

## EVP NEWSLETTER

A Newsletter devoted to the Electronic Voice Phenomena

December 1978

Issue No 10

My apologies for this issue being so late but I had to wait until I got back to my home at RUGBY for a Christmas holiday until I could print it.

A month ago I sent off all the questions that arose from the Newsletter containing the Jurgenson interview to Jurgenson for his answers and comments, and last week I had the reply from him.

However Jurgenson decided not to answer the 11 questions directly because "I want to tell you that the interview with Peter Bander and me has not been correctly translated and unfortunately many misunderstandings have arisen from it". Also as he points out it is perhaps not the best way to cover the subject and so he is going to send us some articles of his own for us to print in the newsletter.

The interview has until recently been the only source for Jurgenson's views and developments but since he has now written saying these are unreliable I hope that the articles which are written by him will clear up any "misunderstandings".

Jurgenson also said in his letter that the most important question in his mind is "why we wish to make these contacts?" and recommended that anyone seriously investigating the EVP should begin with this question.

As soon as the article arrives and I have got permission from the proper authorities to print it, the article will appear in the newsletter.

Last month also saw a new EVP tape appear on the market from Raymond Cass. This details much of his latest research and recent developments and includes many voice samples. It is available from Ray for £5.00 from 1 Baker Street, Hull, North Humberside, England. With it comes detailed methods for recording and detecting paranormal voices.

May I wish you all a merry Christmas and thank you for your support during this first and important year. Thanks.

Alan

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THE PHENOMENA OF FRIEDRICH JURGENSON

An Analysis by Prof. Hans Bender

Reproduced by kind permission of the Paraphysical Laboratory, Downton, Wiltshire, England; Prof Dr Hans Bender, Institut für Grenzgebiete der Psychologie und Psychohygiene, Freiburg, W Germany; and Manfred Cassirer Ardingly, W Sussex.

The Swedish painter and film-producer, Friedrich Jurgenson has reported extraordinary voice phenomena on tape since 1959. As an initial approach the Freiburg Institute in 1964 made an exploratory experiment to determine whether the voice phenomena were normally explainable or evidence of paranormal effects. A second examination with better technical equipment in 1970 provided evidence to support a parnaormal origin of the phenomena. An analysis of the sounds with visible Speech Diagrams proved to be very helpful for the objective documentation of the supposed meanings.

The Freiburg Institute has been in contact with Friedrich Jurgenson since 1963. Of Baltic origin, he was born at Odessa in 1903, and has been living at Molnbo, near Stockholm, Sweden since 1943. His eventful past includes study at academies of art and schools of music which trained him as an operatic singer and painter. He works as an artist, and during the last ten years he has become well-known as a producer of documentary films which deal mainly with Italy. He is noted for his efforts on behalf of the preservation of Pompeii. In the summer of 1959 Jurgenson made a curious observation; playing back tape-recordings of bird voices made in the country, he could also hear a quiet male voice discussing 'nocturnal bird voices' in Norwegian, followed by a series of 'cackling, whistling and splashing sounds' among which he thought he recognized the voice of a bitterne. He considered the possibility of a tape-recorder serving under certain conditions as a radio-receiver, but he was struck by the strange coincidence that 'it should happen to me, who was on the look-out for bird-voices, that Norwegian nocturnal bird-voices should be transmitted onto my tape at the very moment when I was switching on my machine.'

Subsequent developments are recorded by Jurgenson in his book in great detail. In the months to follow he obtained on his tape ( with the microphone) voice phenomena which constituted personal messages to him. They wer inaudible on recording and could only be discovered during play-back, as 'quiet recordings'. Jurgenson had to train his ear to appreciate such 'linguistic information' He grew tired, and gave up these experiments, but then he began to have 'functional hallucinations': in the autumn of 1959 he heard words and word fragments, at time also extended sentences ina female voice, in the splashing of rain the drippin of water, and in the rustling of paper. It was identical with one repeatedly heard on tape and demaded that he 'maintain contact' with the machine, 'to listen, please to listen'.

Jurgenson resumed his experiments and succeeded in making recordings in the presence of witnesses, including the late Dr. J. Bjorkhem, the Swedish parapsychologist, and an engineer from the Swedish radio, Mr Arne Weisse. This first 'public recording' with seven observers was considered sufficiently remarkable by Jurgenson and others present for parts of it to be included at a later stage on a record issued with the book. It was also one of the first recordings which Jurgenson (who is always ready to cooperate) put at the disposal of the Freiburg Institute in 1963. As an example of Jurgenson's results, the more important events are summarized below:

It was the 28th December 1959. At about 6.30p.m., Jurgenson turned on the tape-recorder, calling out 'Now!'. On playback it was found that he had been anticipated by a male voice which had interjected a clear 'Poskala'. (This is identified in the book as the name of a Swedish town. Nine years later another interpretation became more plausible: 'cheek by jowl' in Finnish). The conversation was in Swedish. As Jurgenson was answering a question with 'monga, monga' (Many, many) there can be heard on playback an elderly male voice saying, 'tanto partis', understood by Jurgenson as Italian tanto (many) and English 'parties', in continuation of his answer. One of the ladies then put a question to Dr Bjorkhem which he answered. On the tape, however, there was an entirely different sequence of sounds. While Bjorkhem's voice formed the basis, the words were not his, 'Stackars lilla Bjork' (poor little birch), with possible allusion - according to Jurgenson - to Bjorkhem's serious heart condition. A female voice, which had previously addressed Jurgenson's son by his pet name, called out in a rather loud voice and with a Finnish accent, 'tanner - tanner'. 'Where is Tanner?' asked Arne Weisse after playback, dismayed at the unintelligible and ill at ease. The alleged answer was 'I Sverige' (In Sweden)

It was decided to let the tape run on and to keep silent. On the tape muffled noise from the street was audible from time to time. Suddenly a male voice said 'Grecola' with the stress on the first syllable. A few seconds later Mrs Weisse had broken silence and confessed that 'If I were not afraid, I should now go into the kitchen.' Her little son was asleep there. (It was not realized until 1963 that the Latin word 'Grecola' means 'little Greek', and also 'funk'.) The experimental evening came to an end with a kind of dialogue between Arne Weisse, who vacillated between scepticism and disquiet, and a voice which said quite clearly, among other things, 'So kalt ist in dir' ('You are so cold').

Jurgenson emphasizes in his commentary that 'in the case of the majority of recordings, the significance of certain apparently meaningless words was not discovered until much later, sometimes many years. But it would appear that this phenomenon, which suggests precognition, frequently occurred in his sittings.

Meanwhile Jurgenson developed a new recording method - by radio. His 'radio-assistant', Lena, informed him by a whispered sound which wave-length was to be tuned to. Often 'White Noise' (heard when the radio is tuned between stations) was recorded on

tape and served for the production of 'recordings'. At other times more or less distorted transmissions were 'modulated' and supplied with another text. Jurgenson sent many recordings to the Freiburg Institute but it was seldom possible to understand them without his commentary. It remained an open question how much, in his attempts to understand the sounds on his tapes, Jurgenson's interpretations were influenced by projection into them of preconceived ideas.

Other experimenter reported success; in Sweden alone there are said to be 15 of them. In Germany Konstantin Raudive dedicated many years almost exclusively to the phenomenon of the 'recordings', at first by himself in his study, and later with ever-increasing publicity in cooperation with the physicist Alex Schneider of St. Gallen, and engineers. His report 'The Inaudible Becomes Audible' appeared in German (with a record) in 1968. Whereas the recordings of Jurgenson who is multilingual, were audible in many European languages and even in Yiddish, in the case of the Latvian Raudive there was a preponderance of Latvian, Latgalian, Russian and German. As with Jurgenson they were often mixed up, making it even more difficult to understand them.

In the summer of 1964 the Freiburg Institute was able to conduct the first exploratory experiments with Jurgenson in the (private) German Institute for Field Physics at Northeim. Those taking part were the physicist B Heim, Director of the Northeim Institute, and his sound engineer, W Schott; Hans Bender and G Vilhjalmsson (a student) from Freiburg, and Dr F Karger, the Munich physicist, was present as an observer. Different types of tape-recorders were used: Jurgenson and Freiburg each supplied a Uher Report and a Grundig Stereo machine and a Telefunken machine used in an adjoining room for distance control, were also available. Apart from numerous very quiet 'recordings' which were discovered by and only audible to Jurgenson, there were only a small number which were perceptible to and partially understood by several participants. Of special interest is an experiment made in a hotel room by Jurgenson, Karger Vilhjalmsson and Bender. In a short discussion during the recording Jurgenson reports the strange phenomenon that on copying a tape for the Freiburg Institute new recordings were found on the copied tape. This made him submit the tape to a sound engineer of Radio Stockholm who was at a loss to explain the origin of the voices. At this point in the discussion there appears, interjected as it were into a very short pause, a clear male voice saying 'von wo' (whence?). A later analysis of the sounds with the Voice-Print process showed objectively in the Visible Speech Diagram at least the partial existence of the assumed auditory impression of the sounds, which were heard on both machines.

The exploratory experiments at Northeim constituted a preliminary clarification of the problem. There was no doubt that there had been recorded on virgin tape sounds whose origin required to be investigated. Fraudulent manipulation was excluded; it was improbable from the outset in view of Jurgenson's integrity. The investigation and discussion were at first restricted to microphone recordings. In the case of the radio recordings there was of course the additional difficulty of distinguishing between ordinary transmission or fragments

of such, and on the other hand, alleged paranormal 'recordings'. For the interpretation of messages obtained in this way to carry any conviction, it was necessary for them to be veridical. Before a paranormal origin can be claimed for recordings made with the microphone the following counter hypotheses must be excluded:

- (a) Projection of illusionary semantic contents onto normal speech or accidental interfering noise.
- (b) Uncontrolled utterances of persons present, either in the form of unconscious whispering or unintentional interjections.
- (c) Fragments of radio transmission which, under special conditions, can be picked up by tape-recorders functioning as receivers.

To exclude counterhypothesis (a) it is convenient on the one hand to conduct experiments in listening with the greatest possible number of trained participants, and on the other to use Visible Speech diagrams for a more objective process. Experiments in listening are of course also necessary where the sounds are articulate but their meaning is uncertain. All experimenters with recordings incessantly demand constant training of the ear to do justice to the special character of the alleged voice phenomena. According to B. Heim the physicist, the best way to eliminate counter-hypothesis (b) is to supply throat microphones to all participants. He recommends as follows:

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

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"Reading the EVP Newsletter one obtains the feeling that the concentration on efforts to obtain positive results has so far been almost exclusively technical, as though the problem was one that could be solved by improved techniques with the apparatus.

These efforts will not be lost and future methods will certainly be an improvement on the efforts of the pioneers, but I believe that scientific excellence is not the sole key to improved results for recording "voices" on tape, or for receiving them on a radio set.

One must assume for the purposes of my argument that the communicators are those entities that have previously lived on this earth plane and who have, for emotional or other reasons, a desire or a necessity to communicate with persons still in the land of the "living".

Any person seriously interested in the fact of the continuance of existence in another dimension, must have come across the reports that one of the keys to successful communication with the other world lies first in a state of mind that can admit, after proof satisfactory to each individual, that this continuity of existence is possible,

and secondly, that the attitude of mind of the investigator is positive, that is to say that there is a desire to learn more of the truth and nature of existence and not solely a desire to obtain results because of their spectacular nature. If we turn such investigations into something resembling a bingo session or an hour or so at the pictures, that is for idle amusement without constructive intention, then if we get anything from our probings into this communication with the Spirit world we shall only be in contact with those minds which have retained similar attitudes to "life", for we are informed that when we pass into the next stage of existence, we are basically exactly the same mental types that we were here on Earth.

Those of us who have been endeavouring for some considerable time to establish methods of communication with the departed ones, or with those that seem to have taken on the task of helping to make us realise the true nature of ourselves and our existence on earth, will have had times when we have been advised that the "vibrations" or energy patterns have not been of the right nature to allow good communication, or have been of such a nature that communicators on a lower vibration would have been able to break in on the link with the other side.

It is of little importance whichever methods of communication are being used. They can be of all kinds, trance, control, ouija board, planchette, trumpet or such means are best suited to the personality of the seeker. An illustration of what is meant is that on a recent occasion my particular group received a clear cut "Leave off. You are too near the Earthbound." This situation was brought about because our group, which usually starts its sessions with concentration on absent healing, had been discussing physical phenomena of which much had been in either the news or in books that some of us had read.

After a period when we again went through our absent healing practice, we were able to receive our normal communications which, at the moment dealt with our own attitudes towards aspects of life, and of how we should question our beliefs in the matters that we have too often taken for granted as a result of our environment.

One simple example, was a reply given to an enquiry by a member as to whether prayer was correct and effective. The answer was that petitionary prayer was a form of self-indulgence. We had built for ourselves the conditions under which we live, which building was not solely reserved to this life, and therefore to pray for such conditions to go away was against the law. These were the conditions to make progress. (Presumably Spiritual progress). And then when asked again, was it right to pray for others, the simple reply was - Are you willing to take on the burden of the other - (Of course we are not !)

So in this matter of the EVP communications, our investigators need to have in mind a purpose not solely devoted to science. The human relationship is of great and paramount importance. If two or more persons can achieve a harmony of purpose basically devoted to improving the lot of humanity, then results may be startling in their content."

Alan Gregg.

General replies - Gilbert Bonner

Mr Andrews has not read my remarks correctly in suggesting that one read books by L Watson, Von Daniken, Colin Wilson etc before experimenting and rightly states he prefers the statements of researchers within the Newsletter. I agree. I said I think, one should read all one can (by the experts in the field), and repeating certain experiments (like trying to prevent radio intrusion) was in my view, going over ground already covered, and anyhow was useless.

In my view Von Daniken writes fiction, and I did not know he or Wilson had mentioned the voices.

Again Mr Andres draw conclusions of his own, when he says not one of the voices, referring to the 10,000 I have claimed to have recorded, refer to techniques or give information. Neither Dr Raudive or I have said this. Certainly certain questions are avoided as is stated in Breakthrough. It is also wrong to think that only fragmentary replies are received. I receive replies in sentences of five and six words, sometimes several sentences following each other in logical order. Jurgenson has claimed dialogue of up to 24 minutes from a group he links with. I hardly think the EVP would have survived twenty years, if we only received banal replies in odd word fragments. Regarding NASA and other organisations, I suggested that they may well regard certain data on say UFOs as "classified". I am fully aware that the Arebico radio telescope (of 310 meters), in Puerto Rico, and also project OZMA has failed so far to obtain replies from space, and this in itself is interesting. Since EVP researcher obtain voices on simple domestic equipment, and costly hardware achieves nothing, then this to me indicates that the voices are not from 'galactic space' but as I have said many times, are other dimensional. As Mr Andrews states it may be that human psychic sensitivity plays a major part. Some of the equipment and technology used in space flight communication might however be of use in our research, and we must remember that two NASA engineers closely questioned Dr Raudive. I think Tony Williamson is on the right lines in explaining his equipment and techniques, and in offering to exchange recordings. This exchange of practical information is better than speculation. He also has noted how noise can be used to improve reception of voices and indeed as I said in 1977 voices can it appears be fabricated from noise. Voices that 'modulate' radio material would not be heard if we kept out electromagnetic radiation.

ADVERTS:

Cassettes with voices are available from Raymond Cass, 1 Baker Street, HULL, England. (Cost £5.00) and Gilbert Bonner, 95 Silverdale, Paynton Road, St Leonards on sea, Sussex, England (Cost £5.00)

The Mediumship of The Tape Recorder - D J Ellis, book on the EVP from Fernwood, Nightingales, West Chiltington, PULBOROUGH, West Sussex RH20 2QT. England. Cost £1.50.

The Fortean Times 75p per issue covering ALL phenomena. 50 PAGES,  
9-12 St Annes Court LONDON W1, ENGLAND

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