



ANCIENT SKIES

"Come Search With Us!"

Official Logbook of the Ancient Astronaut Society

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VOLUME 2, NUMBER 5

600 TALCOTT RD., PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS 60068 USA

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1975

EXTRATERRESTRIALS FOUGHT FOR CHARLEMAGNE

By W. RAYMOND DRAKE*

On rare occasions "Students of Spacemen" find their frustrating research suddenly thrilled by a startling discovery which illuminates the past with wonder and supports their belief that extraterrestrials have influenced mankind throughout history. Some years ago I was perusing Migne's "Patrologiae," Tomus CIV, a ponderous volume with a thousand pages in curious Latin comprising several chronicles from eighth and ninth century France, a fascinating work not generally known. I read that from his capital Aix-la-Chapelle (Aachen), Charlemagne (742-814), the "Light of the Dark Ages", had created the Holy Roman Empire, including the future France, Germany, Italy and Austria, thus uniting Christendom into one glorious, imaginative, supranational State, which after more than a thousand years of war and bloodshed, we ourselves are struggling to re-create today as the Common Market, then a United Europe.

The Emperor Charlemagne's many subjects rebelled against Imperialism, and Charles the Great (Carolus Magnus) was constantly warring to suppress national revolts all over his vast domain. The most troublesome rebels proved to be the Saxons, ancestors of the present-day East Germans. I read the account of Agobard, the Archbishop of Lyons in AD 840, concerning "Aerial Spirits", then skimming through several more pages, I chanced upon the "Annales Laurissenses" (Annals of Laurence) for the year AD 776. Suddenly the turgid Latin resolved into a most exciting tale of spacemen beyond my wildest dreams, and my own translation hereinafter set forth may be the only English version now extant. For the enlightenment of future students the Annals of Laurence are hereby resurrected from obscurity to describe a classic sighting of space-ships twelve centuries ago:

"DCCLXXVI (AD776). Then Our Lord, Charles the King, went forth into Italy to assault the lands around Foruli: Hrodgaudus was killed, and our above-mentioned King Charles (Charlemagne) celebrated Easter with the citizens of Tarvisium. The citizens captured at Foruli with the citizens left behind at Tarvisium who had rebelled, he distributed them all among the French, and again with prosperity and victory he returned to France. Then a messenger arrived announcing that the Saxons had re-

belled and massacred all their hostages and had broken their solemn oaths. They had pacified the castle at Aeresburg by evil and sinister ingenuity, thereupon persuading the French to leave, so that when Aeresburg was abandoned by the French they destroyed its walls and fortifications. Advancing from there they sought to do likewise at Sigiburg. The French with the aid of God opposed them courageously so they in no way prevailed. But to pacify the garrison within the fortress, the Saxons were unable to destroy them as they had done the others in the other castle, so they began to prepare their forces and catapults to capture it by valour, God willing, the balista of stones, which they had set up, did more damage to themselves than to those living in the fortress. Now when the Saxons perceived it was not going in their favour, they began to erect scaffolding from which they could bravely storm the castle itself. But God is good as well as just. He overcame their valour, and on the same day they prepared assault against the Christians, who lived within the castle, the Glory of God appeared in manifestation above the church within the fortress. Those watching outside in that place, of whom many still live to this very day, said they beheld the likeness of two large shields reddish in colour in motion flaming above the church, (et dicunt vidisse instar duorum scutorum colore rubeo flammantes et agitantes super ipsam ecclesiam) and when the pagans who were outside saw this sign, they were at once thrown into confusion and terrified with panic, were driven to take headlong flight, some killed others indiscriminately, glancing back in panic, then hurling their spear, which they carried by their shoulders, at those fleeing before them; others were struck by blows among themselves, and by the divine retribution judged down upon them. How the goodness of God for the deliverance of the Christians had worked upon them, none could relate, but the greater the Saxons became terrified by increasing fear, so much more were the Christians comforted and they praised the omnipotence of the Lord, who had graciously extended His power over His servants.

"And as the Saxons took flight from there, the French harried them, slaying them as far as the River Lippy. The castle was saved and the French returned victorious. And when our Lord, King Charles, came to Worms and heard of all these events, he began a meeting of the people held with public acclaim. After the Council had met, with the aid of God, by swiftness and (Continued on next page)

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(Continued from first page)

great enterprise, he suddenly stormed the Saxon stronghold and defences. The terrified Saxons all assembled at the place where the Lippy rises, coming from all parts they surrendered their country in a pledge given by all present, they solemnly swore to become Christians and to submit to the laws of our Lord, Charles the King, and of the French. Then our Lord, King Charles, together with the French, rebuilt the castle of Aeresburg and another castle (Lipstadt) over the Lippy: there the Saxons had come with their wives and innumerable children, the multitude was baptised and they gave hostages, which our Lord, King Charles, demanded from them. When the above-mentioned fortresses were complete, they were handed over to the French troops stationed there as garrisons. Our Lord, the King, returned to France and celebrated Christmas at Nimoegeen." (Migne. "Patrologiae", Tom. CIV, Saeculum IX, "Annales Laurissenses:", P.404)

The wild Saxons defying God and Man were massed to overwhelm the fort when suddenly they were paralyzed by the appearance of two reddish-coloured "shields" flaming and manoeuvring above the church; the pagans stared in wonder then they fled, stabbing and killing their own comrades in panic, terrified by this visitation from the skies. Such startling manifestation strains our belief until we recall the alleged intervention of "Flying Shields" to shatter the walls of Tyre besieged by Alexander the Great in 332BC. Pliny, in his "Historia Naturalis, Vol. 11, Chap. XXXIV, marvels "In the consulship of Lucius Valerius and Gaius Marius (100BC) a burning shield scattering sparks ran across the sky at sunset from east to west." Flying shields are mentioned by Seneca in "Naturales Quaestiones", Book 1, 1-15, and Book 7, 20-22. Also, only eighteen years ago on the night of November 3-4, 1957, "a luminous flying object" radiating "its strong orange glow" hovered over the fortress at Itaipu in Brazil, then suddenly overwhelmed the sleeping garrison with beams of severe heat and seriously burned both sentries on duty cutting out electric circuits and rendering the fort impotent.

Laurence, that unknown monk, quietly and laboriously penning his beautiful Latin script, accepted the "Flying Shields" without surprise. Were not such signs recorded in the Scriptures as the very substance of his faith? The old French chronicler, Gregory of Tours (538-594), author of "Historia Francorum" in sixteen books, mentioned several notable occasions when "golden globes" flew in the skies of France. Had not the Venerable Bede across that cold North Sea fifty years earlier written his "Ecclesiastical History" full of such prodigies? These "Fiery Shields" were Messengers from the good "Lord" above, "Angels" sent to punish the Pagans. Our Chronicler hints that at the time of writing, many witnesses were still alive. How his pious soul must have marvelled at their miraculous tale, so often told! His clear, colourful description conjured up that vivid image burned on his brain. He has chosen his words with deliberation, rejecting "clypeus", the small oval shield carried by the lightly-armed soldiers and stressing instead "scutum", the large quadrangular shield made of wood covered with hides borne by the heavy infantry. The valiant Saxons would not be scared easily. We can well picture two huge Spaceships, vibrating like fire, poised a few hundred feet above their heads. Monk Laurence talks of divine retribution as though the Celestials assisted in the slaughter.

Whatever the prodigy, the Germans rushed to get baptised with a haste showed neither before nor since. Even in our cynical, sophisticated Society today, two flaming spaceships from the "Lord" over Moscow and Washington would change the world!

SIBLEY S. MORRILL AND THE CRYSTAL SKULL

Shortly before his death in August, 1975, Sibley S. Morrill, author of Ponape, wrote to Ancient Skies as follows:

"My new book Ambrose Bierce, Mitchell-Hedges and the Crystal Skull, may interest you because of the very real possibility (not mentioned in the book) that the famous crystal skull either had an extraterrestrial origin or was produced by people who either were extraterrestrials here on Earth or who received their extraordinary knowledge from them.

"It is definitely established that the Maya were remarkable astronomers. It is also completely certain that neither the Maya nor any other ancient race could have made the crystal skull unless they possessed techniques and instruments they are no longer known to have had."

Mr. Morrill's books can be obtained from the Cadleon Press, P.O.Box 24, San Francisco, CA 94101.

ANTI-GRAVITY

In these days of energy shortages, what would a weightless aeroplane be worth? I am speaking of a strong, rigidly built fighter or jetliner. We can have that, and much more, when our science develops a strong metal or plastic that repels gravity.

When electricity magnetizes a piece of iron, it becomes a magnet to attract other pieces of iron. The attraction can be turned on or off at will. Two iron particles with negative charges repel each other.

A body of matter attracts other bodies of matter. We call that weight, or gravity. Since they attract, they can be made to repel each other. Can any scientist deny this?

I believe matter can be made to repel other matter; it may require a charge of electromagnetic waves in some form, or a bombardment by quarks. I am only a machinist with no knowledge of physics or electronics. I know nothing about how it can be done, but I am sure our scientists can do it.

A few billions spent to develop anti-gravity would be nothing compared to the energy it would save, plus a thousand other benefits to mankind. With anti-gravity, we could really begin to explore galactic space and soft-land on any planet. O.L. Hope, 425 E. Davidson Ave., Gastonia, NC 28052.

Tiny figurine at right was found at Aspero, on the Pacific coast north of Lima, Peru. Archaeologists estimate the figurine to be about 4,000 yrs. old.

Aspero is known as a preceramic archaeological site, due to the fact that the inhabitants of the site did not make fired pottery.

This figurine, as well as others found at the site, has narrow slit, slanted eyes.

The size of the figurine can be estimated in relation to the thumb-nail.



Photo: Espinosa - PERUTIMES

BOOK REVIEW - MIRACLES OF THE GODS
By ERICH VON DANIKEN
Souvenir Press (1975)

It is unfortunate that the English publishers of Erich von Daniken's latest book chose the misleading title of Miracles of the Gods. Obviously, the intent was to make the reader believe that this is the latest in von Daniken's Gods series - Chariots of the Gods?, Gods From Outer Space, Gold of the Gods, and In Search of Ancient Gods - but, in fact, Miracles is not concerned with the ancient astronaut theory, nor was it intended to be.

Originally published in the German as Erscheinungen, the author called the book "Apparitions" in English, and that is what the book is really about - an objective analysis of the more famous apparitions, or visions, such as Lourdes, Fatima and others. The book contains a sixteen page "Calendar of Visions," which begins with the year 5,000 B.C. and lists the principal visions studied by von Daniken, ending with a vision which supposedly occurred in France in April 1974.

It is apparent that a tremendous amount of research and study, as well as first hand visits to shrines and holy places, have gone into this work. As with all his books, von Daniken includes an extensive bibliography, this time containing about 200 titles. In addition, he uses over 150 references to support and document his text.

While Miracles is not concerned with visitors from outer space, devotees of von Daniken will not be disappointed. The same methodology appears here as in von Daniken's other books - a direct challenge to established dogma. Whereas before, the author questioned the dogmas of archaeology, anthropology, and history, now he questions the dogma of religion, and more specifically, of Christianity and the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1968, Erich von Daniken was roundly chastised for daring to question the dogma of the origin of mankind. Now, Erich von Daniken will be severely criticized for daring to question the sanctity of the Church, the Bible, and Jesus. He will be labelled as reckless, irresponsible and heretical.

Miracles is neither irresponsible nor reckless - it is a story that comes from the author's heart. Gene M. Phillips

BOOK REVIEW - PERUVIAN GROUND DRAWINGS
(Peruanische Erdzeichen)
Kunstraum Munchen E.V. (1975)

This astonishing publication is mainly a photographic record of the gigantic markings on the desert plains between Nazca and Palpa in Peru, SA, which markings have leapt into the public consciousness in recent years following the assertion that the Nazca plain was a landing site for ancient astronauts.

Straight lines up to almost 10 km in length, geometric figures up to 1 km across, and birds and animals up to 300 m in size, are shown in photographic form and accompanied by many scale drawings and pullout composites. The few illustrations hitherto published elsewhere have conveyed only a limited impression of the awesome nature of this creative activity and the immense puzzles with which it confronts us.

The book is essentially a visual experience, but the accompanying text (in both German and English) is authoritative and informative. The book was prepared in collaboration with Maria Reiche, the archaeologist who has devoted her lifetime to a study of the markings.

For comparative consideration, the publication concludes with additional photographs and textual material on some major earth drawings elsewhere in the world. Whatever the true significance of the Nazca drawings, this is a necessary source and reference book for anyone with a serious interest in astroanthropology. Stuart W. Greenwood.

AN APPEAL TO AUTHORS
By PROF. HANS SCHINDLER BELLAMY

The program of the Third World Conference to be held at Crikvenica, Yugoslavia, May 17-22, 1976, is to be confined to the true main objectives of the Ancient Astronaut Society: the search for further evidence of the visit to Earth by extraterrestrial beings of higher intelligence - "Gods"; and the determination whether highly developed ante-historic civilizations existed on our planet, and which and where; and also, in combination, whether there may exist a relation between these two objectives.

For either of these two matters there exists already a great amount of well-authenticated material, which should, however, be further well screened, critically reconsidered, and added to by devoted researchers everywhere.

It is specially desired, however, that highly controversial matters, which, by the way, do not strictly speaking belong to the declared objectives of the Society, such as flying saucers and other UFOs, and of purely psychic or paranormal phenomena, should be excluded from the lectures or discussions.

In connection with the above I want also to say the following. In the time since the Zurich World Conference I have read, or browsed into, close on a hundred books, mostly mass produced pocket editions, practically all of them written in the seven years from 1968, when Erich von Daniken's astounding first book, "Erinnerungen an die Zukunft" (Chariots of the Gods?), appeared. Most of that fungus growth is mere fiction at its worst. Many are only a mushy rehash of earlier books, full of obscure and untraceable references, frequently consisting of material copied from each other. Many authors present themselves as initiates, and adepts, holders of secret lore, recipients of private revelations given to them by beings from a higher plane, and similar mumbo-jumbo. Many of the books are announced as "best sellers", which may well be: if so, the writers and publishers cashed in on the popularity of earlier books.

What has remained from my perusal of quite a library is little more than two dozen books by such really reputable writers as Erich von Daniken, Peter Krassa, Jacques Bergier, Raymond Drake, Andrew Tomas, Rene Malaise, and Josef Blumrich, to mention a few, published by reputable publishers.

What good such superficial books are to the buyers and readers I do not know - but what really worries me is that it is such books which do a lot of harm to the cause and the objectives of the Ancient Astronaut Society.

Some would-be authors of new books of the kind just criticized have written to me and asked my advice, or my opinion - neither of which I am really qualified, or in a position, to give - and I have quenched their fantastic ardour by turning them off in no uncertain terms.

I would advise all those to whom the aims of the Ancient Astronaut Society appeal, to concentrate as Searchers and Researchers, first on the great deal of valuable material already available and then to add to it by gathering new items, well authenticated by clear and readily verifiable references, to sculptures, inscriptions, petroglyphs, passages from books and periodicals, documented by photographs - and to send such new material to the headquarters of the Society. When publishing anything in any form, always the fullest references possible should be given. In such a way the ideas of Daniken, Bergier, Charroux and others, and the objectives of the Ancient Astronaut Society and an enticing new branch of science, would be best served.

For a list of paperback books in English, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Society office.

3. WELTKONFERENZ DER AAS

Die 3. Weltkonferenz der AAS findet vom 17. - 23. Mai 1976 in Crikvenica (Jugoslawien bei Rijeka) statt. Anreisetag ist der 16. Mai.

Das Hotel OMORIKA, in welchem die Konferenz abgehalten wird, ist ein Erstklass-Haus, und liegt direkt an der adriatischen Kueste.

Offizielle Konferenzsprachen sind Russisch und Englisch. Selbstverstaendlich zaehlen wir auf eine starke, deutschsprachige Gruppe, die unter sich spricht wie ihr der Schnabel gewachsen ist. Zudem werden verschiedene Diskussionen in Deutsch abgehalten werden.

Wir haben uns entschlossen, die Konferenz in Jugoslawien zu veranstalten, damit erstmals Teilnehmer aus dem Ostblock Gelegenheit zur Mitarbeit erhalten. Die Erfahrungen verschiedener Forscher auf unserem Fachgebiet aus den kommunistischen Laendern wird zweifellos eine starke Belegung des AAS-Gedankens auf internationalem Parkett bewirken.

Obschon nicht mehr Referenten zum Zuge kommen werden als in Zuerich, wird die Konferenz eine volle Woche dauern. Im Gegensatz zum gehetzten Zuericher-Programm sind diesmal eine ganze Reihe von gesellschaftlichen Veranstaltungen vorgesehen. Man soll sich kennenlernen, viel diskutieren, gemeinsame Ausfluege unternehmen und viel froehlich sein.

Das Hotel OMORIKA kostet pro Person und Tag US \$ 14.--. Essen begriffen! Dazu wird noch eine einmalige Konferenzgebuehr von voraussichtlich US \$ 40.-- erhoben. (Ein endgueltiger Entscheid ueber diese Konferenzgebuehr kann erst im Februar getroffen werden, da erst dann fuer die Organisatoren genauere Angaben ueber die Auslagen der Konferenz vorliegen.)

ACHTUNG: Konferenzteilnehmer aus Europa muessen ihre Anmeldung direkt an folgende Adresse richten: Organisationskomitee der AAS-Konferenz/Dr. Josip Kotnik, Hotel OMORIKA, 51260 Crikvenica, Jugoslawia.

Diese 3. Weltkonferenz unserer Gesellschaft bildet den derzeitigen Hoehepunkt unseres Wirkens. Sie werden nicht nur viel interessantes zu hoeren und zu sehen bekommen, sondern auch viele alte Bekannte begruessen koennen. Josef Blumrich, Peter Krassa, Walter Ernsting, und selbstverstaendlich 'der Daeniken' werden da sein. Letzterer ist diesmal nicht mit organisatorischen Belangen ueberlastet, und findet sicher auch Zeit fuer Sie. Planen Sie die Konferenz als Fruehjahrsurlaub an der sonnigen Adria!

MITGLIEDERBEITRAEGE

Ab Januar koennen unsere europaeischen Mitglieder ihren jaehrlichen Obulus an folgende Adresse ueberweisen:
Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft, Bahnhofstr. Zuerich, Konto Erich von Daeniken AAS. (Der Vermerk AAS ist sehr wichtig. Eine Kontonummer wird im naechsten Newsletter bekanntgegeben.)

UNSEREN MITGLIEDERN, FREUNDEN UND GOENNERN WUENSCHEN
WIR EINERFOLGREICHES UND
SORGENFREIES 1976!

ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY

THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE

Arrangements are being made with LUFTHANSA GERMAN AIRLINES for a special group flight from Chicago to Crikvenica, Yugoslavia for the Third World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society. The flight will depart on May 15, 1976 and return to Chicago on May 23, 1976. Details and prices will be available soon.

A similar flight can be arranged to depart from New York if as many as ten persons are included.

Members in the United States and Canada who are interested in attending the Yugoslavia Conference should notify the Society office as soon as possible and indicate whether they would join the group flight in Chicago or New York.

MID-WINTER MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR CHICAGO SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1976

Due to the protracted postal strike in Canada, it became necessary to cancel the planned meeting of the Ancient Astronaut Society in Toronto on February 14, 1976. The meeting has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 13, 1976, in Chicago, Illinois. The exact location and details of the meeting will be available soon, but the program will remain the same. Speakers will include Erich von Daniken, Josef F. Blumrich, Dr. Luis E. Navia and Stuart W. Greenwood. In addition an audience participation panel discussion will be featured.

MEXICO ADVENTURE FANTASTIC!

Seventeen hardy ancient astronauts, ranging in age from fifteen to seventy-four, participated in the Society's archaeological adventure to Mexico during Thanksgiving week, 1975. It was a "mind-blowing experience!" exclaimed Naomi Zimmerman of Glencoe, Illinois.

The warmth and friendliness of the generous Mexican people was overwhelming and each day of the adventure-filled trip was more exciting than the day before. We climbed to the top of the Pyramid of the Sun at Teotihuacan, touched the colossal Toltec statues at Tula, marvelled at the gigantic Olmec stone heads in the outdoor museum at LaVenta in Villahermosa, and, climaxing the week long adventure, we slowly made our way down the damp, precipitous steps into the dimly-lit depths of the Temple of Inscriptions at Palenque. Then, through a triangular doorway, we saw the now famous "Palenque Slab." The tomb was ablaze with light and we were surprised at the light color of the stone slab, once painted red. Our part-Mayan guide, "Lito" Morales, made certain to point out the figure of the "astronaut" at the controls of his spaceship.

Palenque has got to be the "Mecca" for ancient astronauts. If you are not a believer, Palenque will convince you. If you do believe, there you will be confirmed. When asked what is the one place in the world that is the most convincing evidence of ancient astronauts, Erich von Daniken answered without hesitation, "Palenque!"

Because of the importance of Palenque and the other Mexican sites, we have scheduled a Second Mexican Archaeological Adventure for April 4-11, 1976. The trip will last eight days, with two days at Palenque. For information, write to ABC Travel Service of Mexico, 1925 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60614, or call Fran Piva, at (312) 649-1378.

ANCIENT SKIES is published bi-monthly by the ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY, 600 Talcott Rd., Park Ridge, Illinois 60068, for distribution to its members. Telephone (312) 696-2016.

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