

EARTH ENERGY

Dedicated to Restoring the Ancient Golden Age

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ANCIENT ELECTRICS: THE "DIVINE SPARK" FROM THE FORGOTTEN PAST

Before entering into areas directly related to the existence of earth energies and their manipulations by prehistoric man, it is perhaps best to first begin with basics; namely, to demonstrate that man in antiquity possessed an understanding of a very fundamental force in the universe--electricity--and utilized it for various purposes, long before our modern-day technology came into existence. What is fascinating to note is, as we examine the evidence for ancient electrics, we find that the further back in time we go, the greater the knowledge. In other words, what legends and artifacts of electricity have been preserved for us from the ancient and classical civilizations are themselves but remnants left from a still older, pre-existing age of science and wisdom which, in many cases, was more advanced than what we are aware of today. That lost age, as we will find in studies to come, was the Golden Age--a time of lore and wonder, from which all the known ancient civilizations were but the degenerate aftermaths.

The material presented in this issue are excerpts from a Research entitled REMNANTS OF THE LOST: THE TECHNOLOGY FROM FORGOTTEN AGES. It is available from the address given above for \$9.95 (plus 50¢ for postage), and also includes evidence of ancient flight, surgery, atomic physics, cloning, and much more. It makes for some unusual and thought-provoking reading....

"Occasionally, we feel a bit smug about our tremendous advances, but when we are scooped by some ancient metal smiths in knowledge of electricity, we are most assuredly brought down to earth and humbled."

Willard F. M. Gray

In 1938, Dr. Wilhelm Konig, an Austrian archaeologist from Vienna working for the State Museum in Baghdad, Iraq, was rummaging through the basement of the museum when he came upon a find that was to drastically alter all concepts of ancient science. The find was a storage box containing a number of clay pots two thousand years old, which had been unearthed from a gravesite on June 14, 1936 by the Iraqi State Railroad Department during construction near Kujut Rabua, a village to the southeast of Baghdad.

Each pot contained a cylinder of sheet-copper 5 inches high and 1½ inches in diameter. The edges of the copper cylinder were soldered with a 60-40 lead-tin alloy, which is comparable to the best solder we have today. The bottoms of the cylinders were capped with crimped-in copper discs, and sealed in bitumen, or asphaltum. Another insulating layer of asphaltum sealed the tops, and also held in place iron rods suspended into the center of the copper cylinders. The rods showed evidence of having been corroded by an acid solution, now evaporated. To keep the cylinder-rod-plug assemblies upright, they

were each sealed into a small pot, made of bright yellow clay, standing 6 inches high.

With a background in mechanics, Dr. Konig recognized this configuration was not a chance arrangement, but that the clay pots were nothing less than ancient electric batteries. Konig published his findings in a book entitled The Lost Paradise, which described his nine-year exploits in the Middle East. His account came to the attention of science historian Willy Ley, and in 1939--working with Willard F. M. Gray of the General Electrics High Voltage Laboratory in Pittsfield, Massachusetts--constructed a duplicate model of the ancient clay pot batteries. They found that by adding copper sulfate, acetic acid or citric acid (all of which were well known two thousand years ago) the battery produced between $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 volts of electricity. The model was later placed on exhibit in the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield. A more recent test with another model, conducted in 1960 by John B. Pierczynski of the University of North Carolina, used a 5 percent vinegar solution as the electrolyte. The replica battery produced $\frac{1}{2}$ volt of electricity for eighteen days.

What is truly amazing is that generation of electric current by the same means was not invented in Europe until 1800.

Soon after Konig's initial discovery, other ancient batteries were brought to light. Four similar clay pots with copper cylinders were unearthed in a magician's hut near Tel Omar (Seleucia), also near Baghdad. With these were found thin iron and copper rods which may have been used to connect the pots into a series in order to produce stronger voltage. The remains of ten other batteries were also unearthed at Ktesiphon (again near Baghdad) by Professor E. Kuhnelt of the Staatlichen Museum in Berlin. These were found broken down into their component parts: A large ceramic vase contained ten copper cylinders, a second vase had ten iron rods, and a third possessed asphaltum plugs with holes, ready for the rods to be placed through. It looks as though the batteries were mass produced, and their maker had been interrupted before assembling the pieces into working batteries.

Investigation indicates that the clay pot batteries were used in ancient times to plate objects with gold, silver and even antimony, using the electroplating process. Not only does electroplating involve electricity, but also knowledge and manipulation of complex chemicals. The plating of gold, for example, involves preparing solution baths with ferro-cyanides, lye and orate--gold dissolved in hydroxide. Dr. Konig, before leaving Iraq in 1939, discovered that the gold and silver smiths of Baghdad still possessed such solution baths, and were using a crude form of the ancient batteries to electroplate their wares--a process which had been kept secret by them and handed down from father to son for an unknown number of generations.

Electroplating techniques, however, generally need a current of only half a volt. Yet the finds at Tel Omar and Ktesiphon imply that methods were being employed to increase electric output beyond the 2 volt maximum of a single pot battery, and that the batteries were being mass produced. What had they been used for, besides electroplating? The fact that the group at Tel Omar was found in a "magician's hut" might suggest that the batteries played an important role in scientific research. Those who were once considered "magicians" were usually members of an elite intelligentsia who helped preserve and experiment with forgotten knowledge of the past.

The ancient batteries in the Baghdad Museum, as well as those others which were unearthed in Iraq, all date from the Parthian period of Persian occupation, between 248 B.C. and A.D. 226. However, Konig found copper vases plated with silver in the Baghdad Museum, excavated from Sumerian remains in Iraq, and dating back at least 2500 B.C. When the vases were lightly tapped, a blue patina separated from the surfaces--characteristic of silver electroplated to copper. Martin Leavey of Pennsylvania State University has confirmed from cuneiform texts dating to the third millenium B.C. that the Sumerians possessed all the necessary metals and acids that went into the construction of the old

batteries. It would appear, then, that the Persians and the later smiths of Baghdad inherited their batteries from the earliest known civilization in the Middle East. The question is, however, where did the ancient Sumerians receive their knowledge of the batteries and electricity from? It took our civilization until less than two hundred years ago to develop an electric battery, and there were certain synergistic steps that had to be taken before a battery was produced. The mystery is, we do not find the evidence anywhere in the Sumerian civilization--or in any of the known or recognized ancient civilizations for that matter--for the steps necessary to come up with the battery principle. The batteries, and evidence of their use simply appears, as if out of nowhere. The only answer to the enigma is that an older yet more advanced culture once existed, which for some reason disappeared, but from which the Sumerians became the beneficiaries of the former technology.

While no other batteries have yet been unearthed outside of Iraq, there are indications that batteries were nevertheless used by other ancient civilizations. Electroplated objects have been found in Egypt, discovered by the famous nineteenth century French archaeologist, Auguste Mariette. Excavating in the area of the Sphinx at Giza, Mariette came upon a number of artifacts at a depth of sixty feet. In the Grand dictionnaire universel du dix-neufieme siecle, he described the artifacts as, "pieces of gold jewelry whose thinness and lightness makes one believe they had been produced by electroplating, an industrial technique that we have been using for only two or three years." Mariette's observation was later proven correct.

Another disturbing indication of electricity having been a part of ancient metallurgical techniques comes from China. Not long ago a metal belt fastener with open-work ornamentation was discovered in the burial site of the notable general of the Tsin era, Chou Chu, who lived from A.D. 265 to 316. The fastener was examined by the Institute of Applied Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Dunbai Polytechnic. Their analysis showed that the metal of the fastener is an alloy of 5% manganese, 10% copper--and 85% aluminum.

Now aluminum was supposedly not discovered until 1807, and not produced successfully in pure form until 1857. Today, the process of extracting aluminum from bauxite mineral is very complicated and involves the use of a Reverberier oven, refraction chamber and regenerator, and utilizes temperatures exceeding 1,000 degrees Celsius. What is more, electrolysis plays a key role.

The question is, where did the Chinese acquire these elements of twentieth century technology in the third century? It is possible they may have possessed methods of producing aluminum unknown to us today, methods which could have employed electrolysis in a long-lost forgotten technique unknown to modern science.

It appears that metals were not the only substance subjected to the electrolysis technique in ancient times. In the Princes' Library in Ujjain, India, there is preserved a document called the Agastya Samhita, which dates back to the first millenium B.C. In it is this description: "Place a well-cleaned plate of copper in an earthenware vessel. Cover it with copper sulfate and then with moist sawdust. The contact of all these elements in this manner will produce an energy called Mitra-Varuna. By it water can be split into Pranavayu and Udanavayu. A chain of one hundred jars will give a very active and effective force. We have here not only instructions for making a battery but a description of the electrolysis of water into oxygen and hydrogen.

It appears, too, that the Hindus were equally knowledgeable of the reverse process--creating water out of elements in the air. Both the Rig Veda and the Brihat Devatas mention that when "Mitra-Varuna" is placed in a water-jar and exposed to the heavens, the "god" born is named Khumba-sambhava, the Hindu equivalent of Aquarius, the zodiacal god who carries on his shoulder a water-jug that never empties.

Benjamin Franklin, in the mid-eighteenth century, is credited with the first real study of electricity in nature. His famous kite-and-key-in-a-storm experiment demonstrated that lightning was nothing more than a high concentration of electric current, and the result of his work led to the invention of the lightning rod--a conducting spike set up in a high place, well grounded, which prevented lightning striking rooftops and ship masts. But Franklin's work was in truth a rediscovery and re-invention, for the Ancients knew how to avoid the energy concentration of lightning as well.

Nowhere in Hebrew history, for example, is it once mentioned that lightning struck Solomon's Temple, in the many centuries of its existence. The reason for this, the chronicler Josephus tells us, is that a forest of points made of gold covered the roof of the Temple, which in turn were linked with gilded connectors on the sides of the Temple, leading into the ground. In Egypt, flagstaffs sheathed in copper were usually placed in front of the propylae of temples, some staffs reaching heights of 100 feet. Inscriptions dating to 320 B.C. describe the staffs at Edfu this way: "At the main entrance of the life-giving horn (the sanctuary of Horus) is the pair of tall posts which cut the lightning out of the sky." The Greek Ktesias, writing in 400 B.C., tells of a similar practice in India: "Iron placed at the bottom of a fountain and made into the form of a sword, with point upward, possessed, as soon as it was thus fixed into the ground, the property of averting storms and lightnings." It is clear the lightning rods of antiquity were not the result of chance discovery or superstitious fear, but were the end-product of careful scientific research. We sense this especially when we read these words, from the Indian Oupnek-hat: "To know the nature of fire, the light of the sun and moon, and the energy of lightning--this is three-quarters of knowledge, and the science of God."

The ancients appear to have gone one step beyond Franklin, however, for there is evidence that they not only understood lightning, but even controlled it, for their own purposes. One of the early kings of Rome, Numa Pompilius, was well-learned in the esoteric wisdom of the Etruscans, a mysterious people whose origins are lost in antiquity. The historian Pliny revealed that Numa knew the secret of forcing Jupiter the Thunderer to descend to earth, and indicated that two processes were involved: The first obtained thunder (impetrare) and the second the desired lightning (cogere). It would seem that the Roman king knew of some method of concentrating atmospheric electricity over a distance (the thunder indicating the approach of concentration), and once a saturation point was reached, he created the "cathode" that brought the "heavenly spark" into being and directed it to a specific spot. That Numa's work is to be taken seriously can be seen in a tragedy related by both Pliny and Livy. Tullus Hostilius, a later prince of Rome, rediscovered the "Books of Numa" after the old monarch was dead, and decided to follow its instructions to bring down the "heavenly guest." But he performed the rites imperfectly, with the result that he was struck dead by the flash, and his palace was completely consumed.

King Numa's practice of concentrating and accurately directing atmospheric energies is most disturbing in the light of modern science's inability to duplicate the same feat. Where did such knowledge come from? Before the ancient Etruscans, Ammianus Marcellinus (fourth century A.D.) recorded: "The Magii (the 'Magicians of Old') preserved perpetually in their furnaces fire that they miraculously got from heaven." Did a pre-ancient people possess some form of technology that produced fire from electricity in the air? Finally, the Roman Servius revealed: "The first inhabitants of earth never carried fire to their altars, but through their prayers brought down the heavenly fire." According to the legend which Servius preserved, it was Prometheus--the last of the Titans, the earliest race to inhabit the earth--who "discovered and revealed to man the art of bringing down fire from above." These legends suggest that the knowledge and use of atmospheric electricity originated with an unknown civilization that existed before any of the known ancient cultures....

According to Josephus Goriondes (Clariss. Breithauptius, book ii, ch. 18, p. 131),

Alexander the Great once wrote to his teacher, Aristotle, that off the coast of India existed an island inhabited by men who ate raw fish, and spoke a language akin to Greek. Among them was the tradition that their island once possessed the sepulchre of Cainan, the great grandson of Adam. Before the great Flood, a high tower existed over the tomb that protected it in a remarkable manner: Any man who approached the tomb was struck down by a flash of lightning that discharged from the top of the tower. The Flood, however, had destroyed the tower and the sepulchre--but their memory had been preserved by every generation that had inhabited the island. It is interesting that the name Cainan in the Hebrew means, "an industrious man, a craftsman, a forger of metal." Being a member of the third generation from "Creation," he was the earliest metallurgist recorded in Genesis history. In the course of the use of metals, it is possible he could have discovered their electromagnetic properties and, in turn, discovered electricity itself. Perhaps his tomb was a monument to his major contribution to a pre-cataclysmic civilization. It is noteworthy also that the Hebrew Aggadah indicates that the generation of Cainan's father, Enos, was the first to "control heavenly forces--the controlling of lightning and other electrical discharges in nature.

It is interesting that the book of Genesis offers other indications of the use of electrics far back into unknown antiquity. In the Genesis account, we find two references to a "window" in the Ark of Noah--the patriarch who escaped the Flood. The second reference is in Genesis 8:6, and the Hebrew word used there is challon, or "opening," out of which Noah released his birds. The first reference, however, in Genesis 6:16, utilizes a different word--tsohar--which does not mean window or opening at all. Where it is used on twenty-two other occasions in the Old Testament, it is given the meaning, "a brightness, a brilliance, the light of the noonday sun." Its cognates have the word refer to something that, "glistens, glitters or shines." Many Jewish scholars of the traditional school identify the Tsohar as, "a light which has its origins in a shining crystal." Hebrew tradition for centuries has described the Tsohar as a gem or pearl that Noah hung from the roof of the Ark, and by power contained within itself, lighted the entire vessel.

The light source of Noah seems to have been preserved in history until quite late, for we find indications that Solomon of Israel may have possessed it in 1000 B.C. A Jewish book of tradition, entitled The Queen of Sheba and Her Only Son Menyelek, contains this statement: "Now the House of Solomon the King was illumined as by day, for in his wisdom he had made shining pearls (tsohar) which were like unto the sun, the moon and the stars in the roof of his house." Solomon was well aware of the existence of a former advanced technology, and that the knowledge of that technology was slowly being lost through succeeding ages, for he wrote: "There is no new thing under the sun. Is there anything whereof it may be said, See, this is new? It hath been already of old times, which was before us. There is no remembrance of former things; neither shall there be a remembrance of things that are to come with those that shall come after," Ecclesiastes 1:9-11.

In later ages still, we know from historical records that such Hebrew secret societies as the Kabala preserved knowledge of electricity as late as the medieval period. Iphas Levi, in his Histoire de la magie, recorded the story of the mysterious French rabbi named Jechiele, who was an advisor in the thirteenth century court of Louis IX. Jechiele, his contemporaries wrote, often astounded the king with his "dazzling lamp that lighted itself." The lamp possessed no oil or wick, and Jechiele placed it in front of his house for all to see. What the lamp's secret source of power was, however, the rabbi never revealed. Another device, which Jechiele used to protect himself with, was a doorknocker that literally shocked his enemies. The thirteenth century chroniclers told how he, "touched a nail driven into the wall of his study, and a crackling, bluish spark immediately leapt forth. Woe to anyone who touched the iron knocker at that moment: He would bend double, scream as if he had been burned, then he would run away as fast as his legs could carry him." It would appear that Jechiele pushed a discharge button which sent an electric current into the iron knocker of his door.

Stories of other "flameless lights" and ancient electrical gadgetry persist in historical accounts the world over. Numa Pompilius--the Roman king who could bring down lightning from the sky--was also said to have possessed a "perpetual lamp" that burned in the sanctuary he dedicated to Jupiter the Thunderer. Interestingly enough, similar lamps were associated with other Jovian temples: The sacred site of Hadad at Baalbek boasted the wonder of "luminous stones" that were lighted by "thunder bolts;" and at the famed sanctuary of Jupiter-Ammon in Egypt, Plutarch reported the existence of a lamp which had burned a nonflickering light continuously for several centuries. Pausanius described a similar "gold lamp" in the Temple of Minerva, which also produced light for considerable periods. In the third century A.D., St. Augustine marveled at a lamp contained in a temple dedicated to the Egyptian goddess Isis--a lamp that "neither wind or water could extinguish." This was certainly no torch or flame. As late as the sixth century, in the reign of Justinian, a "fireless lamp" was reported at Antioch which had not gone out for five centuries.

The civilizations of the New World also had their share of mysterious "perpetual lights" and other wonders. Colonel Percy Fawcett, who led many expeditions into the jungles of Brazil in search of lost civilizations, was told by one Indian that in a remote region through which the Amazon flows he had seen the ruins of gigantic buildings, many of which were "lit up by a great square crystal that sits on a platform in the center of the room." The Indian claimed that one could not look directly at the lights, so bright are they, yet they had always been there, for even his forefathers had spoken of the lights' existence. Some unknown civilization had died ages ago, but the power that had illumined their cities was still active.

Legends of continuously shining lights--and the mystery of windowless buildings--are extant among the ancient Central American civilizations. Mooney, in Gods of Air and Darkness, pointed out: "When the Spaniards first arrived in the Americas they were told of bright cities, lit by stars, hung from the roofs, that never went out. The description reminds us of some form of electrical illumination which was of course unknown in Europe at this time. No trace of cities with the remains of such means of illumination have been found. But among the ruins of the Maya, many large buildings have been found which are completely windowless but show no signs of blackening by torches, fires or lamps."

The enigma of smokeless lighting is one which finds many parallels in the Old World as well. No trace of smoke, for example, was ever found either in the Pyramid of Giza or in the subterranean tombs of the pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings. It has been thought that perhaps the Egyptians used some complicated system of mirrors to bring sunlight into the burial chambers, but no remains of any such system have ever been found. Besides, from the few Egyptian mirrors that have survived, we know that their reflection efficiency was less than 25%. A series of such mirrors would have been able to transfer little if any light at all. The only other alternative is that the Egyptians had smokeless light sources. Since the Egyptians appear to have possessed electricity to electroplate gold jewelry (as Mariette discovered), they may also have utilized it to illuminate their tombs.

--Jalandris

"New worlds, of course, are not discovered all at once. A new hemisphere may be glimpsed first only as a few small islands, or an electric universe as a few tiny sparks."

J. B. Rhine

NEXT ISSUE: THE PATTERN TAKES SHAPE--An Overview of Ley Line Systems Around the World