



# PURSUIT<sup>®</sup>

"SCIENCE IS THE PURSUIT OF THE UNEXPLAINED"

VOL. 8 NO. 2

APRIL, 1975

## **SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED**

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Membership is \$10 a year and runs from the 1st of January to the 31st of December. Members receive our quarterly journal PURSUIT, an Annual Report and Auditor's Report, and all special Society publications for that year.

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The legal and financial affairs of the Society are managed by a Board of Trustees in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. The Society is also counselled by a panel of prominent scientists, which is designated the Scientific Advisory Board.

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### **PUBLICATIONS**

Our publishing schedule is four quarterly issues of PURSUIT, dated January, April, July, and October, and numbered as annual volumes — Vol. 1 being 1968 and before; Vol. 2, 1969, and so on. These are mailed at the end of the month. (Subscription to PURSUIT, without membership benefits, is \$5 for 4 issues.) Order forms for back issues will be supplied on request.

PURSUIT is listed in Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory and in the Standard Guide to Periodicals; and is abstracted in Abstracts of Folklore Studies. It is also available from University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106. The price is \$4.10 per reel. An annual index appears in the October issue.

Vol. 8, No. 2  
APRIL, 1975

# PURSUIT®

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THE JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE  
INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

FOUNDED BY IVAN T. SANDERSON

DEVOTED TO THE INVESTIGATION OF "THINGS"  
THAT ARE CUSTOMARILY DISCOUNTED

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HANS STEFAN SANTESSON

1914 – 1975

Hans Stefan Santesson died suddenly though not unexpectedly on the 20th of February. He had long been in poor health with serious heart disease and the mystery was not so much how he kept going as how he managed to stay alive at all. He was nevertheless active in a number of fields right to the end, and not least was his interest in the Society. He had helped to found SITU and became its President and

Chairman of the Board in 1969, posts he held until his death. We will miss him both professionally and personally.

Stefan was indeed a "man of many parts". His interests ranged from forteana to Indian and Bengali affairs, and his friends from obscure Indian students to men on a first-name basis with the Club of Rome. He could speak learnedly on Muslim art and the art of science fiction and the mystery story and a host of subjects in between. He was primarily an editor: 1956-1967 – The Saint Magazine; 1945-1952 – the Unicorn Mystery Book Club; 1956-1960 – Fantastic Universe; and over a dozen anthologies, and was awarded the Critic's Edgar for 1963 by the Mystery Writers of America. He was a member of the MWA Board and at one time their Regional Vice-President, and also belonged to (and in some cases served as an officer of) the Crime Writers Association of London, the National Association of Book Editors, the Hydra Club, the Science Fiction Writers of America, and the American Oriental Society.

Stefan was born in Paris of Swedish parents and maintained lifelong contacts with relatives and friends in Sweden though he lived in the United States from an early age. Just when or where he met Ivan T. Sanderson I do not know, but they were friends for about twenty-five years and one can hope that two old friends are now reunited. For myself, I believe the thing I shall miss most is Stefan's famous chuckle. And had he had a chance to utter any last words they would undoubtedly have been "Give my regards to anyone you think deserves them".

S.W.S.

## UFOLGY

### MORE ON JESSUP AND THE ALLENDE CASE

by Hans Stefan Santesson

There is reason to view with some concern the renewed interest in some circles in again arriving at a more sensational "explanation" for the last days and eventual death in 1959 of the late Morris K. Jessup. As Ivan T. Sanderson pointed out in an article in Pursuit (vol. 1, no. 4) "there is no known reason to suppose that his death was other than suicide", for entirely valid reasons, referred to in a letter received by a close friend in New York after his death. The repeated attempts, then and later, to arrive at another and more sensational explanation for his death, are not only a disservice to Ufology but represent a mockery of these writers' alleged concern and affection for that gentle and dedicated researcher who was one of the most responsible writers to publish in a field unfortunately not noted for the objectivity of its more publicised spokesmen. Some very strange people, writing and/or speaking "at" a rather esoteric minority, have helped to ob-

scure the reality that Ufology has to do with more than the quasi-metaphysical teachings of the alien intelligences who are said to have, from time to time, contacted these gentlemen whose knowledge of the subject is at times limited to the standard references.

The readiness to ascribe a humanoid character to these intelligences is perhaps understandable. While it is part and parcel, particularly in times such as these, of an anxiety to believe in such possible personifications of forces and truths greater than those we live with, – there is no scientific validity to these assumptions unless one takes refuge in the popular myths that also raise the possibility that these unidentified flying objects originate from either the Arctic or the Antarctic, or from beneath the seas. To suggest this is likewise a disservice to Ufology. What is needed is objectivity, such as that which marked much of Morris K. Jessup's writings, and not this sensationalism. Ufology need not be a cult; objectively approached, it can be a discipline.

It was a tragedy that, for entirely unrelated

reasons — understandably ignored by some who have since then written about what happened — Dr. Morris K. Jessup found it necessary to take his own life. The very act of his doing so demanded a courage and an ability to face realities, for which he deserves our lasting respect and empathy. In contrast to many of our contemporaries, he did not fear Death; no one with his philosophical background could do so. To therefore ascribe his death to more sensational factors is irresponsible and, as I have suggested above, a disservice to the field and to the memory of a sincere and dedicated researcher.

#### Note

I also have seen the letter referred to above and can confirm that it is a perfectly straightforward "suicide note" and further that Dr. Jessup's letter makes it clear that he chose suicide as the only possible alternative to an insupportable future, and did so after careful consideration and not in a fit of sudden despair. Certainly the mysterious "they" had nothing to do with it.

Sabina W. Sanderson

#### A UFO-ABSM LINK?

by Robert C. Warth

In recent months in particular the question of a possible relationship between UFO activity and Bigfoot phenomena has been receiving increased attention in popular magazines and newspapers. We feel that we do not have sufficient data at the present time to take a stand on this issue but that we should make every effort to examine the concept as objectively and fully as possible.

What has disturbed us is that too many individuals seem eager to accept insufficient evidence as proof of a link between the two. As investigators of unexplained phenomena we must be careful not to be lured (possibly) astray by enticing oversimplifications. We know what years of frustration are, years of searching and hoping for the clue or clues that may lead us to the answer to an enigma or, more ideally, to a set of data that will explain a whole series of unexplaineds.

We can appreciate how difficult it is for some devotees of the study of Bigfoot to explain to anyone's satisfaction why it is, with the multitude of Bigfoot sighting reports each year, and the even greater number of witnesses behind the reports, that not one of these creatures is known to be available for public display or for scientific examination—assuming, that is, that they are capable of being caught or killed in our conventional interpretation of these words. It could be much less threatening to a believer's 'sanity' and credibility if Bigfoot's elusiveness could be attributed, at least in part, to its

being ferried to and fro by the even more elusive UFO. And if the Bigfoot buff can prove that they are accompanied and protected by UFOs, then he can turn to the ufologist and say "That's your problem now!"

#### The Middletown, New Jersey Report

On the morning of Tuesday, October 22, 1973, a 16-year-old student left for school later than was usual for her. She decided to take a shortcut, against her parents' instructions, through a wooded area, 44 acres of which is owned jointly by her father, grandfather and uncle. The dirt driveway she had to follow led past her uncle's house on the hill in back of her own home. Her uncle had left for work an hour earlier so that no one was at his house to see her passing. She had been admonished about using this desolate route but she had experienced no problems here before this. As she walked up the tire-rutted path that leads past her uncle's front porch she was startled to see what appeared to be an adult bear and two cubs. She said the adult was covered with brown fur and stood erect, about 6 feet tall, with both forefeet or 'arms' reaching upward and resting against the trunk of a Black Oak tree in her uncle's front yard about 30 feet from the house. The cubs were nearby, apparently foraging on the ground. Her approach had been to within a hundred feet of the 'bears' before she saw them, became startled, turned and ran back home approximately 600 feet down hill. Curiously, as she described the scene, the 'bears' did not appear to be aware of her approach.

It was not long before state and local police officers, firemen and first-aid volunteers plus a multitude of the curious converged on the area and combed every possible hiding place to search for the bears—in vain.<sup>1</sup> When the search was called off later in the day most of those involved simply shrugged off the matter and attributed the whole thing to hysteria, a wild imagination, an attention-getting device, and so forth on the girl's part, so that in general the whole incident was laughed off by them and forgotten as a bad joke.

Her uncle and allegedly at least one police officer saw what might have been a footprint of a large animal in soft dirt near the driveway. The oak tree was examined by her uncle and myself but we could detect no claw marks or broken bark on the trunk.

One neighbor, the father told me, claimed he had seen a bear-like creature in his garden several evenings earlier; and a second neighbor said he came home late one evening that week and saw a large silhouetted animal-like figure leave his open garage as he drove his car into his driveway. The latter also said that the pigeons on his garage roof were frightened to the point that they would not come to roost for three days after the event. The neighbor admitted "having a few drinks" before he arrived home and thus did not discuss the incident with anyone

else. When I spoke to these witnesses quite some time after the event each not only denied having seen an animal of that description but also denied ever having said anything at all. It was obvious that they did not wish to become involved again.

A preliminary routine check showed that no bears were reported to have escaped from any zoo or circus or any private owner anywhere in New Jersey for at least three months prior to this incident. The closest areas where bears are found naturally are Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and the upper (northwestern) portions of New Jersey. This allegedly happened in the upper northwest section of Monmouth County, New Jersey, which is bounded to the north by Raritan Bay and to the east by the Atlantic Ocean. If, for the sake of argument, we credit these three 'bears' with having escaped from the closest known 'bear territory', promenading slowly (because of the two cubs) across open fields and heavily travelled, barricaded turnpikes and highways, past congested towns and sprawling housing developments in the most densely populated state in the nation without so much as one known previous sighting, then what happened to them after the alarm was sounded and armed posses spread out in all directions to comb every wooded area on foot and patrol adjoining roads by car (moving faster than any bear can run)?

Luckily, perhaps, for the sake of this investigation, the witness's father and uncle have been acquaintances of mine for over 20 years. In exchange for anonymity they discussed the incident openly with me. The entire family of the witness believes she must have seen something unusual to have been as alarmed as she was. Lies and/or hysteria are not part of her character they said.

Unfortunately the uncle did not record the date, but during the week before Christmas 1974 he was walking toward his house through his woods after grocery shopping, carrying a single sack of items. He was too far away to see his house but noticed an unusually bright light in front of him. Thinking at first that he had left the outside lights on at home, he then noticed that the glow was yellow and not white, and came from an oval, domed object estimated to be 12 or 15 feet in diameter, banded by red, green and orange lights. He stopped about 120 feet from it and pinched his leg with his free hand. His immediate reaction was, he said, that he was "near the end" to see such a wierd object, constantly glowing orange and hovering "about the height of a telephone pole" or 30 feet above a small clearing along the path. "I got scared", he said, "and started backing slowly down the path". He hadn't gotten far when it shot upward, the orange light went out, and it disappeared.

On Tuesday, January 7, 1975, the girl's father saw a bright light shining at tree-top level toward him when he arrived home from work at 12:20 a.m. He became so upset by the fact that the intense light was directed at him that he couldn't open the door

with his key and pounded for his wife to let him in. The wooded area by the uncle's house was brightly lit. Perhaps a half-hour later the light went out and several members of the household watched a white object shoot up into a clear sky and similarly disappear.

Monmouth County is not particularly noted for its UFO activity. However, one sighting was reported the evening before the bear was seen, and during the evening of the next day there was a rash of UFO sightings over the immediately surrounding area from at least 11:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.<sup>2</sup>

Nevertheless, our investigations to date have proved no connection between the alleged bear sighting and the UFOs seen. The 44 acres are only part of a larger complex of wooded area there, but we know of no other similar area locally with this coupling of phenomena (except for the report that follows). There may have been numerous similar occurrences in the past. And bear in mind that the girl said she saw a bear, not a giraffe, or a rhino, or a green elephant. Neither she nor anyone else in her family showed any inclination to believe in or want to study UFOs or ABSMs.

#### The Staten Island Report

A similar incident was reported on December 7, 1974, less than 12 miles from the Middletown, N.J. sighting, and exactly due north, in Richmondtown, Staten Island, New York. Two boys, Frank Pizzolato, age 11, and his cousin Philip Vivolo, age 12, were walking toward Frank's house in the late afternoon. They were climbing up the north side of a 40- to 50-foot knoll that juts prominently out of the flat river bed that is now called Richmond Creek. The wooded, dome-shaped hill is criss-crossed with paths, and is used as a park and play area behind the parking lot for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

The sun was close to setting, hazy with high clouds moving in with an approaching storm. The time was approximately 4:15 p.m. when suddenly, as the boys neared the top of the knoll, with Frank in the lead by several steps, they heard a "loud roar" behind them. Frank looked back first. He described what he saw at the base of the hill as a "big, furry thing" standing erect and facing them. He turned back and started to run. Philip, wondering why Frank was running from him looked back, too, and 'froze' for what he estimated to be "about ten seconds". He was looking down at a large, black, fur-covered creature, standing upright, about 6 feet tall, with its arms (or forefeet) semi-raised in what seemed to be a threatening gesture. Frank yelled to his cousin to run. Philip turned, and ran so frantically that he outdistanced Frank and "nearly went into the pond" at the base of the south side of the knoll. Philip's house is a few blocks away, and Mrs. Vivolo said the boys came in "as white as ghosts" and emotionally upset by their experience.

After the police were called in to investigate their story, the local newspapers, radio and TV networks carried the news item that evening. Police Officer Dolf DeMarco told me that patrol cars and a police helicopter with a powerful searchlight were used to scan the area over a radius of a mile for about two hours before the search was called off. There was no trace of a bear.

The day following the sighting, Sunday, was literally a 'washout'. A steady downpour of rain all day eliminated any hope of finding footprints near the hill.

On Monday, December 9, 1974 I interviewed the two boys. Mrs. Vivolo said that Philip had been the more upset of the two, having insomnia and vomiting from nervousness the first two nights after the incident. I was able to speak to the boys separately first, and each corrected the same minor discrepancies in the newspaper report<sup>3</sup> about them, i.e. as reported in the newspaper they heard a "growl". It was louder than that; each said "It roared". Among other things, the police suggested that the boys might have seen a large dog, but one parent said such an explanation is unrealistic since they both had grown up with a variety of large dogs in the neighborhood, and that neither boy would have mistaken a dog for something else or been so frightened by one. The parents of both boys told me they believe that Frank and Philip did see something that really scared them, and that

their stories were an accurate reflection of what they thought they had seen.

An interesting point was made by Frank who noted that as they raced from the knoll and around the rim of the pond toward Philip's home he saw none of the waterfowl that usually are present in the water and on the banks, awaiting hand-outs of stale bread, etc., from the usual Saturday afternoon gathering of animal lovers.\*

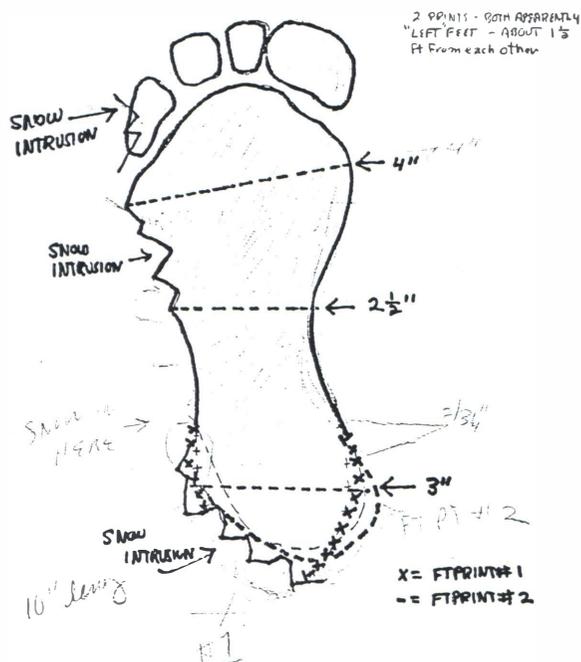
By December 17, 1974 a rumor was abroad that someone had found a large animal footprint and had taken a photograph of it. However, all attempts to date to locate the photograph have been in vain. I personally don't believe that any footprint of significance could have survived the very heavy rainstorm the following day.

For the sake of those not familiar with Staten Island, it is populated more heavily toward its coastline than in its interior. At the center of the island is an area known to the inhabitants as "the Green Belt". This area in some places has such exceptionally heavy undergrowth that passage through it without a machete or other assistance would be virtually

\*Subsequent questioning revealed that the birds had not "vanished" but had all retreated to an island in the center of the pond, as is their habit when truly alarmed.



Figure 1



22 JAN 1975 HUMANOID FOOTPRINT - PARKING LOT OFF RICHMOND HILL RD. RICHMOND TOWNSHIP NJ

Figure 2

impossible. We are now investigating reports of large human-type footprints reported in the Clove Lake Park area, or roughly at the upper extreme of the "Green Belt". The Richmondtown sightings are 3½ miles toward the lower end of the "Belt" which has been estimated to be about 6 miles overall. Population expansion and "progress" are changing the landscape there but a relatively large portion of the "Belt" remains undisturbed.

I went on December 22, 1974 to photograph the parking lot area again and to interview people for more leads or clues. I spoke with several persons at length and noted in the course of conversation about various unexplained phenomena at least one person in each family reported having seen one or more UFOs overhead at some time while living on Staten Island, and more frequently in recent years.

I had been informed earlier in December that I might receive assistance from a fellow named Arvid "Slim" Zumwalt. He proved to be rather elusive himself, but on December 30 I finally met him and found him to be every bit as enthusiastic as I in tracking down the "bear". (He is now a member.)

At midnight on January 21, 1975 Slim called to tell me that his neighbor, a nurse, Mrs. D. Daly, while on her way to work at St. Vincent's Hospital at 10:45 p.m. and driving northward on Richmond Road, had passed St. Andrew's Church when suddenly she had to slam on her brakes to avoid hitting a large creature walking on two legs and covered with long, black hair. She stopped her car within 6 feet of it as it walked in front of her from the church parking lot, westward across Richmond Road to the stone wall entrance way to the churchyard. She estimated it to be 5'8" to 5'10" tall. Its arms, she said, hung slightly forward of its body (see Fig. 1). Perhaps most significant is that Mrs. Daly got the impression that it seemed to ignore her or was oblivious of her presence and the potential danger of her moving automobile. The creature walked upright and was headed toward the large swamp area and the garbage dumps behind the church.

Mrs. Daly left the scene in great haste, she said, and arrived at work shortly thereafter. She excitedly related her experience to others on the staff. Their response (usual in such cases) was "Hey, what were you drinking?" Mrs. Daly was not amused. She has since found and now uses an alternate route to work.

The following morning Slim Zumwalt's friend Herb Clement (who worked with Ivan T. Sanderson, our Society's founder, for several years prior to SITU's inception in 1965!) went to examine the area around the St. Andrew's Church parking lot. A recent, light snowfall made the prospect of finding a footprint better. And, indeed, Herb did find two four-toed footprints in snow over gravel in the parking lot area. Figure 2 is his composite drawing of the two left footprints, including slight differences between them, but basically indicating that both prints were made by one-and-the-same foot. A photograph was attempt-

ed, but capturing a shallow footprint in snow on film is difficult.

Slim called me again on January 28, 1975, to tell me that he had been told by friends that on the evening before Mrs. Daly's experience (but actually on the same day since this incident allegedly occurred between 12:00 and 12:30 a.m.) a bear-like creature was seen by a young couple in the same parking lot. The report was that they thought they heard the night watchman approaching their car on foot, drove the car around to leave the area, and caught a glimpse of the "bear" in the car's headlights. Unfortunately the couple has not yet been located.

Only highlights of our investigation have been reported here. We are still following up various leads and will welcome help from members in the Staten Island area.

One intriguing point that may be made: these sightings occurred in Richmondtown, one of the earliest established sections of Staten Island, presently being restored. And just 700 yards to the east of the knoll where the first sighting took place, and hanging on the side of a cliff overlooking the knoll and surrounding lowlands, is the Marchais Tibetan Museum—a unique establishment.

To return, however, to the UFOs mentioned earlier, the following recent report was investigated by Slim Zumwalt and myself.

On Tuesday evening, February 11, 1975, at about 7 p.m., Charles D'Amore, age 16, and Mike Killeen, age 15, were testing the ice on a flooded area of woods up the street from Charles' home. The boys saw an orange, glowing object hovering at less than treetop height several hundred feet to the northwest of them. Silently the glowing object's elongated width shrank as if perhaps a cigar-shaped object was turning 90°, giving the appearance of its size shrinking to a ball, but actually pivoting and looked at from the end rather than the side.<sup>4</sup>

Pinpointing the location through the trees the boys found a spot where several live White Poplar trees up to 4 inches in diameter were snapped off about 5 feet from the ground.<sup>5</sup> A great force, that is, one stronger than wind or human strength snapped the trees and sheared the buds off the stem and branches except for the uppermost flexible twigs. The base of the trees and bushes showed charring from a previous burning—not attributable to the UFO.

Snow the following day covered the area up to 6 inches deep, a stroke of luck as it turned out. Slim and I reasoned that if an unusual force had caused the trees to snap off and the buds to be sheared from the tree, then possibly the buds were lying under the snow. The weather changed, and on Tuesday, February 18 Slim went back and found buds all over the ground, collecting a number of them for examination.

This portion of wooded area is at the southern extremity of the "Green Belt", and Slim has since spoken to several persons living in the area. One of two women who would not divulge her name said that

she saw an orange object hovering low at just about that same spot six months earlier: and another man who asked not to be identified said that he watched an object just two weeks earlier hovering over a pond a couple of streets away at about 3:30 to 3:45 a.m. It was cigar-shaped, about 50 feet long, a luminous or neon white, and about 200 feet above the pond. He estimated that he was about 150 to 200 yards away. The object remained motionless for about 15 minutes before moving and rapidly disappearing.

Again we have reports of these two phenomena in relatively close proximity, but again there is no proof that they are related. They may occur or be sighted

in a particular location for other reasons, and perhaps become visible to us (or some of us) because of, say, certain physical abnormalities. Nor can we discard the idea that UFOs may be studying ABSMs just as we do.

#### References:

1. The Daily Register, Red Bank, N.J., 23 Oct. 1973
2. Asbury Park Press, Asbury Park, N.J., 24 Oct. 1973
3. The Staten Island Advance, Staten Island, N.Y., 8 Dec. 1974
4. Ibid., 14 Feb. 1975
5. Ibid., 3 March 1975

## CHAOS AND CONFUSION

### VILE VORTICES

by R. J. D.

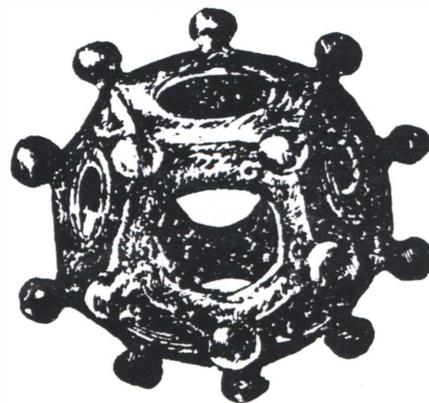
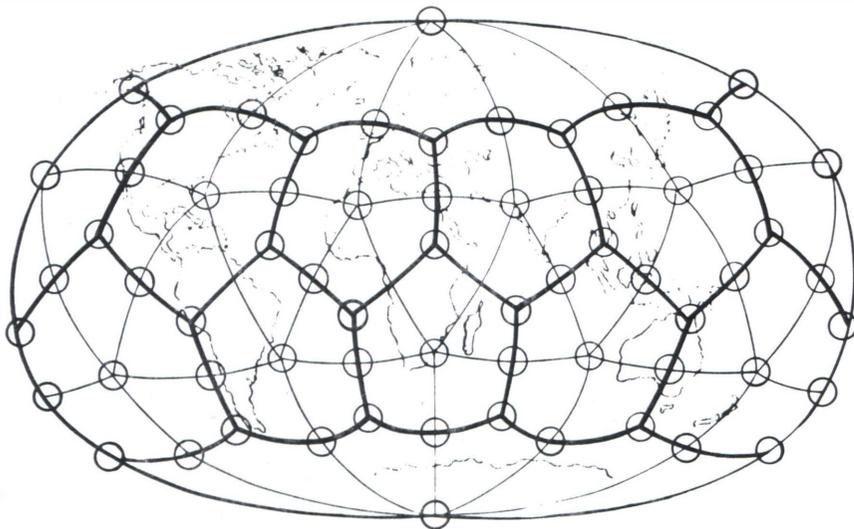
In his book *Invisible Residents* Ivan Sanderson postulated the existence of ten specific geographical areas symmetrically spread about the globe. A great number of mysterious things have happened in these "Vile Vortices", as Sanderson called them. The most famous of these areas is the Bermuda Triangle, but several others are fairly well established in the annals of sea and air disasters.

The concept of evenly distributed centers of anomalous activity was based on a careful study of case histories collected over a long period of time, and the rather obvious conclusion to be drawn from plots of the last known locations of ships and aircraft which subsequently disappeared without trace. The disappearances apparently occurred in confined areas, and these areas were neither located in haphazard fashion with respect to one another nor were they placed in accordance with some reasonable explanation for disappearances, i.e., the anomalous

areas did not correspond necessarily with heavy sea or air traffic which would yield a proportionately higher number of disasters.

The final step in the development of Sanderson's hypothesis was based on intuition and a desire to find a complete pattern in the system of anomalous areas. The result was the identification of ten areas, five in the Northern Hemisphere and five in the Southern Hemisphere. The Vortices were located in bands about 25 degrees of latitude from the equator, and each hemispherical set showed about 72 degrees of separation from one area to the next. The bands seemed to be displaced in longitude, so that the area in the Southern Hemisphere "below" the Bermuda Triangle vortex is actually located about 36 degrees east or west in longitude.

Now we have a report of a research project carried out by three Russians which provides startling confirmation of Sanderson's Vile Vortices concept. According to an article in the September 1974 issue of the Soviet magazine *Sputnik*, this research began when an art student noted the symmetrical distribution of centers of ancient cultures. Further study re-



vealed a great variety of geological, magnetic, and weather phenomena that coincided with a geometric master plan of the earth.

Figure 1 shows the globe with the patterns found by the researchers. There are actually two polyhedrons projected on the surface, a dodecahedron composed of 12 faces containing five sides each, and an icosahedron composed of 20 faces containing three sides each. The orientation of this grid is established by placing the focal points over centers of geological or weather phenomena.

For example, the edges of the polyhedrons are said to coincide with mid-oceanic ridges and other cracks in the earth's crust, and with seismically active areas. The vertices of the polyhedrons are said to denote centers of magnetic anomaly, maximum and minimum atmospheric pressure areas, and hurricane generation areas. In Soviet territory, grid intersections correspond with land areas in which it appears that the last ice age had an unusually mild impact, with the result that these areas became shelters for animal life that was destroyed elsewhere.

Unfortunately, the Sputnik article fails to give much more information about the specific areas defined by the grid or about the proof for this concept advanced by the researchers. However, a glance at their twenty-faceted grid will immediately reveal that the intersection points of the triangles are precisely those points on the earth's surface identified by Sanderson as Vile Vortices.

The Soviet researchers apparently had their grid hypothesis well developed before they learned of Sanderson's work. He is mentioned in quite favorable terms several times in the course of the article. Another writer of note whom the researchers believe to have proposed the grid hypothesis is Plato, who put it thusly: "The earth, if it is looked at from above resembles a ball stitched together from 12 pieces of leather." This statement was discovered after the discovery of the 12 facet division of the earth's surface. The researchers suggest that Plato's remark reflects a close study of natural phenomena that may have been accessible to the ancients, such as bird migration patterns, and wind and ocean currents, all of which conform to the 12 facet grid. Oddly enough (for speculative studies of this sort) the idea of "space visitors" is not dragged into the discussion.

Figure 2 is an artifact found in excavations both in France and in Vietnam. The Vietnamese variety are made of gold, the French of bronze. Archeologists are at a loss to explain the significance of the objects, but the Soviet researchers think they may in fact be very ancient models of the earth represented in terms of the grid system.

This last seems a bit far-fetched to us, as does the inclusion of Plato's quote about the appearance of the earth when viewed from above. Plato certainly knew a regular polygon, and a dodecahedron at that, from a ball sewn together from patches of leather.

Whatever else may be said of Plato, he has never been accused of an inability to express himself clearly.

On the other hand, the earth, when viewed from a great enough distance, might reasonably be described in Plato's terms. The "patches" are not pentagons, but rough and oddly shaped pieces — the land masses and oceans. Could it be that Plato was merely quoting an earlier authority on such matters? To wit, the mysterious source that informed Homer of the two Moons of Mars?

## RESISTENTIALISM

by Sabina W. Sanderson

Ivan Sanderson once read a book which tickled his fancy no end, but no one has yet tracked it down since he could not remember the author's name (believed to be a Frenchman), the title (possibly Resistentialism), or where or when he read it and whether it was ever published in the United States! Nevertheless, it did concern what the author called "resistentialism" — a play on "existentialism" — the theory that inanimate machines may not be as inanimate as we like to think they are, and may occasionally resist being what they are intended to be.

One of the major accounts included in the book dealt with the career of an ocean-going tugboat built in the Netherlands. The Dutch are noted for the excellence of their tugs but this one proved to be a problem, working overtime at fulfilling Murphy's Law: anything that could go wrong did, and she was almost permanently in drydock for repairs or overhaul almost from the moment she was launched. During one of her interludes at sea she ran on a sandbar and stuck, and apparently made no attempt to cooperate with attempts to refloat her. Her exasperated owners finally gave up and sold her to another company. The new owners somehow hauled her off and proceeded to convert her to a fishing trawler, cutting a well in the deck and making other necessary alterations but not making any really basic changes. She was then relaunched — and twenty years later was still functioning without fault as a fishing trawler. I cannot, of course, vouch for details here, but the basic story is accurate.

I can vouch for the following: Ivan and Alma Sanderson had a four-slice toaster when I arrived in 1968, and I was warned to beware of it. In the vernacular, they weren't kidding. Unfortunately, as is so often the case, we failed to keep detailed records, but my impression is that it had one form of behaviour for Alma and another for Ivan. (I rarely eat toast.) It was a pop-up toaster, but when Alma attempted to make toast, usually the first sign that it was done (regardless of the setting) was black smoke filling the kitchen. The dogs got lots of burned toast. On the other hand, when Ivan dared to toast halves of

English muffins, it did toast them properly but then made a frightful grinding noise and hurled the muffins upward and outward, the inhabitants of the kitchen ducking out of the way. When I brought my personal belongings up to New Jersey in 1969, my offer of the use of my cheap, two-slice toaster was gratefully accepted and the recalcitrant machine stored in the Annex. Unfortunately there isn't anything one can do with a toaster that resents being a toaster; it can't be turned into a sewing machine or whatever it was that this one wanted to be. The tugboat was lucky in this respect.

When one turns to sophisticated 'machinery', the problems may be even worse. James Sutherland, writing in Vertex ("The Unhuman Explorers", vol. 1, no. 6, Feb. 1974), has this to say:

"Former Deputy Director of NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center Christopher Kraft once remarked that the various components in spacecraft often affect them in an 'almost metaphysical' manner, endowing some craft with near-human personality quirks. One Soviet probe became increasingly irritable and unresponsive as it neared Mars and apparently shut itself off in a fit of temper. A U. S. craft on a similar mission was programmed to lock onto a particular star with an electronic sensor to help with navigation, but it picked the wrong star and then stubbornly ignored frantic instructions from Earth for hours before admitting its mistake. And Surveyor 3 seemed to dislike the landing point on the Moon chosen for it, for as soon as the probe touched down it immediately gunned its engines and flew off to another location all by itself."

"Shut itself off in a fit of temper" indeed. Machines aren't supposed to have feelings at all. Are they? And yet there is a subtle recognition that machines, even if mass produced on an assembly line with components produced on an assembly line, have personalities. Ships are always referred to as "she" despite the fact that technically they are neuter, ditto other vehicles. And a motorist on buying a new car will spend some time "finding out what her idiosyncrasies are", this apart from "lemons" —which have nothing to do with the recall of all cars of a particular model because some nut has left out a certain bolt and the steering wheel may fall off, etc. More alarming was a car that Ivan Sanderson owned briefly. It had power steering, but it was impossible to steer, and the entire steering column was replaced twice (i.e. three in all). This failed to solve the problem, and on one trip from Washington, D.C. to New York, Ivan sat in the back typing an article while two nearly 'professional' drivers alternated with the driving —neither could take it for more than an hour. When they reached New York, they told Ivan, "This car isn't a lemon; it's a killer. Get rid of it." He took it to his dealer who, without a murmur, gave him an, in fact, more expensive model in exchange. Can one assume that some cars are simply 'grumpy'

about being cars while others are truly malicious about it? Other cars apparently delight in being cars: "she's a sweetheart", etc. And my toaster apparently had no objections to its occupation (friends of ours eventually provided a four-slice replacement, also willing to be a toaster!).

All life is basically electrical, and the "difficult" machines do seem to be those that at least have electrical components. Apart from purely mechanical devices that refuse to function for Bernard Heuvelmans, who cannot manage a typewriter and had us in near hysterics with his account of a drill which came apart no matter which way he turned it—he is just not mechanically minded! I have never heard of a non-electrical device that showed 'human' propensities. (If anyone has any valid examples I shall be delighted to hear of them, or of other examples of 'standard' resistentialism.) Even electrons, as such, seem to exhibit what is called will power, and we really know nothing of what happens when electrical circuits 'get together'. Yes, they turn switches on and off, activate mechanisms, and the like, but apart from what are really mechanical results, what do they do? What is electricity anyway?

There are cars that are hypochondriacs —they hiccup, until you get them to a repair shop; spacecraft that have "fits of temper"; tugboats that refuse to function. These are not cases of unmistakable mechanical malfunction. Indeed, in many cases, no mechanical defect can be found. The fault lies somewhere else, and it is possible that machines —some of them at least—may have 'life' of a sort. We ought to consider this.

## THAT THUNDERBIRD PHOTO

by David R. Weidl

This article is for the benefit of those new members of the Society who may not have read Ivan T. Sanderson's article in the April 1972 issue of Pursuit.

Thunderbirds are gigantic birds of Amerindian tradition. According to the Amerindians, these birds lived on mountain tops and were primarily nocturnal. These birds had wingspans of up to 30 feet. These characteristics are quite similar to those of a Condor, which is exactly what Ivan Sanderson thought them to be. Reports are still being made in the United States, particularly in north-central Pennsylvania.

Back in 1886 a Thunderbird was killed near Tombstone, Arizona. The photo shows the bird nailed to the side of a barn with its wings outstretched. There are also six men standing in front of the bird, with their arms outstretched fingertip to fingertip, to show its size. The photo was presumably published in the local paper called the Tombstone Epitaph. However, the Epitaph has no record of the photo and the editor has become more than a little irritated by requests for a copy. The National Geo-

graphic allegedly contained a reproduction of the photo, but other members as well as myself, have gone through the National Geographic without any luck.

The most irritating aspect of all this is that, while literally hundreds of people have seen this photo, not one of them can recall where. The Society once had a copy of the photo but two members took it with them on a field trip to Coudersport, in northern Pennsylvania, to look into several reports from the area. Upon their return they found it missing.

In November of 1973, I wrote to Fate Magazine asking their readers to contact me if they had any information. My letter was published in the May 1974 issue. The result of my letter was discouraging, to say the least; only eight letters. Most of the writers wanted a copy of the photo if I had it, and the rest didn't tell me anything I didn't already know.

However, the October 1974 issue of Fate had a letter from a Mr. W. Ritchie Benedict who said that he had seen the photo on television. It seems that Ivan Sanderson had been on a Canadian program called "The Pierre Berton Show" and had shown the photo on the show. The show was syndicated by Screen Gems out of Toronto and ran from 1964 to 1973. Ivan appeared sometime between 1964 and 1966. If there is any member of the Society, who is in a position to obtain a videotape of this photo would he please do so and send it to the Society.\*

Currently I am looking through old magazines hoping to find a copy. So far I have ruled out Life Magazine and I am now looking through the Saturday Evening Post. Would someone please check the old American Weekly (the Sunday Supplement) prior to about 1947. And if anyone finds this photo would he please let us know.

## GEOMAGNETIC STORMS AND FORTEAN EVENTS

By Livingston Gearhart

The earth's magnetic field is a physical phenomenon that has puzzled scientists since its discovery. The field as represented in the typical high school science text is a stable set of lines of force surrounding the earth and terminating at the magnetic poles, much like the lines of force enveloping an ordinary bar magnet. In actuality, the earth's magnetic field is constantly fluctuating, both in its contour and in the degree of its perturbation. It is now accepted that, over long periods of geological time, it has made at least several major shifts in direction.

Attempts to understand the nature of the earth's magnetic field were spurred by the advent of long range radio broadcasting, and the discovery that the upper levels of the atmosphere which reflect the radio

waves are radically affected by the state of the magnetic field. At certain levels of agitation of the field radio "blackouts" occur, and at other levels the aurora borealis is generated. At times of especially intense disturbance even underground and underwater communications cables are rendered inoperative. The state of theoretical knowledge of the field is summed up rather well in this quote from the Encyclopedia Britannica: "No satisfactory explanation of the earth's field has ever been offered". The field appears to have two main components, a fairly steady field (the textbook diagram) and a superimposed variable field. The common notion is that the steady field is generated within the earth, probably by dynamo action of the molten metal near the core, and that the variable field results from bombardment by particles emitted by the sun, particularly during periods of high sunspot activity.

The connection between solar flares and magnetic "storms" is well enough established to permit the regular issuance of radio propagation forecasts similar to weather forecasts in accuracy. However, this connection is far from the complete answer to geomagnetic field disturbances, as this quote from the May 1971 Solar Bulletin will show: "The aurora of April 14, 1971 ...was unusual from the standpoint that it was not preceded by any identified Class -M or Class -X solar flare on the visible disc, nor any identified ionospheric disturbance. Data available at this time indicate that this aurora was caused by an event beyond the East limb..."

The true state of affairs vis a vis sun flares and the geomagnetic field is probably contained in this rather amusing and confusing quotation from the scientific literature: "...active centers on the sun can affect geomagnetism in two contrary ways. An active center may appear to emit solar corpuscles or produce a geomagnetic storm or it may appear to inhibit the emission of solar corpuscles to produce a geomagnetically quiet condition. On the other hand, it may fail to cause any detectable effect; that is, it may seem neither to increase nor inhibit the emission of corpuscles. The essential problem now is how to predict what a given individual active center will do." \*

Measurements of geomagnetic perturbation have been taken for many years at scores of observatories, and have been issued in special publications since 1905. The readings are converted to three nominal values, 0 for quiet days, 1 for average days, and 2 for highly disturbed days. These values, in turn, are averaged to one decimal place for an international (global) daily figure. Thus it is possible to ascertain the average state of the geomagnetic field on any day since 1905.

Some time ago this writer attempted, simply as an exercise, to discover if there exists any correlation between disturbances in the geomagnetic field and

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\*One of our members is looking into this but has not reported yet. SWS.

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\* B. Bell and H. Glazer, "Sunspots & Geomagnetism", Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge, vol. II, no. 8.

various fortean events, including some psychic phenomena. The results were intriguing, and led to the strong suspicion that the onset of magnetic storms coincides with much human-related forteana.

Presenting the data in this admittedly speculative study raises some problems, not the least of which is the enormous number of case histories and the accompanying graphs of related magnetic field activity which comprise the "evidence" in this perplexing matter. However, by way of attempting to illustrate the nature of the data and the analytical technique two sets of correlations will be shown for certain selected cases. The first is simply a chronological sequence of a sampling of "front page" murders. These are not strictly speaking fortean events, but they do bespeak an intense temporary mental aberration. The letters A, B and C denote the points on the graph of changing magnetic intensity at which the specified events took place. A is the day of the rise to a peak, B is the day of the peak, and C is the day following the peak.

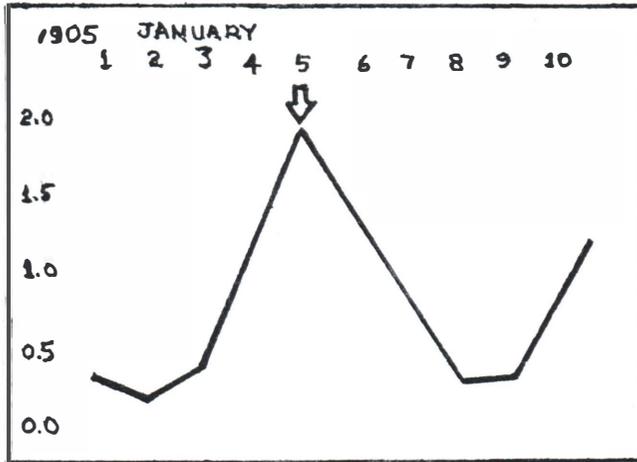
While bizarre murders are, unhappily, almost a commonplace, the phenomenon of spontaneous human combustion is a rare and profoundly fortean occurrence. Presumably the readers of Pursuit are well aware of the existence of SHC, so that we need not dwell on the particulars. It is because of its rarity that SHC lends itself particularly well as a test case for the hypothesis that geomagnetic disturbances trigger such events. Any correlations that may be found thus lose the taint of "coincidence" that quite naturally makes the data on murders somewhat suspect. The graphs that follow are typical of a great many similar ones developed in the course of this study. These graphs show the relative field intensity and the time of the combustions.

There are a great many questions that are still to be answered concerning these correlations. The most obvious one is whether or not the "hits" have been faithfully recorded and presented here, while the "misses" have been palmed off. The answer to this last is two-fold. First, the data and the tentative conclusions were both arrived at through honest effort, and the multiple possibilities for error were constantly kept in mind. Second, it has proved to be most difficult to get precise times and even dates for many of the SHC events. Except for those cases where very thorough police investigations were carried out one must rely upon newspaper accounts for such vital details, and the unfortunate fact here is that the press is often sloppy in recording these details. Since the timing of the events is the crux of the matter, this is a very serious problem indeed. However, there is seldom more than a day or so timing ambiguity, and as the number of instances mounts the certainty of the hypothesized correlation increases proportionately.

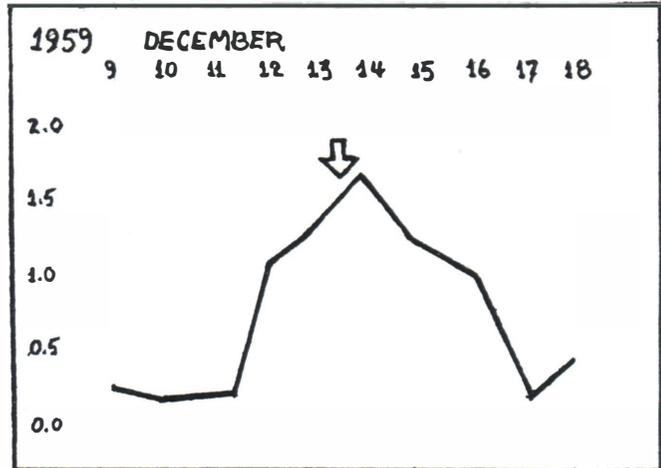
There is another factor which makes this study somewhat less precise than one would wish it to be, and that is the global nature of the tabulated data on

magnetic storms. This data may or may not accurately represent the degree of magnetic agitation in the vicinity of the SHC or other "psychic" event. This is a difficulty that cannot be overcome short of instrumenting the sites of these events, and it would only be practical in instances of continuing fortean phenomena such as weeping madonnas, poltergeist manifestations, and so forth. And incidentally, the madonnas, bleeding statues, and the onsets of poltergeist cases also seem to correspond with geomagnetic disturbance peaks. On the other hand, it may be that the strictly local field has little to do with triggering these events, and that it is the global field disturbance that really matters.

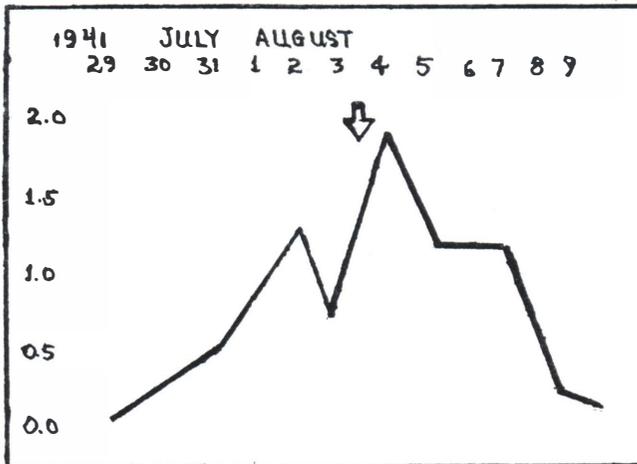
	A	B	C
1892	Aug 4 (C)	2 Murders of "appalling ferocity" for which Lizzie Borden was tried and acquitted	
1912	Oct 14 (B)	Unsuccessful assassination attempt on Theodore Roosevelt	
1920	Apr 15 (B)	Murders for which Sacco & Vanzetti were executed	
1922	May 22 (B)	Loeb & Leopold murder Bobby Franks (peak: 2.0)	
1932	Mar 1 (A)	Lindbergh kidnapping & murder. (A dramatic leap of the graph from 0.0 to 1.4)	
1933	Feb 15 (B)	Assassination attempt on FDR. (Cermak killed)	
1936	Dec 27 (A)	Kidnap-murder of Charles Mattson (age 10)	
1938	May 24 (B)	Kidnap-murder of Peter Levine (age 12)	
1950	Nov 1 (B)	Unsuccessful assassination attempt on H. Truman	
1952	Dec 14 (A)	One of 2 killings for which dates are given, by mass-murderer J.R.H. Christie. This one (his wife) was called by the Judge "his only normal murder."(!)	
1959	Nov 15 (C)	Day following a peak (1.2) and again rising, following day (lots of motion). In Cold Blood (T. Capote), senseless murder of a family of 6	
1962	June 14 (A)	Boston strangler: first victim	
1962	Jun 27 (A)	Boston strangler: 2nd victim	
1963	Nov 23 (A)	A "Boston strangler" victim	
1968	Apr 4 (A)	M.L. King assassination. Certainly premeditated, it coincides by chance with a rise to 1.3.	
1966	Jul 14 (A)	Speck murders 8 nurses. The geomagnetic intensity is low, rising over 2 days from 0.0 to 0.6.	



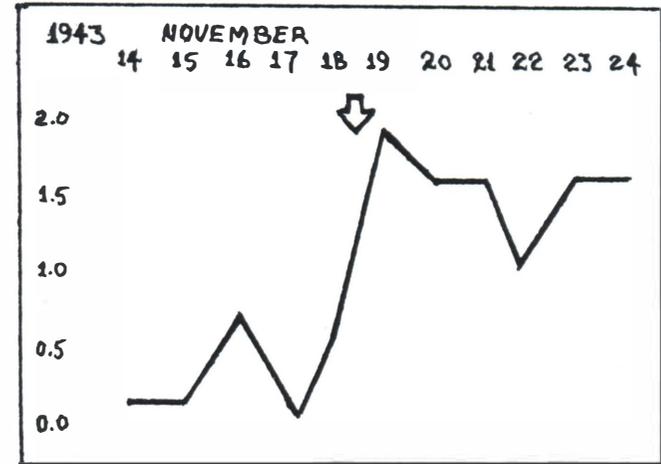
Elizabeth Clark, found dying of burns in an unscorched room. She could not explain. (*Fort's Books*, p. 656) The news release was dated the 6th; hence it probably happened on the 5th, though on the 4th it would also come in a position favored by many of these events.



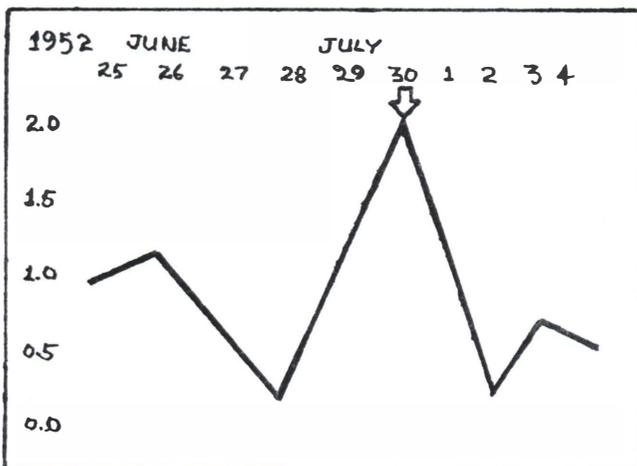
Billy Peterson (suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning), third degree burns of body and internal burns; clothing not singed. (Gaddis, *op. cit.*, p. 230; I. T. Sanderson, *Investigating the Unexplained*, p. 276)



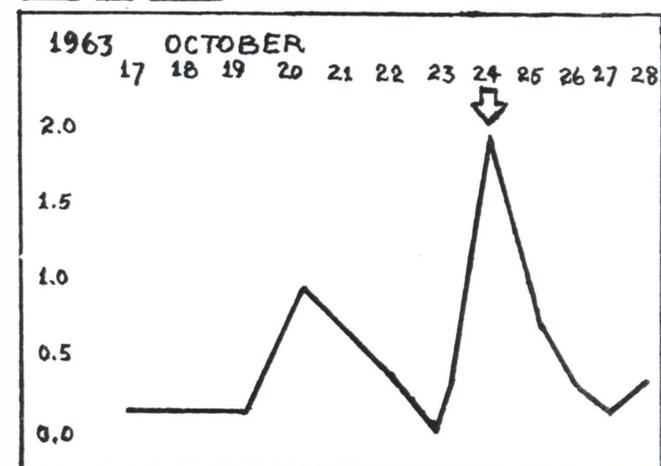
Lois Irene Chapman "found sitting dead on a burning davenport" ...with "little damage to surroundings". (*Doubt* 11-164)



Madge Knight, severely burned (died 6 December) in a bed with unscorched sheets. (Gaddis, *Mysterious Fires and Lights*, p. 192; and other sources)



Unidentifiable man "burned beyond recognition" in a car that did not burn. (*Fate*, Dec. 1952, p. 5)



Olga Worth, burned to death in a car that was not burned. (Gaddis, *op. cit.*, p. 195, and other sources)

## VII. BIOLOGY

## PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTERNAL MORPHOLOGY OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE FRESH CORPSE OF A HITHERTO UNKNOWN FORM OF LIVING HOMINID

by IVAN T. SANDERSON

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(The following is Part I of Ivan T. Sanderson's non-popular report on the specimen popularly called "Bozo" or the "Iceman" and is here reprinted with the kind permission of Genus, the publication of the Comitato Italiano per lo Studio dei Problemi della Popolazione of Rome, Italy. It appeared as Vol. XXV, N. 1-4, 1969. We have had numerous requests for this, partly because Genus is not widely distributed in this country. The article is long and will be run in at least two parts.

As for the specimen itself, it has never been made available for proper study despite yearly promises up to the time of Ivan Sanderson's death, and it is unlikely that it will be—if it still exists which is also unlikely. The specimen was deteriorating in 1968. It must also be noted that models, some reportedly good and others really terrible, are still being exhibited by various entrepreneurs, all of whom apparently claim that theirs is the original specimen. These claims are of course rubbish. S.W.S.)

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The possibility of the continued existence of one or more kinds of ultraprimitive hominids in various parts of Eurasia, Orientalia, Africa, and North and South America, has been mooted for several decades. The suggestion has never, it appears, been questioned in Mongolia, China, Thibet, and surrounding provinces, but it was not until the early years of this century that Professor, now Academician, V. A. Kakhlov introduced the matter to the western scientific world in Russia. Starting in 1920 a complication arose in the misnaming of another reported creature in the eastern Himalayas, called in colloquial Nepali the Meh-Teh, which appellation has since been converted and contracted to Yeti and become synonymous with the false moniker "The Abominable Snowman". This latter is clearly a tradition of — if not a series of factual records of — some form of highly advanced, mountain-climbing pongid; and it is the consensus of educated opinion that, if such a creature does still exist, it will most probably prove to be a descendant of or related to Gigantopithecus known from fossil remains in adjacent southern China. Concurrently, several reports of as yet undiscovered pongids emanated also from Africa. However, all reports of bipedal, fully-haired anthropoids from the other four continents named above, without exception

concur in describing the creatures as being hominid, and leaving uniquely human-like footprints with an apposed great toe. Apart from this feature, there would appear to be considerable variation both in the size and form, and the behaviour of these hominids. These characters and characteristics spread the possibility of their identification all the way from neanderthaloid types of H. sapiens to the earliest Australopithecines. This paper describes the external morphology of what appeared to us to be a fresh corpse of one type of such large, fully-haired, bipedal primate that was preserved in ice, in a refrigerated coffin, in the United States of America, and which was examined by the writer in collaboration with Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans of Paris.

## Introduction

On the 12th December, 1968, the Society of which the writer is Administrative Director received a telephone call from a Mr. Terry Cullen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to inform us that he had inspected a corpse of what appeared to be a fully-haired hominid preserved in partially clear ice in a side-show at the International Livestock Exposition's annual fair in Chicago during the period 28th November to the 7th of December. Mr. Cullen who was then unknown to us is a zoologist maintaining a commercial enterprise specializing in herpetology, and is the discoverer of several new species of iguanid lizards in the Caribbean area.

Mr. Cullen's report included some details of this corpse's appearance that, taken together, prompted us seriously to consider the possibility of its being a real body, and not just a model or composite constructed by oriental artists, long noted for faking "mermaids", as the exhibit was billed. Mr. Cullen further repeated to us a story of the origin of this specimen allegedly related to him by the man in charge of the exhibit, a Mr. Frank D. Hansen. According to his account at that time, it had been found floating in a six-thousand-pound block of ice in the sea somewhere off the east Siberian coast by a Russian sealing vessel; was then confiscated by the mainland Chinese authorities, but had finally turned up in Hong Kong. This story was subsequently changed several times, and first to the original discoverers having been a Japanese whaling vessel, but all accounts coincided with Mr. Hansen's final explanation, given directly to us, that he found it in an enormous plastic bag in a deepfreeze plant owned by a Chinese gentleman of British nationality in Hong Kong. In view of the intelligence received from Mr. Cullen, and after having the existence of the specimen confirmed by two of our Society's members from Chicago, Messrs. Richard Crowe and Richard Grybos,

I traced Mr. Hansen on the phone and decided to drive out to his home which is near Winona, Minnesota, and where he had the specimen stored for the winter.

It so happened that one of our members, Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans, Fellow of the Comitato Italiano per lo Studio dei Problemi della Popolazione, and of the Zoological Society of London, and a Collaborateur scientifique a l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, was staying at our Society's headquarters on his first visit to the United States en route to Central and South America to study mammals threatened with extinction. Dr. Heuvelmans, as is known to the Comitato, and as is also universally appreciated, has devoted many years to the investigation of reports of ultra-primitive hominids said still to be living. The writer therefore invited Dr. Heuvelmans to accompany him on this investigative trip.

We left on the 14th of December and examined the specimen on the 16th, 17th, and 18th days of that month. Heuvelmans took a large number of photographs of the specimen in both color and black-and-white. The writer made detailed technical drawings, employing prescribed methods that are outlined in fig. 2. We first examined the specimen together, and then during the next two days we did so separately. Our subsequent reports were written without reference to each other until completed, when the results were compared and a list of divergencies in detail — but not in opinions — was composed. These original reports were not altered and are on file. Subsequently, new and fuller papers were prepared by both of us while resident in different places. These were not compared. Heuvelmans submitted his (in a French version) to the Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, and it has been published in their Bulletin, No. 45, 4, Bruxelles, 10 February, 1969. This paper is the writer's — Ivan T. Sanderson's — final summation, brought up to date as of the 8th June, 1969.

### The Specimen

This is "preserved" in clear ice, in a rectangular block 6'11" long by 2'8" wide and (said to be) 3'6" in depth. This block is said to have been cut from a much larger piece of (allegedly) drift-ice, found floating in the sea. This original block is said to have weighed 6000 American pounds. This was first trimmed around the sides to its present dimensions and then about two feet were taken off the bottom to a point where the under, or back side, of the contained specimen could be seen. Then, the owner states, he had a professional "ice-carver" — a technician and artist who creates large decorative pieces for banquets in clear ice by chiselling and ablating — shave down the upper surface as far as possible to the upper contours of the corpse. This resulted in a "mountainous" surface in low relief, the upward bulges doming all protuberances such as the feet, knees, abdomen with a hand on top of the same, the chest, the face, and the left arm that is thrown back

over the head. The whole block was then lowered into an insulated coffin, measuring internally exactly 36" x 7'4", with two large nylon straps passed under either end of the block about a foot in from the ends. The two-inch space all around it was then filled with tap-water and frozen solid with a refrigeration unit attached to the coffin.

The corpse is only partially visible (see illustration, Fig. 1) for two reasons. First, considerable sections of the ice have recrystallized in tabular plastrons of opaque constitution. Second, there has been considerable exudation of gases from the corpse forced outward from all orifices and from skin pores through the hair-fine tubules that penetrate even clear, amorphous, palaeocrystic, and other forms of ice. These have created "bursts" of flowerlike, tridimensional "crops" of semi-opaque "twigs" of crystalline ice. These two features of the matrix in which the corpse is encased make it exceedingly difficult to inspect its details. However, with strong floodlights directed from the lowest angle possible above the glass top of the coffin, many details are brought out when the surface of the corpse is viewed from directly above. It was by this means that the drawn reconstruction was made.

The corpse or whatever it is, is rotting. This could be detected by a strong stench — typical of rotting mammalian flesh — exuding from one of the corners of the insulation of the coffin. Whatever this corpse may be, it would seem to include flesh of some kind; and such cannot be preserved permanently in mere ice, although the temperature within the coffin is in this case kept at a maximum of 5-degrees F.

### Gross Morphology

Any conclusions that follow amount, frankly, to little more than speculation because the specimen could not be handled and had to be viewed from no closer than a foot at best, through four sheets of plate glass and a varying amount of clear, frosted or totally opaque ice. This whole exercise is therefore equivalent to describing an unknown form of any animal fixed in a solid block of plastic — such as is used to encase demonstration specimens — but with more than half the exposed surfaces identifiable only as a shadow under opacity.

#### 1. Overall Impression.

Our first impression on viewing this specimen was its great bulk, and this grows on one continually the longer one inspects it, and especially with the use of side lighting. Above all, it is the hands that are most startling because of their excessive bulk — not mere dimensions — and which look out of all proportion to the body and even to the immense arms.

The other notable impression was, from the outset, that the thing was some kind of human, hominid, or humanoid — and this, despite several extremely pongid features. This could be what is called a psychologi-

cal effect, but is probably due most to the length of the legs and the "stance" of the creature on its back in such a typical human position.

## 2. Bulk and Weight.

There is no way of estimating its weight, since only two-dimensional measurements can be taken and one is thus unable to estimate its gross mass. Mammals as a whole average about the density of salt water, but bulk is no real criterion. The writer, who is exactly six feet tall but weighs only 160 pounds, cannot sink even in fresh water, while he can name two men of the same height but quite fat who, although almost professional swimmers (as far as body action) sink at really extraordinary speed even in salt water the moment they cease to swim. Estimates of the weight of animals other than man are more than hazardous, except by such specialized experts as the breeders of domestic animals. Nevertheless, assuming the legs are as bulky as we assume, we would suggest somewhere in the neighbourhood of 250 pounds for the weight of this specimen. The author happened to obtain the record Lowland Gorilla — a specimen of *Gorilla gorilla matschei* — in the Assumbo Mountains of the Cameroon, and this when stretched out, measured just six foot from crown to plantar surface and had a 9'2" armspan, but weighed more than 600 pounds.

## 3. Measurements.

All measurements were first taken directly from the corpse using a straightedge rule from the center of the head-end of the coffin to the central point at the foot-end. A large metal set-square was moved along this, first down one side and then down the other of this fixed central rule. The front edge of the set-square was extended by another metal ruler so that it reached the sides of the coffin. Points of reference were fixed from directly above by lying on top of the glass of the coffin. Drawings were later made from these measurements on the scale of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 3", and a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " grid was then ruled on a clear plastic sheet, overlaid on the completed drawings, and the measurements checked thereby. The reference points had necessarily to be arbitrary in that the ideal points — such as convergence of the legs behind the scrotum in the groin, tip of the elbow, etc. — were not always visible at all, while those points that were clearly visible had to again be judged through the thick hair covering.

From these measurements it would at first appear that the arms are excessively long, without taking into account the hands. This, however, is not necessarily so, as will be seen below. Further, a very strong word of caution should be put on record here; namely, that while the right leg (to the left in the drawing, of course) is definitely raised considerably at the knee-joint while the other, (the left) appears to be fully extended with the foot turned downward, there is — in this author's estimation, at least a very distinct possibility that both legs are elevated from the groin. Thus, their length could be several inches



Fig. 1 Scale drawing of the specimen.

greater in the overall than as shown in the photographs and sketches.

The measurements of the "face", eye-sockets and nares (orifices), the hands, the penis, and the right foot as seen are of considerably greater precision than the other measurements because of the absence of hair. The mouth, however, is indeterminate since two-thirds of it are invisible under opaque ice.

#### 4. Proportions.

These we consider to be of much greater significance, especially in regard to identification and classification, but numerous words of caution are here required. On detailed and somewhat prolonged analysis, the proportions – apart from the bulk as opposed to the linear measurements of the hands – are not as outrageous or exceptional as first impressions would indicate. Further, as the whole corpse cannot be seen from directly above (nor photographed in this way) due to the low truck ceiling, far too great a notion of length of everything is gained. The unaided human eye is very deceptive in judging measurements from an angle of 45 degrees, as was abundantly proved in this case when the scale drawing composed from actual measurements taken from directly above at each point, as described above, was compared with our rough estimates made before these drawings were completed and gridded, and with the final photographs.

The feature that at first throws one off is the excessive size of the torso, and the fact that the chest flows into the abdominal mass and continues – as in apes, incidentally – down to the hips, as opposed to a "waist". (Unfortunately, the navel cannot be seen, so no measurement between it and even the scrotum can be obtained.) This ultra-massive "body" gives the impression of great length. Further, what would seem to be the clavicles actually arch up under the chin, and this adds to the impression.

At the same time, the legs at first appear to be long, if not very long. This is most odd (again probably "psychological") and could be due to preconceived notions – to a zoologist, at least – that pongids have short legs and hominids long ones. The truth is that, as can now be seen in the appended technical drawings, the legs are short and, judging by the combined lengths of both, just about match the torso from clavicles to scrotum.

The width of the chest is great in proportion to the torso length but again, not excessively so for a hominid. Be it noted that it is enormous compared to that of a chimpanzee or orang, but not compared to that of a male gorilla. Then again, a very high proportion of human beings have just these dimensions and proportions, and these do not have to be hod-carriers or wrestlers. The shoulders also are (were) unexpectedly wide, though by no means excessively so for either man or gorilla, while there is a type of very large, very hirsute chimpanzee that has even broader shoulders. (This type, of which we have seen

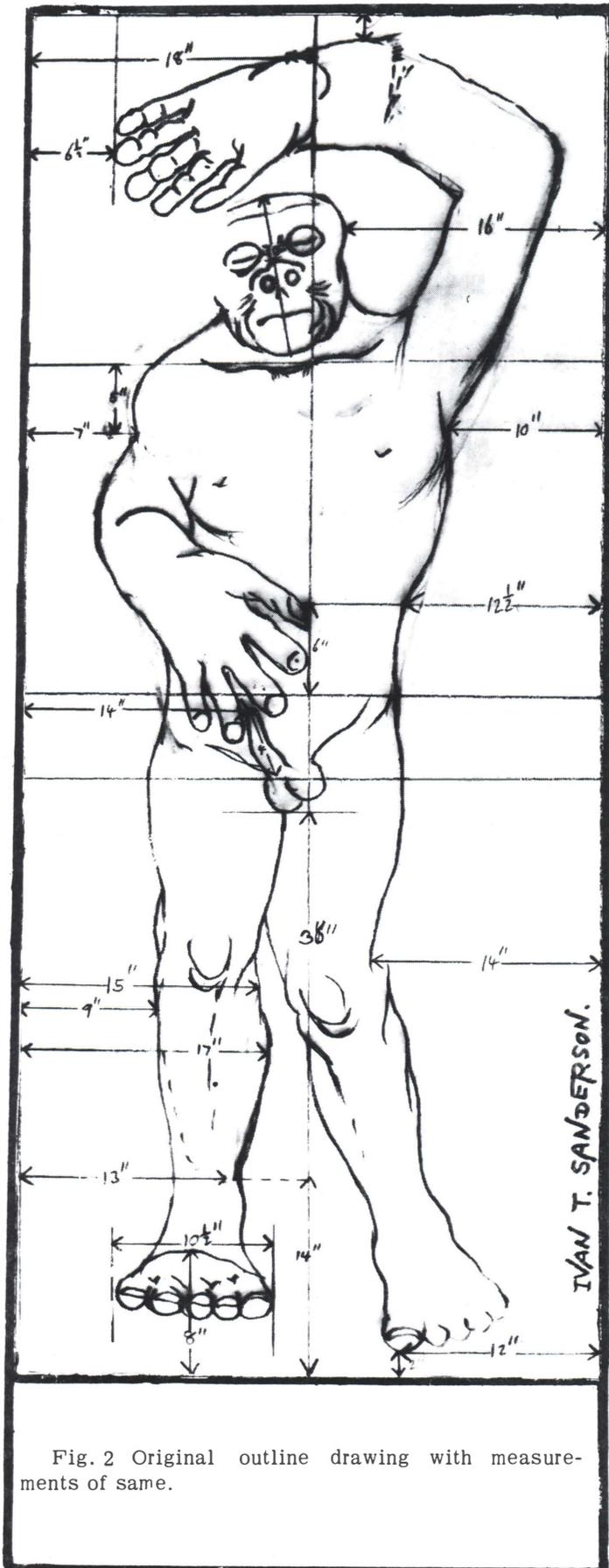


Fig. 2 Original outline drawing with measurements of same.

only two specimens, one in the Rochester Zoo fifteen years ago, and the other in a primate collection in Florida in 1959, is in our opinion a distinct species and not necessarily even of the genus *Pan*)

The proportion of "face" to body generally is not actually excessive for a hominid and is definitely small for a pongid, but as the head is thrown back, nothing above or behind the low forehead — and there is a "forehead" above the very slight browridges with their line of scant eyebrow hairs — can be seen. The face is exceedingly wide, but the eye-sockets and the nares are disproportionately large even for such an (apparently) brachycephalic type of face.

It just so happened that while this paper was in preparation a young man, seventeen years of age, and a keen athlete notable for his record in his school basketball team, was introduced to us. A mutual friend arranged the meeting when we were discussing the proportionate length of the arms and hands to the body of this specimen, and as a result of mentioning that the young athlete's hand reached more than half-way down his thighs. The attached photographs were taken with the author as a check since both are exactly six feet tall and weigh about the same — 160 pounds. The author has to buy the longest standard armlength for shirts for his size, yet, as will be noted, his wrists are almost three inches above those of Mr. R. L. (the athlete), as may be calculated from the black lines drawn across both right wrists; while, further, the hands of the latter extend almost six inches lower than those of the author.

We were also able to take comparative photographs, to scale, of this young man's hands and feet compared with those of the author. (These are reproduced as Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7). From these it will be seen that while Mr. L.'s hands are in perfect proportion for the normal white Caucasoid, they have a span and length considerably exceeding those of the author (with ring for identification). This gentleman's feet lead us into quite another matter due to the extraordinary length of his toes — a matter that is not pertinent to the present discussion.



Fig. 3 Two six-foot male caucasoids, showing proportionate length of arms.

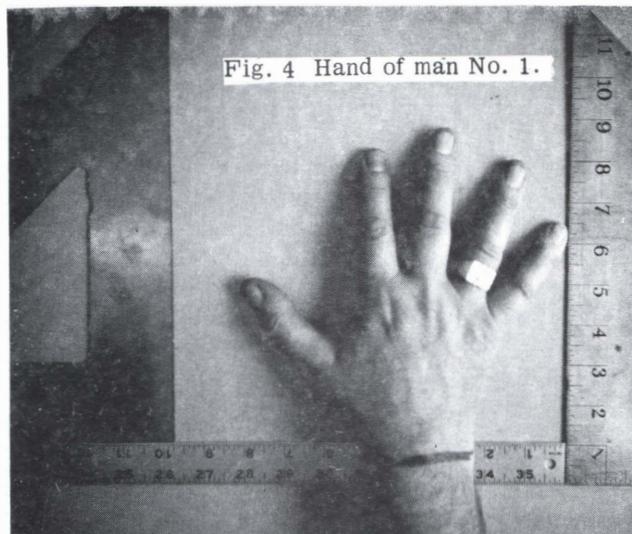


Fig. 4 Hand of man No. 1.

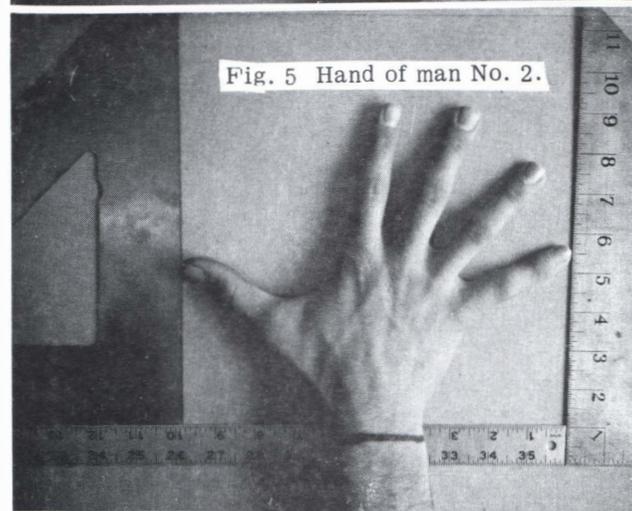


Fig. 5 Hand of man No. 2.

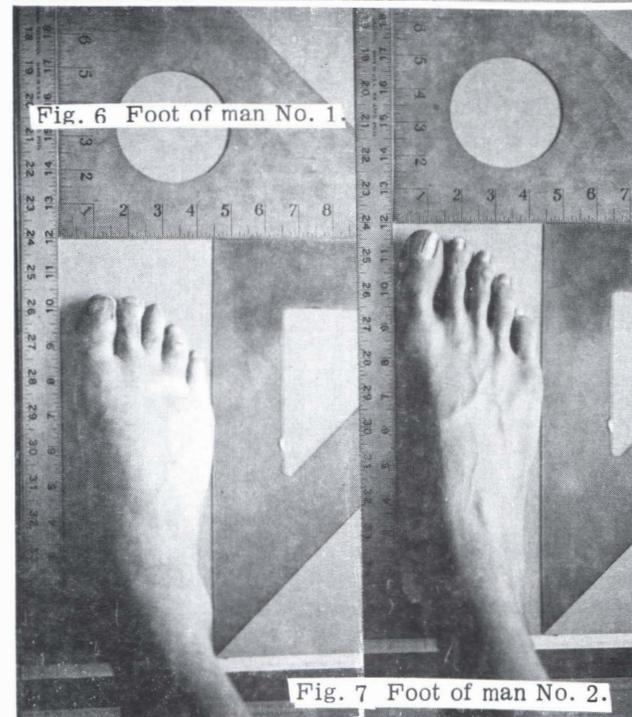


Fig. 6 Foot of man No. 1.

Fig. 7 Foot of man No. 2.

From these comparisons — with a person, we should stress, picked at random and quite by chance — it is manifest that, disregarding the bulk of the specimen under review, neither its hands nor its arms are excessively long, while their proportions fall well within the range of human beings.

The feet of the specimen, however, do display a remarkable proportion, being (proportionately) more than twice as wide as those of Mr. L., and nearly twice as wide as those of the author.

However, it is in the width and overall bulk of the individual fingers and toes that this specimen diverges most strongly from the typical human proportions. This matter is further discussed below.

Finally, the length of the penis in the specimen is not great for a hominid — and it is not known if it is erected or semi-erected — but would be very large for the average pongid, if flaccid. It is not well seen, being in clear ice but under a top film of opaque ice. The scrotum is small and wrinkled and the testicles small, but this detail is even harder to see.

#### Detailed Morphology

To see and record the details of the specimen's morphology called for special side lighting and prolonged peering from several angles before the true conformation of the parts could be reconstructed. All the following is thus derived from mere conjectures. There is a great deal else that both of us "feel" or "believe" we saw, but these details are not stated herein. Only those points upon which both of us agreed subsequently — and we made our detailed examinations separately and compared notes only later — are herewith discussed. Further, there is of course no proof, of a proper scientific nature, that this specimen was the corpse of anything recently alive.

#### 1. The Face.

This is deliberately not referred to as the head because, as stated above, none of the latter, other than the face, can be seen. This is of a yellowish — i.e. Caucasoid "white" or pinkish — color and naked but for two most remarkable hair tracks. The first runs up the septum between the nares from the top of the upper lip (there is no moustache but some scant, almost feline-like whiskers) to the frontal point of the very "pug" nose. The other is a mere scattering of bristly, short hairs on the brow ridges but not joining across the (non-existent) bridge of the nose. There are virtually no brow ridges, and the forehead slopes only slightly backward, as far as can be seen. The malars are wide and prominent and the chin is wide. But, most notable to this author, were a series of folds and wrinkles around the mouth.

The eye sockets are unexpectedly round and rather large. Both eyeballs are out and, in the opinion of this author, are missing. However, both the caretaker and Heuvelmans assert that they can see one of them on the left cheek. There is considerable outflow of

red blood from the left eye socket which streams off into clear ice to the right (i.e. to the right side as seen from above) of the face.

The nose is by far the most unusual feature of the face. This is pronouncedly what is called "pugged", being turned upwards just like that of a Pekinese dog, and having the large, exactly round nares pointing straight forward to the general plane of the face. The nostrils are fleshy and rather heavy, but flow into the upper lip without a noticeable crease. To some extent the whole nasal structure may be likened to that of a young gorilla, but there is more actual "nose" and this is turned upwards rather than being flattened, while it is not, as a whole, very wide in comparison, proportionately, to the width of the face, as in many human beings.

#### 2. The Torso.

This, as has already been said, is very bulky, with wide shoulders, and it tapers only slightly down to the hips — not to a waist. There are no visible pectoral muscles and the nipples are rather far to the sides. There is virtually no neck in front — only about an inch, which is covered with dense hair — despite the fact that the head is thrown back. It is impossible to see how the head is attached to the shoulders on either side because of opaque ice. The most outstanding feature of the torso is the position, conformation, and alignment of the clavicles. Unlike humans, these bow upwards, meeting high over the neck so that, seen from the feet-end, the upper torso looks just like a plump, plucked and stuffed goose. I have seen such a structure in human dwarfs in whom it is a gross abnormality. The conformation on this specimen, however, looks absolutely natural.

#### 3. The Arms.

These, while appearing very massive, are probably rather slender but are clothed in the longest hair on the whole body, or at least those parts of it that can be seen. The upper arm gives rather definite evidence of being much more slender than the forearm which, despite the heavy hair covering, has an extremely wide wrist. It should be noted that the only arm visible is the left (to the right side of the corpse as now viewed) and that this has a very visible break, from which blood exudes and in which the ends of the radius and ulna may be seen on the distal side. This is what gives the whole arm, as thrown up and back, the first appearance of being a sort of flaccid "tentacle" more like that of an octopus.

#### 4. The Hands.

These are, as has been said, by far the most noticeable and outstanding morphological structures visible. They can only be described as enormous but this, as has also already been noted, is due more to their great bulk than to their actual linear measurements. They are slightly more pink than the rest of

the skin, and they are not what is commonly called "gnarled". To the contrary, they look more like those of a huge man who has had his hands in very hot dishwashing water for some hours. That this effect is not due to post mortem bloat would seem to be indicated by the fact that the sub-digital pads are not swollen nor the folds between them obliterated. In fact, the latter are rather prominent. The back of the right hand is very heavily haired, but the individual follicles are far apart and the stiff hairs curve gently over the tips of the fingers above the nails. The latter are "cropped" just as if they had been neatly manicured; are rather flat and yellow in color; and are almost square. There is no evidence of post mortem growth.

Of the hands, the most remarkable feature is the thumb. This appears to be as fully opposed as is ours, but it is remarkably slender and appears to reach almost to the terminal joint of the first or index finger. It also tapers, rather than expanding like the average man's. The nail on the thumb is not visible on either hand. The knuckles are neither prominent nor even well-defined. A most notable feature of the palmar surface of the hands is one that puzzles us. This is that there is an enormous and prominent pad on the "heel", at the outer side, behind or "above" the fifth digit back. This far exceeds the sub-pollex pad in dimensions and protuberance. From this one is forced to speculate whether this creature may indeed spend time "on all fours" with the hands applied to the ground in a plantigrade manner as are those of the baboons. The conformation of this pad is brought out in the sketch (Fig. 1).

#### 5. The Genitalia.

The penis is very hard to see even with strong light at various low angles, and it has been somewhat over-emphasized in the drawing compared to the other visible surface. This was done deliberately to record the compendium of observations we made upon it from various angles. It is slightly curved or bowed to the right (left, as seen from above), is rather slender, and tapers to a point, from which this author felt he saw a small floral-shaped emission of pinker flesh some four millimeters in width. It is pale yellow. The scrotum is very hard to see and this author is somewhat dubious of what is herein stated. It appears to be wrinkled, is brownish, and shaped as if containing two small testicles. There is no hair on the penis but there appears to be on the scrotum.

#### 6. The Legs.

Actually, it is impossible to determine the real length or bulk of these, and for several reasons. First, as noted above, both may be elevated at the groin from the supine position of the body as a whole. Second, the right leg is more elevated at the knee than is the left, while both ankles are hidden below opaque ice. Third, the thighs and shanks are deeply buried in the ice, but they are very heavily clothed in

long, stiff, straight hairs that mask their outlines. The knees are, however, very prominent and readily seen, bearing only very sparse short hairs. They are pink and the patella is typically human. This we consider to be of the greatest significance as pongids just do not have "knees" constructed like this.

#### 7. The Feet.

These are, of course, the key point in this whole case. As we noted in our introductory remarks, the only remaining criterion for separating the hominids from the pongids — on purely morphological grounds, that is — is whether the hallux is apposed or opposed. We would stress the morphological as against the anatomical criteria here. In this case, the feet are definitely hominid. That they are apparently excessively wide and, it would seem by prognosis, rather short, and due to the size and "pudginess" of the toes, would seem to indicate that they have the proportions of whatever left the allegedly "neanderthaloid" tracks and imprints in the cave clay of Toirano in Italy (see bibliography).

The forward projecting foot is pink in colour, has bulbous terminal pads, and horny yellowish nails that are also "cropped" in that they do not curl over the ends of the toes as do ours if left untrimmed and as those of the Guli-avans are said to do — see reference in Russian works to these under the heading of the Jelmoguz-Jez-Tyrmak or "Copper Nails" of the Tien Shan. The hair on the top of this foot is very long and curves over the toes and is very profuse to either side, curving over the main plantar mass. The toes are astonishingly equal in size, the little toe being large and the great-toe rather small in proportion. All form an almost straight "front" which would seem to be the ideal conformation for steady forward progress in snow or loose soils (Square-fronted snow-shoes have at last been found to be much more efficient and less tiring to wear than the standard spindle-shaped form).

There is finally one point about the feet that the writer cannot confirm nor absolutely assert. This is that, as reconstructed (through a very long and repeated inspection through the ice) there would seem to be two post-hallux plantar pads such as form such a prominent feature of the Sasquatch-Ohmah-Hungerussu-Dzuteh, giant type of primitive hominid.

to be continued —

#### AN ABSM IN NEW JERSEY

What follows is a purely preliminary report on investigations of what appears to be a typical Bigfoot in New Jersey. The initial report appeared in the (Newton) New Jersey Sunday Herald of the 9th March 1975 and included several brief accounts by witnesses who described the creature as being 8 to 9 feet tall with long, dangling arms, long gray or brown hair, and

walking on its hind legs. All witnesses were emphatic that they had not seen a bear, and a sketch by a Herald staff photographer made under their direction was typical of drawings of ABSMs generally.

As of the time of writing (17 March) Messrs. Jones, Warth and Durant of our Board have interviewed a number of witnesses, some who saw the creature and others who heard what they believe to have been its cry, and have searched the immediate area. Some footprints were found but they were so poor that it was not possible to determine the number of toes and no casts were attempted. Further search is planned, and the local residents are cooperating fully.

With one exception the sightings have been at night, and have occurred over a period of 5 to 6 weeks. The creature apparently has made no hostile moves, again typical of these reports.

We have deliberately not given the exact location. Three local boys have already managed to get lost in the very large swampy area where the creature was sighted, requiring a search by about a hundred police, firemen, and neighbors, plus bloodhounds. We hope very much that none of our members will do the same by barging into an area unknown to them.

And we will have a further report on this later.

#### THE GIANT PTEROSAUR

By now most if not all of our readers will have read or seen on television reports of the giant pterosaur or winged reptile fossils found, rather fittingly perhaps, in Texas. Partial skeletons of three specimens have already been collected and more have been located. The wingspan is estimated to measure 51 feet, twice that of Pteranodon, previously the largest known flying creature (the usual measurement given is 25 feet, though Alfred S. Romer says "about 27 feet").

The first thing this find does is to explode the myth that no flying creature could reach this size, statements concerning this usually being based on aerodynamic "laws" —but it has also been "proven" that bumble bees can't fly.

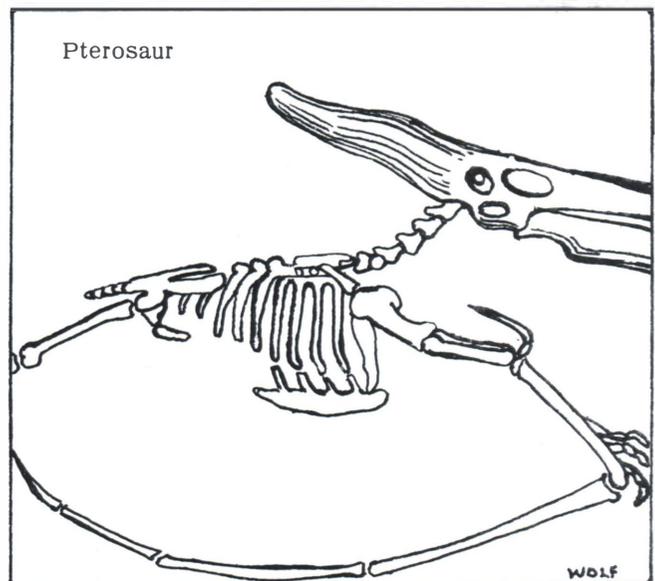
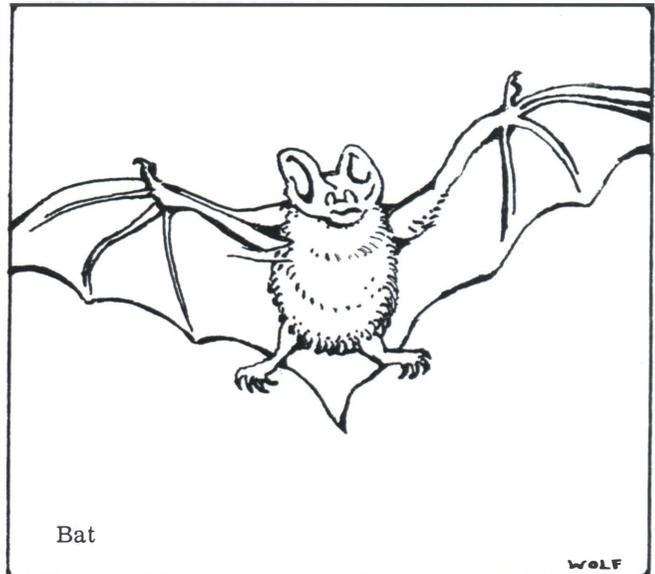
A more important question, however, is their mode of flight, and this has been argued over for years. One party contends that the flying reptiles could only have become airborne by leaping off high perches to catch air currents and then soar like gliders or sailplanes, and that they could not have flapped their wings and thus take off from level ground. One of the difficulties is that there are no reliable figures on the body weight of the Pterosaurs, so that it is not possible to determine the actual ratio of body weight to lifting surface of the wings, but an aeronautical engineer once told Ivan Sanderson that unless the body was disproportionately heavy, the (then known, at least) pterosaurs should have been able to take off simply by spreading their wings and hopping into the air. It does seem probable that once airborne they

probably soared most of the time, perhaps twitching their wings on occasion to catch a particular air current, much as present-day soaring birds do.

The wing structure, of course, is more like that of a bat than a bird, but there is a rather crucial difference. As shown in the illustrations, a bat's wings are supported at intervals by "ribs", actually much elongated fingers, whereas the pterosaur's wings were supported only along the leading edge by one grossly elongated finger, making them both less mobile and more 'fragile' than a bat's wings.

It is to be hoped that the additional specimens still to be excavated may shed some light on this problem, but the find is certainly an exciting one, whether the final analysis answers these questions or not.

S.W.S.



## MEMBERS' FORUM

On dowsing, instructions for making an experimental dowsing device can be obtained from Parsons & Associates, P. O. Box 57, Manchester, Tennessee 37355. They note that they do not guarantee results but add that "the device performs beautifully in the hands of some people".

Member #1876 would like to get in touch with members interested in anti-gravity, both theoretical and practical, and in Tesla's work.

James M. Breece would like anyone in the Chicago area with an interest in the Murphysboro monster or local variations to call him at (312) 968-8091 (name and number by permission).

Member #1779 would like to hear from any members in the Baltimore-Washington area who are researching ABSMs, unknown animals, Thunderbirds, and sea-serpents.

## BOOK REVIEWS

by Sabina W. Sanderson

## MISCELLANY

Fort's Complete Books, long out of print, has now been reprinted by Dover Books, 180 Varick St., New York, NY 10014. If you cannot find a copy in your local bookstore you may order direct from Dover Books; the catalogue number is 23094-5 and the price \$15.00 plus 35¢ postage (70¢ for two or more books). New York residents must add sales tax.

A splendid article on Marjorie Fish's star 'map' (see Pursuit for January 1974) appeared in the December 1974 issue of Astronomy magazine. This back issue can (at the time of writing) be ordered for \$1.50 postpaid; write to Susan H. Beard, Subscriber Relations, Astronomy Magazine, 757 N. Broadway, Suite 204, Milwaukee, WI 53202, and state that you want Vol. 2, No. 12, December 1974, enclosing payment, but asking for a refund in case it is no longer available (they "extend subscriptions" unless you do).

An excellent publication from England is called The News: A Miscellany of Fortean Curiosities. It is available from R. J. M. Rickard, 31 Kingswood Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 9AN, England, and the subscription price is \$6.00 a year; if you pay by personal check, please add 10% to cover exchange rates and bank charges and make the check payable to R. J. M. Rickard. The price in Britain is £2.10.

William R. Corliss has now published still another in his series of sourcebooks: Strange Planet: A Sourcebook of Unusual Geological Facts, price \$7.95 (Maryland residents add sales tax) from The Sourcebook Project, Glen Arm, Maryland 21057. For those who have not yet made the acquaintance of these volumes, they are well worth having, and all four volumes (if ordered together) may be purchased at the special rate of \$27.00. The other three are Strange Artifacts (\$7.98) on ancient man, and Strange Phenomena, two volumes (\$6.95 each) on unusual natural phenomena (geophysics, meteorology, etc.).

Peter Costello. In Search of Lake Monsters. New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan. 1974. \$8.95.

Peter Costello has done for freshwater monsters what Bernard Heuvelmans did for sea monsters and Ivan Sanderson did for "abominable snowmen" and has done it in extremely readable style. He writes with both charm and humour but at the same time has produced what will probably be the classic work on this subject, a remarkable feat indeed: heresy it undoubtedly is, particularly from me, but both other books are a bit ponderous.

Mr. Costello begins his book with several chapters on the best known of the freshwater beasties, those in Loch Ness, but even here he has unearthed (I am tempted to say dredged up) new material of ancient vintage as well as bringing the Loch Ness story up to date, and even the reader who is weary of Loch Ness will find tidbits which are of interest. The rest of the book is likely to be something of a shock to those who suffer from the illusion that there is "a" monster swimming about in Loch Ness: the author continues on to other Scottish lochs, and then tours Ireland, Scandinavia, the U.S.A., Canada, South America, Western Asia, Eastern Asia, and Australasia. He also includes a chapter on some really ancient (suggestive) evidence—cave drawings and such; one on some classic sea-serpent reports: his own solution (one that Ivan Sanderson would have approved in some cases at least), a long-necked seal; and a sort of historical survey of monsters in literature, all the way from psychology tests to science fiction.

There are many verbatim reports but this is not a "seed catalogue"; Mr. Costello has chosen only the most interesting and pertinent accounts rather than reprinting interminable 'lists' of sightings, thus eliminating boredom in the reader, but he includes enough to at least (I would hope) intrigue even the most sceptical.

The JARIC Report on Tim Dinsdale's film of 'Nessie' is included as an appendix, and there are three tables — "Sightings of the Loch Ness Animals ashore", "Photographs and films of the Loch Ness Animals", and "Captures and Strandings" (of monsters generally). As for the photographs and films, Mr. Costello has indicated those that are probable hoaxes, and also comments on some of these in the text.

There is an excellent bibliography and a good index (bless him and his publisher) and a number of illustrations, both line cuts and half-tones.

I recommend this book to all fortians and do so without reservations.

John A. Keel. The Mothman Prophecies. New York: Saturday Review Press (E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc.) 1975. \$7.95.

The jacket of this book bears the subtitle "An Investigation into the Mysterious American Visits of the Infamous Feathery Garuda", which probably won't tell you much but 'sounds awful', and is. In fact, whatever the Infamous Feathery Garuda (or whatever else one calls it, including "the Mothman") is, it may be a clue to a good many things. The book contains a definitive account of "Mothman" sightings in West Virginia (and elsewhere; they are not limited to West Virginia though they seem to be particularly prevalent there), and this will certainly be of interest to many. But the Mothman sightings per se are of less importance than other subjects covered in John Keel's book, some of which will seem very 'far out' indeed, but which should be considered by all.

One of the major topics in John Keel's book is the so-called MIBs or "Men in Black" and the various, other kinds of harassment to which UFO investigators are subjected, some of it bizarre, some of it rather terrifying. I have a tendency to say that I "don't believe" in MIBs, partly because "none ever visited us" (i.e. Ivan Sanderson). However, this may not be true (though no 'classic' MIBs did since I arrived on the 12th April 1968). Certainly Ivan Sanderson had some very peculiar guests, and I can vouch for all the statements that John Keel makes concerning Ivan Sanderson and events surrounding him.\* Some I witnessed and others Ivan told me about in detail. (On one occasion I was with Ivan during an episode that only happens in James Bond films; if I hadn't been there I wouldn't believe a word of it, but it did happen, and we never figured out why. Our reports, written without consultation on our return, have disappeared from SITU's files!)

There probably will be those who will attribute telephone 'interference' to 'natural causes' and imagination. We still have trouble with our telephones, and it became quite a nuisance last summer. Because I wondered whether it was indeed imagination which linked this strictly with UFOs and related subjects, I decided to experiment and kept a detailed record of all incoming and outgoing phone calls, listing the topics discussed and noting any sign of 'interference'. Except for two occasions after very heavy rainstorms when there was general crackling on the line and a distinctive rhythmic sound almost certainly produced by a tree branch rubbing across the wire, the only times when interference was noted were those when we discussed UFOs or related topics. And there is nothing that sets this off quite so fast as mentioning John Keel; in fact, Adolph Heuer and I were cut off twice in one conversation when he suggested getting in touch with John about something. "They" are rather touchy though, and I finally put a stop to this (temporarily—it never has a lasting effect) by announcing to Adolph Heuer over the phone that I was keeping a detailed record. The next morning when he called, Mr. Heuer commented on the remarkably clear line we had.

As for the MIBs, they may or may not have shown up here. Certainly no one ever tried (directly at any rate) to get Ivan Sanderson to stop investigating UFOs. He was not, of course, interested in UFOs as such but in what they might be and where they might come from, but it is likely, if not probable that he was right in thinking that the three of us —Ivan, Alma (his first wife), and I— either terrified or simply baffled any MIBs in the neighbourhood. Unless a visitor displayed bad manners (in which case he was invited to leave instantly), he was promptly offered a drink and often asked to stay to dinner. Presumably this is not the way one is supposed to react to an MIB. Unfortunately there is no index to the book and I

\*The statement that Alma Sanderson was "terminally ill" in 1967 may confuse some but is technically correct; she was terminally ill again in 1968 and then had several relatively good years before being stricken by cancer in 1971 (she died in January 1972). The usual statement was that Alma had survived more fatal illnesses than anyone else anyone could think of.

cannot locate the reference off hand but John Keel makes another observation which may be most pertinent in our case also. He notes that the real trouble is likely to start when one believes, i.e. accepts on faith, and this is something that none of us did and I still do not do. Ivan used to annoy some people, as I am sure I do, by refusing to be pinned down on "what are they?" and "where do they come from?", sticking always to speculation, though he did come more and more to espouse one particular theory, that of origin in a parallel universe.

John Keel records his own experiences in considerable detail and in most cases I can neither confirm nor deny them, but I can report that many are things he complained about to us at the time they occurred. So don't chuck the book away. There was a time when we worried about John Keel, our usual refrain being "You know, John is getting terribly paranoid"; but I saw him last summer and he was eminently sane then—but of course he no longer has a telephone.

Hans Stefan Santesson. The Case for Exorcism. New York: Warner Paperback Library. 1974. \$1.25.

This, Hans Stefan Santesson's last book, is undoubtedly the best he has written. It will not interest those who want sensational accounts and it is, strictly speaking, somewhat outside the Society's field. Nevertheless, we feel that it deserves comment here, in part because of the current interest in and misuse of exorcism.

The Case for Exorcism includes an historical survey that begins with pre-Christian beliefs and practices and proceeds through early Christian attitudes to present day, and also covers the related subject of witchcraft. Concerning the latter, Santesson's material on Swedish witchcraft trials will be new to most readers and is of considerable interest. Case histories are presented in some detail but the book is not a 'seed catalogue', nor are the reports sensationalized. Most important, however, is the very sane advice given concerning the need for exorcism in certain cases and the very great dangers of imprudent exorcisms or incompetent exorcists. Chapter 8 — "Why Exorcism?" — is a very clear statement on this matter.

Though the whole idea of demonic possession may seem fantastic to some, Stefan Santesson has, I believe, proved that there is a case for exorcism. In his words, "...there are many possible explanations for demonic or pseudodemonic possession; few can be considered more convincing than others. But one reality remains—whatever the nature of the affliction, exorcism is a valid psychotherapeutic healing tool under certain clearly identifiable circumstances. Psychotherapy by itself is of course a form of exorcism, but there are times when more than this is needed."

Ivan T. Sanderson. (Edited and with an Introduction by Sabina W. Sanderson) Green Silence: Travels Through the Jungles of the Orient. New York: David McKay Company. 1974. \$9.95

Reviewed by Deirdre Robertson.

This should have been reviewed here long ago even though it is not a "fortean" book as such, but Mrs. Sanderson's "editing" is uncanny, and even Ivan Sanderson's literary agent of over thirty years states that he cannot tell the difference between what Sanderson wrote and what was written by his widow! She denies that there was anything 'psychic' about it, saying simply that she has "a good memory for conversations", and that she and Ivan Sanderson had "rather unusual intellectual rapport". This is certainly true, but it is also true—and many people do not seem to realize this—that she actually wrote parts of the book from nothing but the briefest of notes, and using Ivan's typewriter at that (though the trouble with the "continuous roll" was mechanical and not Ivan trying to get in touch with her).

Aside from all this, the book gives readers a glimpse into the "making" of Ivan T. Sanderson, who founded SITU, and the early workings of his mind—always curious and searching. It is a charming book and full of humour. And even if you find nothing else in it, it is, to tell the truth, the most marvellous escapist literature. If you are tired of recessions, dirty politics, non-wars, and the other nightmares of our current world, here is an escape into the "green silence" of the jungle.

Also, there are drawings by Ivan T. Sanderson, some of them never published before; and a charming photograph of Ivan at Eton.

June and Nicholas Regush. Psi—The Other World Catalog. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1975. \$5.00 (paperback).

This catalog, and catalog it is, bears the subtitle "The Comprehensive Guide to the Dimensions of Psychic Phenomena". Its content is uneven, ranging from the American Society for Psychical Research to hollow-earth theorists. The compilers have included a warning that "...the information in this book [should] be viewed in terms of your own evolving beliefs and values and that it would be wise to be wary of any system of experiencing reality which calls for blind acceptance" and further note that "While many worthwhile organizations' products and services have been excluded due to space limitations, we have also omitted anything we believe to be exploitive". In view of some of the entries, one is constrained to wonder what they consider "exploitive". Nevertheless, the book is valuable as a reference work; whether the average citizen would find it a worthwhile addition to his library is questionable indeed. It is not a book to be read.

Don Hunter (with Rene Dahinden). Sasquatch. Toronto: McClellan and Stewart Ltd. 1973. \$8.00

Reviewed by Robert E. Jones.

The material in this book may be divided roughly into three categories: 1) reports of Sasquatch sightings, 2) analysis of Sasquatch data, and 3) some facts and opinions pertaining to the personalities and activities of some of the better known 'Sasquatch hunters' on the West Coast. If the reader is not well versed on the subject of ABSMs (the Sasquatch in particular) he will find this book quite interesting and informative. The most interesting of the well-known stories are related, and the authors' style is both poignant and lucid, making for easy reading. If, however, the reader, like me, has read about the subject to any appreciable degree, he will find very little that is new in the first two categories noted above. What he may find worthwhile is the material in the third category. Mr. Hunter provides some insight into the problems experienced by a Sasquatch hunter (i.e. Rene Dahinden) in his descriptions of some of the aborted attempts to organize and implement Bigfoot expeditions. His accounts of the activities, attitudes, and diverse approaches of some of those who are actively pursuing the Sasquatch, is interesting and rather uninhibited. The views expressed are, of course, one-sided and therefore should be considered in that light. If the criticisms are set aside, an interesting history of the recent developments in Bigfoot searches in the West emerges for those of us who are interested.

Unfortunately there is no table of contents (or even chapter titles) and no index, making the book difficult to use as a reference source. This is, however, made up for by the smooth-flowing novel-like format. In particular there is a much needed rebuttal of Odette Tchernine's rather limited view of ABSMs in general, and the Sasquatch in particular, in her book The Yeti [now available in the U.S.—in discount book stores—under the title In Pursuit of the Abominable Snowman: S.W.S.]; an interesting delineation of the happenings in Bossberg, Washington in the 70's (the crippled footprints); and an informative analysis of Bigfoot footprints by Prof. Grover Krantz of the anthropology department of Washington State University.

James M. McCampbell. Ufology. Privately printed: Jaymac Co., 12 Bryce Court, Belmont, CA 94002. \$3.95 postpaid.

Reviewed by Robert J. Durant

What are ufos? If, as is commonly believed, they are spacecraft, where do they originate? The author has chosen to avoid a direct inquiry into these questions and to concentrate instead on a painstakingly thorough investigation of the details of a set of particularly well documented ufo encounters.

Observed parameters such as the color and sound of the reported objects, and their variation with changes in the regime of flight, are tabulated statistically and then analyzed in the context of modern physical science. Similar treatment is given to the effects of ufos on electrical equipment, cars, the human body and other animals.

Mr. McCampbell demonstrates that the ufo reports that have been collected so assiduously over the years are packed with useful information, if only we know how to extract that information. And he shows us how to do just that by using the newest methods of analysis beginning, quite logically, with the use of reliability theory to judge the value of the basic reports.

The reader lacking some background in physics will find parts of this book difficult to follow. Nevertheless, it is must reading for the serious ufologist, and highly recommended for those who are skeptical about ufos, ufology and ufologists.

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