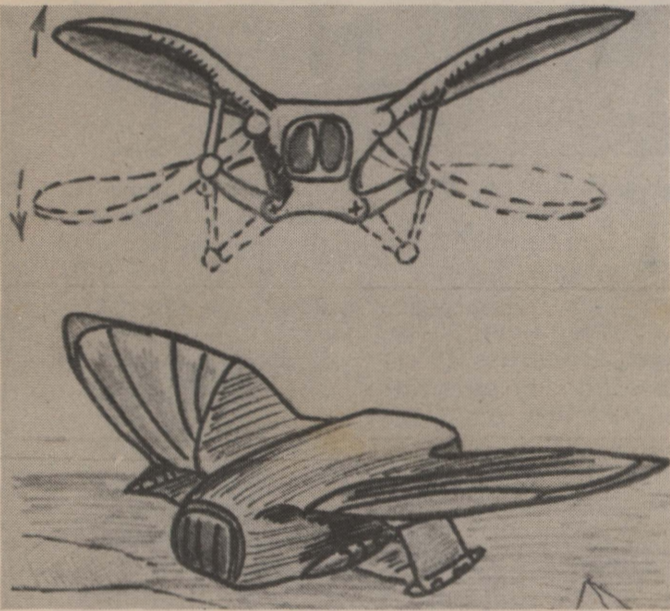


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ETs on TV:
Proskuryakov,
left, and Avinski,
right



Identified flying object? Sketch of the Chukotka "wingbeaters" that could have carried aliens

Is mummy an alien?

Students of "anomalous phenomena" have been comparing notes. Evgeni Ivanov reports

What would you say if you met an alien? The question was posed by a television audience in Minsk recently to two men who have spent many years studying the possibility of extraterrestrial civilisations.

Vladimir Avinski, head of the automatic systems sector at Kuibyshev's Geology Institute, would offer co-operation in the name of progress. Civil Engineer Sergei Proskuryakov, from the Minsk Machine Research Institute, would say: "I welcome you on Earth, but I will not ask you where you have come from, because I have mathematically calculated where your home is in space." Both are convinced that extraterrestrials exist, and that

they have left the proof behind them on Earth. Proskuryakov even says he knows where they are.

The two appeared on Byelorussian TV recently at the end of a seminar in Minsk on "Theoretical Aspects in the Study of Anomalous Phenomena". It was attended by physicists, biologists, chemists, mathematicians, UFO enthusiasts, people with "extrasensory perception" and even witnesses of miracles, all trying to explain the (so far) unexplainable.

The ET search is taken seriously by radio-astronomers and meteorological services, and more and more unexplained phenomena are reported — surely not all by lunatics.

Sergei Proskuryakov has fed the measurements of the Giza pyramids into a computer and declares that the mathematics the Egyptians used would have been impossible without extraterrestrial assistance. The classical mathematical proportions of the structures are based, he says, on the distances between the Sun, Earth, the Moon and the star Sirius.

Vladimir Avinski believes many other very old sites are explained by "paleocontacts" — ancient contacts — which he says were especially common before the first millennium BC.

In his new book *A Planet of Extraterrestrials*, to be published soon, he argues that the pyramids and other ancient structures were actually built by aliens, who put hidden messages in them.

Among his 50 or so studies published in the USSR and

abroad is his paper for last year's national conference on forecasting deposits of oil and gas. Geologist Avinski has built a 3-D model, which he calls a pentoid, of tensions in the Earth's crust. Its focal points coincide with major mineral deposits.

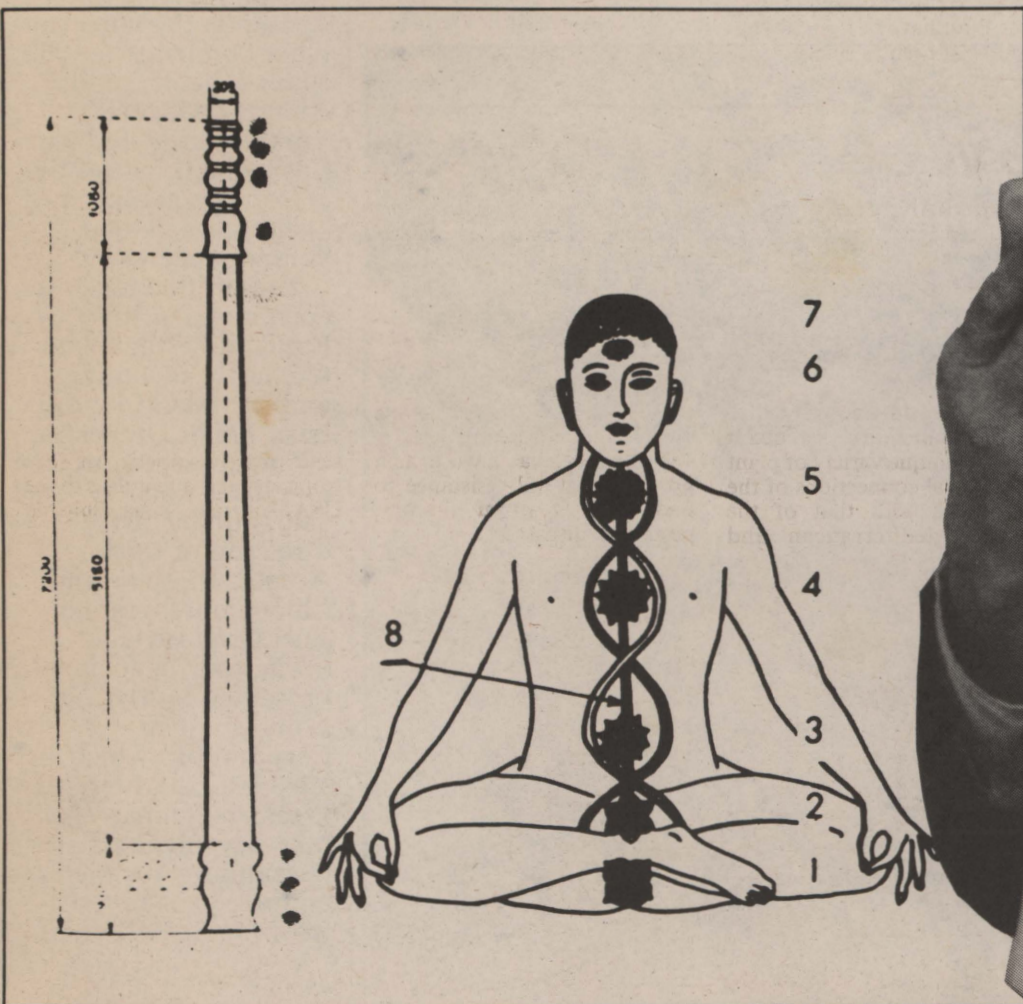
More remarkably, he says it is also a spatial representation of the pentagram of Stonehenge, built before 1500BC. He claims the proportions of the megalithic complex correspond to the distances between the Sun and the planets in our solar system.

Avinski suggests there is a relationship between the structure of the Earth itself and the positions of the planets.

And there's more. He turns to the "Indian column", a shaped, rust-free iron pillar with eight sections that could correspond to "energy centres" in the human body, used in ancient alternative medicine. Why doesn't the column rust? Avinski's answer: iron does not rust on the Moon, so aliens could have brought it from there.

He even has an idea how they got around: by "wingbeater". Archeologists have been puzzled by 2,000-year-old Chukotka carvings in walrus tusk found in the far north-east of the Soviet Union, with hinged wings that flap up and down on struts. Avinski argues that these are crude models of alien wing-beating aircraft powered by some unknown fuel.

All good reason to tell an extraterrestrial, in Avinski's words: "Welcome, brother. We have intelligence and, I hope, the right spirit in common."



Mooning around? The rust-free "Indian column", above left, and the eight "energy centres". Right: Vladimir Avinski with his "pentoid"

