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THE

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THE LONG MAN OF WILLMINGTON

-- an occasional column.

PURPLE HAZE -- dragon fans will perhaps have seen the obscene front cover of the last issue of "Purple Patch", the Durham University rag mag, regarded as the bawdiest of all varsityzines. Two dinosaurs are depicted in a compromising pose, and Robert Jackson, Annfield Plain clean-up campaigner protested at the issue. But it's being reprinted folks.....A DRAG -- Pop group Georgie Saint and the Dragons have a medley of old hits on the York label, inc. "Tutti Frutti"....BUT WOULD HE HAVE EXPELLED THE MARTIANS -- Our pal President Amin saw a UFO descend into Lake Victoria and take off again.....HI HO SILVER LINING -- Hill Leys, four-year-old hurdler, showing very poor form on the racetrack this season.....IT GIVES YOU THE NEEDLE -- Reuben B. Amber, aged 62, of Queens, New York, has become the first person in the U.S. to be arrested for illegal practice of acupuncture.....RAVISHING -- Carl Eagle of Whitley Bay History Club is organizing a Viking battle re-enactment for August Bank Holiday. He says:"We are especially keen to recruit bearded men. Young women will be required to act as camp followers; to look beautiful, tend the wounded or be ravished as the script directs." If interested Mr Eagle's number is Whitley Bay 23600.....WRITINGS ON THE WALL -- Mr Harry Battye, an ex-president of Pontefract Archaeological Society researches masons' marks and mediaeval graffiti. He says:"The mediaeval graffiti does not correspond to modern graffiti. They tend to be religious tracts and drawings by bored prisoners. Much of it is a mystery".....TOWERS OF STRENGTH -- Peter Laurie wrote a truly fascinating piece on secret (not any more) towers across the country (often on sacred hills, i.e. Pontop Pike) in The Sunday Times Magazine. It concludes:"These facts are touchingly like the theories of the fanatics of the leys - those invisible lines of old magic power that also run across the land....John Michell described their followers...'they see the leys as signs on a pathway leading through a celestial landscape into a prehistoric country." The Post Office towers and their lines of power are no less potent. But over what landscape do they lead, into what country?"

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THE ANCIENT SITE OF BRIGHTON

(with reference to the findings of J.F. Forbes)

by PATRICK BENHAM

One evening in the summer of 1958 the researcher and author John Foster Forbes gave a lecture entitled "The Spiritual Nature of Sussex" to the Sussex Vegetarian Society in Brighton. It was to be his last, for he died one week later in Brighton General Hospital after an emergency operation for peritonitis -- a physical condition which had a lot to do with his own indifference to his personal comfort and general well being. He was a lone figure, all too aware that very few people had much enthusiasm for his particular line of research.

Now I was fortunate in knowing him continuously throughout the last two years of his life -- which were spent in Brighton. At that time I had always lived in that area myself, and I was particularly impressed to find someone having a spiritual philosophy which looked not towards the "clouds of unknowing" but to the manifest qualities and features of a landscape which I knew so well. True his interests ranged far and wide and certainly beyond the confines of our own planet; but he was always adept at illustrating and revealing truths through the very stuff of the earth at his feet. That his last talk should have been given in Sussex, about Sussex, to Sussex people was particularly appropriate, for wherever he was he was always sought to show that there were local evidences that could reveal how man had once been able to harmonise his life with the powers of the greater universe and that he would one day come to do so again. More than that, I think he felt that the area had a special significance and that it would ultimately have an important part to play in the days of reawakening. But for all that, what are the indications of Brighton having been such a vital centre?

Some years previously Foster Forbes had identified a number of local features that suggested a very ancient origin. First, the ancient "mother church" of St Nicholas is sited on the crown of a small hill which lies well outside the limits of the original settlement -- a sure indication of a Christian takeover of pagan holy ground. Also, he traced the old name for the town -- Brightelmstone -- back even further to Bostalmestune. "Bostal" being a causeway and "mes" (or "maes") meaning a sacred enclosure. This sacred enclosure must have been where the church now stands; but what of the causeway? Perhaps the best clue is in the fair-sized sarsen-type stone located in an alleyway near the Clock Tower called Air Street, at its junction with Zion Gardens. Forbes was very interested in this and managed to get a write up and photograph into the local paper (Evening Argus, May 18, 1951). He conjectured that this stone was one of many in an avenue which led from the low ground at what is now the Old Steine (or place of stones) up to the top of the hill where at one time there was a Bronze Age tumulus and megalithic circle. Recognition of this ancient site is given in the book "Old Brighton" by Harrison and North.

"It needs an appeal to the imagination to visualise the place of St Nicholas's Church as a dome-like downland summit crowned with a ring of stones without building until Saxon times."

There must have also been a formation of stones in the Old Steine area, for among the reeds at the base of the ornamental fountain are some stones of the typical sarsen type.

On the strength of this evidence, Foster Forbes brought along Iris Campbell to investigate further by psychometry at the church site. Her reading opened:

"This was formerly a sun worship spot, but I do not pick up so far any great ritual. I feel however that this was a magnetic centre to which people were drawn and as they performed their simple act of worship to the Solar Deity and felt the warmth of his being within themselves, they became once more at one with the Solar Being and recognised his absoluteness.....We, in this interpretation (or small guide) are taking you backward to the old earth walks and ways; for men have only followed the earth's magnetic streams which were first of all worked over by the Little People.

"What is the object of having a megalithic avenue -- such as there was here -- if the stones were not to conduct magnetism to the earth? His magnetism was taken up on the bodies of those who processed through the avenues especially at times of ceremonial procession (perhaps at the equinoxes?)."

It is significant that the psychometrist had no foreknowledge of a megalithic avenue at Brighton, and also that she emphasises the very potent magnetic influences in the area which continue to affect the very individual atmosphere of the place even today. Wander around some of the quieter parts of the town at night, and you are in touch with something very beautiful and rather unusual, all subtly intensified by the distant echoing presence of the sea.

But things do not stop short at the church site, for in all directions along the Downs and inland is a proliferation of evidence which suggests that Sussex was once a very vital centre of ancient science and magic.

The next immediate site is the place known as St Anne's Well Gardens situated about half a mile to the west of the church. It is now a municipal park, nicely looked after, with a wider central area of trees, bushes and pathways. Here one finds one site of the original well of St Anne -- now a trickle of water -- which was heavily exploited in the last century for its remedial properties. A large pump room -- now demolished -- once stood over the spring. The well is situated on the side of a small hill which is clearly visible as a rounded hump on old prints on which it is simply referred to as "The Wick". It was at one time part of the estate of Wick Farm, but our only reminder of this today is in the name of a large block of flats nearby called Wick Hall. This suggests a possible connection with Wicca, and I have certainly always sensed a strong association of the site with the moon, perhaps in polarity with the sun centre at the church site. According to one local tradition a ghostly witch can be seen passing at midnight along one of the pathways in the park on her way to the well. I have a vague idea -- and this needs checking -- that there is also a story of a witch drowning in the well. Foster Forbes too recognised the significance of St Anne's "Wick" with its chalybeate spring in the local scheme, but I don't think he ever wrote about it.

A little to the south-west of the Gardens there was once a large round barrow in what is now the garden of No. 13 Palmeira Avenue, Hove, which was destroyed in 1856. Every Good Friday it was visited by numbers of children who played Kiss in the Ring and similar games upon it. An unusual red amber cup was found in an oak coffin in the barrow together with some human remains and a stone axe hammer and bronze dagger.

About a mile away in Hove Park stands a massive conglomerate boulder known as the Gold Stone, which according to its inscription was a druidical holy stone. It certainly exerts an influence over the locality, if only through the Drives, Villas, Crescents, etc., named after it. Over the road is the home pitch of the local football team called the Goldstone Ground. This practice of acknowledging the importance of certain stones seems to have caught on in Sussex. Near Lewes, on top of a hill called Black Cap, is a sarsen stone set in with a metal plate telling us that this ancient stone was returned to its original site to commemorate the Coronation Day of Queen Elizabeth II. One wonders where it spent its vacation. It may surprise some people to know that stones and stone complexes are not uncommon in this part of southern England. The village of Alfriston has dozens, although - sadly - I hear that some of the more obvious of these have disappeared since I last saw them more than ten years ago (Action please from local researchers!).

Considering the Brighton area as a whole, it seems a "natural" magnetic centre of considerable potency, augmented by the effects of ancient rituals and the invocations of men long ago: all contributing to a present day atmosphere that is creatively stimulating and outgoing and yet deeply and poetically linked to the buried powers and feelings of the past. I have left the question of leys open to anyone who feels like pioneering an investigation. I haven't tried myself yet, but I suspect the results could be quite revealing. Where there is a strong "feed" of power even quite ordinary people can unconsciously come under its influence. Writers are often susceptible in this way, and this seems to have been demonstrated in the final paragraph of an otherwise ordinary little guidebook called "Sussex", by Clifford Musgrave.

"Along the crest of the downs the prehistoric ridgeway from Beachy Head runs westwards, crossing the gap of the River Ouse, climbing again beyond Lewes, wriggling past Cissbury and its neolithic flint mines, making for Stonehenge and Avebury in Wiltshire, the great religious centres of this country in the second millenium B.C. Here on a slope of downland between the sea and the Weald is the ageless essential Sussex, secretly remote but linked with the long roads of Europe."

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A LOOK AT AVEBURY

by MOLLIE CAREY

People who visit Avebury usually go around the main circle and look at Silbury Hill, and don't bother to look

at the other sites which make up the Avebury complex. Few bother to look at the Beckhampton longstones, two huge sarsen blocks that once had another to form a "cove" of three stones like that at Stanton Drew circles and other sites. There was another such in the main circle at Avebury. Dr Stukely thought that there had been another avenue from the circle down to these stones, and but for his drawings and descriptions, no record of this would be likely to exist. On his testimony it extended from the western entrance at Avebury across Winterbourne, and then S.W. to a spot in the valley west of Beckhampton, its length being the same as that of the West Kennet Avenue. When he made his plans only about 30 stones remained; a few still in pairs. Some think that some of the

stones he saw may have been natural, for all but three were recumbent; but the proven reliability of his plans of the other avenue makes it rather rash to assume that none of them were artificially placed there. An 18th Century curate of Avebury recorded that this other avenue was visible, though not as perfect as the other, in the memory of John Clements, then aged 81, who would point it out. Two farmers demolished it. Bryan King collected and published such evidence as he could find in 1879, and noted that some very large sarsens had been used in the stone causeway leading to the bridge over the Winterbourne, and in the foundations of the bridge itself, and that other large stones could be seen along the presumed course of the avenue. He also found patches of sarsen chips in the field on either side of the longstones, showing that sarsens had been broken up there. Other evidence pointed to stones having existed on the line indicated by Stukely.

Now let's take a look at the name AVEBURY. It is very likely that the three first letters AVE are part of the original name, and it may have been Averis Latergus or something similar. I have located an ancient town named Averis in Egypt, and what could be another link at Axum in Ethiopia, the oldest and most holy city in that land. For here there is an almost identical circle to Avebury, and was reputed to have been dedicated to the snake gods served by the priest king Avaris or Ataris. Here we have a serpent link, and I hope to find out more about this place some time. This is all I can find about the name so far, but it seems a good start.

Not far away from the longstones is Silbury Hill, and it was while I was standing on the top of this huge mound that I had a strong impression of bright blue wings and a red ball of fire. This must be a symbol of some sort. Blue seems to be the dominant colour as a link to the ancient sites, because I came across it at Stonehenge and Cley Hill at Warminster, and with the god kings of Egypt. Also this colour links with the ancient Americas. (Has the expression "blue blooded" anything to do with it?).

When prior to the excavations at Silbury Hill in 1968-9 I received a leaflet from the Paraphysical Laboratory, Downtown, inviting me to take part in an experiment to see if "sensitives" could detect where objects could be found, I could only get the impression "NOTHING NOTHING, STEPPED PYRAMID", and believing that I was no good at this sort of thing I didn't send the leaflet in, although I wrote down what came through. I told friends what had happened and forgot all about it until friends told me that Prof. Atkinson had said on TV that the terrace near the top was a feature of the mound, and that it might be a pyramid. A STEPPED PYRAMID! I realized then that nothing had been found in the mound, so I had been right! I had fallen into the trap of supposing that something would be found. It was too late to regret that I hadn't sent the leaflet in, but at least the people I had told were excited about it. This encouraged me to go on with the research.

The construction of this mound shows a concern by the builders for stability, and the piled material has been laid in horizontal layers each divided into numerous sectors by radial and circumferential walls of chalkblocks; and the inner side of the ditch had been protected from frost-weathering, which would have undermined the edge of the mound, by piling against it horizontal layers of chalk rubble, held in place by timber revetment. This is unknown elsewhere in earthworks of this date, and it shows that the builders of Silbury had a remarkable knowledge of civil engineering, which was so effective as to stop the shape of the mound altering

since it was built. This huge mound had been expertly built for some special purpose, and to get it right it had been altered at one stage, as the remains of a ditch has been covered over by the final construction. This was no place for ceremonies, for no steps were cut into the sides, and the steepness would have made it difficult of access to the top, and one cannot "pick up" an atmosphere like there is on the Dragon Hills or other Holy places. I have heard that the top of the mound was flattened by some former owner so that bowls could be played there, and if this is so then the top would have been more rounded than today. The impression one gets is that this place was not climbed regularly, for the builders were quite capable of making steps, traces of which would remain to this day.

As the ditch was about 125' wide and 30' deep it is hard to picture ceremonies taking place around the base, it is a pity that some people can only see a religious significance in the ancient sites, and some people compare this mound with American temples on the tops of mounds, not realizing that the American temples were built on top of each other, and were piled up on the rubble of older temples and not on actual earth mounds.

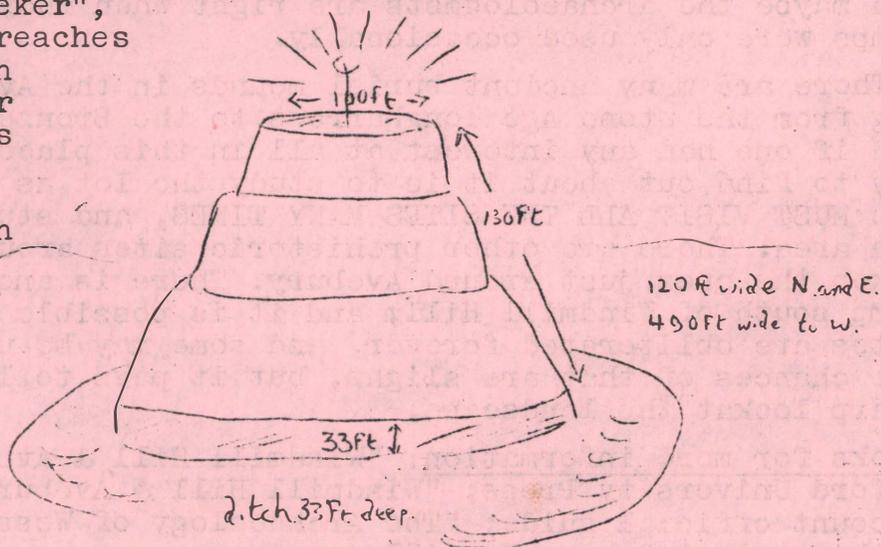
My own impressions are that this mound is connected with science in some way, and that it may have had a "pearly light" on a post on the top, although I cannot get the light clear in my mind.

The stones of the circles at Avebury cannot be seen from the top of this mound, although the outer bank can just be glimpsed in the distance, and the stone avenue goes down the other side of Waden Hill and is completely out of sight, but the West Kennet longbarrow can be seen on the hill opposite, and it was on one of the stones there that I found the carving of a lion's head. All the stones have pictures on them, although now they are very hard to see.

I shall not dwell on the main circles, as they are so well known, only to mention that I have found some of the pictures on these stones. Edith Wallis, a "sensitive" from Swindon was brought to this large circle by Swindon Psychic Research Society, and B.B.C. TV cameras were there too. She is blind so she touched the stones and sensed the pictures on them. She said: "I am becoming more and more convinced that there is a story in the stones, it is as if the stones are pieces in a jigsaw puzzle -- almost like writing pages of history. I think that we are just treading on the fringe of something that could go very deep, you could delve very deeply into this and find a lot of hidden mysteries!" She also said that to go deeper into this one she would have to visit the place many times, to walk around the stones to get the feel of it. I was shown the newspaper report of the visit, and I wrote to her and she came to see me, accompanied by members of the society. She is a "Seeker", which means that she reaches out for the truth with nothing to obscure her vision, because she is not trying to prove anything by "bringing" any theories to fit in to what she "sees".

Silbury Hill

Not to
SCALE



7.

Because she knows nothing about the people who lived here, she is not thrown off the track by any preconceived ideas of who they were. I hope to visit some of the ancient places with her some time in the future.

The stone avenue goes down to West Kennet, and I found a circle to the east of this one day, just because I felt a strong urge to visit the spot as I worked in the avenue one day. I didn't know of it. It has a diameter of about 120' and one stone is still standing. The avenue does not follow a straight line to West Kennet, and I think it may be because it follows something underground, and also has something to do with the way the sun shines on the stones.

The Sanctuary on Overton Hill at the end of the avenue, although now completely destroyed, was probably a key site, and certainly was an important part of the Avebury complex, and Stukely wrote this of it: "From time immemorial people have had a high notion of it, they still call it the Sanctuary." He went on to say that when it was destroyed by a farmer, almost everyone lamented it. The short avenue, which extends N.W. may have met the West Kennet avenue at or near the present village of West Kennet, from which it may have continued as a single unit to the River Kennet. I believe that some skeletons were found near the Sanctuary with their feet facing towards it. It seems to have been in use for a long time, and was altered three times until the last settings of stones was built there. I have not space to describe all this here but the information is easy to obtain. But one thing worth noting is that this place had been venerated for many centuries after the true meaning and use of the place had been forgotten, and it bears similarities to the henge at Mount Pleasant, Dorset, which I described in my last article, and here too one feels close to the gods.

There is a very small circle of sarsens in Langdean Bottom of about 33' diameter, about a mile south of East Kennet longbarrow, and it is situated in a valley with two parallel rows of sarsens placed upright about 10-13 yards apart and some 45 yards long to the east of the circle.

Windmill Hill is a neolithic camp and there are two Bronze Age round barrows inside it, and others around. Unlike the one at Maiden Castle, Dorset, this camp didn't have a later Iron Age fort built on the hill, so the ditches silted up and part of it is ploughed away, but as at Maiden Castle one feels that this was only a part, and not a very important one, of the whole complex, and maybe the archaeologists are right when they say that these camps were only used occasionally.

There are many ancient burial mounds in the Avebury area, ranging from the Stone Age longbarrows to the Bronze Age round barrows, and if one had any interest at all in this place then the right way to find out about it is to study the lot as one ancient centre. One MUST VISIT ALL THE SITES MANY TIMES, and study the maps of the area. There are other prehistoric sites around, but I have taken the ones just around Avebury. There is another neolithic camp south of Windmill Hill and it is possible that some other sites are obliterated forever, and some may be undetected, although the chances of that are slight, but it pays to learn to take a sharp look at the landscape.

Books for more information: "Windmill Hill & Avebury", Keiller, Oxford University Press; "Windmill Hill & Avebury", excavations account official guide; "The Archaeology of Wessex", Grinsell, Methuen; I" O.S. map No. 157.

U.F.O. PHENOMENA & AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS (Part I)

by IAN B. WRIGHT

This article by Ian B. Wright, written in September 1959, with some incidents updated in 1960, is introduced by the writer as follows:

"The article that follows was originally set down in manuscript in early 1959 when a number of friends and associates of the author were either involved or succumbed in aircraft accidents of various sorts and around which a touch of the unknown existed. A more than passing interest of the author was also in the field of U.F.O. phenomena and trains of thought naturally brought the two subjects together in the manner described.

"Looking back 13 years still leaves one room for thought and although some of the accidents have since been attributed to "natural" and others to straightforward causes, some of the facets touched upon are still as mysterious and unanswered today as a decade past."

Some thoughts.

The following is a condensation of some rather unconventional abstract thoughts. There is no intention of trying to dogmatise or even suggest a hypothesis on the subject but merely to present fuel for thought. Certain incidents and points of argument herein are authentic and confirmable. However, some such incorrect data does not necessarily detract from the general argument as, and let it be repeated, the intention is to air only some thoughts which may find more fruitful minds for development.

For some time it has been apparent that the frequency of aircraft accidents, particularly ones which are not adequately explained, has been such that an enquiring eyebrow might well be raised. At the present day rapidity of technical advance in aeronautical engineering and allied sciences it would seem that air safety should get progressively better and accident causation should be adequately understood, if not entirely preventable. However, such does not seem to be the case and the reasons for this are not, it is suggested, altogether, clear.

First of all make a brief view of some current ideas and theories, although some might not necessarily be new, which have been recently discussed. The "vortex" theory could be taken as a basic unit as could the theory (indeed a now measurable one) of the increase in cosmic ray activity and intensity within the regions of the universe where our solar system is now travelling. Bear in mind also some recent hypotheses of "amoeba-type" life in the atmosphere sometimes visible in the infra-red, of electromagnetic spaceship propulsion and postulations on extraterrestrial life.

It is perhaps possible, after all, that regions of the Earth's atmosphere where present-day aircraft now frequent are not as empty as presupposed and that some phenomena which in fact take place in these regions although alone invisible have very material effects which can, in cases, be disastrous.

Cosmic vortex.

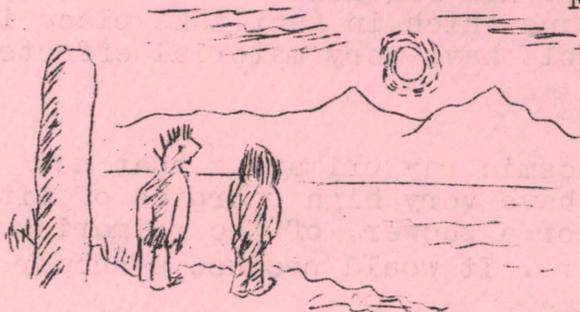
Let it be suggested that of the cosmic ray primaries that now approach the earth certain of them have very high energies of hitherto unknown amounts. Suppose one, or a shower, of the primaries entered the Earth's upper atmosphere. It would produce a shower of

secondaries, themselves of unusually high energies, and would also have peculiar local effects upon the Earth's magnetic field. Assume that a primary cosmic ray is an energy packet its composition being neither material, as we know it, or pure energy which is not literally definable but of a state which we at present do not understand; rather like the basic "something" which manifests as electricity, magnetism, gravity, static in non-conducting materials and in radio activity. Effects of impact of a cosmic ray primary need not be confined therefore to the purely material constituents of the atmosphere, but could produce atmospheric phenomena of an electric or electromagnetic nature also. Having assumed entry of a cosmic ray primary and its production of a secondary shower in the lower atmosphere, imagine an associated local "electromagnetic" disturbance in the Earth's natural magnetic field. Let this take the form of a magnetic "whirlpool", a vortex in other words. It is then possible that by its nature there occurs a disturbed volume of airspace in which there are confined electric or electromagnetic fields of varying intensity and, that there has been a concentration of the molecular components of the local atmosphere at or near the centre of the vortex. This concentration would have the physical effect of increasing barometric pressure which, unless cloud formed, would itself be invisible.

By supposition, a disturbed area is produced in the atmosphere which is not visible or in the general sense detectable. Assume now that a present-day conventional aircraft approaches this disturbance. If at a high speed or near its critical Mach number and the disturbance is small but intense the aircraft could well run into the increased atmospheric density very quickly indeed with effects on controllability and in buffet, being in excess of the design and strength of the aircraft. To all intents, the ultimate effects on a conventional aircraft of such an encounter could be loss of control culminating with break-up of the airframe. Alternatively if the aircraft is slower or bigger with the auto-pilot in use the rapid alteration in barometric pressure would be sensed by the height sensing mechanism. These could, by being quickly misled as to the true height situation, produce large and rapid corrections to control surfaces consequently applying violent changes of attitude to the aircraft and its flight path.

In higher flying aircraft with large pressure cabins and flying at high Mach numbers rapid encounter with volumes of very dense, or rare, atmospheric pressure could quickly lead to break up of the pressure cabin structure. Should the disturbed area flown into be denser than the normal altitude density, a pressure cabin could quickly be subject to negative differential pressure causing inward collapse, or implosion, of the cabin. If the pressure change was not sufficient to break up the structure on negative pressurisation at least some structural weakness could be caused which, on the aircraft leaving the disturbed dense atmospheric region could repressurise, positively, the cabin to such an extent that over

From "The Armada Book of
Cartoons" (20p).



"THERE MUST BE A STACK OF THEM
BEHIND THAT HILL — ONE DROPS
BEHIND THERE EVERY NIGHT."

pressurisation of an already weakened cabin takes place with subsequent failure.

Up to now only the possible effects of flying into patches of dense or rare atmosphere have been considered, but consider possible electric or electromagnetic effects. It is possible that the electromagnetic disturbances cover a much larger volume than the volumes of differential pressure and aircraft in the vicinity of such disturbances could, by flying through force fields, induce incident current flows in the airframe structure. Once again assuming that the disturbed area is not truly electromagnetic but akin to it, the induced currents or force fields in the airframe would not necessarily be measurable on conventional instruments. Whether they are or not, disturbances of the molecular structures of certain of the metallic alloys in the airframe could be of such extent that change in the inherent atomic structure takes place with consequent weakening of the strength members. Changes such as these need not be, in themselves, gross or catastrophic, but if the atomic change in the structure was irreversible it is possible that by frequent or numerous contacts even on the fringes of disturbed areas the weakening effect on the structure could be cumulative. This in turn would culminate in structural failure, probably in flight, with all the outward appearance of metal fatigue being the cause.

Flying in the vicinity of or through such an electrical type of disturbance area could have other types of effect also. Intense areas of disturbance could well affect any normal electrical apparatus very considerably; even to the extent of causing absolute failure. Magnetic and even radio compasses could be equally grossly disturbed and radar returns of scanning stations could be disturbed considerably. It may be suggested that induced currents in the airframe structure could cause both structural and atmospheric heating within the aircraft, heating sometimes to the extent of causing instantaneous combustion of the fuel.

The existence of such disturbed areas would, it could be assumed, be transient and the size of such areas could be from a few cubic yards to miles. Locations of the areas would be random but it might be expected that some of the incoming cosmic ray primaries, some geomagnetic areas would have more likelihood for disturbance than others.

(Part II in the next issue)

MISCELLANY: Bill Porter, of 54 Clements Road, East Ham, London, E6 2DF, seeks contact with anyone wishing to sell a HARDBACK copy of John Michell's "The Flying Saucer Vision".....answer to the reader who asked -- ley is pronounced "lay", as in Leyton or Leyburn.....Mrs M. Mills is keen to contact persons with information on leys in the Greenwich and Blackheath areas. Anyone able to help can contact her at 24 Humber Road, London SE3 7LT.....If you want details of the Companions to Save Our Wild Flowers write to Lady Morland, c/o Yorkshire Post, P.O. Box 168, Leeds 1.....memo to Hans Lauritzen -- your communication arrived already opened, yawn.....a Christian community as a venture of faith opened Lee (Ley originally) Abbey on Michelamas (note Michael) Day 1945 and is thriving in North Devon.....new book club, the Ancient History Book Club, has been announced by Book Club Associates (W.H. Smith & Sons and New York booksellers Doubleday & Doran) which also involves digs and visits. Members will be offered a selection of ancient history books monthly at up to 1/3 off list prices....

LETTERS:LETTERS:LETTERS

Mary le Masson writes: If Phillip Jones (T.L.H. 37) rejects such values as intuition, psychic awareness, etc., then he is merely proving that his mind is too small to comprehend what it cannot see. Like a child he can only perceive what is in front of him at any given moment. Mr Jones' attitude is rather like a child to a toy it can't understand; he attempts to destroy it in order to find out how it works. Does Mr Jones think his ostrich like antics (burrowing into the ground) will teach him anything? I fear he will remain unenlightened till the end of time. Can he not see that the truth is WITHIN him, not outside him. The truth is within us all, but locked in the subconscious. It is only when the subconscious is unearthed that real truths are revealed. He accuses Paul Screeton of being "only interested in romantic speculation, and the perpetrating of myths". Does he not know that what one perceives from the "inner worlds" (the subconscious) is far nearer the truth than so called facts derived from the physical world. The physical world is after all illusion. There has always been conflict between the intuitive and logical thinkers. The logical thinkers look for facts, but how can he accept them as facts if they do not comply with something within himself? Consequently no one can teach us anything we don't already know. Paul Screeton's remark that "which came first the iron or the bronze age doesn't matter" is acceptable when one considers that the energy is the important factor. The energy exists, and no further argument is needed."

EDITOR: I had not intended allowing the Glastonbury debate continue in these columns but could not resist Lillian Chappelle's letter which began -- "I fully realise that this letter has no chance of being published in your increasingly dubious magazine." Lillian previously submitted a highly libellous letter regarding "Mysterious Britain"; the libel being of the publisher. The most recent communication being a P.R. job for Tony Roberts and an attack on an author and a statement that Tony "understates" the Glastonbury situation. For your added information I did not pay Tony for any of his articles. No one has been paid. Such magazines, however, invariably send voucher copies only to writers.

Now we come to Simon Spencer-Farrish who thinks Tony has "done much to enhance The Ley Hunter's contents lately"; describes a recent letter as "arrogant ravings"; and like Lillian hated the article on the Elemental, which, incidentally, I thought excellent. Simon ends thus, "You are a cheap spiritual fascist; and the sooner you get to the astral plane the better!"

And now for something completely weary. Memo to John Nicholson - I suggest that you spend more time attending to the competent running of your shops rather than pointing out trivial mistakes and harming a friendship.

People actually appreciate The Ley Hunter and write to say so. Not all the material leads to abuse. Thanks to the Scandinavian PhD. who praised Leslie Marr's article as a major contribution to oronomy.

PROFESSOR THOM & the CARNAC ALIGNMENTS

Prof. Alexander Thom, in a recent letter, told me of his current researches, and the forthcoming publications relating to them. It will interest all ley hunters to read of his latest news, I feel sure.

Following the publication of MEGALITHIC SITES IN BRITAIN (O.U.P.,

1967) and MEGALITHIC LUNAR OBSERVATORIES (O.U.P. 1971), Professor Thom has resumed his survey of the Carnac alignments. He informs me that these recent surveys were published in THE JOURNAL FOR THE HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY. In addition, all the published papers have been made into a jacket reprint, entitled THE CARNAC ALIGNMENTS (price £1) and available from Science History Publications Ltd., Halfpenny Furze, Mill Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks.

Of the future, Professor Thom says that there are more papers in preparation; the next one is due for publication in the June issue of THE JOURNAL FOR THE HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY. But perhaps the best news of all is the fact that there is a project afoot to publish ALL his surveys of megalithic sites -- a good many of which are not to be found on Ordnance Survey maps.

After Professor Thom's illness last year, I am sure that we all wish him the best of health, so that he may continue his fine work, which is a real inspiration to all those interested in the objective side of our study. As he reflected recently, "it is a limitless job", and may I add, so are the possibilities. -- Bill Porter.

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The Hawthorn Tree

As I float silent in a dream
O'er cities fields and sea,
There in a wood beside a stream
I see an ancient hawthorn tree.

Old and gnarled its branches grow,
But from its centre bright
There burns a strange unearthly glow,
An eerie, ghostly light.

Drifting to its cool deep shade,
I hear a golden chime,
And feel this is a fairy glade
Of vibrant life sublime.

From inner fires the leaves reflect
A thousand stars of green,
I come in awe and deep respect
Such magic to have seen.

Amidst its roots of twisted age
An open space I see,
The light so bright comes from this cave,
Like moonlight on the sea.

Then as a dragonfly in flight
A vibrant sound begins,
Music soft, yet heavenly light,
As gossamer violins.

Fearful that I trespass on
A sacred realm of elves,
Still move I cannot, as a song
Flows forth like silver bells.

Then in the opening below
A pixie figure stands,
Dressed in fur from head to toe,
With small white face and hands.

He looks just like a little child
With wisdom in his eyes,
He stares at me, his face so mild,
Alarm within me flies.

A BOOKS & MAGAZINES
REVIEW with NEWS
WILL APPEAR NEXT
MONTH.

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- Anon of Holt

He does not speak, but asks my name,
His thoughts come to my mind,
He wants to know from whence I came,
And more about my kind.

Then as our thoughts so swiftly
blend,
In waves of elven green,
A peaceful drowsy feeling ends
Enchantment, and my dream.

-- Tessa Povey.