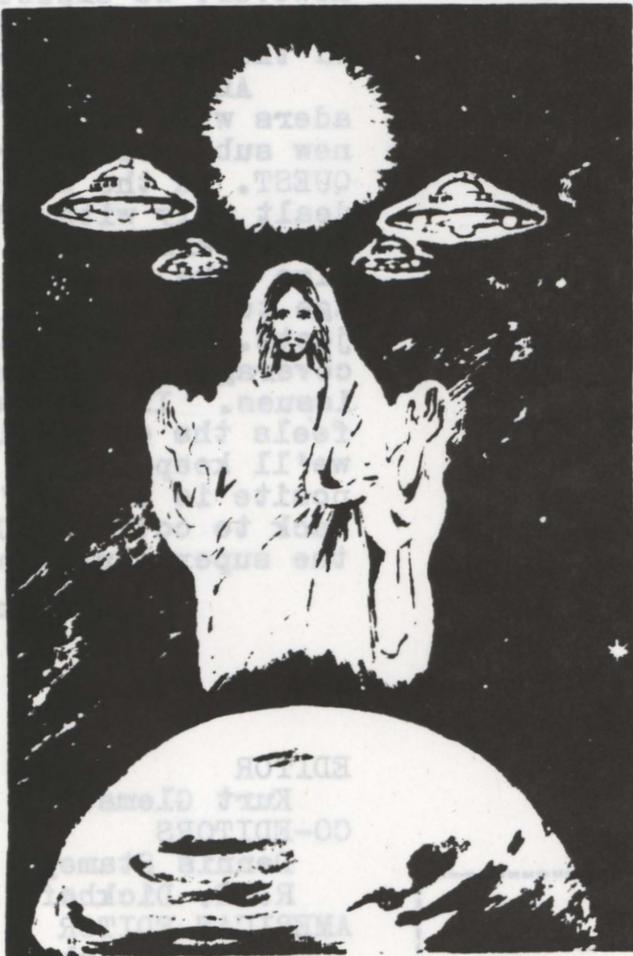


QUEST

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Beginning with this issue QUEST will be published entirely by offset. Due to the expense of this printing process the number of pages per issue have been decreased. However, we expect to go back to our 20 page size in the near future.

Another change readers will notice is the new subjects covered in QUEST. In the past we've dealt only with UFOs & the supernatural. We'd also like to give coverage to controversial subjects. You will see this coverage in the next 3 issues. If the majority feels the change is good we'll keep it. If the opposite is true we'll go back to covering UFOs & the supernatural only.

Kurt Glemser

EDITOR

Kurt Glemser

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HAUNTED EARTH By Dennis Staney

Stories of ghostly apparitions, haunted houses and "things that go bump in the night" have become traditional among people of all ages. True accounts of paranormal phenomena, unfortunately, are shrouded in pure folklore and nonsense, thus giving us no choice but to look with mocking skepticism at contemporary reports. From this we've derived the old cliché "there's no such thing as a ghost".

Perhaps not. But I feel strongly that something ~~does~~ indeed exist, a phenomenon more frightening than just spirits of the dead -- something that exists beyond our objective, orderly universe. Projected images? Not in a total sense. Interdimensional invaders whose appearance as a dead acquaintance is just in the minds of the witness? Again not necessarily correct.

One night when the noted actor James Cagney was speeding down a California highway, he and his wife both heard the voice of his deceased father warning him to slow down. They took heed to it and soon came upon a wrecked trailer in the middle of the highway, into which they undoubtedly would have crashed at the higher rate of speed.

There too are the ghosts of animals. Consider the "ghost-cat" of Congleton, a small village in Yorkshire, England (see Animal Ghosts by Elliot O'Donnell -- the original account was related by one of the witnesses to Mr. O'Donnell). Early in the 1900s two women were going through the village by pony cart when they noticed a plump white cat sitting on the post of an old abbey. They decided to approach it and upon doing so the animal leaped into the air and vanished. Two evenings later they again encountered the cat, but as before it appeared to vanish before they could get any closer.

An acquaintance in the village later told them of the "ghost cat", once belonging to the housekeeper of the former abbey. It was believed to have been the victim of a dogpack, but somehow later showed up at the abbey. As the housekeeper neared it, it simply vanished in the moonlight. Night after night, it's meowing could still be heard, and the abbey was finally left abandoned.

The common stalking grounds for "ghosts" seem to be monasteries, old castles and churches, homes and of course graveyards.

In Otley, Yorkshire, Jan. 1968 (see the 1968 Classified Directory of Spontaneous Phenomena published by the Paraphysical Laboratory in Downton, Wiltshire, England), four girls at a churchyard encountered a tall dark figure without a discernable face. It took no notice of them and made no sound as it walked.

In the Alternate Horizons Newsletter, (official journal for the Foundation of Philosophic Advancement), Vol. 3 No. 1, there is published an article and photograph concerning an alleged ghost at Christ Church on St. Simons Island, Ga. Investigator Allen H. Greenfield did some actual "ghost seeking" on the night of Nov. 22, 1968, there and decided to photograph at one point, (from more or less a mental impression), not expecting to capture anything unusual on film. Yet, when the photo was developed, there showed up, off to the left, "what looks to be a frightening ghost-like thing". Indeed anyone can see that it is some sort of bizarre manifestation.

According to legend, a group of slaves-to-be of the Ibo tribe, rather than submit to slavery, marched chanting into a creek and drowned. Supposedly at the dark of the moon you can still hear the echo of a chant and the clanking of chains.

Ghost photos are not uncommon (psychic photography has a long distinguished history) to the psychic investigator. According to an account in That Dog of Yours by Anne Elizabeth Blochin, a visitor at the unveiling of a pet cemetery on property owned by the Blochins photographed a grave marker during the ceremony. Upon development the picture revealed the figure of a dog lying at the foot of the grave. Later investigation discovered that a similar dog had been buried there months before. Photographs of the dog in life proved it remarkably the same by comparison.

It is hard to define these phenomena within a simple context. First-hand accounts are hard to find largely since few are going to confide of having seen an apparition. Reports do indicate, according to recent investigation, that ghosts will appear to move as if in a movie shown by a film projector. They will act robot-like as if controlled or manipulated.

It is interesting how a ghost story will appear in one place and then is reported in another -- the same story under the same circumstances though with dates, location and names of witnesses changed. I've heard of numerous stories of the young woman who "hitch-hikes" on a North Carolina highway, near Durham, which has been the inspiration for several popular songs. The lore surrounding her is most widespread and diverse. The bulk of the tale relates how a young girl, killed in a car wreck in the 1930's, will appear on the anniversary of her death trying to get home by waving down cars. As it goes, the girl will be surrounded by a faint mist and will seem uncommunicative; then as the driver turns to ask her a question she will simply vanish.

There is a report from Georgia by two businessmen of how they picked up an old woman trying to get to her family while driving along a stretch of road. She gave them the address and they proceeded on, talking over business, temporarily forgetting their guest. When they turned to the back seat the woman was gone. In due course, they contacted the family and learned that the woman was their grandmother who had recently died.

Stories of "headless" men or things are relatively common. Let me elaborate upon these instances:

There is reported an apparition at the swinging bridge on the Tuskasegee River in western North Carolina. According to writer John Parris in the Asheville (N.C.) Citizen-Times, Oct. 29, 1967, his father was heading home when an electrical storm came up. As he reached one end of the swinging bridge he "saw a man without a head walking through the bushes into the river at the other end of the bridge. Lightning was flashing and thunder was rolling. Just at the other end there was a great shelf of rock where we fellows used to gather and play cards or just talk. There were six or seven of the boys there."

They too saw the spectre and began shooting at it, but it "kept right on walking and went right into the river and disappeared." A subsequent search revealed no blood or tracks.

There exists another "headless phantom" in the Carolina mountains, this one is a spectral dog. The tales are old and it is not known whether the apparition is still seen or not.

As one tale goes a young mother with her infant child wandered on the wrong trail and became hopelessly lost by nightfall. The weather had grown unbearably cold; dimly she realized that she was near death. It was at that time when she became conscious of a large

shaggy dog racing past her. After a while it again returned. She staggered to her feet and followed. In a few minutes the animal had taken her to a spot on the trail that she recognized. Grateful and crying, the young mother looked back at the big dog. The animal was standing in a lighted patch on the trail about 30 feet away but something was wrong -- it had no head!

Then as we've previously stated ghosts seem to have an affinity for abandoned abbeys, monasteries, homes, graveyards and the like. The Church House Inn at Terbryan, Devonshire, is reportedly the scene of a "ghost" described as a monk, accompanied by strange sights and sounds and even power failures.

According to the Evening News of Bolton, Lancashire, a group of workmen reported seeing a "weird form, semi-visible and of filmy composition", moving around the ruins of a castle. To compound the mystery the area of the castle had been the scene of several UFO reports.

Power failures in a church haunted by a monk-like thing, a phenomenon strongly associated with the UFO mystery? A ghost in familiar surroundings of an ancient castle accompanied with reports of flying saucers? Some glimpses of a possible link.

Another interesting pattern. Flying saucers and their cohorts seem to have an affinity for graveyards.

On July 3, 1968, near Quilnes, Argentina, late at night a woman returning home was reportedly teleported aboard a strange craft with two men inside dressed in metallic-looking suits. Both spoke together in an unintelligible language. After a while the woman was taken back down, finding herself opposite a cemetery.

Some weeks later in late August 1968, several boys at Coleraine, Quebec, reported seeing a dwarfish man about four feet tall, with a shaven head, red scaly skin, naked chest and wearing a black beard in a cemetery. The boys claimed that the thing would vanish into thin air and even reported seeing a UFO near there, about 30 feet wide and blue, white and red in color.

Three of the boys' uncle, George Bogus, did not believe their story until he accompanied them and too saw the apparition. All of the witnesses' versions were identical.

In 1962 a group of young people in a graveyard at Blue Clay Springs, Indiana, saw a seven-foot creature with red eyes, white or silver hair, moving in ape-like fashion.

There are numerous reports of mysterious bobbing lights that appear around burial grounds and, naturally, are called "cemetery lights". In Vincent Gaddis' Mysterious Fires and Lights there is told of the well-publicized story of eerie blue lights that frequently dance among the tombstones at Silver Cliff, Colorado. They will appear to pulsate, move slowly, but vanish when approached.

These "ghost lights" are reported all across the globe, usually in very remote areas and are usually associated with a ghostly legend. The "Spook Light" of Hornet, Mo., and the Mace Light near Maco Station, North Carolina, are supposedly the ghosts of headless phantoms searching for their heads. The similarity in both tales are remarkable, each involving a member of a train crew decapitated in an accident.

Now to the phantom drummers. In 1663 at the village of Tedwerth in England, the home of John Mompesson was the scene of weird disturbances, including nightly thumping and drumming. Later the house

became plagued by household objects being thrown around and mysterious "blue and glimmering lights were seen". (Note: compare this with poltergeist activity in the home of the Reeves family at Newport, Oregon, in 1966. The despaired family, who later fled their home, told reporters that odd lights, between one and thirty inches in diameter, had been hovering about their windows and that also the entire house was at one time bathed in an eerie red glow. The local newspapers said 25 other residents had experienced similar phenomena and had also received an unconfirmed sighting of a one-eyed monster lurking about.)

At Berkshire, England, in the mid-18th century a battle was heard in the air with the sound of roaring cannon shots being discharged. "Then there was heard a sound like the beat of a drum sounding retreat." Following it there came a meteorite weighing some five pounds. Previously in the year 1628 at Berkshire a similar phenomenon was recorded.

In 1961 at Boreham Wood, England, according to an AP Dispatch, police and civilian vigilantes tried to track down a "phantom drummer and his band" reported at night. "But the band vanished," said the report, "just as it had on all the other nights."

A bugler, dressed in a black cloak, was spotted a month prior and then a drummer, dressed in white, joined in, touring the area. Later on a bagpipe player and a man with cymbals accompanied them.

It's unlikely the work of pranksters, unless they can suddenly disappear into thin air without being caught by an angry crowd.

Perhaps one of the most haunted spots on earth, Mt. Misery on Long Island, located six miles from Babylon in Suffolk County, also has reported mysterious night drumming. In an article for Beyond magazine by radio newscaster and psychic investigator Jaye Pare, one resident said, "I often have heard the beating of a drum and the agonized cry of a woman -- always at about 2 a.m. The sounds stopped at 2:20 a.m." (Note: the screams of a woman are reported in many monster cases. I have some articles on the famed Jersey Devil, a half-horse and half-kangaroo thing, in which witnesses report it screaming like a woman in agony.)

Mt. Misery has a long terrible history of hangings, murder, secret Indian rites, and destruction. But perhaps the most strange thing is its name, which was not taken because of its background, the story is that in 1765 Rev. Nathaniel Brewster climbed to the top and exclaimed "what a misery of toil". It has been noted that such areas as Mt. Terror, etc., are apt to be the source of unusual phenomena. For instance, the Black River in upperstate New York has had its share of monstrous beings in the past. There are well-documented, first-hand stories of the ghosts of Indian braves engaged in mortal combat, as they did centuries ago, trees that grow overnight in doorways, strange automobile fires and wrecks, an absolute silence that descends on the area totally stopping any other noise (as if switched off), and of course the UFOs.

There is an allusion to headless men and things in this article. In 1966 a woman at a ground floor apartment saw something climbing in through the bedroom window with unusually "long fingers" (MIB witnesses consistently refer to long fingers). She screamed and it went away. Police later reported chasing a tall man with what they thought was a sweater pulled up over his head.

In July of 1965, city policemen at Van Buren, Ark., were stalking the Arkansas River banks for "ghosts" -- reportedly "tall white things" having "no hands or head". They made no

sound. Descriptions made by individual witnesses were "alarmingly similar".

During the wave of monster, UFO and MIB reports that seemed to center around the elapse of the 200-year-old "curse of Chief Cornstalk" near Point Pleasant, W. Va., witnesses to these events were receiving poltergeist guests. Locked doors were mysteriously opened, strange thumping could be heard, and telephones would "act up", going "dead" sometimes without apparent cause (MIB activity seems to center around phones, oftentimes with a sinister voice speaking amid a background of weird electronic noises).

With our accumulated mass of data, despite some hopefully minor errors, we have presented a good case that the psychic world of ghosts and shadowy beings are nothing more than a portion of the whole mystery. The origin of a ghost is from the same "force" (a term that shall be used consistently by me to name this vast intelligence composed of supernatural entities) that is the origin of a UFO, spirits in a seance, or inexplicable "things" such as the Loch Ness monster. But the full answer is so complex as to be meaningless.

John A. Keel in his Strange Creatures From Time and Space noted cases of monsters appearing (particularly those in the Black River, N.Y.) when electrical storms were in progress. The "headless man" at the Tuskaseegee River appeared during an electrical storm.

Now the question is do these "forces" produce these storms or do they draw energy from them? Most likely they would draw energy from electrical disturbances in the atmosphere in order to successfully maintain their forms or creations. But they can also take advantage of these "sources" and use them to their own ends.

One might consider numerous cases of mysterious "lightning kills" such as the lifeguard struck by lightning on a clear day at Jacksonville Beach in the summer of 1968.

The old cliché "lightning never strikes twice in the same place" is false. Vincent H. Gaddis in his book Mysterious Fires and Lights compiles many documented instances of this sort, including cases in which houses and people are constantly hounded by lightning. In Flowerfield, Michigan, a barn was ignited by lightning in 1948. While a crowd watched, two more bolts hit the building. And in 1953 at Ermelo, South Africa, a native boy was leading a team of eight oxen when he was knocked unconscious by a lightning bolt. As the oxen started to drag the plough over his body, another bolt struck killing all eight animals.

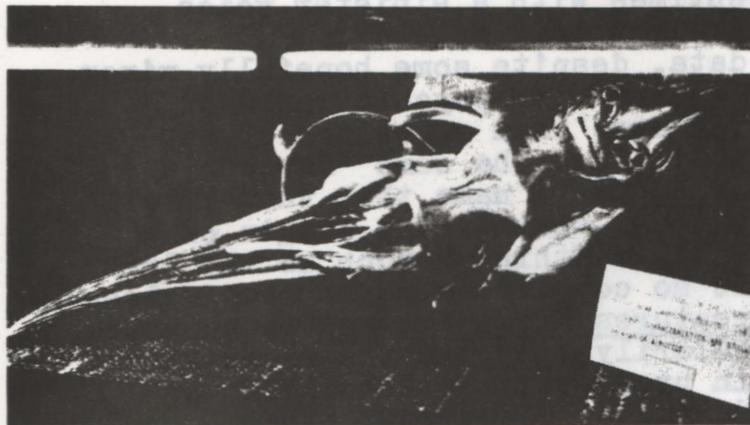
On Sept. 4, 1970, a man was killed by lightning at a soccer game at Ilkeston, England, while three others were injured. Days later on Sept. 8 two Beachwood (Ohio) High School football players were killed at a football field, and a construction worker at Columbus, Ohio, met the same fate. On Sept. 7 there was a lightning-caused death of two Gibbs High School football players in St. Petersburg, Florida.

But this wasn't all. On Sept. 23, 1970, a Zanesville High School football player named Lee Vinsel was killed after a practice session while heading for a car. That same day another youth, Rodelio Garcia, was killed by lightning at Greenford, Ohio. According to news accounts both seemed to have been running at the time. Football players? Mere happenstance?

Going back a month prior, in August, two golfers were killed at Durham, N.C., by what was apparently lightning. And around that time in Asheville, N.C., a lightning bolt knocked a large hole in

the sidewalk pavement. A most unusual meteorological phenomenon!
 Can these fearful apparitions and events be created for no purpose but to inspire fear to mankind? Charles Fort believed there were occult "beings and events" trying to exploit life on earth. Their purpose may be both unorganized and orderly, Fort suggests, with beings of perhaps mischevious and benevolent nature involved.

NEWSFRONT



MYSTERY FISH: This weird specimen in a display case at the Florida Museum of Treasure and Archeology in St. Petersburg, Fla., was at first listed as a "mystery animal" found in the ocean depths near Campeche, Mexico. But it has since been identified by experts as the shriveled remains of a guitar fish. It was given a human skelton-like appearance by slitting its head, tying cords around the neck and waist to give it shape, and coating it with shellac.



'Say, Hey,' Look At That Hay Fly

By AL WILSON
 Regional News Service

SPRINGWATER — When hay starts falling from the sky for no apparent reason, the first impulse for anyone standing nearby is to look up.

The next thing is to ask yourself what seems to be going on.

These were reactions of Gary W. Robinson of N. Main St. who, at about 4:10 p.m. yesterday, stood in front of his home and watched hay or weeds fall from the sky and then peered up at what seemed to be two overgrown bales of hay "moving east, just zipping."

Robinson, a former Livingston County Sheriff's Deputy, said he would be a little hesitant to say anything if Mrs. Robinson and their children hadn't seen the objects as well.

A neighbor, Mrs. Christine Levee, while not observing the flying objects, was struck on the shoulder by one of the falling weeds.

The Springwater man reported he was in front of his house when the weeds started

falling. "My first thought was what the hell is going on? I looked up and saw these things going across the sky."

"I yelled for one of my boys to get my binoculars, I had 'em in sight for only about 30 seconds," Robinson said.

He estimated the height of the objects, which he described as two "overgrown bales of hay" about a half-mile to a mile in the air. He estimated their size at about five to six feet in diameter.

"They appeared to be traveling at the same elevation about 40 to 50 feet apart," he said. Robinson said the sky was clear at the time. Some cirrus clouds were moving slowly across the sky. The objects seemed to have a propulsion of their own."

"I picked up some of the weeds," Robinson said. The handful that he had were cut or torn, some with roots still attached. He called the National Weather Service in Rochester regarding the sighting.

Robinson said, "I don't know what I saw, but I do know I saw something."



The latest in the topless-bottomless craze is the Body-Shop owned by Susan Wright (above) of Hollywood. Business there has been brisk since she began working in the nude.

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Marijuana Mythology

"SMOKING MARIJUANA CHANGES YOU INTO A DRUG CRAVING MONSTER"



Experts tell us that one out of every ten Americans has tried marijuana at least once. In Canada no such figure is available, however last year some 6,500 Canadians were arrested on marijuana charges. The rate of arrests this year is even higher.

Even though pot is so widespread and deep-rooted in our society there are those who feel it is a killer drug. This, incidentally, is what it was called in the '30's when pot was thought to be physically addictive. This misconception has stayed in the law books where marijuana is still listed as a narcotic. The truth of the mat-

ter is marijuana has never been proven to even lead to hard drugs.

In 1969, a lengthy test was conducted at the Boston University School of Medicine using human subjects to study the effects of marijuana. Doctors Norman Zinberg and Andrew Weil concluded their tests "makes it unlikely that marijuana has any seriously detrimental physical effects in either short-term or long-term usage". Marijuana, they said, is "a relatively harmless intoxicant".

Their investigation into pot found "the performance of nonusers in simple tests was somewhat impaired by the smoking, the performance of chronic users was unimpaired, or even improved".

An intensive study by Bromberg in Manhattan found no relation between violent criminal behaviour and pot.

Finally a test by Crancer, Dille, Delay, Wallace and Haykin (Science May 16, 1960) showed that "impairment in simulated driving performance does not seem to be a function of increased marihuana dosage or inexperience with the drug". (Some persons such as Ann Landers have stated that if marijuana were legalized the traffic deaths from pot would be as high as those from alcohol).

The executive director of the Addiction Research Foundation of Ontario stated the following in a booklet entitled "Marijuana and Its Effects":

"Marijuana is currently the object of much concern in our society, even though the misuse of alcohol and certain other drugs, especially the barbiturates, constitutes a much greater problem in terms of both the known number of people who habitually misuse these drugs and the known possibilities of serious functional or organic damage to the excessive users."

The above-mentioned facts certainly do not justify the current laws against marijuana. Let's hope for more scientific research and less scare campaigns on the subject.



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