then lower it; then he began waving his arms and shouting. When I got to him, I spun around and saw that the thing had stopped about 15 feet away," the son said. "We both yelled, screamed and flopped our arms. The thing started moving back and circling to our left.

"All of a sudden, my dad screamed like he had been stabbed. I looked and there was another of the things behind him, and it had ahold of his shoulder," the hunter said. "He was yelling and trying to jerk loose. I grabbed a hold of him and pulled him loose from the thing."

His father said, "The damn thing had [breasts] like an old woman. It was as big as the other one, but this one had [breasts]. It was covered with black hair, but the [breasts]

didn't have much hair on them. They looked like big hound-dog ears."

He said he dropped his gun while struggling to free himself from what he claims was a "female Big Foot."

The hunters said they ran "about 15-20 feet" but the "male Big Foot" ran to its left and blocked their course. They said they found themselves between the two creatures that remained about 15 feet away, while circling and maneuvering to keep the men trapped between them.

When asked how they were able to identify the "male Big Foot," the hunters said it had "a big penis and testicles."

"...When the thing ran, or jumped, or turned a certain way you could see them plain, but they were hairy and partly hidden by the hair that covered its whole body."

According to the hunters, the two "Big Foot" kept circling them, "snarling, and making terrible sounds."

"Every couple of seconds, one of them would growl and lunge toward us. We would yell and flop our arms and it would stop and back up. I was so scared I dirtied my pants," the father said.

The hunters said the standoff probably lasted about 10 minutes.

"One of them would lunge at us, and we would yell and jump back or run a few steps," the father said. "At one point, I looked down and saw my shotgun on the ground. I grabbed it and fired it into the air. The Big Foot jumped backward. I shot the gun, again. They turned and started to run away. I kept shooting the gun into the air. We could hear them running away through the brush. They ran away in different directions."

The Advocate: Why didn't you shoot them?

Father: "I wanted to, but they looked too human."

The Advocate: Do they have fangs?

Father: "No. They had teeth like a human, but they were much bigger. And they were all yellow."

The Advocate: What type of feet and hands do they have?

Son: "They looked like the hands and feet of a giant human, except they were hairy on the tops. Their palms and soles of their feet looked like the dark skin of a white man. Their feet were broad and about 18-20 inches long."

The Advocate: What type of nose do they have?

Father: "Like a cross between the nose of a man and the nose of a gorilla. You could see the nostrils real plain."

When further questioned, the hunters' answers painted a picture that coincides with classic descriptions of what many people claim are Big Foot. They seemed to be describing a huge, prehistoric Cro Magnon man or a huge Homo sapiens neanderthalensis man whose body is covered with coarse, thick, black hair about one-inch long.

The Advocate: Will you give me one of the strands of hair you claim came from one of

the Big Foot? I want to have it analyzed.

Son: "We plan to have them analyzed by a lab in Washington. We want them to study all the hair. We will have them release their report to you. You can have some of the hair after that."

The Advocate: Did you report this alleged encounter to a law enforcement agency or the State Department of Natural Resources?

Father: "No. They would have said we are crazy or that we were drunk or on dope. I work for a bank, and my son works for an investment firm. We would probably lose our jobs if our names get out."

The Advocate: I suspect that this is an elaborate hoax. Simply because your story in incredible, I believe you are both lying. Will you submit to a polygraph examination?

Father: "Only if you can guarantee that our identities will never be revealed."

The Advocate: I can only guarantee my conduct. During accomplishment of a polygraph examination, your identities would probably become known by others. I cannot guarantee that they would not reveal your identities.

Your desire for anonymity and your having come to a newspaper seem contradictory. Why did you come to *The Advocate*?

Son: "We didn't tell anyone outside of our immediate family. Then we talked about it and decided that we should let the public know about those things. They could attack someone and kill them. We were told that you were a professional journalist and you would keep a promise of anonymity."

The Advocate: What do you believe "those things" are?

Father: "Without a doubt, they were two Big Foot. A male and a female. I think they heard our turkey calls and came to where we were because they thought they would catch some turkeys to eat.

"We both had camouflage coveralls on, camouflage gloves and hats on, and camouflage paint on our faces. I don't think the Big Foot saw us until after it was too late. After they saw us, maybe they didn't know we were humans.

"When my son surprised the male, he came after him because he thought he had to protect himself and the female. When the female saw the situation, she joined in to protect her mate."

When asked whether they believed the public would consider their story credible, the hunters replied:

"They better, for their own good. We know what happened. Other people can think what they want. We just hope nobody gets hurt by one of those things."

The hunters said they "never heard of" other claims of Big Foot having been sighted in this region.

About four years ago, *The Advocate* reported the claim of John P. "Jack" Heintz; former resident of Cacapon Bridge, now residing in the Baltimore area; who said he saw a Big Foot on Schaffener Mountain, a mountain range northwest and parallel to

Dillon's Mountain. The two mountains are separated by a small, mostly forested valley.

Heintz's claimed nighttime sighting occurred about ¾-mile northwest from the location where the hunters' claim to have experienced their encounter.

The hunters' claimed encounter and Heintz's claimed sighting are similar in that each alleged incident reportedly occurred in the same region, and each happened almost at the edge of the top of the southeast side of a mountain.

At the time, Heintz said he saw, with the aid of a floodlight, a strange creature moving in the forest surrounding his home. He said he did not leave his home to investigate because he is "basically a coward at heart."

According to Heintz, the creature was frightened by the light beam and ran down the southeast side of Schaffener, toward Dillon's Mountain.

He said it did not appear to be a bear, and, in his opinion, it was a Big Foot. His description of the creature seemed to agree with the alleged appearance of a Big Foot.

Heintz is known to be a practical joker. Regarding his claim, *The Advocate* was, and still is, skeptical.

Following publication of Heintz's claim, *The Advocate* received a report that a Big Foot had been sighted several years previously by a man in the Edwards Run Public Hunting and Fishing area. The man did not respond to an interview request. The claimed location of the sighting is about two miles north of downtown Cacapon Bridge and in the area of the northeast terminus of Schaffener Mountain.

During the 1940s, some old-timers (now deceased) related stories claiming they, or their parents, or their grandparents, or their great grandparents had encountered in the Cacapon Bridge region creatures they called "snolegosters." Reportedly the encounters had occurred during earlier times and at various locations throughout the region.

SOURCE: The West Virginia *Advocate*
Nov. 10, 1986

CREDIT: John Keel

Editor's Note: We will update this investigation in the next issue of *PURSUIT*.

Abominable Snowman is Real, Climber Claims

Reinhold Messner has conquered the world's 14 highest mountains but isn't through climbing. Messner, who recently completed his mountain sweep by scaling Makalu and Lhotse in the Himalayas, mentioned at a news conference in Katmandu, Nepal, that he has seen the yeti — the abominable snowman. "I will not tell you when and where I saw the yeti," he said. "I know it exists."

SOURCE: Detroit *News*, MI
10/25/86

CREDIT: Bill Kingsley via COUD-I

"Nessie Hunt" Board Game Helps Sponsor 1986 Search At Loch Ness

by Joseph W. Zarzynski

For the past half century a dogged quest to gather evidence on the existence of the Loch Ness monsters has attracted numerous individuals and organizations to that 24-mile-long Highland loch. Some of those expeditions have been academia-financed while others were bankrolled by rather unusual backers. The most recent scientific snooping at Loch Ness was partially subsidized from royalties from a new board game by Searchglen Ltd.* which, coincidentally, is called "Nessie Hunt."

"Operation Deep-Scan" was staged in October 1986 by the Loch Ness and Morar Project** with the financial support of Searchglen Ltd., a Scottish company headed by Tony Harmsworth.

This was not the first time that a Nessie expedition has been staked by such an unlikely funding source. The first organized Nessie quest was in 1934 and it was sponsored by Sir Edward Mountain, Chairman of the Eagle Star and British Dominions Insurance Company. Twenty unemployed men were hired by Mountain's company and they then were supplied with Kodak box cameras and binoculars to look for the elusive Loch Ness monsters. Those pioneering cryptozoologists were even issued insurance cards bearing the occupation title — "Watchers for the Monster."¹ In 1976, the prestigious *New York Times* newspaper reportedly underwrote the Academy of Applied Science's subsurface search for Nessie in return for exclusive news rights. And in 1984, Vladivar Vodka, a British liquor firm, paid \$26,000 to finance a netting operation to catch a Nessie. However, it was more a sensationalistic publicity ploy than an actual scientific endeavor.²

The strategy of the 1986 "Operation Deep-Scan" was to use a flotilla of sonar-equipped vessels to create a "sonar curtain" to electronically sweep the entire length of the loch looking for one of the Nessie denizens.

This campaign was coordinated by veteran Nessie hunter, Adrian Shine, the field leader of the Loch Ness and Morar Project. Tony Harmsworth, co-founder of the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition (now part of the Loch Ness Centre in Drumadrochit) and primary designer of the "Nessie Hunt" game, acted as a consultant for the 1986 sonar operation. Caley Cruisers, Inverness, Scotland provided the boats deployed. And Swiftech Ltd. in Wallingford, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom arranged for their recording echo sounding equipment to be utilized aboard the Nessie seeked armada.³

Unfortunately, the sonar squadron, which consisted of ten cabin cruisers and approximately 100 support personnel, was beset by gale force winds. These vessels, firing sonar bursts in an attempt to track any large creatures moving below the loch's surface, managed to comb only part of the loch. Their

operation was prematurely ended when poor weather created a safety problem to the fleet and crew.⁴ According to cryptozoologist Adrian Shine, the sonar recordings drew a blank — no sonar targets of Nessie captured.⁵

Nevertheless, Adrian Shine was pleased with the sonar's performance.⁶ In 1982, Shine's Loch Ness and Morar Project made 40 sonar contracts of large moving objects in the depths of Loch Ness during more than 1500 hours of boat patrols using two scanning sonars.⁷

The 1986 Loch Ness and Morar Project's sonar survey was just a "dry run" to a much more in-depth expedition to follow to probe the waters of Loch Ness for its animate enigma. "The main event is planned for 1987 when 45 vessels will be used," commented Harmsworth.⁸ That 1987 expedition will again center upon a "sonar curtain" approach to solving the Loch Ness mystery.

Harmsworth and Shine hope that the "Nessie Hunt" board game will become a financial bonanza. If so, there will be a substantial royalty to the Project which could raise up to £100,000 for expedition use. Future plans would then support "active video deployment of video in Morar or Ness" based upon sonar results, noted Tony Harmsworth. That video operation is tentatively scheduled for 1988, possibly 1987 if "Nessie Hunt" snares its quarry — the consumer public!⁹

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*Searchglen Ltd., George Harmsworth Building, Great North Road Ind. Estate, Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, United Kingdom.

**Scotland's Loch Morar, too, is reputed to be home to an unidentified monstrous animal. The Loch Ness and Morar Project has done work there, too, looking for its strange beastie.



Robert L. Cook vs. Newton's 'Ghost'

by Robert Barrow

For some twenty years, a storm has brewed impatiently, a tempest whose delicately contained ferocity threatens not merely to shake up the U.S. West Coast where it is currently centered, but also to change the world, as we know it, forever. Curiously, few have taken notice of its approach; however, while the storm's implications are beyond the scope of radar detection, they should be regarded with considerable human interest.

This vigorous crackling onslaught, however, is not of the meteorological sort, propelled neither by the clash of high and low pressure systems nor by normal seasonal variations. Rather, it is a storm of runaway *ingenuity*, of intellectual complexities and simplicities all mixed together, motivated chiefly by centrifugal force in ways that we have hardly imagined.

Robert L. Cook is the name and the "eye" of this innovative hurricane, and he currently awaits his day in scientific court. When that day comes, court may well adjourn with a piece of science, long trusted by one and all, but shaken to its tenuous foundations.

In the summer of 1983, Robert Warth sent along a box of several books for my consideration as *PURSUIT* review material. Most were quite intriguing, but there *was* one slim volume, with a remarkably atrocious shade of green on its cover, entitled *The Death of Rocketry*, by Joel Dickinson with Robert Cook, privately published in 1980. The pages inside, to my surprise, were handsomely printed; yet, this was one of those days where I apparently had more than enough books to review, and I made the very bad mistake of judging a book by its cover. I placed it back in the box and almost forgot about its existence altogether.

A few weeks later, with the other necessary reviews completed and books prepared for return to SITU, that *green thing* again caught my eye, and this time I decided to give it a thumbing through.

What I read amazed me. Being neither a mechanical engineer nor a math wizard, I was grateful that writer Joel Dickinson, who *is* a mathematician, clearly presented inventor Robert Cook's ideas in a forthright, readable manner.

So impressive was *Rocketry*, in fact, that we reviewed it in *PURSUIT* #63, which appeared early in 1984, and included a brief update on Cook, a gracious, easy-going man of about 50 who at that time lived in Presidio, Texas, and kindly responded to my inquiries with phone calls, letters and literature about a new type of propulsion he designed — using working models — and was striving to perfect. Indeed, Cook's "reactionless drive" would be effective and energy-efficient enough to cause the demise or "death of rocketry" in years to come. His term for the process is *inertial propulsion*.

But — trouble loomed on the horizon for the affable Robert L. Cook from the moment he decided to introduce CIP (Cook Inertial Propulsion) to society. The obstacle was not soldiers with guns or lack of personal enthusiasm. It wasn't even stuffy "men in black" from the IRS: Instead, it was the ghost of the long-departed Sir Isaac Newton, a ghost

whose ectoplasmic traces linger in the form of three basic laws of motion outlined in Newton's *Principia* in 1686. Now, we *must* understand that most modern scientists positively drool with admiration over Newton's laws, and the mainstream among them tend to protect *Principia* with all the straightforward viciousness of Dobermans from hell.

Thus, when Cook, a man ruled more by mind than extensive formal education, dared to contradict the great God Newton, the swarms prepared to descend, challenging him primarily with their own manic ignorance. The situation, to quote from our review in *PURSUIT* #63:

Of Newton's three laws of motion...the one particularly disputed here is the third — that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. In essence, no force can occur unless at least two bodies are involved: one which exerts a force, and one upon which the force is exerted...The glory, however, of Cook's reactionless drive system — and its slap to Newton's face — lies in its ability to propel something *without* the need to react against another force or medium. Instead, as Dickinson describes it, "the reactionless drive utilizes *internal* forces generated from within the system itself."

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

We will not belabor Cook's tribulations from organized science, which was hardly the only culprit. The media itself further muddled Cook's best intentions when a Texas reporter who interviewed the inventor wrote that Cook was working on a machine that would tilt the earth on its axis!

Fortunately, level heads saw Cook more clearly. Around the time that our *PURSUIT* review appeared in 1984, NBC TV's Bob Dotson filmed a segment with Cook in Presidio which aired on the *Today Show* of May 14 as a brief 4-5 minute piece. Virtually nothing was mentioned about the CIP project, but Dotson's profile of Robert Cook as a person said volumes: That Cook had harbored a dream (CIP) for 16 years; and that he scarcely had time for his dream in Presidio because he is the sort of man everybody in town depended upon — an all-around helpful and innovative guy who could be found either transporting patients via ambulance for long distances over Texas highways, fixing the town water system or repairing heavy equipment — and that he married late in life (8 years previously) and now, at age 50, had four young children.

Had NBC *Today* viewers entertained any doubt about Cook's integrity, perhaps they gained considerable respect for his position when Dotson revealed a personal aspect about which I knew nothing: In 1983, a business partner took off

with CIP project money, leaving this trusting man devastated. Indeed, according to Dotson, the incident shocked Cook to the extent that he retreated to the solitude of the desert and cried. Further, to put it gently, we are told that he did not expect to return from the desert alive.

What might have turned to tragedy was overcome, however. Cook survived the disappointment and continued the uphill fight to build the all-important working models, each bigger and better, that would prove the use of CIP on water, land, and, ultimately, in the air.

In the meantime, I lost track of Cook. Nevertheless, a reviewer cannot lose to memory *The Death of Rocketry* because the book's final page has yet to be written, and I sent Cook a short query in July, '86.

Weeks passed, and then months, without a reply. Should I phone? I didn't. Something must be wrong, I was sure. Had Newton's ghost and/or the ubiquitous gremlins of fundraising forced Cook back to the desert's refreshing, forbidden grasp?

No. Unexpectedly, nearly six-months later he responded with an envelope stuffed with new literature, topped with a cover letter handwritten on a yellow legal sheet. Presidio was now in his past, and he explained the delay in replying as due to "moving all over the country." Littlerock, California, was his new location.

Inertial propulsion's originator has hardly been idle lately. "Since I talked to you last," Cook wrote, "I have added a new 6 rotor model which proves that my system will eventually fly." No minor feat, flying a CIP craft will require 30-50 thousand dollars to construct the engine and vehicle. Cook has started a corporation to raise the capital.

Truly, inventors come and go, and most of them never get the courtesy of so much as the time of day from the inhabitants of the pretentious little ball of cosmic dirt upon which we all live.

Robert Cook's efforts, though, are beginning to make the necessary dent in our armor of ignorance, and he is slowly acquiring scientific, engineering and business support. A particularly intriguing development is the fact that a ranking NASA official in science & engineering — who was initially quite cool towards the CIP concept — has apparently turned 180° to the "believer" direction. Supporting documents provided by Cook indicate the official is not ready to accept the implementation of inertial propulsion in space vehicles, but does concede that the CIP idea "is certainly sound." A NASA communication nevertheless acknowledges, however, that "Unfortunately, our budget is not adequate at this time to support the necessary technology development programs required to reduce the concept to practice in space vehicles."

An M.I.T. graduate engineer working with Cook for four years takes some exception with NASA, and advises that it should be possible for modern technology to build CIP machines that can lift *several million* pounds.

In a March 1986 letter to the Marshall Space Center in Alabama, Cook emphasized some additional points out his engine:

1. The system recycles both the propellant mass and most of the energy imparted to it by the spinning motion...an energy potential of *OVER 90%* in efficiency and 100% propulsion efficiency!
2. The system can be electrically powered by means of microwaves beamed from the ground or from overhead by satellite...By leaving the fuel tank (so to

speak) on the ground the payload will be increased about 95%.

3. Electrical power is much cheaper and safer to use than the highly explosive fuel now used in modern rockets — the shuttle disaster showed what can happen.

Fervently requesting that NASA consider his propulsion idea, patented since 1980 in several countries, Cook mentions that more than 100 scientists and engineers have seen his models perform and have all endorsed the principle of CIP. Stating that a "new propellant mass exchange mechanism has just recently been tested that will allow the next model to turn several thousand rpm," he calculates that "At 5000 rpm a 12 rotor unit having 4-foot diameter main arms and spinning a combined 90 pounds of propellant mass will develop *1,542,126 pounds of force!*" Cook estimates the unit's weight at a mere 4,000 lbs.

Exactly where all of this leads remains a story in progress, but Mr. Cook has come a great distance since our *PURSUIT* review: NASA has relented and agreed to study his concept (something which United Airlines did a few years ago with satisfaction), a move which astounds anybody familiar with the agency's exceptional negativism towards Cook in the past.

CIP seems far from a momentary "flash in the pan." The July, 1986, issue of a technical publication called *DBS News* praised Cook's project heartily, going so far as to quote a Dr. Durward Jackson of Cal State, who, while personally feeling CIP does *not* (!) violate Newton's laws, nonetheless commends inertial propulsion ("if it works") as "indeed one of the top 10 inventions in history, on par with the wheel."

The newsletter also quotes Cook, who claims that satellite launches that cost 20-30 million dollars will only cost 100-200 thousand dollars with the CIP engine.

Cook distributed an informative paper to the media a few months ago entitled "Newton's Blunder — The Price We Pay," and besides outlining his ideas, he takes every opportunity he can to chastise, hog-tie and flog Sir Isaac Newton's legacy. As Robert Cook further embarks upon his exorcism of Newton's ghost from the catacombs of traditional science, one can only suggest that he not throw caution to the wind. Dead heroes, true or false, tend to spawn generations of supporters — all alive and kicking hard.

The following are excerpts from Mr. Cook's paper.*

Newton's Blunder — The Price We Pay

by Robert L. Cook

What Newton's Blunder Is

In 1686 a book called *Newton's Principia* was published which supposedly explained all there is to know about the laws governing motion. Science, over the last 300 years has accepted and taught that the 3 basic laws of motion explained in "The Principia" were "infallable truths," and it seems anyone suggesting that these "rules" are in error has automatically been labeled a crackpot, or the equivalent.

**Following this correspondence from Mr. Cook to Bob Barrow, who in turn passed it on to PURSUIT, we will try to describe, with illustrations, Mr. Cook's concept in a future issue.*

Newton's third law states that — "For every action there must be an opposite and equal reaction." Which means, in plain language, that there must be two objects involved to produce motion; one object producing the force which must react against the other, such as wheels on a car reacting against the ground or wind reacting against ship's sails, etc.

I feel this law stood the test until 1968 when the first successful *reactionless* propulsion engine produced its first internal, unidirectional, *reactionless* force contrary to that "law." I named this system the CIP (Cook Inertial Propulsion) engine, now patented in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, and Australia with patents pending in several other countries.

How It Works

The system converts centrifugal force into a linear force and motion, similar to a car wheel that is out of balance. On the road, you may see an out-of-balance wheel bouncing completely off the ground when a car is going at high speed. Picture, if you will, all four wheels out of balance but only at the top of their spin, and you will see that the whole car could fly off the ground. Although putting a wheel (or rotor) out of balance this way is not an easy thing to do, *it has been done!*

Four working models have now been built and demonstrated to some top scientists and engineers. The first group of qualified engineers to examine the idea were from United Airlines in San Francisco. In late 1971, these engineers headed by David R. Doll of the UAL Engineering Laboratory prepared a dynamics analysis of an early CIP unit, and in their opening paragraph they stated:

"On September 10, 1971 Robert Cook brought to UAL a device designed to convert centrifugal force into linear thrust. In spite of being declared in violation of the laws of motion by the U.S. Patent Office, Cook's crudely-built rig moved spasmodically across the floor."

The report went on to explain how and why, (in spite of the fact that it worked contrary to established law), it worked and how the workings of the *system could be improved!* The following year, with very sophisticated accelerometer testing equipment, it was proved beyond any doubt that this principle was demonstrated that the "*infallible laws*" of Newton were not just that! In other words, I feel certain laws of physics and mechanics had to be reconsidered....

Personally, I feel the laws of motion have to be reconsidered, and as Dr. John Trenholme, a scientist from the Livermore Radiation Laboratory put it, "I have doubts that it does what he [Cook] thinks it does, but the important thing to see is if it performs and then try to explain why (because) even limited success would be very valuable to science." The value would not be in practical application, but in pointing out to the scientists that in some small way the principles, on which they base their work, are wrong.

The discovery of just such an "error" years ago led to the development of the hydrogen bomb. *The scientific community is not always right.* United's engineers reasoned this way: Although the first model of the CIP engine they tested was only about 1% energy efficient, it nevertheless worked and this meant that a *very great scientific discovery* had been made. Although (something impossible) had been demonstrated in a very inefficient manner, they believed, I, the inventor who had made the discovery had demonstrated uncommon abilities and it was only a matter of time before I would do the impossible in a better way. UAL engineers

helped in many ways and in late 1974, a super-efficient way to propel was discovered.

What This New Concept May Give Us

1. Extremely low cost worldwide communication systems, because, with the CIP engine, electrical energy can be used to launch satellites and the energy can be beamed to the launch unit by means of microwave systems. This will eliminate the danger of explosions such as the Challenger's last January and will increase the payload by 95%. My estimated cost of launching a satellite by CIP (per pound) is \$.25 for low earth orbit [LEO], and under \$.50 per pound for a geosynchronous (23,000 mile high) orbit GEO. The space shuttle costs for LEO's is \$2,500 per pound to \$3,000 per pound and up to \$10,000 for GEO. (One satellite launch equals around \$30,000,000.) In 1982 when the astronaut Gordon Cooper saw a model of the CIP engine, he exclaimed, "This system will propel for pennies on the dollar!"
2. The ability for mining the planets as well as low-cost excursion trips for everyone. I feel, the moon can be about 3 hours each way and Mars about 5 days!
3. Reduced transportation costs because of the high-fuel efficiency of the new CIP engine. Estimates on this run from Dr. Ching Cao Fong's (Professor of Solid-State Physics, University of California at Davis) 53%, to as high as Richard Rose's (from MIT with over 35 years engineering experience) 90% estimate. I'm told rockets are less than 3% energy efficient and jet engines about 6%.
4. And, this new knowledge may reveal answers to questions about such things as how gravity and magnetism work.

Why And How The Public Should Help

1. Fossil fuels are going to run out someday in the not-too-distant future, and this will possibly trigger great wars as these supplies diminish.
2. The burning of these fuels is destroying our environment including the health of all people. The CIP engine and its derivatives should greatly reduce this problem quickly and economically.
3. We have been, particularly in recent years, conditioned to space travel. Perhaps a ride into outer space, and seeing the earth and its surroundings would have a very good effect on most people. I could make every one realize what a beautiful planet we live on and why we, as a people, must unite as one and not war with each other ever again. The CIP engine when fully developed (in less than 5 years with sound financial assistance), can go a long way toward this goal.
4. Flying craft will be able to take off and land vertically, greatly enhancing safety at airports.
5. The noise problem at airports will almost be completely eliminated because the air will not be disturbed by propellers or turbine blades.
6. The development of the CIP engine will create new jobs for the transportation industry.

I am appealing to the public to help me by purchasing my book entitled *The Death of Rocketry* at a cost of \$20. This oversized book (9" x 12") has well over 150 pictures and illustrations on a high-quality paperback format. [Mr. Cook offers a money-back guarantee for satisfaction.]

**Should the reader wish to contact Robert L. Cook with questions about his work, address an envelope to Mr. Cook via SITU and it will be forwarded to him. In respect to Mr. Cook, please include with your letter a self-addressed, stamped envelope.*



Corn Falls From Sky

by Robert C. Warth

October 1, 1986

Below is radio report by Roger Wolfe of KUSA that he sent us regarding the corn falls in Evans, Colorado.

When Mike Kobel first moved into the Evans, Colorado neighborhood six months ago, his new neighbor, Gary Bryan came over and said: "Have you seen the corn fall yet?" Kobel said he thought the man was a little strange.

Bryan and Kobel are neighbors in the 1200 block of Pleasant Acres Drive in Evans — about three blocks northwest of The Ebony Room Restaurant.

Almost every day, regardless of the weather or season, corn falls on their houses.

Kernels of corn from the sky.

"Not too much really falls," Bryan said, "only a few at a time...maybe 10 kernels one time, may 25 or 50 the next. But we've seen it fall, and we don't know where it's coming from."

Bryan said the corn has been falling on the house since he moved there four years ago. He's calm, even seems to accept it as the normal routine of a day. He also has no idea of the corn's origin.

The event took a stranger twist two days this summer when pinto beans fell.

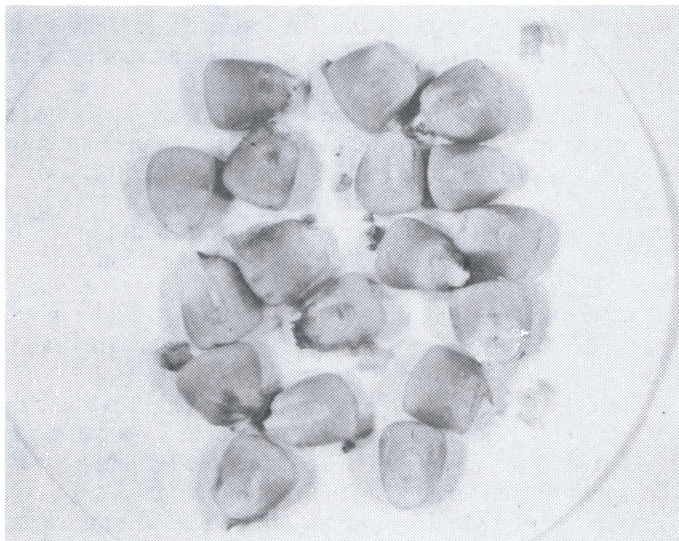
When Kobel was completely frustrated, he called the *Greeley Tribune*. "Can you find out where it's coming from?"

A botanist at the University of Northern Colorado said it appears to be the normal type of feed corn grown in this area. The pinto beans, although old, appear to be the same variety grown in northern Colorado.

Another expert said it appears the corn has been through a harvesting machine, which rules out corn blown directly from fields.

Glen Cobb, a UNC meteorologist, when told about the corn falling from the sky, paused a few seconds, then asked, "Kernels or ears?"

After a few jokes, Cobb said some strange weather-related incidents have taken place in which it has rained frogs or fish. But those events are very rare.



The above is a photo copy of the corn that Mike Kobel enclosed with his letter.

Dear Mr. Warth:

Dr. Schwarz has asked me to write you concerning the corn falling on my yard. Let me start at the beginning:

I moved into the house the last of March 1986, within about two weeks, the neighbor called me over to the back of the lot. He asked me if I had seen the corn falling from the sky. That was the first time I saw it. The corn seemed to only be falling in a 50-foot area at the back of the lot. The neighbor told me he had noticed it for the past four years. About two months later, I began building a garage on the lot, some 40 feet south of the house. During the construction, the corn seemed to be moving from the back of the lot to where the garage was being built. Now that the garage is nearly completed, the corn is falling mostly on and around it.

On the average, 20 kernels of corn will fall each day. Somedays only a few will fall and on other days as much as 100 will fall, some days none will fall at all. The time of year or time of day, or even weather conditions have no real affect on when it falls.

Four weeks ago, I was working on the garage, putting the roof sheets on. I had my brother's dog (a lab-shepherd mix) with me. It had been raining off and on all day. While I was on the roof I noticed the dog was sitting in one spot with it's ears perked up and looking very intently at something. This went on for at least two hours. The dog did not move from the spot. During this time, about 20 kernels of corn fell. I didn't give this much thought, until the next day when a friend of mine came by to see the corn fall. He was there for about 10 minutes when he walked over to where the dog had been the day before. He told me that something has drawn him to that particular spot. I had not told him about the dog, that's when I became more interested in the corn.

I am enclosing some of the corn. I picked this up off the ground around the garage. I didn't touch the corn with my hands, so there shouldn't be any finger prints on them if you want to check for that type of thing. There is also some corn enclosed that has landed on the garage roof.

I have also included a map, on which I have circled the area where I live. The coordinates are as follows:

104° 41' 40" east longitude

40° 22' 47" north latitude

If you need any further information, please let me know.

Thank you,

Mike Kobel

Space does not permit us to complete the information on these corn falls. There will be an update in the next issue of PURSUIT.

Related SITUation

Circle Riddle

Five giant circles of flattened corn have mysteriously appeared at the Devil's Punchbowl near Winchester. Circles have been seen in the area for the past decade. Scientists have been trying to find a solution, without success.

SOURCE: *Herald Express*, England
8/26/86

CREDIT: David Rossiter via COUD-I



Ghost Lights

by William Kingsley

My first encounter with a "ghost light" was by chance. While my wife and I were vacationing in the upper peninsula of Michigan we stopped in the small town of Watersmeet. While in a local restaurant for coffee I glanced down on the table in front of me. The placemat had a map of the county with local attractions listed. One of the attractions listed was a "mysterious light." Immediately curious, I asked the waitress for more information.

She explained it was a strange light that would appear on the crest of a hill near some power lines at night. We stayed at a motel until dusk, then, following directions we found ourselves parked on a hill on a U.S. Forest Road. Approximately 100-150 yards in front of us was another hill. A power line corridor ran to our right over the hills and through the valley below.

As it grew dark a small amber light appeared on the hill in front of us. Suddenly, it went out as if switched off. After a few minutes it reappeared. This time it glowed to a bright white light. It seemed very similar to a gas lantern seen at a distance. We observed this same display several times before leaving. We were determined to return with a camera.

Our next visit was in May of 1980. This time I had my 35mm camera loaded with ASA 400 film. I set my camera on a tripod with a shutter release and we waited. There were other cars parked waiting for the light, too.

Once again the light appeared. It was amber glowing to a white light. I pressed the shutter release and kept the shutter open until the light "winked" out. The light disappeared for several minutes before returning. It remained on each time for about one minute and was approximately 150 yards from us.

The light appeared to move. It flickered and swayed as it moved. Its light was reflected off the power lines and my jacket. It also appeared to be suspended in the air. The light displayed itself several times. Once it appeared to "split" in two. This was the case as the negative of the film showed two dark spots one above another.

The most startling display happened after the light "winked" out. Above some pine trees to the left of where the light appeared I noticed a small red light. It began to drift upward in a zig-zagging motion. It "winked" out. Another light appeared that made arcs above the trees. Then two red lights appeared. One followed the other in undulating movements. I was impressed by the animation of these lights.

Local people informed me that the lights go "out" when approached. They said it would also appear suddenly alongside cars or individuals. I was also told the light appeared in the area before the power lines were installed.

After having the negatives developed, I sent prints to S.I.T.U. which printed them on the backcover of the second quarter of the 1981 issue of *PURSUIT*.

Being very intrigued by this "ghost light" I tried to find more information on "ghost lights," but what little I found was not detailed. However what I did find showed many similarities to the Watersmeet "ghost light." Many lights shared the legend that the light is the ghost of a railroad man killed while working, even though they are separated geographically.

These lights range in color from a yellowish-amber to blue. They usually drift several feet above the ground at speeds up to ten miles an hour. As a rule, they are spherical in shape, from several inches to three feet in diameter, but when a mass is formed of many individual lights they assume some very bizarre shapes. Often they are so bright they illuminate the ground below them. Some are transparent, others are opaque. Firing a bullet through them has no effect.

Although they appear to drift at random, they avoid objects and often slip away from spectators who attempt to approach them. Sometimes a light will separate into smaller units and combine again; or two lights will revolve around each other without combining.

There are supposed to be over 100 known "ghost lights" in the United States.

They are found in other countries also. For instance, in the Andean Highlands in Peru they are known as *la loz del dinero* — "the money lights." They are seen as white or green. The natives believe they float above caches of gold buried by Pizarro. The natives drive stakes into the ground where the lights hover. When dawn comes and drives away "evil spirits" they dig for gold.

It is interesting to note that in Bram Stoker's novel *Dracula* a ghost light is mentioned in the same way. Dracula, the driver of a coach, stops to go into the distance to a strange light. He returns with gold.

In Australia, there are the "min-min" lights. They are located at Alexandria Station. They are white in color and about the size of automobile headlights.

In Sudan, there is something known as the "Blue Sparks of Khartoum." Also there is something similar in Northern Nigeria. They are believed to be caused by static electricity generated by friction of wind blown sand particles hitting one another.

The Bay Chaleur fireship is seen over the waters of New Brunswick, Canada. It appears in all seasons. It usually appears before storms. It is generally hemispherical with the flat side toward the water. At times it will rise into slender and vibrating dancing columns giving the appearance of the flaming rigging of a sailing ship.

In Hawaii, there are "Waimea lights." They are located in the north central part of the island of Hawaii mainly on the site of the old Parker Ranch. They appear the first two or three nights of the new moon near midnight. They are luminous with the texture of a heavy fog. They float in the air up to five or six feet, and appear to pulsate. Some claim up close they make a faint musical noise.

Alaska has the Iliamna lights. They are seen in the mountains near Lake Iliamna. They are a brilliant glow that can be seen as far away as forty miles.

Near the Chinat Mountains in southwestern Texas are the Marfa lights. The first sightings were made by a cattleman, Robert Ellison, in 1883. He said they looked like glowing balls that floated up and down, then bounced back and forth. They have been seen by thousands of people. They are located on a sparsely covered prairie known as "Mitchells Flat." They are said to appear sporadically. At a distance they are said to look like flashlights. Up close they appear to be about

the size of soccer balls, and are said to be lively, to dance about, race, even chase one another.

Another Texas ghost light is the "Esperanza Light." It is located in La Salle Co. Texas over the Esperanza Creek. It appears to be the size of automobile headlights and travels at various speeds, at a distance of one to two feet above the ground. It is seen in all seasons, dusk until dawn in all kinds of weather. It is said to meander along the creek sometimes coming close to observers, then retreating rapidly. It is also said it always returns to the mouth of the creek to disappear there each time.

There has been much folklore offered to explain ghost lights. As said, several involve the theme of a railroad worker killed on the job. Others include tales of lovers committing suicide because they were unable to wed. Some people believe they are beings from other worlds. Still others think they are a window into another dimension.

Some of the conventional explanations vary also.

Will-O-Wisps are caused by spontaneous combustion of gas from decomposing organic material. Usually gas expands and does not remain in a small compact mass. Air currents often dissipate the gas so it is not likely to explain ghost lights in desert areas. Gas from decaying human bodies in cemeteries may, theoretically, be the cause of the unusual lights seen there.

Bio-luminescence or "cold light" is created by bacteria fungi and fireflies. "Fox Fire" which is a fungi which grows on rotting wood is an example. It is usually caused by the fungus, *Armillaria mellea* or *Panos stipicus*. This fungus wouldn't be aerial and mobile as "ghost lights" are. Usually this type of luminescence is either of a too low intensity or too small to describe the behavior of some lights.

St. Elmo's Fire is a flame-like electrical display usually seen in stormy weather or strong electrical fields. It is observed at sea on the mast tips or yard arms, on land at the tops of trees, steeples and elevated objects. I have also heard of instances of

it being formed on aluminum patio doors. It can also appear on the wings and around the propellers of air craft in flight. St. Elmo's Fire has been observed not only during thunderstorms, but also during snowstorms. But, St. Elmo's Fire does not explain many lights which are mobile and independent, and appear in clear as well as damp weather.

Phosphorus is another explanation put forth. Phosphorus is easily oxidized and does not occur in a free state. It is usually inert in stable and relatively insoluble chemicals.

The automobile headlight is a popular explanation for these lights. However, many ghost lights were seen in areas prior to the invention of the automobile, and it does not explain how these lights suddenly appear next to or overhead of observers. If these lights are due to refracted light then why are they not seen in many more areas?

The piezoelectric effect is created when crystalline materials in the Earth's crust are suddenly stressed. This may result in a plasma-like luminous display. This effect is used in phonograph pickups and other similar technical applications and often is attributed to variously colored lights seen prior to earthquakes. It is probably the most logical explanation of many "ghost lights." Many do appear over fault lines such as the San Andreas in California.

"Ghost lights" are an intriguing and awesome phenomenon to witness. Some investigations have been done. No one explanation covering the many lights has been put forth. They continue to be a part of our folklore and legend. Another mystery to flit about and flirt with our imaginations.

Also see "Mine" SITUation p. 189 in this issue.

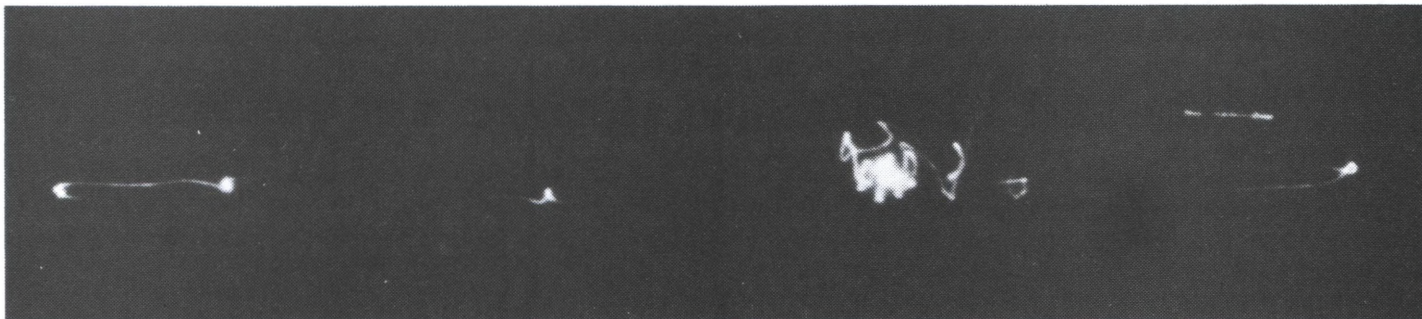
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Mysterious Fires and Lights, Vincent A. Gaddis, McKay, 1968.
The Saginaw News (MI), Sunday, Oct. 13, 1985.



Marfa Mystery Lights

Over 100 years of unexplained flickering lights.
Location: Mitchell Flats. Photo date: 9/86.
Photo specifications: SLR w. 50mm lens at f1.8.
Exposure: less than 3 minutes. Film: EL 400
Researcher/Photographer: James Crocker



Mr. Crocker has copyrighted his 4x5 and 8x10 color photographs which are available to our readers. They are very attractive showing the golden ghost light, a title and legend in dark blue letters and an outline map of Texas in dark red with Marfa located on it.

To quote Mr. Crocker, "I took the shot on my third research expedition to Marfa in September of '86. Although the

phenomenon can be observed fairly constantly, obtaining a clear and informative photo is extremely difficult due to the sporadic and unpredictable nature of the enigma."

For details and prices you may contact James Crocker at 9552 Brewster, Dallas, Texas 75227 — (214-381-7430).



Mound-building, Celtic Voyagers, and Early Americans: A Report on the ISCBM Conference on American Mysteries

by Michael D. Swords

Unless otherwise indicated, all illustrations are the author's artwork.

On September 19, 20, 21 (the autumnal equinox) a group of mind and imagination voyagers met in Newark, Ohio to attend the ISCBM meeting. How does one describe the ISCBM? The letters stand for the Institute for the Study of Collective Behavior and Memory, but that doesn't help much does it? It is an organization led by Dr. David Griffard, a professor of psychology at Allegheny County Community College (near Pittsburgh), and a former editor of the journal *KRONOS*, which concentrated on catastrophic, revisionist, and Velikovskian issues in history and archaeology. The ISCBM journal, *HORUS*, pursues many of these same interests, but in a less convoluted academic way. It is an organization just three years old and seems to be growing and "having fun" while doing it. The weekend meeting consisted of three official talks on Saturday, a visit to the impressive Newark mound complex,* and a lot of information-interaction opportunities (which were the charm of it all).

The first formal presentation was by Alban Wall, a Stonehenge researcher who by name and inclination might be a reincarnate Druid astronomer for all we know. Mr. Wall has an astronomical calendaric explanation for the great British stones, which seems to take everything into account. Interestingly, his insights into the Stonehenge pattern might also help us explain the Newark site and other mound-building patterns in the U.S.

The "idealized" plan of Stonehenge appears in figure 1. It's impossible to describe the whole idea here but the main elements of the story are as follows:

A. the entire lay-out is aimed at creating an accurate calendar which regularizes sacred dates according to a 19-year cycle, within which time the sun and moon return precisely to their same relationships in the heavens;

B. this cycle, known as the Metonic (after Meton, the Athenian Greek who allegedly discovered it in 433 BC), was actually first worked out by the Celtic Druid astronomers of Stonehenge, from whence the knowledge diffused elsewhere;

C. the 19 years are signified in the monument by the 19 small upright stones in the innermost "horseshoe" of the structure;

D. ancient calendars were strongly lunar in character; the prominence of the Moon at Stonehenge is indicated firstly in the so-called Y and Z holes. These rings number 29 and 30 and signify the lunar phases month of 29½ days. The monstrous stones of the famous Sar-

sen Circle were added later as a similar lunar marker. They have 30 upright stones; one curiously smaller than the rest (a half-stone);

E. the second lunar feature visualized by Wall involves the huge megalithic trilithons of the second inner "horseshoe." The trilithons increase in size from "absent" (New Moon) pointing to the Heelstone, to gradually growing (waxing Moon) in trilithons 1 and 2, to largest (Full Moon) at trilithon 3, to gradually lessening (waning Moon) in trilithons 4 and 5.

F. the placement of the phase-related trilithons in relation to the Y and Z holes (which have a suggested gap in their circles), indicates to Alban that the Stonehenge astronomers began their lunar calendar "count" at the first quarter moon, an unexpected idea which he found corroborated in other ancient calendaric information;

G. the other main character in the celestial play, the Sun, is measured in the "Sun Circle," what most Stonehenge researchers call the "Aubrey holes" after their modern discoverer. Most researchers think that these are either enigmatic ritual pits or have to do with eclipse prediction. Wall says no. The 56 holes are half-day marker positions, making a 28-day cycle (approximately a "solar month" if it could be so-termed). Alban Wall believes that many ancient calendars were based on 13 such 28-day "months" (364 days) with the extra day-and-a-half accounted for by clever intercalations. He thinks that one day per year would be added by not moving the stones at a solstice (probably Winter, since the year seemed to start/"grow" from there). The missing fraction would be intercalated as an extra day when needed (every four years).

H. by moving the stones ritualistically each day in honor of the Sun and Moon (god and goddess probably), the major 8 feast-days are precisely marked either as stones fall on the vertical meridian line or in holes lined up toward specially-spaced "station stones." Thus both solstices, both equinoxes, and the intervening feasts [Celtically: a) Samhuin, b) Imbolc, c) Beltain, d) Lughnasad] are all regularized.

Alban Wall's scheme seems to work. It also seems to harmonize with the ancient literary testimony of Diodorus Siculus and Julius Caesar, as well as with a bronze calendar from ancient Coligny (in France) built on "Stonehenge-type data." So what does this have to do with Amerindian mounds? Well, perhaps nothing. Perhaps everything. If the Stonehenge calendaric system *did* diffuse across Europe to Greece (and beyond?), maybe it went the "other way," too. Wild thoughts, eh? Well, let's see.

Ed. Note: Also see "The Newark Works — Key to a Lost Technology?" by K.W. Moak PURSUIT, Vol. 18 No. 2, 1985.

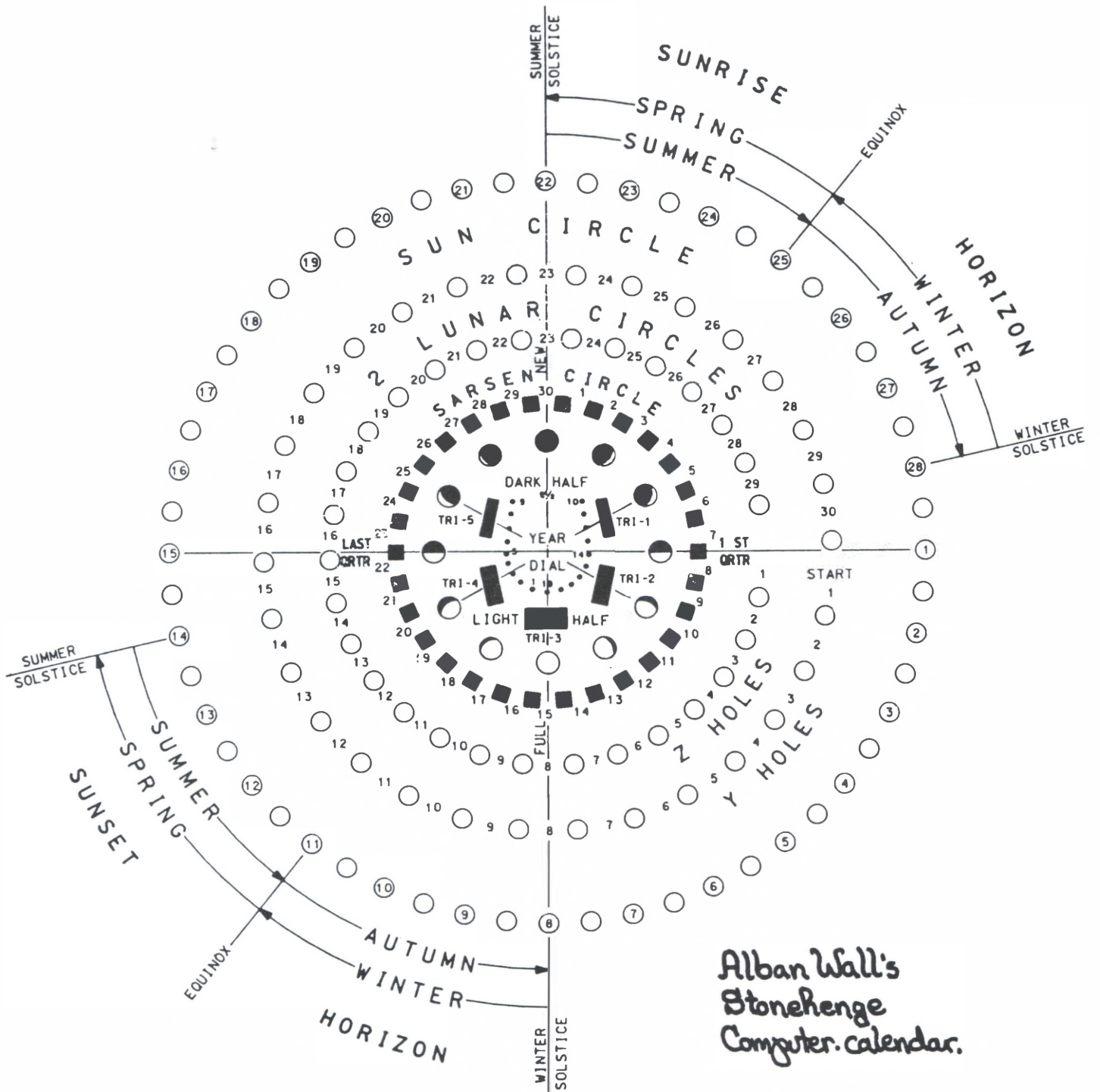


Figure 1. Computer-calendar of Megaliths at Stonehenge, England.

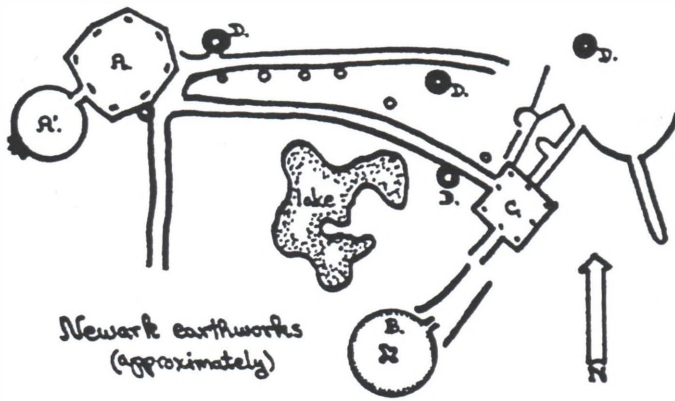


Figure 2

The Newark, Ohio mound-builder earthworks are drawn (approximately identical to the 1847 survey map) in figure 2. There are two major extant features: the Octagon mound (A) and its adjoining large circle (A1), and the Great Circle mound (B). The quadrangular plaza (C) is largely absent today, though hints of the various parts of the whole layout are occasionally preserved (ex. the small circular mound area (D) nearest the octagon is perfectly intact [with the green for a golf course sitting snugly inside it!]). The lake no longer exists.

These earthworks rest on a flat plain, which if stripped of close-in trees (and some people think that the area was largely grassy prairie two thousand years ago) would afford superb astronomical reckoning based on horizontal measurements. Stonehenge was similarly situated. The major works have finely constructed banks, seemingly of uniform height, bordering and encircling the open flat central areas (as did Stonehenge). One function of this, beyond simple delimiting a space, would be to give a uniform flat horizon for making the rising and setting celestial measurements. The Great Circle mound still has its deep ditch running all along the inside arc of its circle.

The two great mounds have alignments — that, at least, is obvious. But the nature of the alignments (i.e. to *what* exactly) have not yet been determined. Is it solstitial? Is it equinoctial? Is it both? Neither? Does the Sun dominate the directions? The Moon? Venus? or “None of the Above?” (pun intended). The two big mound areas do seem to be pointed in slightly different directions, and maps differ as well. We were there at the autumnal equinox and can attest that the “gun-sight” of the Great Circle does *not* seem to be interested in that event.

Alban Wall finds the Octagonal nature of the site suggestive. It is a little known fact that Stonehenge itself is laid out octagonally. Every seventh hole in the Aubrey Sun Circle is precisely measured and set as foundations of the octagon. The intermediate holes are more lackadaisically set down (although still nicely done for the most part). This “octagonal vision” of the year is part of the Celtic cosmos to Alban Wall’s eyes. Inside the Octagon at Newark are eight minor mounds with breaches or entrances to the Octagon behind them. It is not difficult to visualize a ceremony taking place at each mini-mound in the octagon as the festival calendar “walked around” the eight-sided year.

Stonehenge and Newark may be ceremonial centers based upon similar worldviews and needs. Both existed as centers where visiting people might stop after a trading excursion



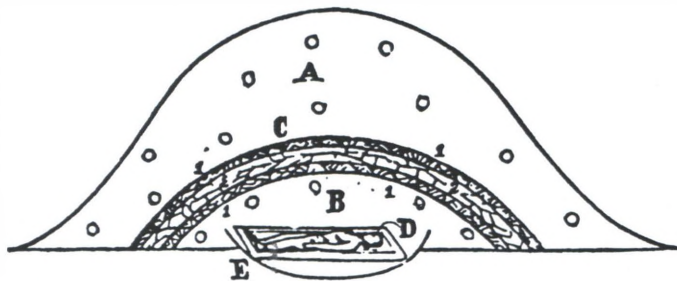
Figure 3

(Southern and Western England had valuable ores; Central Ohio some of the finest flint), or simply as “Meccas” for Pan-Celtic or Pan-Amerind festivals similar to the Delian and Olympic games of the Greeks. But the thought arises: could the entire cosmic enterprise have been transferred to the New World from its discoverers in the British Isles?

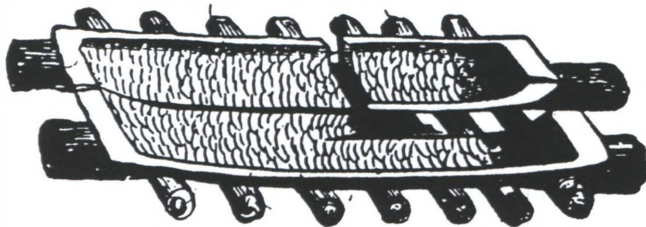
If the ideas are similar in detail, then we are left with two possibilities: a) diffusion (from the Old to the New World probably since Stonehenge apparently predates the mounds); b) “great minds think alike” (independent discoveries). The diffusion theory can be strengthened in two ways: 1) work at the site to show the similarity of astronomical ritual use; 2) work generally in the time era to find other evidences of Old World diffusion to the New (pre-Columbus and pre-Viking). Number one doesn’t really threaten too many “experts” anymore. Archaeoastronomy is a booming area of study. Number two is extremely threatening to most established archaeologists (for apparently psychological and sociological reasons) and is the subject of the second and third presentations at the conference.

The second speaker was Robert Alrutz, a biology professor at nearby Denison University. Dr. Alrutz has been interested in a set of unusual (to say the least) artifacts found in association with several Ohio mound sites. Most of these finds were in the 1800’s. All of them have inscriptions on them... *Hebraic* inscriptions! They are nicknamed “the Holy Stones.”

Stones with Hebrew inscriptions found in Ohio Indian mounds, eh? Sounds radical, revolutionary even. The main explanations readily come to mind: (a) Hoax (the establishment’s first, and often only, thought); (b) the lost Tribes of Israel (the 19th-century thought and that of the Mormons today); and (c) the products of later but pre-Columbian missionaries, maybe even Celtic monks in the manner of the famous alleged voyager, St. Brendan. Medieval monks often knew several Biblically-related languages (in piecemeal fashion anyway), so it is not a forbidden possibility.



SECTIONAL VIEW OF THE PYRAMID.



REMAINS OF AN ANCIENT COFFIN

Figure 4

Robert Alruz has done a beautiful and well-balanced piece of historical scholarship on the "Holy Stones," which has been published in the *Journal of the Scientific Laboratories of Denison University* (Volume 57, 1980, pp. 1-57). The story is detailed. Only a few bits of intrigue can be offered here.

1. The first of the "Holy Stones" to be found was the "Keystone," dug from the Newark earthworks near the Octagon mound in 1860. Its general shape is illustrated in figure 3. Lettering occurred on the front, back, and both sides (my photo was not clear enough to give you the exact lettering). It is five-plus inches high and over one inch thick. The material was novaculite, used in whetstones. The inscriptions were rated well-done by early observers. The negative reactions to the stone's authenticity ranged from the stone having too fresh an appearance, to the letters being "bungling imitations," to the whole affair being an obvious hoax by an idle youth.

2. The second stone was found under more amazing circumstances. Southwest of Jacksontown, Ohio there had been a very large "Stone Mound" composed of rocks of unrecorded size (probably fairly small) and covering an area perhaps 180 feet in diameter. The stones were hauled away in the 1830's to serve as fill in a reservoir dike. The mound provided 10,000-plus wagon-loads. Under the stones were several earthen mounds. One of them was dug in 1850. Beneath the outer-earth layer was a stone arch (see figure 4), then more earth, then a purposely structured area of fine white fire clay. Within the clay area were several objects: a slab of wood, some copper rings, a hollowed-out "coffin" of wood, and then (later) on a second dig, a stone box of a sandstone-type material, within which was sequestered the "Decalogue Stone."

The Decalogue Stone was far more elaborate than the Keystone, showing a figure of Moses(?) and elaborate shaping with Hebrew letters on all surfaces and ridges. The lettering seemed to be the 10 commandments. Of course everything was labelled a hoax. Perhaps it was...at least the finding of a second Hebraic Holy Stone so soon is rather "convenient," but who knows? The ignored element in the story is that the

huge stone mound *did* exist, and the earlier amateur dig which discovered its structure had nothing to do or say about "holy stones." That earlier dig showed a burial structure (with the white fire clay) intriguingly like early Scandinavian and Bog-people cultures. So what do we make of that?

3. More inscribed stones arose...too many for this author to be comfortable with. The "inscribed head," the weirdly carved "Cooperstone," the "Johnsonstone," the "Brush Creek Stone," and a last entry from Newark in 1969. Was this a European colony or missionary outpost in mediaeval times or earlier? Did Scandinavian or Celtic monks press into the prairies of North America? Or did one oddball making a hoax cause others to follow suit?

The answer is, as usual, no answer. And, also as usual, it is no answer due to two main causes: untrained individuals undisciplinedly botching up the discovery and data-gathering process, and trained individuals having too many hang-ups to properly pursue their part of the job.

Supposedly some of the stones have been examined by archaeologists in Utah in 1967, under the interests of the Mormon Church. Professor Alruz has been unable to get any data on these alleged studies. Oriental Studies faculty of Johns Hopkins feel that the characters on the stones are too modern for a mediaeval (or earlier) "author." We should admire the Johns Hopkins faculty for bothering to look when so many others won't even do that.

The third presentation was by professional archaeologist, Robert Pyle. He works the hills and by-ways of West Virginia and is a man with the "magic touch." West Virginia is an uncovered gold mine for archaeology, and Mr. Pyle knows how to find that gold. His discoveries of greatest interests to us (me, at least) involve cave etchings and pictographs. Several rock areas seem to have ancient writing or sketching on them...perhaps *Celtic* writing.

The writing involved seems to be "ogham," an ancient Celtic script composed of lines diverging above, below and across a central master line. The simplest alphabet would appear as in figure 5 (vowels usually omitted), and an inscription of a concept might be as follows:



or simpler yet:



This text has been translated "D-D H-G M-C T-F," "Daiddi hog maca tafan," or "fathers and sons hunting" (and was accompanied by an appropriate pictograph of four hunters at the Pacific coast site where it was found — well, that's ogham in British Columbia, what about West Virginia?).

In Wyoming county, West Virginia are inscriptions carved into sandstone rockfaces very ogham-like in character. The "local" archaeologists, such as Robert Pyle think that they are. The controversial Harvard language-master Barry Fell thinks that they are. Now Professor of Celtic Studies at Catholic University, Robert Meyer, agrees. The glyphs are in the old Irish ogham of around 500 A.D. When compared to Irish glyphs native to the Emerald Isle, they are difficult to distinguish. Professor Fell translated part of the inscription as a "calendar notice," saying that sunlight would strike the

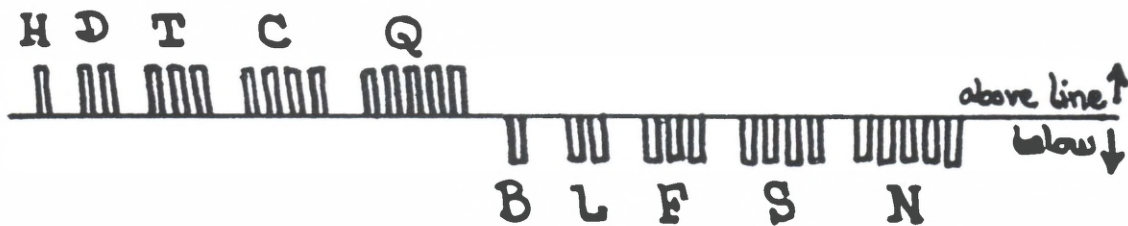


Figure 5

"Standard" Stemline Ogam
without the simple vowels.

rockface at sunrise on the winter solstice (the old Christmas Day). When the local archaeologists went back to check, a shaft of light passed a notch in the rocky overhand and first illuminated a "sun symbol" next to the inscription (see figure 6), and then raced across the whole text.* Well...wow.

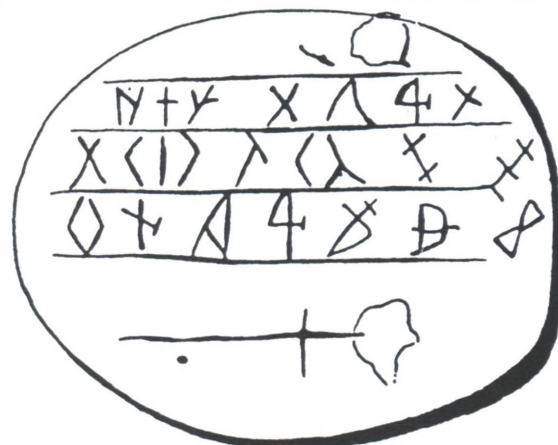


a small portion of the Wyoming
County petroglyphs containing
the astronomical "Sun-burst".

Figure 6

The Wyoming county petroglyphs are not alone. More are at Horse Creek. More are at Beard's Fork. Who knows how many are scattered in the green hills of the mountain state. Something's going on here, folks, maybe something big. Did St. Brendan make that trip after all? Did a lot of transoceanic voyaging really go on? Were there Kellys, McGees and O'Hallihans in the green hills of West Virginia in the European dark ages? Did they bring a little bit of Stonehenge wisdom with them? As a West Virginian (by upbringing) and an Irishman (by ancestry), I rather like the whole idea. We haven't proved it yet but by my shamrock there may be Fortean gold in them thar hills.

Robert Pyle is an amazing talent. He is exactly the right man for the job: talented, dedicated, professional, unbiased, and with the uncanny knack of "licking over a rock" and finding an archaeological treasure under it (he stooped over on a path near the Great Circle mound and picked up a quite old piece of patined copper, shaped like half a popsicle stick...to



the Grave Creek Tablet.

Figure 7

my great amazement). He has uncovered all sorts of anomalies including a curious double boiler (pot-in-a-pot) and a stone with Iberian-type (ancient Spanish) writing on it. Furthermore, his indefatigable researches may have located the present possessor of the famous Grave Creek tablet — the message-stone from the great conical Grave Creek mound in Moundsville, W. Va., which stone has been missing for many decades. This stone, seemingly written in Punic (Phoenician) using Iberian alphabet may, it seems now, just be genuine. Finding it "in the original" may help determine that.

So, the Times and the Visions are a changin'. Go for it Messers Wall, Alrutz and Pyle, and let us see what we can see. Helping in the cause, as usual, is **PURSUIT** and the other organizations open to the potential of the "odd anomaly" which doesn't fit. The ISCBM is a fledgling group dedicated to part of our story. We wish them good hunting and Godspeed. If any of the readership are interested they may contact Dr. David Griffard at *HORUS*, P.O. Box 7074, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15212. Membership is \$15 for 3 annual issues.

*See **PURSUIT** Vol. 19, No. 3 p. 134



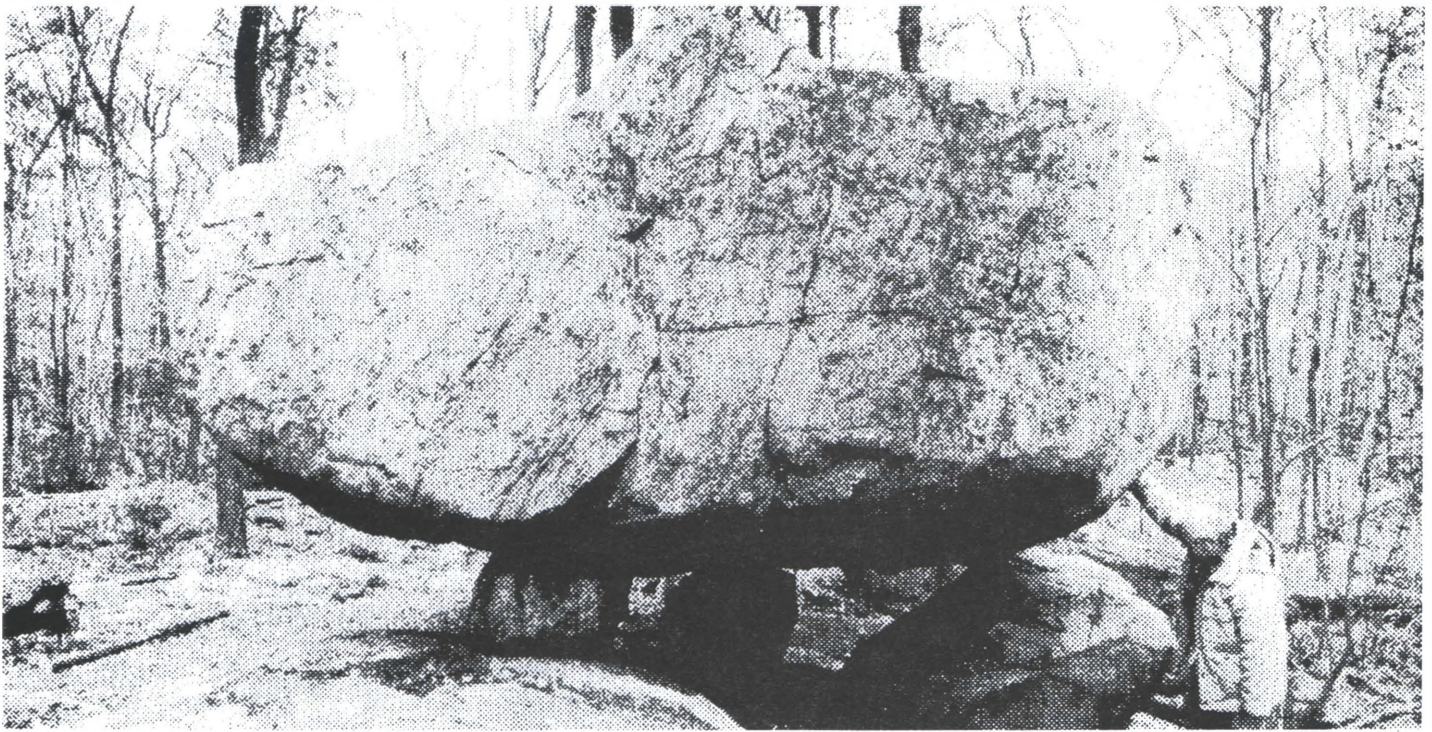


photo credit: Richard Raska

A member of 'Committee to Save Pyramid Mountain' looks over Tripod Rock

Related SITUATION

Megalith in Kinnelon, New Jersey

200-ton slab of rock becomes a symbol

An hour's walk from the nearest car, road, or backyard it sits — a 200-ton whodunnit, perched smack dab in the middle of one of Morris County's fastest growing areas.

It's Tripod Rock, a huge slab of rock — gneiss to be specific — balanced neatly on three small boulders on a slope of sylvan Pyramid Mountain in Kinnelon.

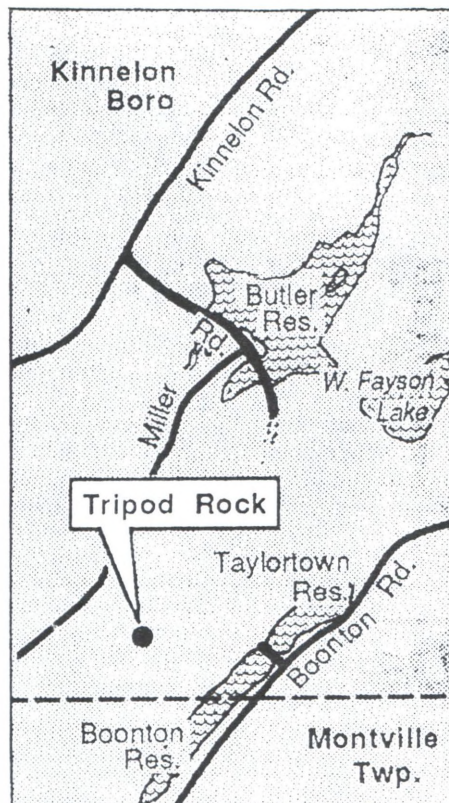
The mystery starts when you start asking how it got there.

Most geologists say it is the most spectacular of several "glacial erratics" in the area. A number of archeologists contend the site is nothing less than New Jersey's Stonehenge; a rare and important historic site.

Whatever it is and however it got there, Tripod Rock and the hundreds of wooded acres around it are more than a local oddity attracting weekend hikers and scientists, who use it as a living laboratory for the many species of plants, birds and other wildlife found there.

In the last year it has become a touchstone for Morris County's future, a symbol of preservation amid the frenzy of encroaching development, said several groups fighting to preserve the area and the mystery of Tripod Rock.

Geologists explain the larger rock probably made a balanced three-point landing on the boulders during the Ice Age some 30,000 to 40,000 years ago, when the Wisconsin Glacier scraped its way south from Canada, ripping up the continent in the process and depositing jagged rock in unlikely places.



Star-Ledger graphic

Map of Tripod Rock location in Kinnelon, NJ

A number of archeologists in the state, however, believe Tripod Rock is more than a freak of nature.

Some archeologists say Tripod Rock could be a dolmen, or stone table, constructed as a memorial to an ancient Indian chief or to commemorate an event of some importance thousands of years ago. Hundreds of ancient Indian artifacts have been found at or near the site, which may have served as a sort of solar observation site.

Near Tripod Rock is another quirky making of either man or nature. Two boulders viewed from a third rock that has a V-shaped depression in it form an alignment with the setting sun on the summer solstice — the longest day of the year.

Archeologists, geologists and local activists agree it is one of the state's least-researched and most important sites, and it should be saved from the crush of real estate development that has been sweeping the North Jersey region for decades.

Running through the region is its primary access route, the 7½-mile-long Butler-Montville Trail, which is maintained by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and links Morris County to the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail.

SOURCE: by Bill Gannon in the Sunday *Star-Ledger*, NJ 11/9/86

CREDIT: Martin Wiegler



Report on Two Conferences

by Robert C. Warth

SYMPOSIUM '86 was held on Oct. 18 & 19 in Providence, RI. Generally, it was a well-organized conference that was sponsored by The Light Ages Foundation, Inc. in conjunction with *Psychic Guide* magazine. The topics included the developing of psychic abilities, past life regression, clairvoyance, ancient mysteries, spirit channeling, near-death experiences, spirit healing, Earth changes and British Spiritualism.

William Tenuto: *Discovering Your Psychic Abilities*, was the first speaker who allegedly had channeled the late John Lennon of Beatles fame. This talk fell a bit flat and certainly did not "show you how to open up your full psychic potential" as the program stated that Mr. Tenuto would do for the audience.

Then Peter Close: *Spiritualism — Alive, Well and Very Popular in Great Britain*, who is a former English policeman demonstrated, after a brief lecture, his psychic ability to contact the spirit world by passing along messages from departed friends or relatives on the "other side" to a dozen or so of the several hundred persons in the audience. This is always a delight to attendees and, while some vague or questionable contacts were made, other messages were quite specific and detailed to make the demonstration rather convincing.

Ruth Montgomery: *Herald of the New Age*, was the major attraction, not only because she is the author of 10 best-selling books but in recent years she has made fewer public appearances than previously. She described how automatic writing changed her life as a Washington, D.C. columnist and interviewer of U.S. Presidents since F.D. Roosevelt to a writer on such subjects as reincarnation, psychic healing, clairvoyance, Walk-Ins and aliens here on Earth to help us through the predicted cataclysm she said is expected around 2000 A.D.

Mark DeMaranville: *Forward, Into the Past — The Re-emergence of Ancient Technologies*, president of the Light Ages Foundation gave a talk on ancient sites and natural energy centers in various geographical areas around the Earth that he visited and studied. He discussed some of the ancient mysteries that defy present-day scientific explanation.

Ending the first day's talk was Dr. Raymond Moody: *Life After Life — Recent Findings on the Near Death Experience*, one of the pioneer authors on this subject. His good sense of humor made his lecture on these serious subjects 'lively.'

The first demonstration on day two was an alleged psychic channel by Auriloitha: *The Ageless Truths*. This young lady had her devotees in the audience but there were a number of skeptics, too, who doubted she was really channeling to some lofty, unearthy spirit. As the person next to me noted, "if she is the channel between a question from a member of the audience and the Guide why does she say 'I didn't hear the question'? Can't we presume the Guide did?" An interesting point.

Then John White: *Earth Changes and the Pole Shift — Birth of a New Age?*, gave his talk. John's talk was basically the text of the article we printed in the last issue of *PURSUIT*. The audience was very receptive to his concept. His books include *Pole Shift* and *A Practical Guide to Death and Dying*.

Dr. James Windsor: *Exploring Your Past Lives — The Theory and Practice of Hypnotic Regression*, is president of the Edgar Cayce Foundation and also Atlantic University. His lecture was a fine presentation on the subject. It included his investigation of his own past lives and credence for at least one.

Elwood Babbitt: *Spirit of the New Age*, is a colorful character and was quite popular with the audience. It is claimed he has in the past channeled with numerous spirit entities including John F. Kennedy, Mark Twain, Winston Churchill, Gandhi, Abe Lincoln, Nostradamus, etc. In this session, three of the entities were virtual unknowns and the fourth was ole 'blood and guts' himself, General George S. Patton — so we were told. It was well known that, on the battlefield, Patton generously salted his conversation with four-letter words. It is remarkable that George knew, now, he had a mixed audience and

kept his political commentary to a dull rambling in a channeled voice that, just some how, sounded to this reviewer more like George C. Scott than the real Patton I remember. Oh well, maybe I'm cynical or even envious that one performer can have contacted so many celebrities and former world leaders.

Paul Zuromski, Editor & Publisher of *Psychic Guide* magazine did a fine job as moderator of SYMPOSIUM '86.

• • •

The Fourth International Congress on Interdisciplinary Discussion of Border-area Problems of Science was held in Basel, Switzerland, Oct. 30 — Nov. 2, 1986. The Theme: "Exotic Psi — Paranormal Phenomena in Other Cultures." The conference was translated simultaneously in German, French and English.

Some of the speakers were: Martin Ebon, New York, USA, writer; Dr. Walter A. Frank, University of Bonn, Germany, who is an expert on shamanism; Dr. Sigrid Lechner-Knecht, Freiburg, Germany, writer; Rudolf Passian, Baumgarten, Germany, writer; Dr. Christian Ratsch, Hamburg, Germany, Ethnologist; Ekkehard Schroder, Saarbrücken-Scheidt, Germany, psychiatrist; Prof. Dr. Meinhard Schuster, Basel, Switzerland, Head of the Ethnological Seminary of the University of Basel; Jun Agpaoa Cruz, Dagupan-City, Philippines, healer; Dr. Edson de Queiroz, Sao Paulo, Brazil, trance-surgeon; Chief Dr. Esho, Lagos, Nigeria, physician; Ivor James, Cambridge, England, spiritualist; Charlotte A. Green Kayendres, California, USA, Mohawk indian; David Oligane, Asingan, Philippines, healer; Juan Perez, Guajira, Colombia, shamanist; Aulikki and Seppo, Kasiniemi, Finland, mediums; Dr. Jerzy Rejmer, University of Warsaw, Poland, bioenergy therapist.

Moderators also attending: Dr. Hans Debrunner, Switzerland; Louis W. Georges, Switzerland; Dr. Manfred Kremser, Austria; Dr. Hans Naegeli, Switzerland; Rolf Olsen, Germany; Madeleine Riedel-Michel, Switzerland; Irma Weisen, Finland; Dr. Elisabeth Studer, Switzerland.

There were six workshops that were run simultaneously making it somewhat difficult to review all that was going on. The ones of particular interest were: Dr. Jerzy Rejmer who was able to psychically determine the physical problems of various patients selected from the audience; Chief Dr. Esho from Nigeria described the various methods that a chief medicine man from Africa uses to heal persons with ailments that are brought to him; somewhat of a disappointment was Charlotte A. Green Kayendres who was extremely stage-shy and obviously not used to speaking in front of an audience — it was unfortunate since there is a great deal of interest in American Indian lore in Europe.

But by far the greatest attractions of the convention were the psychic surgeon Dr. Edson de Queiroz and psychic healer Jun Agpaoa Cruz. Dr. de Queiroz performed surgery through the deceased doctor "Dr. Fritz" in front of numerous cameras and on two large display screens. There were dozens of medical doctors who came up on the stage to witness, first hand, the surgery that was performed without anesthesia or even conventional, antiseptic conditions. The patients obviously were subjected to a minimum of pain during the entire procedures and while results could not be fully determined during the time of the conference they will be forthcoming and the details written up for professional medical reviews.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES IN 1987

U.S. Psychotronics Assoc. conference will be held July 29-Aug. 2 in Golden, Colorado. Write: USPA, 3459 Montrose Ave., Chicago, IL 60618 or call Bob Beutlich (312-728-8941).

The Ancient Astronaut Soc. conference will be held Sept. 10-12 in Novi Vinodolski, Yugoslavia or call Gene Philips (312-295-8899).



Letters to the Editors

We encourage readers' comments for this column. We cannot publish all of the many letters we receive but we try to give a cross section of the various viewpoints.

To be used, letters must be signed by name or membership number.

Dear Editor:

I read with interest the article on European Yetis by Ulrich Magin in **PURSUIT**, 19, #2 and I found his discourse a bit confusing. He says that the European Yeti doesn't exist, yet it is not clear on what basis he defines existence. (To be or not to be...). If he means that a being "exists" only if it is part of our known and real biology system, then I would like to suggest that no Yeti, anywhere, "exists." The same applies to Bigfoot, as well, no matter in what country.

Yet, these creatures continue to be reported — they leave tracks, feces, and knock over things. Occasionally, even a bus-load of tourists see them. Magin mentions "creatures from the other side" with some distain, but I think that the simple peasants of Europe perhaps knew more than Magin does. First, if there is a "goblin world," there is no guarantee that every critter that visits us has to be the same, just to please our prejudices and preconceptions. The appearance may change from visit to visit. We know nothing about the "other side," nor anything about its laws of physics or biology, if any even exist.

I put it to Ulrich Magin that Yetis "exist" all over, but they exist on a basis that we know little of, and do not yet(i) understand. As an earthly biological being, Yetis don't exist, but as a life force that we are mystified by, they do. Last, after enduring several pages of condescension by the author, and judgmental "discounting" and disallowing of the reports of various European citizens, the final straw was his disallowing the report of a three-year stay of a bum in the trees of Vienna's city park. For Mr. Magin's information, two men lived in a grove of trees in the center of Vancouver's main park for four years, and they were only discovered when some tree cutters felled one of the trees that hid their hermit shack. I for one, do not discount either the Vancouver story — or the Vienna one. Truth *is* stranger than fiction.

—Jim E. Westman

Dear Editor:

This planetary grid system and harmonic math is a four lane highway into the occult. It is the system by which magic may be reduced to engineering. As long as you keep printing articles like "The Planetary Grid Revisited" (and I hope you do), you will have one foot in science and one in religion. Perhaps, instead of religion, I should use the word etherical because when we say religion in this country everyone usually thinks of the traditional religion.

I told you all this so that I could tell you the following. Archetypes. Yes I'm going to work archetypes back to the planetary grid. On page 89 in **PURSUIT** 19, #2, is a SITUation entitled "Ghost of Zeppelin Hindenburg Sighted." Let's take it for granted that the zeppelin *was* in fact sighted and leave alone the question of whether or not it was "really" there. You see, the Hindenburg is an archetype of disaster in general and of the ghost ship more specifically. There are several ways to class it but let's try this general group: HMS Titanic, Hindenburg, Challenger — ten letters all. Hindsight can point out the first two as being not only a disaster but also an

omen of disaster. Case A, the fall of the British Empire due to WWI. Case B, the fall of the Third Reich due to WWII. In Case C, we may speculate as to the ominous qualities of the American space shuttle disaster. The quintessential ghost ship is however the Flying Dutchman. Now, to extend this game of quality comparisons, we could say that Captain DeLuca, in reviewing Der Fuhrer's pride, had seen the Flying Deutcheman! Bad omen! If I had been in the captain's shoes I'd have been scared silly.

Okay, now let's get down to business. "Omen" is another name for synchronicity, which is another name for timing which is another name for position in four-dimensional space. This brings us back to Mr. A. W. Davie's assertion that the quality of a given space at a given time can be determined by its geometrical relationship to the world grid system. The Sinkiewicz article indicates that Mr. Davie is many years ahead of the rest of us in his field of study. By applying his techniques, or similar ones, to crucial and archetypal historic events and locations, one could both strengthen this new science and discover the more basic connections between synchronistic and serial events. But here is the important part. Compare the harmonics of the actual Hindenburg to those in effect at the exact time and place of the DeLucas sighting of the Phantom Hindenburg. This would expose the mechanics of a time warp. In other words, if you numerically compare the phantom to a real voyage, a good mathematician should be able to spot and codify the shifts in the grid that bring on a time inversion. The same math will tell you, for instance, when *not* to fly through the Bermuda Triangle.

I feel that the earth grid harmonics are, with all their ramifications, about the only game in town and I for one will be glad to see you put forth, in future issues, all the information you can get along these lines (no pun intended!).

P.S. After finishing this letter, I sealed it up and went to relax with a bit of TV. What was on? Why "The Hindenburg" with George C. Scott and Ann Bancroft, what else? We weren't talking about Mary Poppins were we? "The Hindenburg" was aired about 9 p.m., channel 27 on December 22. The last scene depicts the ship disappearing into a cloud bank.

—Wayne Rice

Dear Editor:

"UFO Intervention — The Possibility" in **PURSUIT** 19, #2 by R. Perry Collins was informative in its listing of specific incidents. The author's conclusion, however, that aliens are studying our military capabilities with the intention of preventing our self-destruction, remains unproven — the babblings of the contactees notwithstanding. Even if UFOs are spacecraft, a strong case can as easily be made that their purpose is to learn whether our technology poses a threat for their invasion force. (Let's not ignore the reports of UFO hostility.)

We alone are responsible for the mess the world is in. Don't expect some Outside Force to clean it up for us.

—Kim L. Neidigh

Dear Editor:

I would like to point out two incorrect statements in the last issue of your excellent publication (vol. 19, #2, second quarter of 1986).

The first appears on page 63 in the title of Dr. Hynek's obituary, where it is indicated that he was the "Director of the Blue Book Project." As it is well known in ufological circles, Dr. Hynek was not the director, but just the astronomical consultant for Project Blue Book. As the years went by, he became more and more disenchanted with the way the Air Force was handling the situation and realized that behind the barrage of reports lay an important phenomenon. This led, later on, to his founding of the Center for UFO Studies in 1973.

I had the privilege of working very closely with Dr. Hynek on the UNICAT Project, which we created and developed from 1984 until his death, which was his last research endeavor. The UNICAT Project is continued today by myself and a group of more than 60 dedicated associates, here and abroad, and it is totally independent of CUFOs.

The second item is perhaps not so important, but opens fascinating prospects. Your collaborator Fred Bobb, writing about the penetration of the Brazilian airspace on the night of May 19, 1986, refers to the lights that played with the fighter planes for about three hours as "colored ping-pong balls," and quotes his source for this statement as a UPI dispatch dated May 24, 1986.

The interesting thing is that the label "ping-pong balls" was created by the wire services, and not even immediately following the incident, as the date of the dispatch shows. While preparing a rather extensive article about this sighting*, I consulted almost a hundred clippings from Brazilian newspapers and in none of them could I find any reference to ping-pong balls. Moreover, there are no words in the original Portuguese that could erroneously be translated as "ping-pong balls." On the other hand, the term appears "ad nauseam" in clippings from Europe and other South American countries, where indeed it was picked up from the wire services.

The question is then: Was this an accident, a prank of an unnamed and irresponsible Brazilian stringer having a little fun, or was it a deliberate effort to discredit the sighting a few days after the events? If one adds to this the fact that a large number of dubious "cases" — and in many instances bogus cases — happened to occur in the following days, it seems as if someone were orchestrating a "debunking" symphony.

—Dr. Willy Smith

*see MUFON UFO Journal, No. 221, Sept., 1986, p. 4.

Editor's Note: Dr. Smith submitted an excellent report on the Brazilian UFO sightings mentioned above. The date of arrival, unfortunately, is often a determining factor in using an article or report in PURSUIT.

Dear Editor:

I would like to compliment Mr. Patterson on an excellent article on "Water Monsters" in *PURSUIT* 19, #2.

There is one point I have to question. He says that the Dinsdale film shows an object up to 90 feet long. According to JARIC (Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre), in *The Great Orm of Loch Ness*, Mr. Holiday says that a cross-section of this object would not be less than 6 feet wide and 5 feet high. Also, the extremes of the length of the object could be *only* from twelve to sixteen feet high.

—Howie Pine

Dear Editor:

Oh no — not the *Tullimonstrum gregarium* again! I am writing in response to John Patterson's interesting article on Nessie in *PURSUIT*, #74. The article gives much good background information, but makes a number of errors. For example, Herman Regusters did not shoot 23 rolls of film of Telly the lake monster of Lake Telle (Congo), also known as Mokele M'bembe — just one photo was taken of it. The 23 rolls of film were of the entire trip. As far as the *Tullimonstrum* goes, I frankly think that writers seize on the idea because the word "monstrum" is found in the name, i.e. monster. This ancient worm was measured in *inches* and it is a huge stretch of the imagination to speculate that it grew up to 60 feet long somehow and managed to get to Loch Ness or to Falmouth. What Patterson glosses over is one of F.W. Holiday's better ideas — that Nessie and other "dragons" of like ilk in lakes or in the sea, are visitors from a possible parallel dimension, which explains why they are seen, they are even seen eating, but they are never captured or dug up.

There is in my opinion, and in Holiday's, a category of para-animals (seeming animals) that defy capture or close study or even recovery of remains. They inhabit the "Goblin Universe" that staunch traditional zoologists like Dr. Roy Mackal of the International Society of Cryptozoology are doing their best to deny, and they, I speculate, "pop thru" from time to time, and are seen here. Whales and all kinds of large sea creatures die and wash up on shore eventually. Sea monsters and the like never do, or if they do, they are never recovered for certain and retained. (One exception *might* be the bones of the "Stronsa Beast" of 1808, held in the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh, I hope a local SITU member will hie himself there and investigate). I would be delighted to be proven wrong. Meanwhile, I offer once again my own definition of cryptozoology, which the editor of the journal of the ISC will not permit to be mentioned within its august pages. It is: "Cryptozoology is the search for undiscovered and uncaught animals, creatures and entities."

To clarify, the search for new sub-species and even for living dinosaurs (crocodiles are an example) is simply *zoology*. There is nothing particularly "crypto" about it. A naturalist, an amateur, a degree zoologist are all equally capable of looking for something new. You need not be a "cryptozoologist" to make a search. Where cryptozoologists differ is that they spend much of their time looking, not for new sub-species of wild pigs, or cougars, but for Bigfoot/Yeti type creatures, lake or sea monsters, Mothman-creatures, large black panthers, large black dogs (UK) and the para-pterodactyl called "Big Bird." We have hunted for Bigfoot since the time of Grendel, for sea monsters for as long as men have gone to sea in ships, and still no solid evidence has ever been found and kept. (UK members could dig up the soccer field however, that used to be a dump site near the river Clyde, mentioned as the burial site of a sea monster in Arthur C. Clarke's *Mysterious World*, p. 81.) The same goes for the other crypto-animals listed above. As I have told Richard Greenwell, the salaried editor/treasurer of the ISC, I would be delighted to be proven wrong, but each year that goes on, with more and more scientific and not-so-scientific expeditions going out after these crypto-beasties, produces no more evidence than before, except for a photo or two here and there. Furthermore, there is something "Fortean" about how these expeditions (such as the ill-fated Gibbons expedition to Lake Telle after Mokele M'bembe) run into bad luck, jammed cameras, greedy customs-men, and a general run-around, the closer

they get to their goal. I put it to readers and to cryptozoologists of all persuasions that the best evidence we will get for Yeti/sea monsters/Big Bird crypto-beasts will be photos, not bones, and these will be taken by a little girl with a plastic camera — not by any cryptozoologist. In fact, this has happened — Marion Schubert in 1978 (Bigfoot) and Jennifer Bruce in 1981 (Nessie). Both used 110 type plastic cameras. Both did it by accident, although Ms. Bruce called out “Here Nessie, here Nessie” before snapping her photo. With both ladies, nothing was seen when they snapped their shots. What can we learn then? Is Nessie a Tully-monster grown to 60 feet, or is she a dimensional traveller? I vote the latter. Opinions may be sent to the Cryptozoological Museum (in progress) 18711 PCH, Malibu, CA 90265.

—Jon Erik Beckjord

Dear Editor:

I, John W. Patterson (author of “Legends At The Doorstep of Discovery — Another Look at Water Monsters” *PURSUIT* 19, #2) do solemnly swear, that I am indeed myself and *not* the other person of the same aforementioned name, [re: Letters to the Editor, *PURSUIT*, Vol. 18, #4] who is *anti*-creationism and does not trust the realm of the supernatural.

I *support* the creationist viewpoint(s) and *do* believe in the supernatural. I hope the other John W. Patterson will excuse the ensuing confusion. Consider it only more of an odd opportunity to actively redefine the different axes to be ground.

Synchronicity is really coincidental.

—John W. Patterson

Dear Editor:

Zecharia Sitchin, in his books and articles, explains events in ancient history such as astronauts from another planet (known by the earth people as ‘Gods’) were the ones that warned the builder of the ark to prepare for the great flood. For from the vantage of their spaceships and with their advanced technology they had detected that the Antarctic polar ice-cap was about to slip into the sea. Charles Berlitz, in his latest book *Atlantis*, steers away from the ancient astronaut theory and suggests that the sinking of Atlantis was the origin of the great flood myths.

I would venture to suggest the possibility that both theories can be right and be seen to work together. Atlantis sinking into the sea could have created such a giant wave with an easterly course which would take it across the Mediterranean. Reaching the end of that sea, a large portion of this wave could have been directed down the Red Sea and washed old Noah (or whoever) right out into the Indian Ocean far from the sight of land.

The shock waves from the Atlantean cataclysm could have begun the motion of the south-polar ice cap which after say, forty days, could have suddenly accelerated and slipped quickly into the sea in the direction of the Indian Ocean and Noah’s Ark. This wave (even larger than the one from Atlantis) could have washed the Ark (though it would have had to have been a submarine as Sitchin suggests) back up to Mesopotamia and onto the top of a mountain.

I would like to know what Charles Berlitz thinks of Sitchin’s theories.

—Michael Ludwig

SITU Welcomes Two New Scientific Advisory Board Members

Dr. Stuart W. Greenwood

Dr. Greenwood is Operations Manager of the University Research Foundation with over 30 years experience in industrial and academic activities, mainly in the field of aircraft and missile propulsion. He received a B.Sc. (Eng) from the University of Bristol (England), an M.Eng. from McGill University and a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland. His industrial experience includes gas turbine component development at the de Havilland Engine Company and as a Senior Technical Engineer in the Ramjet Development Department at Bristol Aero Engines. He worked on engine development on the Thor ramjet for the Bloodhound SAM, and was responsible for the project design of the High Altitude Ramjet Engine Test Facility. He later took up the position of Market Research Manager of the Aero Division of Bristol Siddeley Engines. Dr. Greenwood has conducted an analysis of augmenting Pegasus VTOL thrust at lift-off, and a survey of engine test plant instrumentation requirements for a major aircraft engine test installation.

Dr. Greenwood has taught fluid mechanics and propulsion at the College of Aeronautics, Cranfield, the University of Manitoba (as Chairman of the Thermodynamics Group) and the University of Maryland. He has a long-standing interest in rocket propulsion, and served for 9 years as a Member of the Council of the British Interplanetary Society.

Dr. Michael D. Swords

Dr. Swords is Professor of Natural Science at the College of General Studies of Western Michigan University. He received a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Notre Dame, an M.S. in Biochemistry (with minors in Organic Chemistry and the History and Philosophy of Science) from Iowa State University, an M.S. Program in History of Science (with minors in U.S. History and Philosophy of Science) (thesis: “The Reception of the Wave Theory of Physics in the 19th Century Popular Press”), also from Iowa State University and a Ph.D. in History of Science and Technology (with minors in History of Chemistry and British Intellectual History) (thesis: “The Chemical Philosophy of Thomas Graham”) from Case Western Reserve University.

Besides accepting SITU’s offer to join our Scientific Advisory Board, Dr. Swords has also received requests to serve as general science writer for MUFON, to serve as editor for the reconstitution of the CUFOS *Journal of UFO Studies* and to write a book chapter on the physiology and structure of the brain as it relates to types of intelligence — all this apart from his regular professional teaching requirements.

Both Drs. Greenwood and Swords, besides writing articles on various Fortean topics, have written numerous papers for technical journals relating to their professional work.



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).

Spooks Skedaddle; Family Credit Prayer

A family in West Pittston, PA that contended its home was haunted said Monday the abusive demons that turned their lives into a nightmare apparently have fled because of their prayers.

The Smurl family's dark tale of physical abuse at the hands of unseen demons and other bizarre supernatural activity drew an army of reporters, psychic researchers and the curious to their modest duplex last summer.

"It's like a different home now. We're not afraid to go to sleep at night," said Janet Smurl, 39.

A statement prepared by Janet, her husband, Jack, and their four daughters said that for several weeks, "All has been quiet in (the) home, and it would appear (the) problem has been resolved."

The family attributed the elimination of the demons to the intercession of the Virgin Mary.

SOURCE: UPI in *The Detroit News*, MI 10/10/86

CREDIT: Bill Kingsley via COUD-I

Editor's Note: *The preceeding is an update of a SITUation that appeared in PURSUIT, Vol. 19, #2, p. 141.*

Riddle of Dead Girl who Spoke

A girl aged 13 who gave a "message from heaven" after apparently dying has caused a sensation in Italy.

Beatrice Fuca, who had been in a deep coma, opened her eyes and told her parents: "I have been to a marvelous country."

She spoke for 20 minutes — even though doctors had said she was dead. Then she slipped back into a coma and finally died.

Villagers at Foligno in central Italy are hailing the affair as a miracle.

SOURCE: *Daily Express*, England 12/31/86

CREDIT: David Rossiter via COUD-I

True Believers

More than half the college students in three states believe God created Adam and Eve and about one-third believe in aliens, Big Foot and the lost city of Atlantis, say researchers at the University of Texas in Arlington. Students who believe in creationism tend to be more politically conservative and have a lower grade point average than students who don't, says the study of 1,000 students in Texas, Connecticut and California.

SOURCE: *USA Today* 11/3/86

CREDIT: Eric Helwig via COUD-I

Psychic Predicts Verdict in Trial

A woman who described herself as a psychic and was excused from a jury after announcing she already knew the verdict predicted in a sealed note to the judge that the defendant would be found guilty, and he was.

Daryl Keith Pitts, 18, was convicted Thursday of burglary, two days after District Judge Robert Fullerton released Lynette Todd from jury duty. Todd, in a note that Fullerton kept sealed in his desk, predicted the outcome.

SOURCE: AP in *The Denver Capital Times*, CO 7/18/86

CREDIT: Eric Helwig via COUD-I

Haunting Mystery at Oakhill Flat

An elderly couple from Rotherham, England, are living in fear of what they think is a visitor from another dimension who has taken up residence in their Oakhill Council flat.

Albert and Ivy Cardwell who moved to their ground floor home at Knightwood Place just a few weeks ago say they have been witness to a series of incidents which they think may be of supernatural origin.

The incidents began when disabled Mrs. Cardwell was woken by what appeared to be loud knocking and scratchings on the outside wall of the main bedroom. This was followed by a sharp drop in temperature though the heating system seemed to be working normally.

Her husband and son Kevin also heard the noises on separate occasions but despite checks on water pipes and other appliances the source remained a mystery.

More alarming still for Mrs. Cardwell was the ghostly apparition, seemingly the faint silhouette of a woman. It disappeared when she tried to alert her husband in an adjoining room, which she is said to have seen while sitting alone in the living room of her home a few nights later.

Several other people visiting the flat including a priest and a caretaker, according to the couple, have also heard the noises.

"It's just as though someone or something is trying to get to us," says Mr. Cardwell. "It's really frightening at night. In fact it's making my wife ill."

Now they hope that Council officials will be sympathetic to their plight and investigate the situation further.

"We love the flat and really wanted to come here. But this has spoiled it all," says Mr. Cardwell.

SOURCE: *Record*, England 8/28/86

CREDIT: Stephen Pratt via COUD-I

Ape Terrorizes Women

A frustrated, lovesick ape, apparently seeking a mate, has been terrorizing women at Sonepat in the northern Indian state of Haryana for the past few weeks, the United News of India news agency reported here yesterday.

The beast regularly pursues women through the main street of the town, and has sunk its teeth into at least two dozen so far. All attempts by police to catch the animal have failed.

Hindu townspeople who believe in reincarnation are explaining the ape's behavior by saying that the animal had the soul of a frustrated lover and was therefore attacking women, the news agency said.

SOURCE: *Asbury Park Press*, NJ 11/18/86

CREDIT: Nancy Warth

Man Awake From Coma Credits Mother's Will

A man who awoke from a 14-month coma said Tuesday that his mother's determination pulled him through when doctors said he would not survive.

"She told me that a doctor wanted to put me in a nursing home and my mom went and got custody of me. ...She stood behind me 100 percent," 23-year-old Michael McClure said about his mother, Dottie.

McClure was being cared for at his family's Sheboygan home when he awoke July 14.

"I woke up and felt like I was in a deep sleep," he said Tuesday at Milwaukee's Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Hospital. "That was it, I had no idea I was out that long."

Physicians predicted McClure, who had been having fainting spells for about a year, would die when he slipped into the coma in May 1985.

McClure fell into the coma after undergoing surgery to have a drain tube placed in a brain cavity that was not draining properly, causing the fainting spells.

His doctor, Thim Nanda, said McClure was in a deep coma for as long as eight months before he began to regain motor functions and cognitive abilities.

"She got me up, moving around every day in a wheelchair," McClure said. "If I were in a nursing home, all I would probably have done is just lay there."

Mrs. McClure urged other parents not to institutionalize their ill children.

"I didn't, and he woke up," she said. **SOURCE:** AP in *The Joplin Globe*, MO 9/17/86

CREDIT: R. Nelke

Four Claim To Have Seen Big Cat

Four people claimed to have seen the Metro East area's elusive black leopard Sunday and Monday, according to police.

On Sunday, the animal was reported in an area south of Cahokia. Julie Schult, 19, reported seeing the big cat about 1:15 p.m. Sunday in a neighbor's back yard next to her home on Triple Lakes Road, between Cahokia and Millstadt.

On Monday afternoon, three more people claimed to have seen the cat, according to East Carondelet police.

All three of the sightings were in the area of Adams Road, south of Cahokia, police said. Animal-control wardens and law-enforcement officers were combing the area Monday night, hoping to capture the animal.

Schult said the animal was about the size of a large German shepherd dog. The cat was only 25 to 30 feet from her back door when she first saw it Sunday, but it quickly disappeared into woods behind a neighbor's property, she said.

Dr. Thomas Amlung, director of animal control for St. Clair County, said all the tracks found in the area were dog tracks. But he questioned Schult closely, and her report appeared to be valid, he said.

The cat has been spotted sporadically over about six months near East Carondelet, a small town across the Mississippi River from south St. Louis.

A man from East Carondelet reported hitting a large black cat with his car as he was driving home about 3 a.m. Dec. 18.

A plaster cast of a footprint was taken, and authorities at the St. Louis Zoo said it matched that of a leopard. Experts believe the animal is a black leopard that had been someone's exotic pet.

The animal is suspected of having killed three dogs on chains at their owners' homes near East Carondelet and of preying on stray dogs in the area. Authorities have no reports that the cat has harmed or threatened a person.

Triple Lakes Road is about three miles east of East Carondelet, and the cat would have had to go around Dupo to reach the area.

But Amlung said it would be logical for the cat to have moved east from the river bottoms into the bluffs and hills to the east. "There's plenty of game up in that area, and it's not too heavily populated," he said.

SOURCE: Robert Goodrich in The St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, MO 12/30/86

CREDIT: R. Nelke

DNR Sets Traps for Black Panther

State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff will set traps for a black panther sighted several times in the last three weeks in southern Clare County, police said.

The cat was spotted Nov. 15 between Harrison and Clare and has since been sighted in Lincoln Township near Silver Lake, said sheriff's department spokesman Ralph Groves.

Groves said DNR staff will try to trap the animal but police are prepared to shoot the cat if it endangers a life.

SOURCE: Detroit *News*, MI 12/2/86

CREDIT: Bill Kingsley via COUD-I

Hunt for Tiger, or Something, Stirrs Pennsylvania

There may or may not be a Bengal tiger loose around this part of northeastern Pennsylvania. But after watching local riflemen trying to hunt down whatever has been stirring alarms hereabouts.

George Lowry is director of the Nay Aug Park Zoo in nearby Scranton.

Meanwhile, the cat began to metamorphose. The man who first saw the animal on Sunday described it then as white or off-white, with black stripes, weighing 300 to 400 pounds. On Monday, he said that, no, the animal was brown with white spots.

And late Monday afternoon Gary Steier, a schoolteacher, was taking a break from yard work. He looked up, he says, and saw a huge, orange-colored cat at the edge of a wood some 500 yards from his home in Newton Township, just west of here. He said the animal stood nearly as tall as the grass nearby, which is shoulder- to head-high on a human.

"It's become three different animals in three days," Mr. Lowry said. "Any minute, I expect it to become Big Foot."

They are therefore relaxing because mountain lions, also known as pumas and cougars, are thought to be more afraid of people than people are of them. Mountain lions, which are tawny to rust in color and have no stripes or spots, were once common in the Northeast. According to Mr. Lowry, none have been sighted hereabout since early in the century.

But as regenerate Northeastern forests have become ever thicker in recent decades, other deep-woods animals that had long since disappeared — the beaver and black bear, for instance — are returning.

If the cat is a tiger, the police say, no one knows where it came from. Keepers of big cats in the area insist that it doesn't belong to them.

SOURCE: William K. Stevens in the *Times*, NY 7/29/86

CREDIT: Richard Rosenblatt via COUD-I

Beast Riddle

The Beast of Exmoor — identified by experts as a lynx — may have been spotted today between Halwell and Dartmouth.

A local farmer and a Brixham baker who crashed his car trying to avoid the animal on the main road have both complained to Dartmouth police.

The latest sighting early this morning was by Mr. John Richbell of Glenmore Road in Brixham. He hit a hedge near Norton Park Holiday Camp after the "very large and cat like" animal suddenly loped across the road in front of him.

Although the Exmoor beast has now been classified as a lynx, Mr. Richbell has described the Dartmouth beast as almost Alsatian dog size, dark brown or black and the same cat shape as a puma or black panther.

SOURCE: *Herald Express*, England 11/5/86

CREDIT: David Rossiter via COUD-I

Hair Shows Beast is Lynx

Hair from the Beast of Exmoor — or one of the beasts — identifies it as a lynx says one of its hunters.

Sheep are still being killed on Exmoor by unknown cat-like animals, at the rate of one a week.

At least one of the killers is a lynx, probably a European lynx, says Nigel Brierly, of Bishop's Nympton. He has been studying the killings and analyzing evidence for four years.

In the November issue of *Devon Farmer*, county journal of the National Farmers' Union, Mr. Brierly says hair from the side of sheep killed has been identified as coming from a lynx.

Because of the amount of meat eaten at several sites it is likely there are several animals — possibly a female and her kittens.

The lynx is cat-like and has tufted ears. A dark, puma-like animal has been sighted a number of times at various places on the Moor.

"Whether hybridization is taking place or they are merely running together is not known," Mr. Brierly wrote to *Devon Farmer* a year ago.

He said the beast is not a jaguar, panther, lioness or tiger.

SOURCE: *Western Morning News*, England 11/5/86

CREDIT: David Rossiter via COUD-I

Dingo Man on 'Beast' Trail

A star witness in the famous Australian "dingo baby" trial has volunteered to help identify the Beast of Exmoor.

Forensic scientist Bernard Sims, an odontologist at the London Hospital Medical School, believes he can establish once and for all whether the notorious predator is a rogue dog or a big cat.

Mr. Sims was called as an expert witness in the sensational trial of Lindy Chamberlain, accused of murdering her own child at Ayers Rock.

As an authority on tooth marks, he was asked to establish whether the baby had been snatched from a tent by a dingo.

Now Mr. Sims is turning his attention to the Beast of Exmoor — the infamous killer which has savaged hundreds of sheep and lambs over the past three years.

He is anxious to analyze a carcass left behind by the famous beast, and says "it would enable me to establish the size of the teeth — and the size of the animal. I might be able to tell whether it's a large cat or a dog."

SOURCE: *Western Morning News*, England 12/12/86

CREDIT: David Rossiter via COUD-I

The Kiss of Death?

A Chinese bridegroom killed his new wife at a wedding reception with a kiss on the neck which was too passionate and long, an official newspaper reported.

The Lanzhou Evening News said guests at the reception in a city in northeast China heard a scream from the bedroom and rushed in to find both bride and groom unconscious on the sofa.

They were rushed to the hospital, but the bride was found to be dead.

The groom, who was not named, later said he had been kissing his new wife on the neck. Doctors decided that the passion intensity and length of the kiss caused heart palpitations which killed the bride.

SOURCE: Shropshire Star, England
10/1/86

CREDIT: Janet & Colin Bord via COUD-I

Past Premonitions

Soviet sub sinks roughly 600 miles east of the island of Bermuda. A few months ago there were the three disasters at Cape Canaveral, also near the Bermuda Triangle.

In 1978 I published a booklet, "Adventures of an Amateur Psychic," which I quote:

"There is speculation that a power structure is still underwater in the Bermuda area. When conditions are right the power structure works intermittently, causing ship and plane Captains to lose control of their crafts.

"Ions moving in a stream, from the apparatus near the crystal, form an electric current which produces its own magnetic field. Planes flying through this field experience instrument failure. Magnetic compasses began revolving, fuel gauges, altitude indicators and all electrically run instruments are affected. It is not surprising that battery drainage is reported by pilots who have come through to report what happened.

"The old energy structure sits on top of a large core that extends down through the crust of the earth."

SOURCE: Tom Gary in The Beaumont Enterprise, TX 10/17/86

CREDIT: Scott Parker via COUD-I

Woolly Rhino Haven Found

A herd of shy woolly rhinoceros has been discovered in a "Shangri-La" valley in Malaysia, a haven that may save the extremely rare species from extinction, it was announced Saturday.

The herd of at least five animals appears to be healthy and breeding, said Julian Caldecott, 30, a British biologist who hiked for four days into the valley in August after hearing a rumor of the rhinos' existence.

The 250-square-mile valley is in an undisclosed region of the island of Borneo. It is surrounded by high mountains and filled with lush vegetation, monkeys and birds, he said.

Authorities believe that only 150 Sumatran two-horned — or woolly — rhinoceros exist in Southeast Asia, where they roamed in the thousands before the turn of the century.

SOURCE: UPI in the St. Louis

Post-Dispatch, MO 10/26/86

CREDIT: R. Nelke via COUD-I

Weather May Affect Births, Deaths

Some meteorologists think the weather can determine the day people are born, the day they die, and how well they feel.

The late Helmut Landsberg, University of Maryland meteorology professor and organizer of the National Weather Service's climatology branch, studied the weather's effect on human health.

He contended that weather plays a role in some births. He pointed out a surprisingly large number of women begin labor when a storm is approaching and give birth when the storm arrives.

Landsberg theorized the birth process, like other human activity, is stimulated by increasing temperatures and drops in atmospheric pressure — both precursors of approaching storms.

The approach and arrival of storms also seems to play a role in death, Landsberg suggested. He said studies show heart attacks and suicides peak during stormy weather. Suicides may be caused by mental depression triggered by oppressive weather, he speculated, but he could offer no reason for a weather link to heart attacks.

Storminess also seems to trigger migraine headache, bleeding ulcers, and the strange but well-documented phenomenon called "phantom pain" — that is, severe aches amputees suffer in their non-existent arms and legs. Doctors can't explain phantom pain itself, much less its connection with storms.

Landsberg also said there's no doubt the approach of weather fronts causes pain for arthritis and rheumatism sufferers. Bone joints swell during stormy weather, he said, but doctors don't know why.

SOURCE: Leader Telegram
10/27/86

CREDIT: Eric Helwig via COUD-I

Double Trouble for Thompson Twins

Twins Gareth and Nicholas Thompson are so alike in everything that they even went down with an identical illness.

The six-year-olds have just had a double kidney operation and doctors at a Nottingham hospital are so fascinated by the case that they are writing a dossier on the twins for a medical journal.

Their mother, Mrs. Susan Thompson, from Bottesford, Nottinghamshire, said: "They do everything alike. They talk alike, walk alike and think alike. So we were not surprised when they were both found to have the same complaint."

SOURCE: Daily Express, England
10/10/86

CREDIT: David Rossiter via COUD-I

Insomnia Fatal to Man

The bizarre case of a man who died from insomnia is providing new clues about the parts of the brain that help people fall asleep.

Many people have trouble sleeping, but the disorder is rarely life-threatening. However, the affliction of a 53-year-old man in Italy was clearly an exception.

The man got progressively less sleep until eventually normal slumber became impossible. After he died, doctors found that he suffered degeneration of a region of the brain called the thalamus. They conclude that this part of the brain must play an important role in sleep.

The report, by Dr. Elio Lugaresi of the University of Bologna Medical School, was published in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

SOURCE: Asbury Park Press, NJ
10/16/86

CREDIT: Nancy Warth

Lobster Claw Poses Puzzle

Check the next lobster you eat. One claw will be slender and lightly built, while the other will be massive with "teeth" along the edges.

Now check other lobsters. Odds are that there will be no consistency as to whether the massive, "crusher" claw is on the left or right.

To two University of Toronto biologists, this posed a mystery.

They knew that juvenile lobsters have identical claws, both of the slender, or "cutter," variety. They knew that as lobsters mature, either the left or the right claw will develop into the crusher. The choice seemed to be random, and they began looking for reasons.

Lab experiments showed that one factor is exercise. Lobsters raised in bare tanks with nothing to grab never developed a crusher. Both claws remained cutters.

If there was even one pebble in the tank, however, the animal had something to pick up, and one claw became a crusher.

To show that the exercised claw was the one to develop, young lobsters in bare tanks were stroked repeatedly on one claw — always the same claw — with a brush until they grabbed the bristles. In nearly all cases the stroked claw, whether right or left, became the crusher.

Oddly, they found that stroking both claws equally caused neither to become a crusher. Most of the tested animals matured with two cutter claws.

This posed a new mystery. Exercise could not be the only factor. If so, the Toronto biologists reasoned, lobsters in the wild ought to develop two crushers, almost unheard of.

The researchers conclude that exercise does not simply promote crusher development; it also suppresses crusher development in the opposite claw. Exercise both claws, and each suppresses the other. For the effect to travel from one claw to the other, it must travel as a nerve signal through the lobster's primitive central nervous system.

Study of that simple nervous system might shed light on such human parallels as the development of left- or right-handedness and the localization of certain mental functions on one side of the brain or the other. Speech, for example, is normally controlled by the left side of the brain.

SOURCE: The Wilmington Morning News,
DE 7/16/86

CREDIT: H. Hollander

A Mine of Experience

As I'm not listed under 'Llowarch'* in the phone book, I'll bet some distant relatives of mine in the marches are troubled sometimes by people wanting me. Anyway, some people do manage to penetrate my security barrier and, in the case of one chap — "just call me Jeff" — I didn't mind at all.

Jeff follows the progress (if such it is!) of this column and read my piece on Sion y Gof, the blacksmith executed on Pencrocbren. It prompted him to tell me of a peculiar experience he had in the Dylife area back in 1984. Jeff doesn't live in that area but, when he can, shares my own enjoyment of "poking about in old places." Unlike myself, his pleasure includes going into old mine workings.

Dylife was once a famous mining village. The glory has passed but the shafts and levels remain, and I advise readers to avoid such places like the plague!

However, Jeff seems to know what he's doing and therefore went into a level with helmet and flashlight to see what he could see.

"I've often been in old workings," he told me, "and though they're often dark and damp, I don't find them eerie."

On the occasion about which he told me, though, he had quite a "funny" thing happen to him. Apparently in some workings there are noises at times. To the inexperienced, these noises could be disturbing but, I'm told, their cause is usually wind or running water.

So there was Jeff, helmeted, Wellied, flashlight shining, making slow progress along the dripping level. Bending because the rock roof was low, he came to a pool of water. He prodded at it with the stick he carries and felt it was safe to wade on. Above the puddle there was a shaft, perhaps a natural fissure leading upwards. He shone the torch to see what might be above him. Then he heard a noise. It was unlike anything he'd heard in old mines before.

"It sounded like a quiet humming," he told me over the phone.

"What, like a machine?" I asked.

"Oh, no. Like somebody's voice."

The humming sounded close but not loud. At first, he thought it was somebody else in the tunnel with him. He called out, hoping for a reply. There was no response.

The humming continued. It seemed to be coming from the other side of the pool of water. He peered along the level, his torch piercing the darkness, but he saw nothing but blank rock.

Still believing that the humming came from someone else in there with him, he momentarily switched off his light, reasoning that anyone else in there would have a lamp and that its glow would be visible. About ten yards ahead of him he saw something.

"It was a white or a pale blue shape about the size of a small man. It gave off a sort of glow, but not like a torch."

Apparently, the whole 'figure' glowed, and it seemed to be the source of the humming. Startled, Jeff switched on his light again. There was nothing to be seen. Needless to say, our hero made a hasty retreat from the level.

Coming into the daylight, he looked back and listened. There was nothing to see or hear.

"That evening, I was in the bar of a pub and got talking to locals about the old mining days. I didn't tell them about what happened to me, though."

As the evening ended, Jeff was approached by a man who, he guessed, must have been in his late fifties. Jeff had told the locals where he'd been exploring that day and the man had something to say about that part of the old mines. He would not reveal it in front of the others for fear of ridicule.

It seems that the older man, in his youth, had seen something equally odd. He — in the company of his young friends and on more than one occasion — had seen lights emerge from the mine level at night. These lights would rise into the air and move off through the sky but not quickly.

All very peculiar. Perhaps Jeff's "phantom hummer" and these flying lights have a connection. Perhaps, too, someone has more information about them. Both Jeff and I would like to know more.

SOURCE: *Cambrian News*, Wales
11/14/86

CREDIT: Janet & Colin Bord via COUD-I

**Mr. Llowarch writes for the Cambrian News.*

8,000-year-old Human Brains May Yield Secrets of Evolution

Scientists have removed brains in remarkably good condition from the skulls of 8,000-year-old skeletons buried in a Florida peat bog. They have also extracted what appears to be the oldest examples of preserved human DNA ever discovered.

The researchers are hopeful that if they can isolate various genes from the DNA, the blueprints for human function and reproduction, they can compare them with contemporary DNA samples to learn how and at what rate genes evolve.

Investigators at the Windover site in central Florida, where a prehistoric cemetery containing the remains of at least 80 individuals was unearthed in 1982, said the brains are drastically shrunken but still have recognizable features and resemble contemporary human brains in every way.

The brains of the skeletons, dug from peat layers at the bottom of the Windover pond, represent the earliest human remains still containing soft tissue, according to a report in the British journal *Nature*.

The chemistry of the Windover peat appears to have been responsible for the unusual state of preservation, said the authors of the report, who were headed by Glen H. Doran and David N. Dickel of Florida State University.

The tissues have yielded small amounts of relatively well-preserved DNA, the substance in the cells of all living things that directs their development and reproduction, the anthropologists said.

"This find appears to be the oldest-known example of preserved human cell structure and DNA," said the report, adding that it "represents a significant resource for both an-

thropologic and genetic studies."

The dig began in 1984 and continues to yield surprises, said a spokeswoman for the researchers.

Anthropologists, for example, have found samples of woven cloth in the burial site that "is the oldest and most complex cloth" discovered in the Western Hemisphere, said Madeleine Carr, spokeswoman for the Windover Archeology Project at FSU.

Recovering surviving DNA from ancient creatures has brought a new dimension to determining the family trees of man and of animals and how fast they have been transformed. Until the discovery, the oldest known human DNA was that obtained from a 2,400-year-old Egyptian mummy.

In addition, Russell Higuchi, a former scientist at the University of California at Berkeley who is now with the Cetus Corp. in California, said in an interview that he has recovered DNA from a 40,000-year-old woolly mammoth, but that he has not yet published the results of his analysis. Ordinarily, DNA is long gone when ancient remains are discovered.

The DNA from the Windover skeletons is being studied by William W. Hauswirth and Philip J. Laipis of the University of Florida.

Hauswirth said the scientists hope to isolate individual genes and compare them with similar genes from modern humans. Such a comparison could reveal how genes evolve and at what rate, Hauswirth said.

In terms of the evolution of man, 8,000 years is "the blink of an eye," and, outwardly, the Windover people would have looked much like contemporary American Indians, Hauswirth said.

Scientists, however, believe that evolution on a far smaller scale can be seen in certain genes that may have been altered or lost over thousands of years.

For example, a gene that causes intolerance to milk in some people is likely to have assumed its present form only after the rise of dairy farming between 8,000 and 10,000 years ago, said David Glenn Smith of the University of California at Davis.

Smith is also attempting to observe genetic changes by extracting blood proteins from samples of the bones found at Windover.

Smith said he hopes to obtain enough proteins to look for individual variability among the skeletons — in terms of blood types, for example.

Of the 80 or so sets of remains found so far at Windover, more than half of them are those of children, said Carr.

The remains have yielded a total of 17 brains, 10 of them "pretty intact," Hauswirth said. He said the consistency of the brains is "like a real loose clay."

"If you pushed it in with your finger it would retain the imprint," he said.

SOURCE: Richard Saltus in *The Asbury Park Press*, NJ 11/16/96

CREDIT: Nancy Warth



The Notes of Charles Fort

Deciphered by Carl J. Pabst

(+)	exceptional note	Finley's Rept.	Finley's <i>Reports on the Character of 600 Tornadoes</i>
*	For some obscure reason, Fort cut a notch on the right side of the note.	Gelat	Gelatin
**	For some obscure reason, Fort cut a point on the left side of the note.	Inf conj Sol	Inferior conjunction sun
ab.	about	Jour des Debats	<i>Journal des Debats</i>
a. bor.	aurora borealis	L7	London Times
Ac to	According to	Mag. Nat Hist	<i>Magazine of Natural History</i>
(A 1)	[?Almanac?]	Mem. Ac. Metz	<i>Memoirs of the Academy of Metz?</i>
Am J. Sci	<i>American Journal of Science</i>	Mems. Ac. Sci. Lyon, N.S.	<i>Memoirs of the Academy of Science of Lyon, new series?</i>
An Reg	<i>Annual Register</i>	Mem. Soc Roy. et Cent d'Agriculture	[?]
An Sci Disc	<i>Annals of Scientific Discovery</i>	met or metite	meteorite
Astro Reg	<i>Astronomical Register</i>	Niles Nat. Register	<i>Niles' National Register</i>
BA	<i>Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science</i>	N.S.	New Series
BCF	<i>The Books of Charles Fort</i>	N.S. Wales	New South Wales
B.D.	<i>The Book of the Damned</i>	obj	object
b. rain	black rain	Op Mars	Opposition Mars
(Ch)	<i>Chaos</i> [Fort's working title for <i>New Lands</i>]	phe	phenomena
Cor	Correspondent	Polt	Poltergeist
C.R.	<i>Comptes Rendus</i>	P.P.	[?]
(Cu[t])	illustrated	q	earthquake
D-209	<i>The Book of the Damned</i> , page 209	(S)	[?] Sea
Det met	Detonating meteorite	Sup.	Superstition
Devr	Devour ? or Devonshire	th. storm	thunderstorm
Edin N. Ph. J.	<i>Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal</i>	Timb's	<i>Timb's Year Book</i>
elec. girl	electric girl	volc	volcano
Ext. whirlwind	Extraordinary whirlwind	Y.B.	<i>Year Book of Facts</i>
(F)	<i>Fletcher's List</i>		

(Continued from *PURSUIT*, Vol. 19, #3, page 144)

(1845) June 18 / S / Malta, etc. / 141 / (D-261).

[BCF, p. 274:

Report of the British Association, 1861-30:

That, upon June 18, 1845, according to the *Malta Times*, from the brig *Victoria*, about 900 miles east of Adalia, Asia Minor (36° 40' 56", N. Lat.: 13° 44' 36" E. Long.), three luminous bodies were seen to issue from the sea, at about half a mile from the vessel. They were visible about ten minutes.

The story was never investigated, but other accounts that seem acceptably to be other observations upon this same sensational spectacle came in, as if of their own accord, and were published by Prof. Baden-Powell. One is a letter from a correspondent at Mt. Lebanon. He describes only two luminous bodies. Apparently they were five times the size of the moon: each had appendages, or they were connected by parts that are described as "snail-like or streamer-like," looking like "large flags blown out by a gentle breeze." The important point here is not only suggestion of structure, but duration. The duration of meteors is a few seconds; duration of fifteen seconds is remarkable, but I think there are records up to half a minute. This object, if it were all one object, was visi-

ble at Mt. Lebanon about one hour. An interesting circumstance is that the appendages did not look like trains of meteors, which shine by their own light, but "seemed to shine by light from the main bodies."

About 900 miles west of the position of the *Victoria* is the town of Adalia, Asia Minor. At about the time of the observation reported by the captain of the *Victoria*, the Rev. F. Hawlett, F.R.A.S., was in Adalia. He, too, saw this spectacle, and sent an account to Prof. Baden-Powell. In his view it was a body that appeared and then broke up. He places duration at twenty minutes to half an hour.

In the *Report of the British Association, 1860-82*, the phenomenon was reported from Syria and Malta, as two very large bodies "nearly joined.")

1845 June 19 / II [Medium] / q / India / Lakhpat / BA II / See Ap. 19.

1845 June 21 / 3 days after the B.P. object / at Erzeroum, Asia Minor / A heavy snowstorm, which lasted 3 days. "The greatest consternation prevailed among the inhabitants, [Reverse side] who thought the world was coming to an end." / BA 61.

1845 July 10-11 / q. / Italy (Basilicata) / BA '11.

1845 July 12 / Ac to American astronomer Mitchel — dark spot in polar white patch of Mars for several [Reverse side] hours. / N.Y. Times,

1877, Nov. 25-4-4.

1845 July 12 / Athenaeum of — In Lake Wogsdamm, near Darmstadt, during a thunderstorm, [Reverse side] an island rose in the lake. No q felt. It rose as great discharge of lightning upon the lake.

1845 (July) / (q and rain) / Near Darmstadt, Lake of Wogsdamm, a th. storm — ab 5 p.m. an electrical discharge, loud, long, rumbling sound and small island rose in the lake.

[Reverse side] This a phe of q's — but no q was felt. / Timbs 1846/282.

1845 July 14 / Le Teilleul, Manche, France / Met / (F).

1845 July 14 / Met / London / BA 60.

1845 July 16 / Belgium / Fireball / BA 60.

1845 July 23 / Barrisal, India / shocks /

[Reverse side] Athenaeum 1845-1109.

1845 July 25 / 9 p.m. / Between Prato and Florence — described by Prof. Cocchi.

[Reverse side] An enormous igneous body rushing northward overhead, terrifying horses. "Many times larger than the moon. / BA 61-37.

1845 July 25 / Dark spot in polar snow of Mars / Cornhill Mag. 1877 / or NY Times, Nov. 25/4/4, 1877.

1845 Aug. 6 / India / Assam / q / I [light] / BA '11.

1845 Aug. 7 / Hail at Metz / Mem. Ac. Metz 27/116.

1845 Aug. 10 / London and Oxford / Fireball / BA 60.

1845 Aug. 12 / [L7], 4-f / Meteor / London.

1845 Aug. 18 / [L7], 6-f / Meteorological phe.

1845 Aug. 19 / (Cu[t]) / near Rouen / Whirlwind — flashes of lightning from it. Said that it burned objects caught on it. /

[Reverse side] Timbs Year Book 1846/278.

1845 Aug. 19 / Leaves of trees and flowers in gardens in suburbs [Reverse side] of Paris withered in electric storm. / C.R. 21/535.

1845 Aug. 19 / Year Book of Facts, 1846, quoting M. Arago's account to the French Academy / At Rouen, a whirlwind. Effects called electric — in the destroyed buildings the bricks [Reverse side] were burning hot and many articles were charred. Said the fire or the electricity of it was so brilliant that visible a great distance.

However, a French scientist, M. Pouillet, said that the phe was not electric. It is said that insurance companies desiring that opinion had recourse to him.

1845 Aug. 20 / Op Mars / (A 1).

1845 Aug. 21 / Comrie / Remarkable shadow of a monument in story of Comrie / Athenaeum 1845-858.

- 1845 Aug. 21 / Tidal wave / 4 feet high / Halmstadt, Norway / Timb's '46-279.
- 1845 Aug. 22 / 12:30 p.m. / Severe shock / Assam / sound like thunder / later, small shocks / Friend of India, Sept. 11.
- 1845 Aug. 22 / [LT], 5-e / Sup. in Essex.
- 1845 Aug. 30 / Bright projection from snow cap of Mars / Cornhill Mag, 1877 / or NY Times, 1877, Nov. 25/4/4.
- 1845 Aug. 31 / Grenelle, France / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Sept. 1 / Det met / 2:20 a.m. / A.J. Sci., 49-408 / brilliant light and great met / Fayetteville, Nor. Car. / tremendous report.
- 1845 Dec. 3 / Met burst over Metz Climate of N.S. Wales, p. 165, Mr. H.C. Russel quotes a correspondent, [Reverse side] Near Eyris Creek, 9 a.m., "a report as if of a great gun. Next morning ab. same time again.
- 1845 Sept. 1 / Insect / N.Y. Herald, Nov. 15-1-6 / Near Buffalo, Iowa, an unknown insect appeared — enormous numbers. At first the larvae — some farms covered several inches deep with them. In a few days climbed on
[Reverse side] crops and turned to small fly about half the size of a housefly and sucked wheat until withered. No one had ever seen such an insect before.
- 1845 Sept. 2 // Sept. 20, Athenaeum of, from Edinburgh Advertiser — at Orkney — great fall black dust [Reverse side] supposed from Hecla. Ath., Oct. 18, says date was Sept. 2. Says had been eruption there.
- 1845 Sept. 2 / noon / Hecla, and on into 1846 / Y.B. 1846/269.
- 1845 Sept. 2 and 3 / Dust / Orkneys / Am. J. Sci. 2/3/273.
- 1845 Sept. 3 / Great fall of dust "resembling Roman cement," all over the Orkneys. / An. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 16-286.
[Reverse side] Attrib. not to Hecla but to some other volc that had been [t]hreatening eruption [i]n Iceland. / See Oct. 14.
- 1845 Sept. 6 / Rhine / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Sept. 7 / Calcutta / Fireball / BA 60 / N. to S.
- 1845 Sept. 7 / Violent shock / Calcutta /
[Reverse side] Athenaeum 1845-1109.
- 1845 Sept. 8 / bet. 2 and 3 a.m. / island of Grenada / a shock / on same day a heavy th. storm / N.Y. Herald, Oct. 5-1-5.
- 1845 Sept. 15 / date of Hecla's first outburst, in Athenaeum, Nov. 1, p. 1060.
- 1845 Sept. 16 / (+) / [LT], 4-f / Supposed volcano in Orkney / See Oct. 14.
- 1845 Sept. 20 / Jefferson Co., N.Y. / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1845 Oct. / (Nova) / Scarlet star in Orion found / An. Sci. Disc. 1851/376 / (Cut).
- 1845 / Brussels / (3) / Houzeau / A Vulcan / Cosmos, NS, 42/467 / (no more).
- 1845 / Hecla / Le Moniteur / p. 2558 / P.P. 9431.
- 1845 autumn / b. rain / Just before the disease in potatoes broke out, a black
[Reverse side] rain fell, and people attributed the disease to it. / Gardeners' Chronicle, June 1, 1850 / Was this Ireland? / See preceding Hecla.
- 1845 Oct. / qs in Smyrna and great damage from torrential rains / [Reverse side] Athenaeum 1845-1109.
- 1845 Oct. 3 - Dec. 14 / N.Y. Herald / Have.
- 1845 Oct. / Great drought / Arkansas / N.Y. Herald 3-1-1-5.
- 1845 Oct. 5 / Sounds / N.Y. Herald, 1-6 / In the neighborhood of the Lake Superior copper mines, in the Porcupine Mountains, a hill, near La Point, from which came sounds like discharges of artillery.
- 1845 Oct. ab 12th / Destructive floods / Kansas / N.Y. Herald 25-1-2+.
- 1845 Oct. 14 / [LT], 7-e / 17-6-f / Nov. 27-4-e / 6-5-a / Hecla.
- 1845 Oct. 18 or 11 / Sudden fall and rise of Lake Ontario. / Niles National Register, Oct. 25, p. 115.
- 1845 Oct. 24 / q — III [Great] / China / BA '11.
- 1845 Oct. 24 / Bonn / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Oct. 26 / 6 p.m. / q and sound like thunder / Long Island / Conn. / [Reverse side] Niles' Nat. Reg., Nov. 1.
- 1845 Oct. 26 / Q violent on Long Island Sound. Rumbling sounds in N.J. / N.Y. Herald, Nov. 3-1-6.
- 1845 Oct. 26 / Q severer in Conn than in N.Y. On 23rd, at Greenfield Hill, Conn., the springs
[Reverse side] and wells went dry for hour and a half. / N.Y. Herald, 31-1-5.
- 1845 Oct. 31 / Milan / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Nov. early / Almost incessant rains in Maine. / N.Y. Herald 7-1-4.
- 1845 Nov. / Hecla increase[d] violence. / Athenaeum 1845-1204.
- 1845 Nov. 2 / Milan / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Nov. 2 / (?) / Comet of intense brightness on western horizon, night / Baltimore / N.Y. Herald 5-4-1 / [Reverse side] Attracted considerable attention.
- 1845 Nov. 2 / Biela's Comet was discovered again at Cambridge Observatory, Dec. 1. / Niles National Register 5-19-288.
- 1845 Nov. 4 and Dec. 9 / Bombay / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Nov. 20 / Cramaux / Fireball / BA 60.
- 1845 Nov. 25 / N.Y. Herald, 1-6 / Unprecedented drought in Virginia.
- 1845 Dec. 2 / Light at Sea / Ryook Phyoo / (D-275).
- ★★
[BCF, pp. 287-288 / See April 1, 1826.]
- 1845 Dec. 2 / [LT], 3-c, Berkshire / 4-5-e, Derbyshire / 26-6-c, Shropshire / 9-3-c / 10-6-d / 13-6-d / Incendiary fires.
- 1845 Dec. 3 / Great met / Paris / 6:10 a.m. / BA 60.
- 1845 Dec. 3 / Met burst over Mentz with great smoke and noise. / BA 60.
- 1845 Dec. 3 / Aurora / Swansea / BA, Vol. 18/22.
- 1845 Dec. 19 / Venus and Jupiter close together / Astro Reg 1/189.
- 1845 Dec. 19 / Venus and Saturn in same field of the telescope / Ast. Reg. 7-23.
- 1845 Dec. 29 / Division of Biela's Comet.
- 1845 Dec. last / Devr / rats / L.T., 1846, Jan. 3/6/c.

1846

- 1846 / The aerolite at Girgenti / Le Moniteur 1846/2744.
- 1846 / Great numbers of locusts in England / Field, Oct. 3, 1857.
- 1846 / within 20 miles of Columbia, S.C. / Stone fell in th. storm. / N.Y.T., Jan. 22-3-4.
- 1846 / Biela's Comet / others that divided / Great comet of 1882 / Brooks of 1889 /
[Reverse side] Mellish's / 1915 / M Notices 1916-334 / (1915a).
- [BCF, p. 138:
I'm afraid that the course we're taking will turn out like every other development. We began humbly, admitting that we're of the damned — But our eyebrows —
Just a faint flicker in them, or in one of them, every time we hear of the "triumphal discovery of Neptune" — this "monumental achievement of theoretical astronomy," as the text-books call it.
The whole trouble is that we've looked it up.
The text-books omit this:
That, instead of the orbit of Neptune agreeing with the calculations of Adams and Leverrier, it was so different — that Leverrier said that it was not the planet of his calculations.
Later it was thought best to say no more upon that subject.
The text-books omit this:
That, in 1846, everyone who knew a sine from a cosine was out sining and cosining for a planet beyond Uranus.
Two of them guessed right.
- To some minds, even after Leverrier's own rejection of Neptune, the word "guessed" may be objectionable — but, according to Prof. Peirce, of Harvard, the calculations of Adams and Leverrier would have applied quite as well to positions many degrees from the position of Neptune.
Or for Prof. Peirce's demonstration that the discovery of Neptune was only a "happy accident," see *Proc. Amer. Acad. Sciences*, 1-65.
For references, see Lowell's *Evolution of Worlds*.]
[BCF, p. 613:
In January, 1846 (*Tasmanian Journal of Science*, 3-147), a skull was found on a bank of the river Murrumbidgee, Australia. It was examined by Dr. James Grant, who said that the general form and arrangement of the teeth were different from those of any animal known to him. He noted somebody's suggestion that it might be the skull of one of the camels that had been sent to Australia, in the year 1839. He accounted for its having characters that were unknown to him, by thinking that it might be foetal. So then, whether in accordance with a theory or not, he found that some of the bones were imperfectly fossilified, and that the teeth were covered with a membrane. It was not a fossil. It was a skull of a large, herbivorous animal, and had not been exposed long.]
1846 Jan. / Hairworms / Zoologist of / Cor tells of three instances at Burton-on-Trent within a few minutes of
[Reverse side] a hairworm found upon bushes immediately after a fall of rain, one that "had caught upon a piece of stick."
1846 Jan. 6 / "Bolide" set fire to house. / C.R. 22/342, 427 / d'Auvisiers (Cote d'Or) / See 1840. / 1842? / Nov. or Dec.
1846 Jan. 13 / Biela's Comet split.
1846 Jan. 15 — / Polt girl or elec. girl / Angelique Cottin.
1846 Jan. 15 / Begun, at La Perriere, phe of Angelique Cottin.
1846 [Jan. 15] / Angelique Cottin, "The Electric Girl." When she went near objects they bounded from her. When she had to sit in a chair, it bounded away from her, and a strong man could
[Reverse side] not hold it. If she touched a chair upon which a man sat, both were upset. A table, weighing 60 pounds, rose from the floor when she touched it with her apron.
[Second page] When she lay on a heavy bed, it rocked. These phe in daylight, witnessed by thousands of persons. I take from Holms, "Facts of Psychic Science," p. 278. The power was
[Reverse side] intermittent, strong or weak, and ceased after about 10 weeks. For particulars of investiga-

tions by Arago and other scientists, see *Jour des Debats*, Feb., 1846. A cool breeze flowed seemingly from her.

[BCF, pp. 1032-1033:

There are many accounts of poltergeist-phenomena that are so obscured by the preconceptions of witnesses that one can't tell whether they are stories of girls who had occult powers, or of invisible beings, who, in the presence of girl-mediums, manifested. But the story of Angelique Cottin is an account of a girl, who, by an unknown influence of her own, acted upon objects in ways like those that have been attributed to spirits. The phenomena of Angelique Cottin, of the town of La Perriere, France, began upon Jan. 15, 1846, and lasted ten weeks. Anybody who would like to read an account of this wild, or undeveloped, talent, that is free from interpretations by spiritualists and anti-spiritualists, should go to the contemporaneous story, published in the *Journal des Debats* (Paris) February, 1846. Here are accounts by M. Arago and other scientists.

When Angelique Cottin went near objects, they bounded away. She could have made a perpetual motion machine whiz. She was known as the *Electric Girl*, so called, because nobody knew what to call her. When she tried to sit in a chair, there was low comedy. The chair was pulled away, or, rather, was invisibly pushed away. There was such force here that a strong man could not hold the chair. A table, weighing 60 pounds, rose from the floor, when she touched it. When she went to bed, the bed rocked —

And I suppose that, in early times of magnetic investigations, people who heard of objects that moved in the presence of a magnet, said — "But what of it?"

Faraday showed them.

A table, weighing 60 pounds, rises a few feet from the floor — well, then, it's some time, far ahead, in the Witchcraft Era — and a multi-cellular formation of poltergeist-girls is assembled in the presence of building materials. Stone blocks and steel girders rise a mile or so into their assigned positions in the latest sky-prodder. Maybe. Tall buildings will have their day, but first there will have to be a show-off of what could be done.]

1846 Jan. 16 / Meteor sets fire to a building at Chauv (Chalon-sur-Saone). C.R. 22-343.

1846 Jan. 21 / Cambrai / podura / Mem. Soc Roy. et Cent d'Agriculture 1845-6/221.

1846 Jan. 24 and 26 / See Ap. 4. / dates of *Courier de Constantinople*, and not of falls.

1846 Jan. 26 / Trombe at Moulins / C.R. 22-344, 427.

1846 Feb. / Mlle Cottin / The Electric Girl / An Reg '46-23.

1846 Feb. 3 / Switzerland and France

/ great met / BA 60-82.

1846 Feb. 4 / evening / q. and rumbling sound / Staten Island, N.Y. / Niles Nat. Reg., Feb. 14.

1846 Feb. 9 / 11:04 p.m. / Brilliant meteor / London / *Athenaeum* 1840-182.

1846 Feb. 10 / ab. 9 p.m. / Enormous meteor at Caraman, France / C.R. 22-740.

1846 Feb. 11 / Nottingham / Meteor / BA 60.

1846 Feb. 21 / Colliure, Dept. of East Pyrenees, France / 2 great [Reverse side] united fireballs / A.J. Sci. 2/32/442 / C.R. 22-70.

1846 1st of March / volc and aurora / Hecla / great volumes of ashes / "Every night vivid streaks of the Aurora

[Reverse side] borealis illumined the sky." / LT, Ap. 30-8-1.

1846 March first / Dvr / rts / L.T., 1846, March 18/5/d.

1846 (March 2) / Venus Inf conj Sol / (AI).

1846 March 15 / Dust shower / Shanghai and at sea / [Reverse side] Jour Asiatic Soc Bengal 20/193.

1846 March 16 / Powder of fine hairs / Shanghai / D-58.

★ ★

[BCF, pp. 58-59:

Jour. Asiatic Soc. of Bengal, 1847-pt. 1-193:

That March 16, 1846 — about the time of a fall of edible substance in Asia Minor — an olive-gray powder fell at Shanghai. Under the microscope, it was seen to be an aggregation of hairs of two kinds, black ones and rather thick white ones. They were supposed to be mineral fibers, but, when burned, they gave out "the common ammoniacal smell and smoke of burnt hair or feathers." The writer described the phenomenon as "a cloud of 3800 square miles of fibers, alkali, and sand." In a postscript, he says that other investigators, with more powerful microscopes, gave opinion that the fibers were not hairs; that the substance consisted chiefly of conifer-vae.

Or the pathos of it, perhaps; or the dull and uninspired, but courageous persistence of the scientific: everything seemingly found out is doomed to be subverted — by more powerful microscopes and telescopes; by more refined, precise, searching means and methods — the new pronouncements irrepressibly bobbing up; their reception always as Truth at last; always the illusion of the final; very little of the Intermediatist spirit —

That the new that has displaced the old will itself some day be displaced; that it, too, will be recognized as myth-stuff —

But that if phantoms climb, spooks of ladders are good enough for them.]

1846 March 21 / Toulouse; Arieges / slow met / 1/2 diameter of moon / BA 60.

1846 March 21 / 6:45 p.m. / Met in Haute-Garonne and Ariège — as if from Sirius / C.R. 23/704.

1846 March 21 / (Ch) / Toulouse / "Petit's Moon" / C. Rendus 23/704.

1846 March 22 / Bagnères-de-Luchon (St. Paul) / "bolide" set fire to house. / C.R. 22/739.

1846 March 31 / Upper Silesia / quick meteor / BA 60.

1846 April / Hecla / Recorded under April, in An Reg, 1846, that Hecla [Reverse side] had been in eruption some time with great discharge of ashes. "Every night streaks of "a. bor. illumined the sky."

1846 April / Timb's Year Book, 1848-235 — In the district of Jenischebris — fell covering places on ground 3 or 4 inches thick — Grayish white, rather hard and irregular in form and inodorous and insipid."

1846 Ap. 3 / manna / C.R. 23/452, not 542 / See Jan. 24. / Manna that fell near where the writer lived, at Zaviel, in Sieviencyani, on River Wilna, 54° 45' Lat, and [Reverse side] Long 44. In the evening a heavy rain fell and continued all night. Next morning thought that hail was on the ground but little balls of an unknown substance were found. Swelled up to double size — appeared gelatinous when soaked 24 hours in water.

1846 Ap. 3 / Zaviel (Wilna), bank of the Wilna (54° 45' Lat, 44° Long) / calm weather / C.R. 23-452 / Came a great cloud with tremendous [Reverse side] electric displays in the evening. Torrents fell. Next morning found great number of little balls of different sizes, from hazelnut to walnut, unknown substance, almost gelatinous. The dried specimens were [Second page] spongy, pasty and fibrous, grayish — having a taste slightly like flour, from which a white meal or flour could be made. [Reverse side] Spread a sweetish odor when burned. Swelled into double volume in water and looked gelatinous.

[BCF, pp. 53-54 / See 1829//.]

1846 Ap. 4 / Gelat / Lithuania / (D-48).

[BCF, pp. 47-48 / See Jan. 24 and 26, 1841.]

1846 Ap. 4 / = Manna.

1846 / Gelat like Wilna / Asia Minor / D-48.

★ ★

[BCF, pp. 47-48 / See Jan. 24 and 26, 1841.]

[BCF, 60-62 / See Jan. 24 and 26, 1841.]

1846 April 4 / Gelat. / See June 17, 1890.

1846 April 13 / Hecla still going strong — from Sept. 2. "Each night

the sky was brilliant with [Reverse side] northern lights." / YB '47/275.

1846 Ap. 15 / Hecla still continuing. / L.T., July 1-8-d.

1846 Ap. 22 / (B. rain) / North of Worcestershire / 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Black rain that turned the waters of 4 rivers black. / [Reverse side] Thomson, Intro to Met, p. 155 / See Hecla, Sept. 5, 1845.

1846, early in / See Ap. 30 / Dry fogs / Eng and Scotland, particularly in the Highlands of Scotland / "half putrefaction, half sulphurous stench" / *Chambers' Journal* 9-308.

1846 Ap. 25 / Eclipse sun / *Amer. Jour. Sci.* 2/1/289.

1846 Ap. 30 / [LT], 8-a / Hecla / See July 1.

1846 May / (volc) / (aurora) / (dust) / Hecla / "Every night vivid streaks of the aurora borealis illumined the sky." / An Reg.

1846 May / Metites / On both banks of River Potenza, 8 miles N.E. of Macerata, Italy, 9 a.m., violent detonations.

[Reverse side] Like Sept. 16, 1843, near Nordhausen. / A.J. Sci. 2/3/142.

1846 May 1 / Toulouse / E. to W. / large fireball / BA 60.

1846 May 5 / Paris / Fireball / BA 60.

1846 May 8 / (F) / 9:30 a.m. / Macerata, Ancona, Italy / Metite / BA 60-84.

1846 May 10 / Brilliant fireball / Bonn / BA 60.

1846 May 10 / Intense darkness and a hurricane of dust at Nottingham followed by th. storm, [Reverse side] ab. 1 p.m. / *Timb's* '47-281.

1846 May 11 / [LT], 4-a / Fossil.

1846 May 15-16 / night / off Algeria / Dust / *La Nature* 8-103.

1846 May 15 / Mediterranean / fall of san[d] / C.R. 83/1185.

1846 May 16 / (Ref) / Rain yellowish-brown at Syam (Jura) and Chambery / *Mems. Ac. Sci. Lyon, N.S.*, 13-185 / Ac. 364/2.

1846 May 16 / (+) / Pollen / Dust at Genoa / Dust, pollen in the dust. *Am. J. Sci.* 2/4/423 /

[Reverse side] Many organic forms in it.

1846 May 16 / Dust / a ferruginous dust / Genoa / *Edin N. Ph. J.* 42/375.

1846 May 22 about / Montreal Gazette of, copied in London D. News, July 1 /

[Reverse side] Considerable number of shad flies in Montreal.

(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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