

EVP NEWS

Devoted to the study of the Electronic Voice Phenomena

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I have been very lucky and have managed to get a job as a junior reporter on a newspaper in Erith, Kent. I dont have the address of any lodgings yet so please continue to send any correspondance to my Rugby address. I shall be working in the Kent area for the next two and a half years at least although not always on the same newspaper. Hopefully having a steady job rather than being at college trying to manage on a grant I can get back to EVP with my usual zeal.

I have been hearing about a relative newcomer to evp, Mr Myall, getting some good results and I know in the past other beginners have had results almost straight away. On the other hand there are people like me who have been experimenting for two or three years without success! Congratulations to him and I hope to bring further details in a later issue.

INDEX:

Page 1	The start of a series of articles by G. Bonner, FHA.
Page 2	" " " " " "
Page 3	Continuing the work of Mike Vinter
Page 4	" " " " " "
Page 5	Continuing the interview between Esotera & Jurgenson

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GILBERT BONNER, FHA, apart from being a top researcher has always worked hard at trying to disseminate his knowledge to other researchers and to get other people interested in the evp.

"I believe that my research into the EVP, that began in 1972, has resulted in some advances in our knowledge of this phenomena and that this can assist other researchers in their own research. Therefore from time to time I will publish statements on this work based upon my own work and that of other researchers in the voice phenomena that began back in 1958."

G. Gilbert Bonner, Sussex, 1979.

Gilbert is never afraid to speak his mind. Nor is he afraid to forget all he has learnt about science and replace it with a new model of physics which the knowledge of the evp might set out no matter how strange it may appear.

"It is essential that we try and approach this research with an open mind prepared to forget the word 'impossible'. We are all 'conditioned' in our thinking habits, and thus when we are faced with phenomena that seems impossible, we must realise that we are reacting upon preconceived hypothesis. To make scientific progress we must seek for truth and to do this we must set aside emotional bias and personal beliefs.

"We have observed the hostility of parapsychologists to this research which shatters the concepts upon which they have based their own limited concepts of man and creation. The evp is not just an electronic link with the beyond, its implications penetrate every branch of scientific knowledge."

Gilbert Bonner.

If you give two people a copy of the same voice they will often hear totally different things. It was for a long time thought that this meant the evp was just reading into white noise. Gilbert, who knows the voices exist, realises there may be a different explanation. He has had voices that he hears in English but which a French colleague hears in French! It is this curious "double dubbing" that he expands upon in his first article: "Interpretation and Conditioning".

Hopefully there will be a regular series of articles by Gilbert Bonner. If you wish to comment on, argue with or add to any of his ideas please send them into me for publication. Or if you wish to write to him personally send your letter to: Gilbert Bonner, c/o EVP News, 12 Lime Tree Avenue, Bilton, RUGBY, Warwickshire CV22 7QT.

EVP researchers and critics have noted since 1969 or so that a number of voices put out as paranormal and saying one thing could be heard by someone else saying something else.

An interesting example of this is the best known of Dr Raudive's recordings that, apparently of Winston Churchill, that appears to say "Mark you make believe my dear yes" followed by "Winston Churchill". If you have not heard this interpretation or listen without regard to this interpretation you may quite easily hear "Mark you make thee mightier yet" which is a typical Churchill mode of speech. Critics were quick to suggest that this double interpretation proves the voices did not exist and were imagined.

Although researchers all knew the voices were real and not imagined this problem perplexed us, and I considered it probably a problem of masking. It has been demonstrated by experts in the study of the psychology of communication that this is a well known phenomena associated at times with perfectly normal communication. Kulpe demonstrated experimentally that observers reported more accurately on words or sentences heard during special tests (ie combined with noise etc.) if they were given a clue to what the subject was. The psychologist David Bruce recorded a set of ordinary sentences and played them together with noise to an audience. They were told that the first voices dealt with sport; in the next test the voices were given some other topic and so on. The audience heard voices speaking about the subjects mentioned by David Bruce and it was not until after the test that he revealed he had played the same voices in every test. In other words we are pre-conditioned. This is why the tape recorder and the copy and repeat techniques plus listening training is often essential to verify the exact interpretation of each word, and is especially necessary when sentences are received in a strange rhythm and pitch, and also where laws of grammar (that normally give us clues to interpretation) are ignored. There is therefore nothing strange that different people hear words or sentences differently.

Let me repeat this happens with perfectly normal voice recordings and the psycholinguistic process is well known. The fact that some EVP voices present this problem is no surprise and in no way indicates the voices are imagined. The voices are real but between the ear and the nervous system and brain, communication breaks down for a variety of reasons that would take too long to detail here. Those who say voices should be capable of being heard without any training of the hearing miss the point. We have to train the brain to understand what the ear hears and this involves often a process of critical but relaxed listening without pre-conceived hypothesis. We must in our analysis of the EVP not try and make the words fit our preconceived patterns of logic or grammar and some sentences are expressed oddly but symbolically. We have to learn to accept this new pattern of communication.

G. Bonner...July 3rd 1979.

In next month's issue Gilbert Bonner criticises the critics !

"It is unfortunate that men of intelligence should fail to notice how they themselves have become conditioned and incapable of free thinking, they are the Jehovah witnesses of science and constitute a threat to progress".

G. Bonner

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Michael Vinter has so far detailed methods to attempt to obtain the voices. Now he is going to consider who is the user - who is behind the voice:

A) Could telepathy be involved ? This also is a property of the subconscious, or the spontaneous, and can act over distances irrespective of time or space.

B) The fact that the voices are a kind of construct seems to me to gell with Spiritualist concepts. Their world of the dead is held to be a mental one, controlled by thought or the power of mental energy. One has to remember that before an object exists materially, it is first a reality in thought, and so it is with speech. Ideas start in the brain which formulates speech before the automatic muscular centres commence to produce a sound in the larynx and proceed to modulate it into what we recognize as words.

C) The discarnate, therefore, could be achieving this modulation via our subconscious mental areas, which as I see it is what is supposed to happen in trance mediumship - except that in the case of EVP, it is other sound-sources which are being shaped. To me it makes sense to assume during an experiment that, if no voice-traces are properly forming, the quality of the material is unsuitable and one should speedily select another frequency.

D) There is also Dick Sheargold's theory of encapsulated thought forms. He holds that during our lifetime we build up mental images of people we have known or heard of, and that these dreamlike entities have a certain autonomy of expression. When we die, we find ourselves in the company of such figures and in that encapsulated state we would probably insist stoutly that the Spiritualists were right all along. Everyone that we remember (and a few others besides !) would be there to greet us just as we remember them.

Actually this concept would bear out much of the Spiritualist doctrines. Old Uncle Bill with his battered pipe would be there (looking much younger) so would dear Aunt Fanny with her flowered cottage and vine-covered trellis....

There are various other speculations, but it remains for further research to prove or disprove the various possible sources (including extra-terrestrial intelligences) who may have learned to use the PK tool and to remodulate sound and voice material.

AMENDMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS TO THE FOREGOING : -

AAA Richard K Sheargold's latest research, independent of my own, tends to result in a substantial body of agreement, especially in the most fundamental precept - that the paranormal voices are the result of metamorphosed, or remodulated, sound of natural origin.

Our only difference lies in the fact that Richard is feeding a pre-recorded "voice mush" into his recorder whilst I in my own words, have employed the same kind of mush "on station" (so to speak). It should be remembered that my own phenomena are the result of a mixing technique - that the sound emitted from my loudspeaker is immediately passed back to the tape via the microphone together with my own voice, and thus a kind of closed circuit is in effect. The various sounds are passing through the electromagnetic field of the recording head: arguably, it is within this field that the process of remodulation actually takes place.

In order to obtain independent verification of my ideas, I described the progress to Mr Dick Smith of Truro some time prior to the findings of R. Sheargold's. Unfortunately Mr Smith has found some difficulty in following the outlines, possibly due to a complexity in my own descriptiveness or perhaps to my inadequacy of expression. Verification, therefore is still pending.

TO BE CONTINUED

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THE FORTEAN TIMES - There is still doubt over whether the title is Fortean Times or something else but the magazine is still the same good value. A collection of a large variety of strange phenomena, book and magazine reviews, articles on the unknown etc. 1 year sub - £3.00 from Fortean Times, c/o DTWAGE, 9-12 St Annes Court, London W1, UK. Sample copy 75p.

THE MEDIUMSHIP OF THE TAPE RECORDER - David Ellis. A detailed survey of the electronic voice phenomena. And only £1.50 to EVPN readers.

EVP Newsletter - Published monthly by Alan Cleaver, 12 Lime Tree Avenue, Old Bilton, RUGBY, Warwickshire CV22 7QT England. £1.20 per annum.

Continuing the interview between Esotera (E) and Friedrich Jurgenson (J), the discoverer of the voice phenomenon.

- E Have the voices made any predictions and have you given any thought to the contact being so good some day that the term "Telephone to the beyond" can be used ?
- F The "dead" know our difficulties, our sceptical attitude our tendency to distort and organize everything. Therefore they will not comment on this until the communication bridge has been stabilized. As long as we get only fragments there is always the danger that we misunderstand it. They have hinted that they need a scientific demonstration method that would leave no doubt in peoples minds about the reality of the voice communication. If this should come about I would assume they have the means to manifest via radio in such a way that everybody would hear them. But not before that happens.
- E You mean regular radio broadcasts from the beyond ?
- J Yes - the regular programme would be interrupted. Then a well known voice would come in and announce himself or herself. Moreover I suspect they could technically come through on television. After all the principle of frequency transmission is the same. But they will not do anything unless the phenomenon has been accepted.
- E You mean there might even be pictures from the beyond on televisions one day ?
- J Yes live pictures just like you and I would look at. But they do not want to shock people. Until the general acceptance of the phenomenon such things would be doomed to failure. The Russians would call it capitalistic propaganda. You know how these things are. It would be torn apart in arguments. It is such a serious matter. Imagine Einstein appearing live on your TV screen. This kind of thing would have to be well prepared to avoid a terrible shock.
- E Do you have any idea how long that would take before it would be possible ?
- J One can not tell. At least partially it depends on my information gathering activity and on the efforts of all other serious experimentors. In this connection I would like to say that the sudden death of Konstantin Raudive last fall has been irreplaceable loss for us all. I miss him very much as a friend and a researcher. He has made a great contribution to voice research and to the expansion and acceptance of the phenomenon.

TO BE CONTINUED ...