



ANCIENT SKIES

"Come Search With Us!"

Official Logbook of the Ancient Astronaut Society

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VOLUME 19, NUMBER 4, 1921 ST. JOHNS AVE., HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60035-3105 USA SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1992

A MARTIAN GREAT PYRAMID

BY MAURICE CHATELAIN*

Many people still do not believe that the strange features recently discovered on the surface of Mars could be artificial monuments built by Martians a long time ago, before Mars became dry and cold as it is now. I personally believe it and I think I have found a way to prove it, by showing that the apparent angles and dimensions of the five-sided pyramid on Mars indicate a fantastic knowledge of geometry and trigonometry that is similar to that which has been found in the angles and dimensions of the pyramids of Cheops and Chephren in Egypt.

Several different solutions have been proposed by various authors to explain the apparent angles and dimensions of the Martian pyramid, but most of them seem to agree that the width of that pyramid from east to west must be about one mile, or 1600 meters which I believe to represent 3000 Babylonian cubits of 8/15 meter each. I therefore tried to design, for the base of the pyramid, a fictitious and irregular pentagon which would have such a width. See Fig. 1.

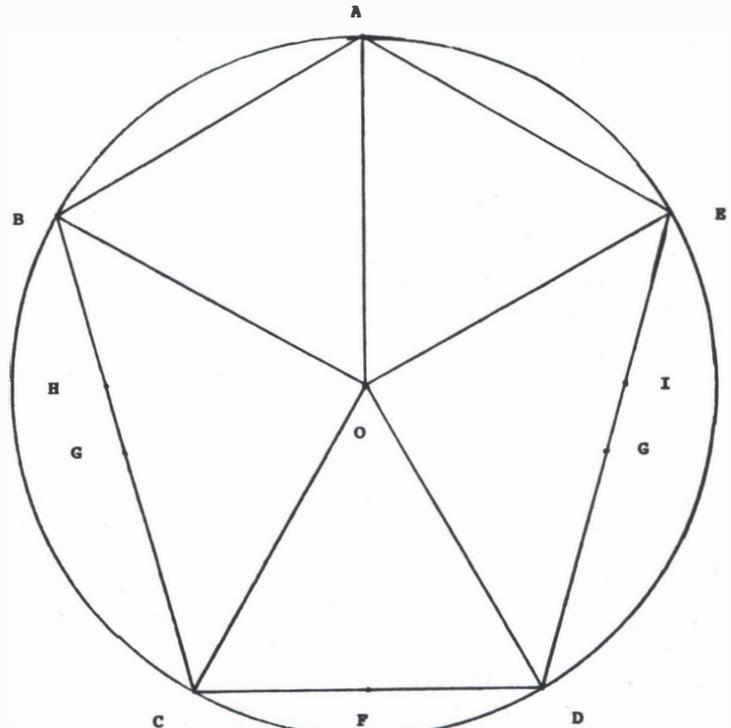
Let us imagine a circle with a center O and a radius R of 924 meters, or 1732 1/2 cubits, or four times the base length of the Great Pyramid of Cheops and divide it in a counter clockwise direction into five segments, namely OAB of 60 degrees, OBC of 90 degrees, OCD of 60 degrees, ODE of 90 degrees and OEA of 60 degrees. In that circle we can design an irregular but symmetrical pentagon with small sides R of 924 m or 1732 1/2 c opposite to the angles of 60 degrees, or large sides of $R\sqrt{2}$ or 1307 m or 2450 c opposite to the angles of 90 degrees.

The larger width of such a pentagon would be equal to $R\sqrt{3}$ or 1600 m or 3000 c, and the smaller width to $14/9 R$ or 1437 m or 2695 c, respectively called BE and HI on the drawing. The oblique length AC would be equal to $2R \sin 75$ or 1785 m or 3347 c. The horizontal heights of the triangles would be $R \sin 60$ or 800 m or 1500 c for triangles OAB, OCD, and OEA, and $R\sqrt{2} / 2$ or 653 m or 1225 c for triangles OBC and ODE. The total length AF of the pentagon along its axis would be equal to $R(1 + \sin 60)$ or 1724 m or 3233 c, or eight times that of the base length of the pyramid of Chephren.

It is very difficult to estimate the base angles of the pyramid and probably impossible to calculate them, but we can try. Since there is an obvious connection between the pyramid of Mars and that of Cheops, we can assume that the original height of the Mars pyramid was $14/11 R$ or 1176 m or 2205 c and that the angle at the base of the edges was the same

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PENTAGONAL PYRAMID BASE



CIRCLE DIAMETER OF 1848 METERS OR 3465 CUBITS

FIGURE 1.

as that of the apothem of the pyramid of Cheops, namely 51.8428 degrees, while that at the base of the small triangles would be 55.7667 degrees and that at the base of large triangles would be equal to 60.9532 degrees. These base angles of about 56 and 61 degrees would be almost impossible to build on the Earth, but not on Mars where the surface gravity is 2.63 times lower than on the Earth.

The base area of the pyramid of 1,962,270 square meters or about 36 times that of the Great Pyramid in Egypt, would be equal to the total of three small triangles of 369,600 m² and two large ones of 426,735 m². Assuming a height of 1176 m, the original volume of the pyramid could have been equal to 76,920,983 cubic meters or about 296 times that of the Great Pyramid in Egypt.

In a recent article in Ancient Skies 18:6, I indicated fifteen possible distances in cubits between six different features on the surface of Mars and strangely enough, seven of them were exact multiples of the width of 3000 cubits of the pyramid, which probably is not just a coincidence. The axis of the Martian pyramid seems to be oriented 15 degrees

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to the East of North and could therefore have been built a very long time ago when the rotation axis of Mars made an angle of fifteen degrees with the ecliptic, and pyramid angles of 60 and 90 degrees would have made it easy to observe the equinox and solstice rising and setting of the Sun.

While checking Martian astronomical data, I noticed that nobody knows the exact synodic revolution period of Mars. The cycles indicated by French and British astronomers are slightly different from that of 67,369,536 seconds used by American astronomers who must be close to the truth since they managed to land two Vikings on the surface of Mars. Fortunately they all seem to agree on the rotation period or solar day of Mars of 88,643 seconds or 1.0259606 solar day of the Earth of 86,400 seconds.

In my opinion, the synodic revolution period of Mars could very well be 67,368,680 seconds or 760 times the rotation period so that they would be synchronized, either naturally or artificially by changing the orbit of Phobos, the larger and closer satellite of Mars. In that case, there would be on Mars a spectacular heliacal rising of Earth every 760 Mars days, as we have on the Earth a beautiful heliacal rising of Venus every 88,756 Earth days or 243 solar years. Such a Transit of Venus in front of the Sun was observed by Captain James Cook in Tahiti on 4 June 1769 and will be observed again in the tropical zone on 6 June 2012.

That could explain why some Martian monuments recently discovered seem to be lined up to observe the heliacal rising of Earth, as well as the risings and settings of the Sun or those of the satellites Phobos and Deimos which also seem to be synchronized with the synodic revolution period of 760 Mars days or 779.730 Earth days.

Many readers will certainly consider my assumptions as science fiction and I could not blame them. But if some day in the future, only a few of them could be proven to be correct by new explorations of Mars, they would give us an indisputable proof that the five-sided pyramid was built by intelligent Martians who probably landed later on the Earth when their planet became too cold and too dry to support life, and then built the pyramids of Cheops and Chephren in Egypt to show us what they had done on Mars half a million years before. That would also prove that the Sumerians were correct when they wrote on their clay tablets that extraterrestrial astronauts had landed on the Earth a long time ago.

MEMBER EXPEDITION TO GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS - 1993

Reservations are being accepted for the Society's Member Expedition to Guatemala and Honduras scheduled for May 6 to 19, 1993. Two weeks of action-packed adventure will feature Tikal, Copan and Quirigua and many, many other sites. The price of US\$1,964 per person, double occupancy, includes all hotels (13 nights), all ground transportation, one-half of the meals, admissions to all sites, air fare from Guatemala City to Flores and return and air fare from Guatemala City to Roatan Island in the Caribbean and return to San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Single occupancy is US\$396 extra. The current international air fare via American Airlines from Chicago and return is US\$619 per person. Members may join the expedition in Chicago, Miami or Guatemala City. Write to the Society headquarters for a complete itinerary and detailed information.

ANCIENT SKIES is published bi-monthly by the ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY, 1921 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, Illinois 60035-3105 USA, for distribution to its members. Tel. (708) 295-8899.

The Ancient Astronaut Society, founded in 1973, is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit corporation organized exclusively for scientific, literary and educational purposes.

20TH ANNIVERSARY WORLD CONFERENCE - IMPERIAL PALACE HOTEL - LAS VEGAS - AUGUST 1 - 5, 1993

Amazing! Fantastic! Fabulous! Fantabulous? Just a few of the words to describe LAS VEGAS, Nevada, the "entertainment capital of the world." Rising from the desert floor surrounded by majestic mountains, the world's most lavish and exciting resort hotels and casinos line the world-famous Las Vegas Strip, five miles of glitter culminating in downtown Las Vegas, the brightest-lit spot on Earth. Surely this can be seen from outer space, as can the lines of Nazca in Peru.

All this plus an exciting Conference await Society members and friends when we gather at the Imperial Palace Hotel in Las Vegas on August 1-5, 1993 for the gala celebration of the Society's 20th Anniversary. When you arrive on Sunday, August 1 proceed to the Conference Registration Desk in the Dynasty Room on the fourth floor of the Hotel, where you will obtain your Conference Packet and tickets for all events. If you arrive before the 3:00 PM check-in time, you can leave your luggage in the Dynasty Room until your room is ready. Sunday afternoon and evening are free for sightseeing, meeting other members, testing the water in the Hotel's Olympic-size swimming pool; or you might even try your luck in the casinos. Sunday evening you may wish to take in one (or two) of the fabulous Las Vegas Shows, offered by the major hotels.

The Conference will open at 8:30 AM on Monday, August 2, with an exciting, hour-long slide presentation by the Society's Founder, Gene M. Phillips, featuring the sites and artifacts examined on the Society's Member Expeditions during the first 20 years. Lectures will continue until 12:30 and after a lunch break, another lecture session will be presented from 2:00 PM until 4:30 PM. At 6:30 PM all persons registered for the Conference will attend the show, Legends in Concert, in the Imperial Theatre of the Hotel, the same hall where the Conference lectures will be held. After the show, you are free to relax, take in a show at another hotel, or do some serious gambling. The casinos in Las Vegas never close.

The Conference lectures resume on Tuesday with a morning session from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM, and after a lunch break, an afternoon session from 2:00 PM until 4:30 PM. The Gala Buffet Banquet will be held in the evening in Royal Hall "A", "B" and "C", on the Hotel's third floor beside the Conference Meeting Hall. A cash bar will be open from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM, with the dinner to begin at 7:00 PM, featuring all-you-can-eat prime rib of beef carved to order, baked ham, baked chicken, baked fish, a variety of vegetables and salads, a dessert and soft beverages. Dress is optional.

The fifth and final lecture session will begin at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, August 4 and end at 1:00 PM. ERICH VON DANIKEN, the Swiss author of Chariots of the Gods?, will present an all-new, two-hour slide lecture beginning at 10:45 AM, plus an audience participation question and answer session after the lecture. The Conference will close at 1:00 PM. Wednesday afternoon and evening are free.

Other speakers, whose lecture times have not been finalized, include:

- ZECHARIA SITCHIN (USA), author of The Twelfth Planet and other books of his Earth Chronicles.
- JOSEF F. BLUMRICH (USA), retired NASA space engineer and author of The Spaceships of Ezekiel.
- BRAD STEIGER and his wife SHERRY HANSEN STEIGER (USA). Brad is the author of over 100 books, many in the ancient astronaut field including Worlds Before Our Own.
- ANDREW TOMAS (USA), author of over 60 books, many in the ancient astronaut field, including the classic, We Are Not the First.
- STUART W. GREENWOOD (USA), PhD in aerospace engineering and author of many articles in our field.

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- GEORGE T. SASSOON (England), co-author of The Manna Machine and The Kabbalah Decoded.
 - PASQUAL S. SCHIEVELLA (USA), PhD in philosophy and author of Hey, IS That You, God? and an unpublished biography of Erich von Daniken.
 - VINCENT DIPIETRO (USA), NASA computer expert who was instrumental in bringing "life" to the Face on Mars and other Martian surface features.
 - WALTER HAIN (Austria), engineer and computer expert and one of the first to bring the Face on Mars to the public's attention. His book, We, From Mars is now available in English.
 - GERARDO LEVET (Mexico), electrical engineer and researcher of ancient Mexican artifacts.
 - PETER KRASSA (Austria), Journalist and author of 12 books in the ancient astronaut field. Co-author of The Light of the Pharaohs.
 - JOHANNES FIEBAG (Germany), PhD in geology, lecturer and author of many books and articles in our field.
 - DAVID FASOLD (USA), marine salvage expert, who "found" the remains of Noah's Ark in Turkey, which he describes in his book The Ark of Noah.
 - DONALD W. PATTEN (USA), geographer and author of many articles and books on catastrophism in ancient times, including The Biblical Flood and the Ice Epoch and Catastrophism and the Old Testament.
 - SAMUEL R. WINDSOR (USA), marine engineer, who collaborated with Donald Patten on a treatise on catastrophism and is the author of "Noah's Vessel: 24,000 Deadweight Tons" in Catastrophism and Ancient History, Vol. XIV, Part I.
- ULRICH DOPATKA (Switzerland), professional librarian and computer expert and author of the first encyclopedia in our field, Lexikon der Pr#-Astronautik (in German), will serve as Master of Ceremonies of the Conference.

Thursday morning, August 5 will be free. Check-out time is 12:00 noon.

The price for all the Conference Events is US\$150 per person, which includes the following:

- Admission to all lectures - 5 sessions.
- Admission to Hotel's Show, Legends in Concert, on Monday evening (includes 2 free drinks-soft or alcoholic)
- Admission to the Gala Buffet Banquet on Tuesday evening (all-you-can-eat, dress optional, cash bar)
- Admission to the Hotel's Antique and Classic Auto collection (open 7 days a week from 9:30 AM to 11:30 PM. Visit at your convenience)

No other meals or refreshments are included in the price. You must register before July 15, 1993 to attend the Show and Banquet. Credit cards are not accepted. Lecture session tickets only may be purchased at the door, subject to space availability, for US\$20 for each session. Membership in the Society is not required to attend the Conference.

The Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino, one of the world's largest with 2,700 rooms, is the Conference site. The Hotel is located in the heart of the glittering Las Vegas Strip, just across the street from the Mirage, with its live white tigers on display, and Caesars Palace with stupendous Roman architecture that Julius himself would have been proud of. Also, the Caesars Forum Shops, one of the most unique indoor shopping malls in the world, has just been opened to the public. You can visit all this at your leisure, free.

In addition to its outdoor swimming pool, the Imperial Palace Hotel features health and fitness centers, beauty and barber salons, shops, a video game arcade for the children, and a huge casino with every form of gambling, and its own wedding chapel! The hotel boasts a wide variety of excellent restaurants to suit the tastes and budgets of all. The Hotel is famous for its low-priced buffets, all-you-can-eat, for breakfast, lunch and dinner, which are offered in the Emperor's Buffet, on the same floor as the Imperial Theatre.

The Imperial Palace's award-winning show, "Legends in Concert", is presented in the Imperial Theatre, where the Conference lectures will be held. The Show features unbelievable live re-creations of legendary superstars such as Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe, Liberace, the Blues Brothers, Paul McCartney, Tom Jones, Neil Diamond, and others. Not lip-synced, the actors actually look and sound just like the stars they portray. Everyone registered for the Conference will attend the Show Monday evening.

The Hotel's world-famous Antique and Classic Auto Collection is on display in the parking building attached to the Hotel. You do not have to leave the Hotel to visit the display. Over 200 vehicles are presented as well as a special Duesenberg Room. Admission is free to all persons registered for the Conference.

The Imperial Palace is offering reduced room rates for persons attending the Conference of US\$45 per night for a single or double room, plus tax. For extra persons (more than 2) who occupy the room there is an additional charge of US\$12 per night, per person plus tax. A Special Room Reservation Form will be sent to all persons registering for the Conference. Expenses for rooms, meals and other Hotel expenses must be paid directly to the Hotel.

AMERICAN AIRLINES has been designated as the Official Airline for the Conference. Special discounted air fares are available for persons in the United States and Canada who fly to and from the Conference on American Airlines between July 26 and August 10, 1993. For information, fares and ticketing, contact Gary Haverkamp, DER Travel Service Inc., 9575 W. Higgins Rd., Rosemont, IL 60018-4997 (708)692-9292.

A Special Group Flight is being arranged for those departing Chicago O'Hare on American FL.1127 on Sunday August 1 at 11:44 AM and returning on American FL.1076 on Thursday August 5 at 1:18 PM. If you take this flight you will receive free transfers from the Las Vegas airport to the Imperial Palace Hotel on Sunday and the return on Thursday. Gary Haverkamp will accompany you on this Group Flight. To receive the free transfers, you must purchase your air tickets from DER for the above-stated flights only.

Wednesday afternoon will be free and we have arranged a Special Sightseeing Tour of Las Vegas for anyone interested. The tour will depart the Hotel at 2:30 PM on Wednesday and return at 6:30 PM. The tour will include a drive along the Las Vegas Strip to see the major hotels, a look at the downtown Las Vegas area, a drive by the stars' homes, a stop at the Ethel M Chocolate Factory and a visit to the fabulous Liberace Museum. The price is US\$20 each, and reservations can be made with Gary Haverkamp.

Robert Girard of ARCTURUS BOOKS, INC., P.O. Box 831383, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083-0023, will operate the Conference bookstore, which will be open at convenient times throughout the Conference, beginning at noon Sunday, August 1, in the Samurai Room on the fourth floor of the Hotel, across the hall from the Dynasty Room, where the Registration Desk will be located. Arcturus specializes in new and used books in the fields of ancient astronauts, UFOs, the unexplained and other mysteries and will bring books in these fields, especially those by the Conference speakers.

It will be hot in Las Vegas during the first week of August, 1993. Daytime temperatures will climb to over 100°F, but it will be a dry, desert heat. Anyway, you will be inside most of the time in air-conditioned comfort. But when you do venture out, don't wear too much clothing. Dress in Las Vegas is always casual, so be prepared to dress comfortably.

When archaeologists unearth Las Vegas 1,000 years from now they will wonder how the inhabitants reckoned time, because they won't find any clocks in the ruins of the hotels and casinos. Time stands still in Las Vegas. As someone once said, "there's simply no place on Earth like Las Vegas." You'll love it.

ERICH VON DANIKEN STARS IN GERMAN TV SERIES

For more than a decade the "scientific establishment" and its minions have made a concerted effort to try to "discredit" Erich von Daniken and the ancient astronaut theory, but failed - miserably! Erich von Daniken is more popular than ever in Europe and he is scheduled to present 31 lectures during the month of October, 1992 (one a day) in the German-speaking countries of Europe and he will be the star of a year-long television series devoted exclusively to the ancient astronaut theory.

Production has just finished on a 25 part series entitled "Auf Den Spuren Der All-Mächtigen" (In Search of the Almighty) which explores in detail the ancient astronaut theme and the ideas of von Daniken as presented in his books for the past 20 years. The segments will be shown every two weeks on the German Television SAT I, which covers the whole of Europe, beginning in late September or early October of this year.

For several months, Erich von Daniken and TV film crews have travelled to Greece, Turkey, Egypt, France and many other countries to obtain new footage of the artifacts and sites made famous by von Daniken. In addition, thousands of slides from von Daniken's own archives were used in the production, as well as a new, fantastic computer animation technique which will show a Jumbo Jet landing on the Plain of Nazca, watch the operation of Ezekiel's spaceship and the temple in which it landed, and see the amazing Vimanas, the flying machines of ancient India. The viewers will fly (via computer) over streets, pyramids and ruins of Palenque, Teotihuacan and other famous sites. Von Daniken wrote the texts and serves as the narrator for the entire series.

The SAT I series is expected to be a sensation in Europe and we can hope that enlightened TV moguls in the US will translate and show the series here, without the bias and ridicule of certain influential "scientists." Then the book publishers here will cease their boycott of von Daniken's works and once again bring us English translations of his many best-sellers, which until now only the German-speaking people of Europe have enjoyed.

THE ACCOUNT OF THE "AiuD Object" in Ancient Skies 19:3 rang a bell in my memory bank and luckily I was able to find the following newspaper clipping dated June 26, 1977:

"FOUND IN A MINE BUT ARE THEY FROM OUTER SPACE?
(by Joe Payne, SYDNEY)

Three perfectly shaped discs found buried in a South Australian coal mine are baffling geologists and exciting flying saucer researchers. The objects, each five feet in diameter and estimated to be millions of years old, were at first thought to be huge fossilized shells. But now, that theory has been discarded. Adelaide marine expert, Mr. Michael Lawrie said, 'I have never seen anything like them - they are the identical colour of iron or steel which has been buried for a long, long time.'

"What can they be? While the scientists continue their examination of the objects, Mrs. Shirley Kemp, librarian for the Australian UFO Research Society, said, 'These discs could be the find of the century.' Scientists believe the coal field where they were found was burned out by a blazing meteor, thousands of years ago. This theory of destruction by fire, ties in with folk lore of the aborigines. They have a legend that many years ago a giant craft came from the heavens and landed in that area. Then men from the craft lit a huge fire to signal their arrival. Perhaps it was a probe sent to Earth by a mother space ship."

So how about describing these as landing pads? The clipping does describe them as DISCS - five feet in diameter. Seems logical, in the light of what we know today. David M. Stewart, Apt. A3, 38 Bold St., Southport, Merseyside PR9 0ED, ENGLAND.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS:

ERICH VON DANIKEN's newest book Der Götter Schock (The Shock of the Gods) is now available in hardcover in German from C. Bertelsmann Verlag, Munich 54321, GERMANY.

PETER KRASSA's latest book Das Licht Der Pharaonen (The Light of the Pharaohs) is now available in hardcover in German from F.A. Herbig Verlag, Munich, GERMANY.

WALTER HAIN's book We, From Mars is now available in English in oversize paperback (8 1/4 x 11 1/2) from the author at Donaufelderstrasse 36, 1210 Vienna, AUSTRIA. The price is US\$20, which includes postage and handling.

R. A. BOULAY has published a sequel to his Flying Serpents and Dragons. His new book, Dragon Power, continues the premise of a reptilian origin for mankind on Earth. The book is available in oversize paperback from Arcturus Books, Inc., P.O. Box 831383, Stone Mountain, GA 30083-0023 USA.

DONALD W. PATTEN's books, The Biblical Flood and the Ice Epoch, The Long Day of Joshua, and Catastrophism and the Old Testament are available in hardcover from Pacific Meridian Publishing Co., 13540 39th Ave., N.E., Seattle, WA 98125 USA.

DONALD L. CYR's latest Editing effort, Crop Circle Secrets, Part Two: America's First Crop Circle is available in oversize paperback (8 1/2 x 11) from Stonehenge Viewpoint, 800 Palermo Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93105 USA.

BERND HARTMANN's treatise The Great Pyramid: The Way to the Fire Within, is available from the author in 8 1/2 x 11 photocopy format, at 7015-59th Ave., Red Deer, Alberta T4P 1B6 CANADA. The price is US\$10, which includes postage and handling.

BRAD and SHERRY STEIGER's new book Starborn is now available in paperback from Berkley Books. This is a sequel to their bestselling The Star People. Brad's Beyond Belief is also available from Scholastic Books. A new edition of Brad's Worlds Before Our Own will be released in early 1993. Many of the Steiger books are available from Arcturus Books, Inc.

DAVID FASOLD has founded The Noahide Society, which publishes a newsletter, Ark-Update, every two months. For subscription information write to 14781 Pomerado Rd., Poway, CA 92064 USA. He also has available the book, The Mountain of Moses, by Larry Williams, with a Foreword by Fasold.

DR. PASQUAL SCHIEVELLA's book, Hey, IS That You, God? is available from the author at P.O. Box 137, Port Jefferson, NY 11777 USA.

Catastrophism and Ancient History is published twice yearly. For subscription information write to Marvin Luckerman, 3431 Club Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90064 USA.

ZECHARIA SITCHIN's five books are available in paperback from Avon Books, New York and in hardcover from Bear Books, Santa Fe, NM 87504 USA. Sitchin's next book will be published in the Spring of 1993. Watch for it.

MAURICE CHATELAIN's books, The First Americans, The First Christians, and Nostradamus Decoded, are available in photocopy format from the author at 3976 Kenosha Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117 USA.

In the excitement over our 20th Anniversary Celebration in 1993, we almost forgot that September 14, 1992 marks the Society's 19th Anniversary.