



ANCIENT SKIES

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BAYAN-KARA-ULA: MYSTERY OF THE CENTURY

BY HARTWIG HAUSDORF*

Translated from the German by George T. Sassoon**

For the last 30 years persistent rumors have been circulating about the "stone platters" said to have been found in the Bayan-Kara-Ula Mountains of central China. Equally persistent are the denials of the existence of the platters by the critics, who have dismissed the rumors as fables. Recent research carried out by the author, partly in China's forbidden zones, has yielded some astonishing results. From the report of an English researcher whose expedition was able to penetrate the region in 1947, it is clear that the fantastic stories do in fact describe the crash of an extraterrestrial spacecraft some thousands of years ago.

The so-called "stone-platter report", first mentioned in the late 1960s (1 & 2), is one of the classics of pre-astronautic literature. Here is the report, summarized: during an expedition of 1937-1938 to the extremely inaccessible Bayan-Kara-Ula Mountains, archaeologist Chi Pu Tei discovered numerous cave burial sites, which contained strange little skeletons, only about 4 feet 3 inches tall, with very oversized heads in relation to the slender bodies. A total of 716 graves were found, in each of which was also found a stone disk about a foot in

*Mr. Hausdorf was the first Westerner to be permitted to visit China's forbidden zones, in which there are innumerable large pyramids which he was allowed to visit and photograph, thus giving proof to many rumors which had persisted about them. His visit is described in his book, co-authored with Peter Krassa, Satelliten der Götter (Satellites of the Gods - In China's Forbidden Zones), published by Albert Langen/Georg Müller Verlag, Munich, Germany. The authors presented a lecture on the subject at the Ancient Astronaut Society's World Conference in Bern, Switzerland in August, 1995.

Mr. Hausdorf is continuing his research into the mysterious "Dropa", or "Dzopa" and plans to visit China again in 1996, this time to the Bayan-Kara-Ula region. He will present his latest findings on the subject at the Society's 24th Anniversary World Conference to be held at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel at the Florida Mall in Orlando, Florida USA August 3-8, 1997. Mr. Hausdorf is Manager of the Sparkasse Travel Agency in Burghausen, Germany. His address is Frank-Caro-Strasse 94 a, D-84518 Garching a.d. Alz, GERMANY.

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diameter and one-third of an inch thick. On the disks were inscriptions of unknown origin, in some type of groove-writing.

It was not until 1962 that Prof. Tsum Um Nui was able to decipher a few parts of this hieroglyphic script. The result was so shocking that the Beijing (then Peking) Academy of Sciences immediately banned any publication. The translation spoke of a group of beings, the so-called Dropa, who had been forced to land their spaceship in these mountains, and being unable to leave again, were forced to contend with a very hostile environment.

Finally, Tsum Um Nui received permission to publish his researches. His paper, entitled "Inscriptions in Connection With Spaceships that Existed 12,000 Years Ago", earned him nothing but scorn and ridicule. Embittered, he emigrated to Japan where he died in 1965.

In the chaos and madness of the cultural revolution (1966-1976), the sensational finds were scattered to all points of the compass. It was only in 1974 that the Austrian engineer Ernst Wegerer was able to photograph two of these "impossible artefacts" in the Banpo Museum of Xian. See Figure 1.

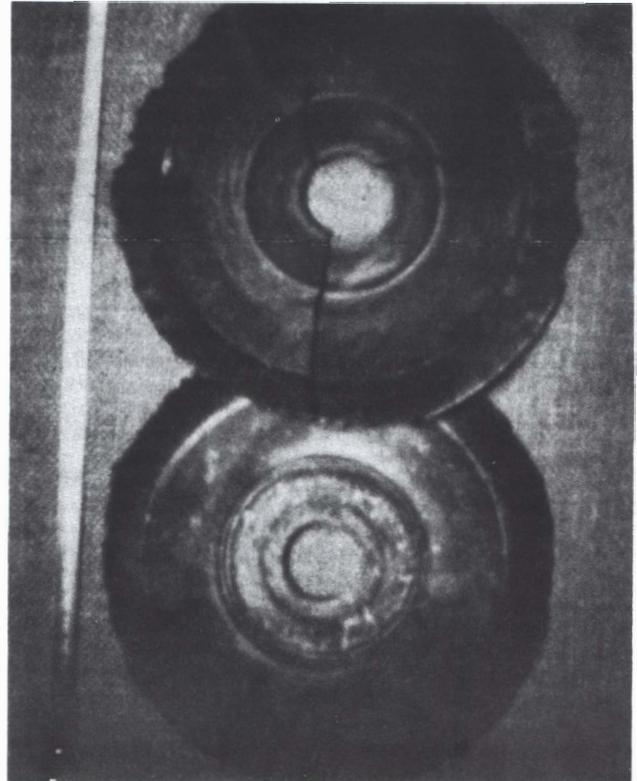


Figure 1. "Stone platters" in Banpo Museum, Xian, China in 1974 as photographed by Ernst Wegerer.

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This was the state of affairs when Peter Krassa and I went to look for this museum during our expedition of March 1994 - an expedition which took us to several of the most strictly forbidden regions of China. Twenty years had gone by since Wegerer's visit, and we hoped to get a look at these allegedly extraterrestrial objects. But both of the disks had disappeared from the museum! Finally we were informed by the present Director of the museum, Prof. Wang Zhiyun, that the lady who had been Director at the time of Wegerer's visit, and who had permitted him to photograph the disks, had been dismissed from her post shortly thereafter and disappeared without a trace. Equally mysterious were the contradictions in which Zhiyun enmeshed himself: first he dismissed the disks as "non-existent", and then in the same breath emphasized that they had been in the museum and catalogued as New Stone Age pottery ware!

However, when Prof. Wang Zhiyun saw that we were persistent, he had a real surprise for us. A drawing from an archaeology book showing precisely the stone disks that we were looking for; also a cross section through a disk showing the characteristic raised middle described by Wegerer. See Figure 2.

Finally, Zhiyun led us to a neighboring building. In it was an enlarged reconstruction of a stone disk propped up on a chair! A copy made with clay? It is not impossible that even in prehistoric times, a few examples of the disks, ages estimated at 12,000 years, had reached the Xian district and had been venerated as "cult objects" and copied. The circumstances surrounding the Banpo Museum and the lady Director who disappeared are, and remain, mysterious. They lead one to suspect that instructions were given "from above" to erase all traces of anything which could have led to a solution of the mystery.

But on the other hand, we now have some further information from England, which hitherto has been little-known in the German-speaking world. Shortly after the Second World War, the English researcher Dr. Karyl Robin-Evans was shown an unusual platter by Prof. Lolladoff, a scholar of Polish origin, who said he had obtained the object in Mussorie, north India. This object was supposed to have belonged to a tribe called the "Dzopa", who had used it for "religious purposes".

Dr. Robin-Evans gave the dimensions of the object as about 9 inches in diameter and 2 inches thick. When the disk was weighed, something almost incredible occurred: it was placed on a scale coupled to a chart recorder, and the mysterious object gained and lost in weight. With a series of measurements over a 24-hour period, the pen traced a wavy line on the paper - something totally impossible according to our knowledge of physics!

Robin-Evans's report (6) was not published until 1978, four years after his death. According to this document, he set off for the "uncanny country of the Dzopa" in 1947, traveling via Lhasa, Tibet, where he had an audience with the 14th Dalai Lama, who, having been born in 1935, was then only 12 years old. Quite probably, Robin-Evans was also interviewed by one of the so-called "leash-holders", who advised the young Dalai Lama on official business until he reached ma-

turity. This may provide a further means of testing the accuracy of the report.

In the political situation of that time, it was still possible to undertake such a journey. In 1947 Tibet had not yet been occupied by the Chinese - this occurred only in 1950, resulting in the flight of the Dalai Lama. On October 1, 1949 Mao Zedong declared the Peoples' Republic of China - up until then, communists and various other groups had been contending for supremacy in the gigantic country. A glance at the map shows that the Bayan-Kara-Ula Mountains run exactly parallel to the Chinese-Tibet border existing at that time. Since 1959, Tibet has been incorporated into the Peoples' Republic of China as the "Autonomous Region of Xizang".

The Englishman had not gone far into the highly-inaccessible mountainous area north-east of the Himalayas when he was abandoned by his locally-hired porters. They had panicked at the sinister reputation of the district. This reaction confirms that, even today, the Bayan-Kara-Ula region has a terrifying reputation with the local inhabitants. After great difficulties the researcher finally reached his goal, where he succeeded in overcoming the initial mistrust of the people. They even gave him a language teacher, a girl who instructed him in the basics of the Dzopa tongue. Through this, Dr. Robin-Evans discovered something truly sensational:

Lurgan-La, guardian of the Dzopa religion, told him the history of the tribe, saying that their original home had been a planet in the Sirius system. There had been two expeditions to Earth - one about 20,000 years ago, and the second one in the year 1014 by our reckoning. The crash had taken place in 1014, with the result that the survivors of the catastrophe were no longer able to leave the Earth. The Dzopa people were therefore the direct descendants of alien beings from space.

Dr. Robin-Evans has left us a photograph of these remarkable people of central China: it depicts the ruling couple Hueypah-La and Veez-La. He gave their heights as 3 feet 11 inches and 3 feet 6 inches.

At this point I should discuss some of the obvious discrepancies between the two sets of information available to us - Tsum Um Nui's stone disks and the Robin-Evans report:

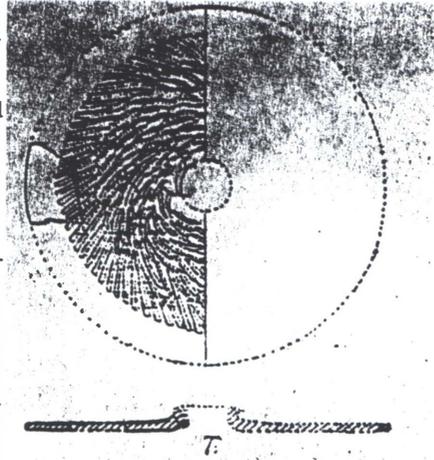
First, the difference in the pronunciation of "Dropa" as against "Dzopa". Robin-Evans himself clears up this difficulty. He writes: "'Dropa' is in fact the more correct spelling than 'Dzopa', or perhaps 'Tsopa', although it still does not correspond to the correct pronunciation. The tongue must be placed a little higher in the mouth than for the pronunciation of the English 'z'. Though 'Dropa' is the better-known spelling of the name, it makes more sense to use 'Dzopa' as this corresponds more closely to the pronunciation." (6)

Secondly, differences in the time data: previously, there was talk of a crash 12,000 years ago, but Robin-Evans's report speaks of a visit 20,000 years back and a later one in 1014 AD, which ended with a mechanical failure. In this case there is no obvious explanation. Possibly the discrepancy arose because Tsum Um Nui had translated the hieroglyphic script before becoming sufficiently familiar with it. We will be able to establish which date is correct only when the original stone disks are available.

Further, if Dr. Robin-Evans was staying with the Dzopa in 1947, there could still be descendants of this remarkable people alive today. I was able to establish the following from the official "List of Recognized National Minorities" of 1982:

The province of Qinghai is the home of a whole list of "National Minorities": Hui, Tibetans, Mongols, Kazakhs, Tu and Sala. The name "Dzopa" or

(Continued on next page)



二期陶器

1. 式ZHT7 2. 式DT2H429 3. 式ZHT
Figure 2.

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"Dropa" does not appear. But in the meantime, China has changed over to the modern "Hanyu-Pinyin" transliteration of the language. Many names and designations have altered considerably. Further explanation is to be found in the Appendix to the list of these "National Minorities": "At the present time, there are some 880,000 people in China who cannot be assigned to any particular 'National Minority.' They belong to about 25 different tribes and groups who are continually striving to be recognized by the government in Beijing as 'National Minorities'". (7) If it was ever possible to trace descendants of the Dzopa, genetic analysis could be used to establish whether or not 'alien blood' is flowing in their veins.

Finally, I would like to mention yet another aspect of this theme, one which is so far unexplained and which gave previous critics grounds to dismiss the story. That is, the name and personality of Prof. Tsum Um Nui, translator of the hieroglyphics. This name is not proper Chinese, as Peter Krassa (4) and Walter Langbein (8) discovered from earlier researches. But now it can be established that the name "Tsum Um Nui" is in fact a "geographical adaptation" of an originally Japanese name. Tsum Um Nui was a Japanese who lived in China, and fitted the Japanese syllables of his name to Chinese speech - just like a Herr Schmidt who emigrates to America and becomes Mr. Smith. And so the circle is closed - after his failure to publish, this professor went back to Japan where he finally died in 1965.

Now that this new knowledge has come to light, future critics will not find it so easy to dismiss this centuries-old mystery as a mere fable. And if China continues on her present liberal course, and opens herself more to the West, we could be even closer than we think to the solution of this exciting mystery!

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Zecharia Sitchin's latest book is now available in paperback from AVON BOOKS, New York. The title of the book is Divine Encounters.

GREAT NEWS! Finally, after more than ten years, a new ERICH VON DANIKEN book will be published in English in the United States! Eyes of the Sphinx will be released in quality paperback in March, 1996 by Berkley Books, 200 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

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PERUVIAN SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS?

BY ROLF EIPPER*

Ever since participating in the Society's Member Expedition to Peru in 1994, I have been on the lookout for authentic Peruvian artifacts. Recently, while browsing through a flea market here in Vancouver, I noticed some metal objects which caught my eye as being unmistakably of Peruvian origin. I purchased them and have been examining them in detail. The accompanying illustration shows some of the objects I bought. Readers will easily recognize the two objects on the left as the ubiquitous "tumi", which has become the unofficial symbol of Peru. They are seen everywhere in the country, at markets, souvenir shops and hawked by street peddlers. They come in all sizes, and in all materials, but mostly in shiny, cast brass. Elaborate representations of the tumi, worked in gold, can be viewed in museums in the country. These are called "ceremonial knives."

Peru is noted for having perfected the technique of "skull trepanning," a surgical procedure involving cutting an opening in the skull in order to repair damage to the brain. It has been widely accepted that the "tumi knife" was used in the trepanning procedure.

Of particular interest to me, however, is the long, slender object depicted on the right in the illustration. It is slightly over 8 inches long and looks and feels to me very much like a surgical scalpel. The instrument seems to be made of bronze and is heavily corroded at the top decoration, but the cutting edge of the tip is in surprisingly good condition.

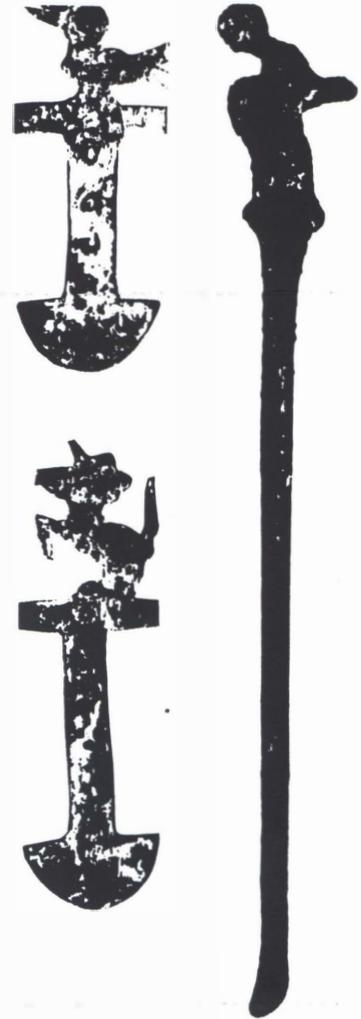
I do not know if such an instrument has been found by the archaeologists, but I always thought it had to exist, because I could not conceive that a tumi knife was very practical to perform any kind of surgical operation. If this object is not a scalpel, I cannot imagine what other purpose it would have been used for.

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[Ed. Note: In the early 1950s, the renowned Peruvian surgeon, Dr. Francisco Graña actually performed a skull trepanning procedure on a living patient using a tumi knife!]

The Eighth Annual Ozark UFO Conference will be held at the Inn of the Ozarks Conference Center in Eureka Springs, Arkansas on April 12-14, 1996. Info: Lucius Farish, #2 Caney Valley Drive, Plumerville, AR 72127-8725. Phone: (501) 354-2558.

The Ancient Astronaut Society has a new telephone area code. The telephone number is: 847-295-8899. The Fax number is: 847-295-0868.



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LUNACY

BY FILIP COPPENS*

Some biblical scholars argue that the extreme ages of 900 years and more of the first biblical patriarchs (Adam, Enoch, etc.) are not solar, but lunar years. Hence we should have to divide Seth's lifespan of 912 years by 12.37, showing that Seth died at the reasonable age of 74. Doing the same math with all the other ages, it would mean that all pre-diluvial patriarchs lived for 62 to 78 years. After the Deluge, the lives of the patriarchs shortened dramatically. Scholars thus feel that following the Deluge, a lunar calendar was substituted in place of a solar one.

These scholars are, unfortunately, dealing with science fiction, not science. In Genesis 11:26 we read how Terach still lives to be a good 205 years. Provided that might be a "lunar date", he would have lived only until age 16 and one-half years. Terach had a son when he was 70. Given that as a "lunar date", he would have seen his first child born when he, himself, was only 5. Rather precocious. Genesis 11:18 reports how Peleg, who lived to be 460 years ("non lunar date" of 37), had a child at the age of thirty. If Peleg's age were given in lunar years, he would have his first offspring at the blessed age of 2.4 solar years, he being barely out of his diapers!

"Lunar dating" is obviously a figment of someone's imagination, not research. It took me a mere hour to come to the conclusions presented here. Further, the Deluge cannot be seen as the moment at which the lunar calendar was changed for a solar one. Plotting all the ages of the patriarchs will show their lifespans decreased gradually, until it reaches about 70 years, which we can definitely interpret to be solar years as it is a "normal lifespan". Though there is a sudden drop after the Deluge, people still lived to be 430 years - down from 900 years previously. A change of calendar would show an instant drop from about 900 years to 50 to 100 years. However, we should be careful. I for one do not believe that this "proves" the ancients lived so long. Their actual lifespans might have been substituted for numbers that could have been part of a code, used for a secret teaching based upon the Bible. The Kabbalah does interpret such "lifespans" in a similar manner. All this research shows is that the dates cannot stem from a lunar calendar, a theory that is still heard much too often.

*Mr. Coppens is a writer and editor. He was a speaker at the Society's World Conference in Bern, Switzerland in August, 1995. His address is Dendermondse Steenweg 56, 9100 Sint-Niklaas, BELGIUM.

24th ANNIVERSARY WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY WILL FEATURE TWO FIELD TRIPS

Members attending the Society's World Conference in Orlando, Florida on August 3-8, 1997 will enjoy a field trip to Walt Disney World's famous EPCOT Center and an all-day excursion to the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral.

There will be two and one-half days of lectures, many to be presented by new, young researchers in our field. And, of course, Erich von Daniken will present an exciting lecture on his latest findings, including new information and slides about his recent expedition to the Plain of Nazca in Peru.

The Conference will be held at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel at the Florida Mall in Orlando; an excellent hotel, ideally located, with acres of free parking. The Hotel has graciously offered very low room rates for persons attending the Conference - only US\$69 per night, single or double, plus tax. Also, the Hotel will offer this reduced rate to Conference attendees four days before the Conference and four days afterward, to enable them to visit the other exciting attractions in the Orlando area.

All Conference details and prices will be available in late summer of 1996.

MEMBER EXPEDITION TO PERU TO VISIT CABRERA MUSEUM

One of the highlights of the Society's Member Expedition to Peru in May, 1996 will be a visit to the Cabrera Museum of Engraved Stones in the southern Peruvian city of Ica. Founded by Dr. Javier Cabrera Darquea, the Museum contains over 11,000 engraved stones, depicting a wide range of activities and information, humans and animals (including dinosaurs), and cover such profound subjects as heart transplants, acupuncture anesthetic, location of Earth's continents in prehistoric times (see inset) astronomy, biology and more. The

stones range in size from two inches to 3 feet in diameter. Dr. Cabrera began accumulating his collection of stones about 30 years ago, when a friend first showed him one. He then discovered that the Regional Museum



in Ica had a big collection of the stones in a "back room", but there was no interest on the part of the archaeologists in determining the authenticity of the stones or their origin. A large number of the stones were discovered by huaqueros (grave robbers) in the Ocucaje desert region near Ica, and sold to archaeology buffs. The archaeological establishment showed no interest in them and simply passed them off as archaeological fakes." After Dr. Cabrera established his museum and brought his interpretation of the stones to the attention of the public through press conferences, the scientific establishment accused Dr. Cabrera of having wrought the stones himself, or had workers in the desert engrave them for a fee! While it is true that there are some fake stones that have been made and sold as souvenirs, it is impossible that 11,000 intricately engraved stones could have been made by Dr. Cabrera, or by a few artisans working under his direction.

According to Dr. Cabrera, the archaeologists ignored the stones because "they could not admit the hypothesis that the stones might be evidence of a civilization much older than the classical cultures of Peru, that is to say, older than the Incas or the Pre-Incas. The idea that man and dinosaurs co-existed on Earth is not acceptable to archaeologists, who believe that intelligent man has existed only some 250,000 years. The Ica stones called into question not only conventional wisdom about the antiquity of original Peruvians, but also about the appearance of man on Earth. The Ica stones are proof that man existed on Earth millions of years ago."(1)

Dr. Cabrera will personally guide the Expedition members through his Museum and will join them at the Las Dunas Hotel in Ica for dinner and an informal discussion of his research.

Other "highlights" of the Expedition will be an excursion to Chavin de Huantar, a visit to Sechin and the abandoned site of Chanquillo, exploring the Cuzco region sites of Sacsayhuaman, Pisac and Ollantaytambo, two exciting nights at Machu Picchu, and flying in small aircraft over the Plain of Nazca, the Trident at Paracas and the Pockmarks of Humay. There will be an optional extension to the Amazon jungle at Iquitos.

The price for the Basic Expedition is US\$2295 per person, double occupancy, plus air fare.

(1) The Message of the Engraved Stones of Ica, by Dr. Javier Cabrera Darquea, is available in both English and Spanish editions from the author at Plaza de Armas, Bolivar 170, Ica, PERU.