



PURSUIT[®]

"SCIENCE IS THE PURSUIT OF THE UNEXPLAINED"

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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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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. (Membership and our quarterly journal PURSUIT is \$10 per year. Subscription to PURSUIT, without membership benefits, for libraries only, is \$8 for 4 issues.) Order forms for back issues will be supplied on request.

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Vol. 9, No. 1
JANUARY, 1976

PURSUIT[®]

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

Managing Editor:

Robert J. Durant

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NOTICE

The Annual Index was omitted from the issue of October, 1975 due to space limitations. Work is currently underway to compile and publish a master index for the years 1968 to present. It is hoped that this will be ready for our members in mid-1976,

UFOLOGY

(Editor's Note: This piece of vintage Sandersonia is being reprinted with the permission of the Blairstown Press, of Blairstown, New Jersey. It appeared in their November 17, 1966 edition. Sanderson's summary of the UFO problem still seems cogent and provocative after the lapse of over nine years.)

THEM THAR FLYING SAUCERS

by Ivan T. Sanderson

(Editor's note: Mr. Sanderson, well known author, TV star and lecturer, is also an authority on Unidentified Flying Objects. We have had several reports of such objects in the past few months and are fortunate in receiving the following article from Mr. Sanderson)

Moseying around our balliwick the past few months I have been considerably and increasingly alarmed not only due to hearing the same questions over and over again and from people of all ages and all occupations, but much more so by the undertone of frustration that invariably accompanies these questions. If I, in many cases a total stranger, am asked these questions what, I in turn find myself asking, goes on in the intimacy of the home, family, or between old and trusted friends. The reason given, and sometimes officially, for all the hokum that has been dished out on the subject about which these questions are asked, is a fear of panic or hysteria on the part of the public. But anything more likely to cause general hysteria than said hokum can not be conceived. It is about time that somebody gave the public the story straight and, despite the enormous complexity of the subject, I propose to try and do just that. And, what better forum than this?

I am speaking of what are vulgarly and quite erroneously called "Flying Saucers", now almost as well known as UFOs or "Unidentified Flying Objects", but which are now designated by officialdom as UAPs or Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, and UAOs or Unexplained Aerial Objects.

It is 30 years, almost to the day, that I first heard of these things, when I attended a public lecture in the grand ballroom of the old Plaza hotel in New York to hear the most extraordinary sort of talk by an extraordinary man named Charles Fort. The occasion was sponsored by a group that had banded together as the Fortean Society, and which included such illustrious names as Ben Hecht, Alexander Woollcott, Tiffany Thayer and many others of that ilk. Fort spent his life burrowing through scientific journals, popular magazines, and newspapers in libraries and morgues, extracting all reports of matters that were not explained or appeared to be inexplicable. He was graced with an enormous sense of humor and great wit, and he delighted in twitting, needling, and thus infuriating

stuffed-shirts of all kinds, notably the scientific fraternity. All through his four books — Lo, New Lands, Wild Talents, and The Book of the Damned — there ran a thread of marvel which he used repeatedly in his talks; and, outstanding among these sort of beads or gems of wisdom strung upon his main thread, were what he called OSFs or "Objects Seen Floating". In thus naming these phenomena he was not only a pioneer but about thirty years ahead of his time as the state of affairs today, in 1966, bears witness.

The average American — if he or she has heard of the matter; and I am beginning seriously to wonder if there are any left who haven't — is wandering around with the misguided impression that UAOs are only 20 years old, and first cropped up in 1947 when a private plane on Mt. Ranier in Washington reported having seen nine flying in formation in broad daylight, and then inadvertently coined the stupid moniker "flying saucers" by a chance remark made to the press that their progress was like that of a saucer skimmed over the surface of a lake. This is a complete misapprehension for they were well-known to both sides during W.W. II while there are literally hundreds of reports and descriptions of them scattered through scientific literature from its inception 300 years ago, and before that in both ecclesiastical and lay literature, back through the Middle and Dark Ages of the West to Classical and Ancient times. Both in the Orient and, it now transpires, in South America they are also mentioned both in fable, folklore and tradition and the earliest writings right back to prehistoric times, while there are even stone age rockpaintings that look suspiciously like representations of the same things. There are also numerous passages in the Bible that seem to speak of them.

We often forget that the Bible, besides being a religious tract, is an historical document of great clarity and precision. Further, the Ancient Hebrews bore the torch of the most ancient learning and scientific knowledge accumulated by the Semitic and Sumerian cultures of Mesopotamia, along with that of Egypt, in which country they resided for so long. The description by Ezekiel of a fiery "wheel" is the classic example given today of an UAO in the Bible. There is much debate about this because there are those who would read into this description only allegory, but both scholars & students can affirm that the Bible throughout seems to go to much pains to distinguish between fact and fiction, parable and allegory, and history and tradition. Ezekiel's statement could hardly be more explicit on these scores.

I will now skip back — or forwards some three thousand years to this day of grace, 1966 A.D. and try to give as succinct a picture of the present state of affairs viz-a-viz this question that seems to have troubled Man since he became conscious of his environment and of himself.

First it must be clearly understood that ours is not the only government that is now deeply concerned with the matter. Almost every government in the world, and Russia not excluded, is equally interested, and several such as Sweden, Denmark, England, Chile, the Argentine, Brazil, India and so on have been so since long before 1947. Since these things are a phenomenon of the sky, they have been turned over to the Air Forces who are primarily concerned with the defense of their homelands from attack in the air. However, there are a number of other agencies that are equally if not more deeply concerned with, and "concerned" about, the matter, since there is more than one aspect to it.

Until quite recently, the principle question asked about the business was simply "Do they exist or don't they" which was mouthed by the average citizen in the hackneyed phrase "Do you believe in flying saucers?" That age is now passed, for there can hardly any longer be any doubt as to their existence. If "forty million Frenchmen can't be wrong", 65 per cent of America's 190-million — as disclosed by a recent poll — can hardly be imagining it all or all be mass hallucinated, whatever that may mean. People are now asking "What are they?" and no amount of marsh-gas, plasma-balls, ball-lightning, or Venuses shining at midday on the wrong side of the earth, will provide a satisfactory answer to this question.

However, today we find ourselves in the extraordinary position of being scoffed at by our governments — for which we pay, by the way — and treated by our defense forces and other agencies as if we were all, almost to a man and child, a bunch of benighted ninconpoops under the influence of LSD or something worse. Further, insult is added to injury — and this sort of thing is injurious — by the obvious official implication that we believe the rubbish handed out and the hokum hawked in that section of the press which toes the Establishment line. It has, in fact, gotten to the point in this country, where government spokesmen and notably the Air Force seem to think that they can say anything, however ridiculous, absurd or totally unprovable by way of "explanation" of these phenomena, and will not have to be held responsible either for their lies or their consequences.

This is doubly serious, and for two outstanding reasons. First, if not only the general public but servicemen and even radar operators are going to be indoctrinated with this sort of rubbish, and either lead to believe or forced to believe that there are no such things as UAOs, somebody sooner or later is going to mistake one of them for a potential aggressor and start pressing buttons; which is the new way of starting a global war. Second, it will — if it has not already — undermine all faith that we, and the citizens of other countries have in those empowered with the defense of the country; and it is just as dangerous, to us, if this happens to the Russians or the Red Chinese. It's bad enough having the world girdled every which way by tens of thousands of jittery, trigger happy

citizens without their having to be reduced to the status of zombies. Furthermore, should all our service men actually be convinced that UAOs don't exist, they are just as likely to miss a genuine attacker.

To come down to the particular from these high-level generalities, I would like to comment on the present state of affairs at the end of this year as it has been forced up on this reporter. As I said at the outset, just about everybody has been talking about UAOs, and a very high percentage of these in due time come out with a firsthand report of such. Now that the press, radio and TV is filled with similar reports from all over the country and the rest of the world, more and more people are coming forward to make these statements. I wonder just how many would have so reported if the knowledge we now possess of the matter had been available in, say, 1866. In other words, is it, as some insist, simply that there are more of us; more newspapers and better coverage; radio and tv; and all manner of machines flying in our lower or rocketting through our upper atmosphere; combined with the resultant fact that more of us look up more often at the sky.

While the first set of premises may be true, there is grave doubt as to the second lot, in this country at least where urbanization has burgeoned and literally millions of people may never look up at the sky for days on end. However, allowing for the vast increase in population and its spread over ever more of the land and water surfaces of the earth, and the greater availability of telescopes, the soaring use of air travel, moon-watchers and satellite and rocket tracking, there does seem to have been a rapid build-up, worldwide in "sightings" of UAOs. Moreover, these have come in waves, of ever increasing length but also at ever decreasing intervals. What is more, several distinct patterns have begun to emerge from statistical analysis of this enormous mass of reports. But here I must interject a word of warning.

Most people seem to think that there is a thing called a "Flying Saucer" as they erroneously speak of a whale or the Loch Ness Monster, or the Abominable Snowman, and just as if these things were solitary and immortal examples of parentless, mateless, and childless entities. (Quite what people do think on these scores, if they do at all, has always been a complete mystery to me). Now, just as there are over a hundred distinct kinds of whales, ranging in size from six to 110 feet in length when adult; so also, there must be enough monsters in Loch Ness to maintain a population. Also there are probably dozens of different kinds of water monsters. Then again, let us consider for a moment just how many different kinds of things there are in the north Atlantic Ocean, for instance; all the way from atoms and amoebae to swordfish and submarines. The Universe is a much vaster place than the Atlantic; in fact, it may be infinite; and, therefore, it manifestly contains more things — perhaps an infinitude of different kinds. Thus, there may be an almost endless number of different things coming into

our atmosphere, and not all of them simply different "models" like our airplanes — but possible belonging to entirely different races or kinds of Beings. Also, some UAOs could be robots, or themselves living entities — sort of space animals.

Recently religionists and scientists have wholeheartedly joined the ranks of the mystics in asserting that the Almighty could hardly have picked this one piffling little planet, going round a very ordinary small sun, in a very modest galaxy — on which to establish intelligent life. If you want to see to what extent this trend has gone, read Walter Sullivan's WE ARE NOT ALONE. This book does not mention UAOs but it gives a pretty clear picture of the way some scientists — and notably those closely associated with government, in such agencies as NASA — are thinking. There is among them an overall conviction that we are not alone, and there are even those who suggest, (if not fully believe) that we have been visited by other intelligent beings. Some have even gone so far as to suggest in print that this planet has been kept under surveillance for hundreds of millions of years, and that it may even be regarded as property by others.

At the same time, we have an increasing number of serious minded books, some written by professional scientists and engineers — such as Aime Michel in France, and Jacques Vallee who came to this country to work for one of our government agencies — and the redoubtable Major Donald Keyhoe, that state clearly and categorically that at least some of the UAOs are made by intelligent entities, and are machines or constructions, that at least some of them seem not to be mere robots like our Mars and Moon probes, but to be piloted by intelligent creatures.

However, all these people have, up till this year, deliberately ignored denigrated, or plain scoffed at reports or alleged reports of living creatures coming out of these UFOs, and notably any alleged to be of human or humanoid form, be they the famous "Little Green Men" or woolly giants. But, this year, — something quite new has happened. The stories of humanoid creatures seen in conjunction with UAOs — and even in some cases, UAPs — have been pouring in from all over the world and notably from North America. Some of these reports seem quite dotty because how can one imagine an ape-like Abominable Snowman-type creature flying a machine so advanced that our top-notch scientists and technologists can't even think up a suggestion as to how it is propelled. Yet, the reports persist, and have gotten on to police blotters, and been affirmed by several people at the same time. In other words the UAOs have taken to landing.

The resistance to acceptance of these reports is very great, mostly because we have suffered for many years now from the mouthings of what are called the "Contactees". These are apparently deluded people who claim to have met beautiful blond and blonde "Space People", and been given rides in 'Saucers' ". These people have never yet, in 20 years of blabbing,

produced one single piece of concrete evidence for their stories. On the other hand, there has been an equal body of perfectly sane people, shying from publicity who have reported to the authorities that they have encountered small humanoids of various shapes and sizes, and sometimes dressed in green uniforms or space suits, but usually of some dull silvery color. These accounts are quite different from those of the contactees and the entities described are now called "Occupants" (of UAOs).

So coming finally to roost back here in Warren, I would just like to point out that, to this reporter's personal knowledge, several hundreds of people have seen UAOs in this county, both by day and by night, and in the form of lights, solid-appearing, or diaphanous objects. Further, within the past two months, I have interviewed some dozen good, solid, sane, non-drinking citizens in some cases truly pillars of our local society who have encountered these things on the ground. I think I have one "occupant" report but, as with almost all the others, I have been asked not to publish my informants name — as yet.

However, there are those who are willing to allow publication because they realize that the whole business has now come out into the open and that they need not any longer be fearful of ridicule. After all, they have as bedfellows, top-notch government officials, innumerable people in the services, airline pilots by the hundreds, Senators and Congressmen, local, special, and State Police by the score, prominent scientists, and, it is now alleged, 43 per cent of the rest of the entire populace. Therefore, when certain further investigations have been made, I shall seek permission from these — mostly bewildered, and in some cases thoroughly scared citizens, — to so publish their stories. At this time, however, I wish to point out as strongly as I can that on the one hand, there is nothing any longer to be frightened of in making such reports; while, on the other hand, they may be making a very real and useful contribution to the welfare of our country and be aiding in its defense (against our potential earthly enemies). Further, there are those who now see a definite menace to all humanity in the recent behavior of the UAOs, so that every scrap of evidence becomes a real contribution to our better understanding of the problem facing us.

Would, therefore, any of you good readers who have had such an experience as seeing something inexplicable on the ground, or in the sky, be it only lights that travel either too fast or too slow for a plane (and especially without noise) come forward and state your case. Contact our organization The Ivan T. Sanderson Foundation, 496-3866, or the office of this newspaper. Rest assured that your name will not be published if you so request. However, you would be doing a very real service if you would, in that case, sign a sworn statement to be written-up by this reporter, for submission to the appropriate department of the government. Such reports are most scrupulously held in

confidence by all departments of the government if so marked. For, you see, despite all the ranting and raving about an official hush-up of this business the Dept. of Defense has constantly repeated and for many years, their desire to obtain any reports that are not obviously "kooky". By submitting such, you may

be doing not only your country but the whole of humanity a great service.

(Editor's Note: SITU is the successor to the Ivan T. Sanderson Foundation, same address and phone.)

BIOLOGY

BIGFOOT EXPEDITION

by Robert E. Jones

As readers of Pursuit may know, a Bigfoot investigation has been going on in Northwestern New Jersey since March of 1975. Reports of Bigfoot sightings are continuing at the rate of about one per week. During the month of October an expedition set out to implement a field study of the phenomena. This expedition, manned by SITU members and with the backing of SITU, represents a giant step in the direction of membership participation in the prime effort of SITU — investigating the unexplained.

The expedition group may be said to have had its start with the membership participation questionnaire sent out early in 1975. This questionnaire, an experimental first step, was sent to SITU members within a 100 mile radius of headquarters in order to elicit help of various types and included an invitation to those interested in active investigation. During the summer months I held several meetings in an attempt to form the nucleus of an investigative team. Some 30 members participated in these meetings. From this group, 12 became part of a team to investigate the Northwestern New Jersey Bigfoot reports. Based on the data collected over the months, a plan was made, specific areas to be searched were chosen, and, thanks to a modest allocation of funds from the SITU budget, some equipment (tent, recorders, transmitters, etc.) was purchased. Permission to use land and facilities was granted by both the state and private individuals. Finally, in an attempt to avoid some of the problems plaguing some expedition teams elsewhere, I set the principle of equal sharing should any material benefit be derived from the effort of any one member or any group of members of the expedition. This principle was well received by all.

The time chosen was October 2 through October 12. Two base camps, set up some 15 miles apart, were manned almost continuously. The activities during the field study were divided into active and passive phases. A number of experiments and observations were made in both phases. Individual members were encouraged to use their ingenuity and creativity as well as to try to gain experience through problem solving on a local basis. The results were gratifying. The following individuals participated: D. Blumenthal, L. Boldt, W. Cannici, J. Christman, S. Giamusso, J. Hoffnagle, R. Jones, P. Juralman, J. McGrath, T. Sutton, G. Szelc, and L. Wiedemann.

During the night, teams remained relatively inactive, that is, tape recorders were kept going throughout the night and members, while living as naturally as they could, remained observant, with cameras at the ready. In contrast to the relatively passive night activities, the daytime activities consisted of a series of explorations of the areas near the camps. Ridges, swamps, lakesides and other likely places were systematically explored for evidence of Bigfoot's presence or for potential as his domicile. A number of experiments were performed, including such things as baiting, attraction through sound recordings of the Bigfoot's cry, the use of an all female team at one camp, "psychic" communication and, in general, a series of tests of our equipment and facilities.

The following is a summary of the results of the 11 day study:

(1) A feces sample that might have been that of a Bigfoot was found and sent to a laboratory for analysis. It has been established that the sample originated with a mammal whose diet was vegetable (at the time, at least). No unusual species of salmonella was present. These factors and its physical appearance eliminate all but possibly two known animals as candidates.

(2) Two footprints were found, but in both cases the prints were in bad shape and inconclusive.

(3) Two tape recordings were made of distant, or low volume, cries. The first, a series of howls coming from the direction of a nearby swamp, is still being analyzed, but it is very weakly recorded. Furthermore, it is not the elongated call typical of the Bigfoot, but strongly resembles the sound of a hound dog baying. Further investigation has revealed that a dog of this sort was kept in a house in the general vicinity of the source of the recorded sound. The second tape is of such poor quality that it is of no use for further analysis.

(4) Exploration of the area has established that there is no lack of food, plant or animal, to support a small population of ABSMs. Nor is there any lack of places in which the animal could hide or roam undetected. There still remains, however, a question of where such an animal would find permanent living quarters, if indeed it does require them. It might be that the areas we explored were only the places that the animal visits for foraging purposes, and that it has a more or less permanent habitat elsewhere. Unlike the portion of Pennsylvania where we made a somewhat similar but small scale search for the Bigfoot, this part of New Jersey has very few caves.

(5) None of the baits used produced any results. This included baits placed in a "dummy" camp which was deliberately set up to simulate human habitation but then deliberately left undisturbed, as well as those baits left in "natural" circumstances.

(6) Much knowledge was gained about expedition equipment. The equipment that was used during the study was evaluated with respect to its usefulness and limitations, and the need for other types of equipment was established. For instance, there is no doubt that some sort of night seeing equipment is necessary for this type of expedition. More efficient sound reception devices are also obviously necessary.

One very unusual, and as yet unexplained, incident occurred one night when we experimented with a tape recording of what is alleged to be the cry of the Bigfoot. It was our intention to move through the woods and play the cry periodically in the hope of eliciting some response from the resident Bigfoot. To some this might appear an extremely provocative and possibly dangerous exercise, perhaps the zoological equivalent of Benjamin Franklin's experiments with flying kites in thunderstorms. In our view, the risks were minimal because of the apparent extreme shyness of these creatures.

Three of us (W. Canici, J. McGrath and the author) went to the edge of a swampy area that appeared to have some potential as a likely spot for the animal to be found. We played the tape recording of the Bigfoot cry, directing the sound out into the swamp, and waited in silence. This was repeated several times. The only sound that we heard was that of a stone bouncing nearby. At the time we ignored this, for each of us thought that one of the others had simply kicked the stone. After a while we moved off to another point about a mile away and repeated the tape playing sequence. This time I went into the woods alone, about 100 yards from my companions, and played the tape. Once again a stone crashed through the branches and landed nearby.

When I emerged from the woods my companions queried me about whether or not I had thrown a stone at them, and of course I replied that I had not done so. We were not able to find the stones in the darkness and, most importantly, we could not find who had thrown them. What we could all agree on was that the stones had come from the direction of the swamp. Given the conditions of the terrain, the time of day, and certain other factors, it is difficult to believe that the stones were thrown by a human.



Typical swampy area in vicinity of Bigfoot search.

In general, we found certain potential evidence for the existence of Bigfoot in this area, but nothing concrete or definite. We got no photographs, not one sighting, no conclusive recordings or prints or other evidence. The most obvious result of the field study was the experience we gained from the practical application of various organizational schemes and the equipment that was used. We are, however, making plans for further work in this area, because on the basis of numerous reports it appears that there may be a small group of the animals either living in the area or traversing it regularly. The geographical area in question is small enough to permit a systematic program of search. We welcome any other volunteers for future studies — the only requirements are a genuine interest in this phenomenon and a willingness to share in some hard work.

A special word of thanks is in order for the New Jersey Department of Parks for their cooperation in letting us use their facilities, and to Mr. J. Steppongzi for permission to let us locate one of our sites on his land. The assistance and cooperation we were given by the Park Rangers was particularly valuable.

Three days after the SITU team had left, a woman standing not more than 75 yards from the place where the main expedition tent had been erected had a rather frightening experience. The witness, who was picking pears at the time, heard a screaming roar from the direction of the woods about 100 feet away. The sound was unlike anything she had ever heard before, and it is worth noting here that she claims to be familiar with the cries of the Bobcat and Bear. The sound sent her running to a nearby farm house where she paused to look back in the direction of the scream. At that moment three dogs burst from the woods. According to the witness the dogs were terrified, and they rushed past her to the house where they remained cowering. The dogs might have been frightened by a bear, but the witness is quite firm in stating that the sound was nothing like that made by a bear. She later identified the sound as very similar to the alleged Bigfoot cry that I have on tape. This tape was made in California.

The number of eyewitness reports currently on file is up to 30, and this figure combined with "other" reports gives us a total of 59 cases of the Bigfoot phenomenon to date. What is still lacking is any really reliable physical evidence.

EXTINCT (?) SPECIES

by James M. Breece II

Students of monsterology, i.e., Sasquatches, lake and sea monsters, and the like, are forever pelted with verbal stones from critical slingshots. One very common projectile is, "If a thing like that had been around all this time, someone would have found it by now." Someone is, of course, the same expert(s) who

declared the Coelacanth extinct because none had been seen except in a particularly petrified state, that is, until 1938 when one was dredged up off the coast of South Africa really very much alive and ready for market. It seems that this fish had been eluding man for most of his part of 70,000,000 years.

There are some other examples of these "living fossils," and none known, perhaps, as well as the Coelacanth; however, one always needs more ammunition, especially when confronted with young Davids on the field of criticism. Therefore, here is another pebble for the pouch.

Science News (Vol 108 No 5 pp 69) reports that zoologists have recently discovered the existence of Catagonus Ameghino, a species of peccary heretofore thought extinct since the Pleistocene. This peccary (a native American pig) inhabits the Gran Chaco, a vast thorn forest stretching from southeastern Bolivia to northern Argentina, an area that the reporters termed "highly inaccessible" (sounds like good Sasquatch country). The natives have been eating Catagonus for years and yet, officially, it didn't exist until this year.

Now Catagonus hasn't been lost as long as the Coelacanth; however, 2,000,000 years is a healthy chunk of time and, who knows, perhaps someone will one day rediscover Gigantopithecus or Meganthropus. and make it official.

Bernard Heuvelmans is probably the leading authority on the subject of unknown animals. In view of recent events, we thought it appropriate to remind our readers of the very moving final words of his monumental On the Track of Unknown Animals:

In Madagascar fortunate circumstances have almost enabled us to watch the extinction of the giant fauna of the past, but we have missed our opportunity. We should take the lesson to heart, for there are still numbers of strange or giant forms of animals hiding in the more remote corners of the world, as is shown by the persistent and often exact reports that I have recorded here. Are we to let these monsters die out without attempting to know them? Surely the inquiring spirit of Aristotle and Pliny, Gesner and Aldrovandus, Buffon and Darwin is not dead?

In a sense I hope that it may be. Now that I have reached the end of this book I feel a vague sense of regret—regret that I have revealed the still-undisturbed retreat of so many unknown animals. When I think of what man has done with a rifle, I am horrified that I should offer him new targets.

The most dreadful of the monsters I have mentioned attacks man only in self-defense or to provide himself with food. Only man kills for pleasure.

No sooner is a new animal discovered than the hunt for trophies begins. These maniacs must be stopped at once. History shows how alarmingly quickly man can exterminate a whole species. We have hardly known our noble cousin the gorilla for more than a century, yet, despite the tireless efforts of those institutions set up to protect him, he has been ignominiously slaughtered, and perhaps will soon vanish without our having learned anything about his

habits, so full of significance from our own point of view.

Tomorrow we may know one of our other relatives: the abominable snowman, for instance, who is surely a shy and gentle great ape; or perhaps an even more human primate like the tiny agogwe or the elusive orang pendek. I hope with all my heart that when he is captured there will be no needless murder. Have pity on them all, for it is we who are the real monsters.

ANTHROPOLOGY

SOME FIELD NOTES ON AFRICAN NEODINOSAURS

by James Powell

In Chapter 2 of More Things, entitled "Three Toes-Model A", Ivan Sanderson discusses reports from Zululand, South Africa of an amphibious, possibly neodinosaurian, type of unknown animal known locally as *Silwane manzi*. In March, 1973, while participating in the Second Working Meeting of the Crocodile Specialist Group of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources), I spent ten days in the field in Zululand at the Ndumu and St. Lucia Game Preserves. At that time I questioned several of the Natal Parks Board personnel—all men long familiar with the area—on this matter of the *Silwane manzi*. By interpreter I also talked with a number of local Africans, mostly Tongas. The results of these interviews can be summarized as follows:

Pronunciation: *Silwane manzi* might be more phonetically transcribed as *s'lwaaane manzi*. There is no distinct vowel sound between the initial sibilant and the l, while the a is incredibly drawled out. All my informants pronounced it this way.

Meaning: *S'lwaaane* is a noun. When I asked one Tongan informant what it meant, he replied "animal that not nice". My interpreter explained that the term may be applied to any animal that is in any way dangerous, repulsive, or otherwise disagreeable. Thus, a lion, a crocodile, a shark, a cobra—or a dinosaur—could all be called *s'lwaaane*. Not so a puppy or a kitten. When a Bantu refers to an animal

as *s'lwaaane*, it implies he has some sort of negative feelings towards it.

Manzi is an adjective, and means simply "aquatic"—or of pertaining to the water. Thus, *s'lwaaane manzi* might be idiomatically translated as "water monster".

In practice, the term generally refers to the crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*). There is another Bantu word for crocodile; however, when a Zulu or a Tonga says *s'lwaaane manzi* it is understood that he means "crocodile" unless the context implies otherwise.

Traditions: The nearest I came in all my questionings to a tradition even remotely resembling the account in "Three Toes—Model A" was the following Tongan myth:

In the beginning, there was only one crocodile in the world, and it lived in the sea off the coast of Zululand. It was truly a gigantic crocodile, so huge that from the tip of its snout to the tip of its tail it extended all the way from Ndumu, on the Mozambique border, to the site of the present city of Durban—in other words, about 250 miles. It was, of course, called *s'lwaaane manzi*, as are all crocodiles. Then one day, for reasons which got lost in the translation, this grandfather of all crocodiles fragmented into thousands of smaller crocodiles. These left the sea and swam up the rivers of Zululand, where they became the ancestors of the crocodiles found there today.

This information, while largely negative, derives from very limited investigations, and neither proves nor disproves anything. "I-didn't-find-it-so-it-isn't-there" is a classic among fallacies.

GEOLOGY

PETRIFIED HUMAN REMAINS

by Ronald G. Dobbins

In the past the journal of this Society has been the scene of some major errata. While recently surveying my collection, one such came to my attention. I refer specifically to an anonymous work in the April, 1970 issue, entitled "The Cast of Paleolithic Man," and especially to the third paragraph of that article.

First, we see here a reference to the 1869 "Cardiff

(N.Y.) Giant" hoax as a possible scientific "cover-up" of some kind of genuine "petrified man." There is simply no basis for taking this view. In fact the hoax was revealed by a wag who simply drilled a small hole behind the statue's ear to reveal the lack of a "petrified brain" in the "petrified man." As the Pursuit article points out, it is well known that natural petrification occurs molecule-by-molecule and cell-by-cell. Therefore, the total structure of the organism is preserved in such cases.

Consider the following statement made in the

article: "Such a thing as the 'cast' of a man, dead some 30,000 years, borders on the miraculous." Again, there is no basis for such a statement. Natural mineralization is hardly miraculous. As anyone who has ever looked through a thin section microscope at such a specimen can testify, if I may use the unfortunate phrase, it's a "scientific fact." Moreover, several such specimens are known. A few were found at Herculaneum/Pompeii, the remains of tragic victims of the volcanic eruption who fell and were preserved in stone while trying to escape. Another was found by

a copper mining concern in the Andes. This was the mineralized remains of an ancient Incan miner. The specimen was on display at the Museum of Natural History in New York. My letter to them inquiring about this specimen remains unanswered at this writing. The age of the specimen is nothing very exciting: petrified trees many millions of years old are known to exist.

Personally, I see nothing "miraculous" about this matter, except how it got by our geologist, Ivan Sanderson, and into the journal.

CHAOS AND CONFUSION

THE "THING" OF SHEEP'S HILL

by Curt Sutherly

During the past several months I've been spending a great deal of time rummaging through old newspaper files, researching some items for several proposed magazine articles. In the course of this, I have gained a new respect for a commonly denigrated endeavor called "armchair research." It is work, and hard and tedious work at that when one is really serious about the matter at hand. But my diggings have often led me to items which — if not always directly related to the theme of the article — prove nonetheless to be eminently worthwhile.

While reading the Lebanon (Pa.) Daily News files I uncovered the following Associated Press Account, which is related below exactly as originally published: Pottstown, Pa., November 14, 1945

The nocturnal tramp, tramp, tramp of a posse combing the woods of nearby Sheep's Hill for a mysterious beast that makes 20 foot leaps, cries and screams like a baby and steals chickens is not good for the nerves.

Especially, says Mrs. Edward Creger of Sheep's Hill, "to mine." She complained to police that hunting parties trespass across her property and take pot shots at black shadows at night.

"Maybe I'll start some shooting myself," she said, "if this nonsense doesn't stop."

Meantime the "thing" — as residents in the area have tagged the mystery animal — is responsible for four casualties among those who have stalked "it" in the past five days.

Police reported Williams J. Brandel, an 18 year old Pottstown youth, was struck in the thigh by a "pumpkin ball" bullet; Betty Hart, 17, of nearby Douglassville, was injured in the left arm by a "trigger nervous" posse member, and a young couple — tracking the "thing" by auto — were seriously injured when a frightful screech caused the driver to lose control of the car.

John Hipple, a Montgomery County farmer, says he saw the animal.

"It was like a big cat," he recounted, "I shot at it and it leaped 20 feet into the air and screaming, disappeared."

Another — John Wojack of Pottstown, — spotted the huge beast. "It gave a shrill cry then it bounded away in leaps of at least 10 feet in length each."

Various, it has been described as a panther, a puma, a wild dog, a bear and a black fox. But until the prowling posse nabs the shrieking beast it will be just "the thing of Sheep's Hill."

The report is interesting in that not only does it give a good example of the general problem of "mysterious animals," but we have in this instance an additional factor of possibly great importance. That is, the whole affair was repeated near Pottstown in 1973, nearly 28 years after the first event. Nor did anything like this happen in the intervening years.

While reflecting on this matter one afternoon, and turning over in my mind the similarity of the 1945 incidents to the events of 1973, such as the injuries suffered by hunters shooting one another by mistake, I decided to check into the matter just a bit further. And in so doing, I nearly gave the Daily News city editor, Robin McNamee, second thoughts about my fitness as a reporter. As I flipped the pages of an old almanac, he watched from his desk, pretending limited interest in my odd behavior.

After a few minutes I found what I was searching for: a map showing the zoning of townships in the Pottstown area. I must have muttered something, because Robin was quickly at hand to discover what was up.

In 1945 the "thing of Sheep's Hill" stalked through North Coventry Township. In 1973, a mysterious creature was reported in the area of Upper Pottsgrove Township. This much I had established from the newspaper accounts, mainly those carried in the Pottstown Mercury. But the fact that had escaped me through all those hours of contemplation about these bizarre events was that although there was a 28 year temporal discontinuity in the appearance of the "thing," the

geographical location was nearly coincident. Both sets of sightings took place within about a five mile radius, overlapping the common border of the two municipalities.

This rather startling discovery led me to further speculations concerning the nature of the creature. The appearance of a mystery animal in the same geographical location on two occasions separated by 28 years in time might be only a coincidence. On the other hand, the reader must forgive me for at least temporarily dismissing this hypothesis. At the same time, the details of these cases and the general context of the entire "mystery animal" scenario, viewed as a world-wide and historical phenomenon, led me to consider other possibilities. But I was unable even to begin formulating any coherent avenues of approach to this mystery. Grasping at a straw, I wrote to SITU inquiring about the relative positions of various planets during the periods of the appearances of the creatures. They responded quickly, but the calculations they forwarded left little doubt that astronomical (or astrological) influences had any part to play. It had seemed plausible that the events might have been triggered by some set of recurring conditions, and periodicity, to my mind, could conceivably be ascribed to celestial influences. After all, the moon influences the tides, and there is quite a variety of weather phenomena that has been correlated with the sun spot cycles.

Both sets of sightings took place around a time of the year when the temperature is about the same, or in a similar time of transition. The sightings took place in March and November. Of course, one might point out that some sort of migration due to the changing weather or due to the animal's anticipation of the changing weather could be a factor here.

I have now concentrated my speculations on a really bizarre area, namely, the possibility that these mysterious appearances are only quasi-physical in nature and mechanism. In doing this I am recognizing, albeit very tentatively, a concept that has gained some currency in the more avant garde ufological circles. That is, the idea that a variety of phenomena such as UFOs, the Men in Black, old world demons, fairies and the rest are manifestations from some chink leading into another space/time dimension. Some writers have put this rather differently by citing what they call the "psychic component" in these events. According to this hypothesis, such creatures or things simply pop in and out of our dimensional frame of reference. It also follows that even when "they" are with us they may not be here in an entirely concrete form. Thus, for instance, the puzzle presented by mystery animals which have been shot with firearms at close range but without apparent effect. But the same animals have left well defined tracks in the soft ground and mud of "our" universe.

In connection with this I might mention another equally bizarre idea that has been expoused by John Keel, one of the leading field investigators in this

branch of fortune-telling, and an individual who has earned widespread respect as a theoretician along these lines. Recently, Keel quoted Ivan Sanderson as having once asked, "Are we providing a free lunch for energy forms from space?" Sanderson was probably referring to one of the more interesting items in his huge list of possible explanations for the UFO phenomenon: that the so-called UFOs are a form of life, and probably a very low grade form of life at that, but having the upper reaches of the atmosphere for their habitat, and, most importantly, actually feeding and subsisting on pure energy instead of on solid food. If this concept is extended somewhat to include more complex biological forms, and if one were to include some sort of personalized human energy field in the "menu" the situation becomes quite startling in its implications. This line of thinking is, I repeat, speculative in the extreme, but it does seem to promise some means of explaining under a single conceptual umbrella a very wide range of psychic and fortune-telling phenomena.



A PHOTOGRAPHIC ANOMALY

by Roy Pinney

I am a sceptic about phenomena that allegedly can't be explained. As the cameraman and producer of many of Ivan Sanderson's televised films, I took part in the documentation of a number of investigations of strange events and exposed several of them as nothing more than good natured hoaxes. Ivan and I worked together for over a dozen years, at times spending twenty-four hours a day for months at a time on expeditions. One of these expeditions resulted in his monumental book, The Continent We Live On.

This summer, however, I have sought in vain for an explanation of a set of photographs that I personally took and developed and enlarged. These have presented me with a rather profound puzzle.

For some relaxation from the duties of teaching as visiting professor in the School of Journalism at the University of Alaska, I decided to make enlargements of a few of the hundreds of pictures taken on my trips over the past several years. I purchased a box of 8/10 double weight Kodak Polycontrast F paper, broke the seal, and started to make enlargements. As I was printing one negative taken in Afghanistan some years ago, the image of a small hand appeared as a double exposure over the negative. No image, latent or otherwise was to be seen emerging from the negative that could account for the hand. I made another print, but again the hand was visible, this time with the fingers in a different position!

I then opened another box of paper, this time one with a matte surface. The same sequence of events continued, but each print showed the fingers in a slightly different position. And not only was the hand

positioned differently with respect to the four figures in the picture, but the configuration of the hand itself had changed. That is, the fingers move in relation to one another in each succeeding print and the hand itself moves vertically and horizontally, and apparently also rotates a bit. This movement is most pronounced in the thumb, but close examination of the prints will reveal the other movements.

Finally, I opened yet another box of paper, made a print, and the hand was not to be seen. I breathed a sigh of relief. Whatever "it" had been had departed. But then I examined this last print in bright light and found the damned hand again, though this time it was so faintly visible that only a careful observer could find it.

Let me emphasize that it is a simple matter to fake such a picture or sequence of pictures. This can

be done by making a photogram of a hand on a print and then double-printing the image. But I did not do this. Nor did I in any other manner tamper with the materials or the photographic process. The story is true. Make of it what you will.

(Editor's note: Professor Pinney has supplied us with six of these prints. Five prints are included here as illustrations. The sixth is the "clear" one, and though the hand is indeed still visible on it, it would not be visible in the reproduction in Pursuit, and we have not shown it for that reason. It should also be noted that Pursuit would not consider the publication of an article of this nature were it not for the fact that Professor Pinney has been known to us for many years as a close personal friend and as a professional associate. His very considerable professional reputation is, of course, on the line.)



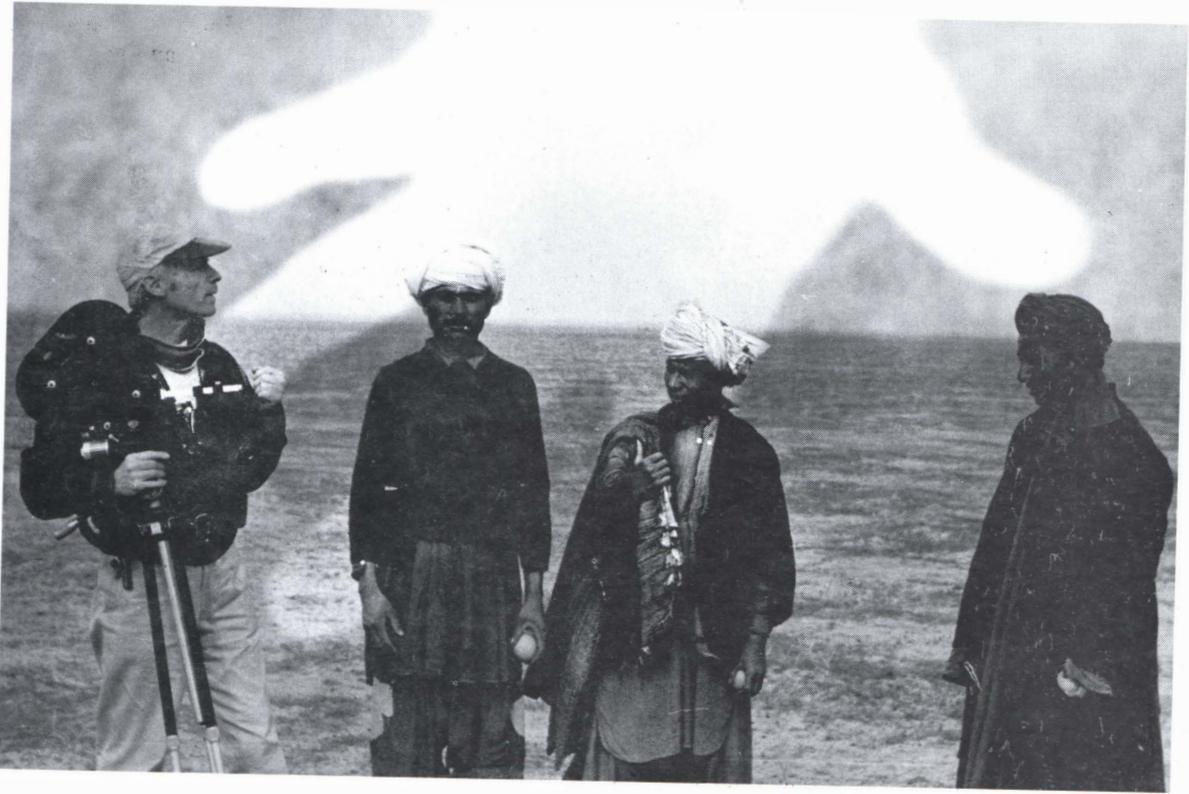
print number one



print number two



print number three



print number four



print number five

ERRATIC SATELLITES OVER THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE

By Wayne Meshejian

Three years ago, several physics students and I began construction of a station to receive weather satellite pictures. Five months later, we were receiving signals and four months after that we produced our first pictures. During those last four months (and when I wasn't teaching, eating or sleeping) I was listening to the sound of weather satellites either on tape or on our receiver. Weather satellites produce a monotonous, rhythmic sound; and after listening to them for only a few weeks, I could predict the amount of cloud cover that would appear in a picture merely by the subtle perturbations in the sound. Thus when one evening I heard the satellite suddenly change its rhythm and appear to skip every other beat, I was immediately aware and curious. Several days later it occurred again and then again. At first the skip was a source of irritation because it meant that one of the two images being transmitted would appear blacked out. But that all changed when a friend noted that the blackouts seemed to always begin when the satellite was over the Bermuda Triangle.

Reports ⁽¹⁾ issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on the operation and status of weather satellites failed to mention let alone explain the blackouts; and inquiries made to NOAA regarding the blackouts were met with answers ranging from NOAA's accepting responsibility for the blackouts to a flat denial that the blackouts even exist ⁽²⁾ (the answers varied with the official being questioned). This conflict in answers in addition to my observations and those of others has convinced me that the blackouts are not unique to my receiving station. And, as will become apparent, I have reason to believe that NOAA is not responsible for the blackouts.

Most earth satellites can be categorized as either geostationary or sun-synchronous. Geostationary satellites orbit the equator with the same angular speed as the earth and thus appear stationary to receiving stations on the ground. Such satellites are useful for relaying radio, television and telephone signals. Sun-synchronous satellites orbit the north and south poles while maintaining a constant orientation with the sun. This insures that illumination of the earth will be the same from one orbit to the next (a feature that is important to survey satellites such as those used for studying weather and earth resources and for spying).

The weather satellites I've been monitoring are part of a series launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for use by NOAA. To date, the satellites in this series include: NOAA-1 (deactivated March, 1971); NOAA-2 (deactivated November, 1974); and NOAA-3 and NOAA-4 (presently active).

NOAA satellites "ascend" (travel from south pole to north pole) on the dark side of the earth and "descend" on the light side. At an average altitude of 800 miles, these satellites maintain an orbital period of approximately 2 hours; which means that they appear to move approximately 30° further west with each orbit.

The last three NOAA satellites were designed to transmit infrared and visible imagery of the same area of the earth by using a slow-scan television technique. Picture information is composed of a series of horizontal scans. Each scan is completed in 1.25 seconds by a rotating mirror onboard the satellite. Light reflected by the mirror into the satellite is optically split and analyzed by two photocells — one sensitive to infrared light and the other sensitive to visible light. The outputs of these photocells comprise the signals that are used to produce weather pictures on the ground. Because both signals can not be transmitted simultaneously on the same carrier (without complex multiplexing), one of the signals (the visible signal) is delayed .625 seconds on magnetic tape while the other is sent. During the remaining .625 seconds, while the mirror is not scanning the earth, the visible information is sent. According to NOAA ⁽³⁾, the magnetic delay system is a one shot device that records the visible information during infrared transmission, reproduces the information during the time the mirror is scanning outer space and then erases it every 1.25 seconds so that it can be used again. It is this magnetic delay system that seems to be malfunctioning over the Bermuda Triangle.

The Effect

When a picture is made from NOAA satellite signals, the infrared and visible images appear side by side. During malfunction, the satellite fails to transmit the visible information but continues to transmit the infrared; and the picture that results has its visible image blacked out. Because the infrared and visible photocells are similar in design and because the signals they produce share the same transmitter, it seems reasonable to attribute the malfunction to the one thing they don't have in common — the magnetic delay system.

The magnetic field of the earth is too weak to erase the information stored in the magnetic delay system. Furthermore, the malfunction is strongly localized (that is, the visible image does not gradually fade out). Also, a malfunction does not occur every time the satellite passes over the Bermuda Triangle; but, whenever a malfunction does occur, it begins over this area. Thus, whatever is responsible for this behavior is of an intermittent nature. The same malfunction has occurred with all three NOAA satellites. In each case, the malfunction did not start until the satellite had been in orbit for at least 5

months, after which time the blackouts lasted for only one or two minutes. As each satellite aged, the blackouts became more frequent and more extensive. On several occasions I've observed a satellite blackout over the Bermuda Triangle and still be blacked out two orbits later — when the satellite was over populated regions of the U.S. continent. It is for this reason that I believe the government is not causing the blackouts. (Why defeat the very purpose of the satellite — especially while it is over the most important areas for weather observations.) Finally, a magnetic field strong enough to erase the visible information should also perturb the orbit of the satellite; and this doesn't seem to be happening.

Conclusion

So, what is the answer? Frankly, I don't know. The disturbance is in part magnetic because of its effect on the magnetic delay system. Yet, it is not magnetic in the purest sense because the satellite orbit is unaffected.

One interesting anomaly has been observed in a different series of satellites which may be related to the NOAA satellite blackouts. Several amateur radio operators have recently noted an "inverted Doppler effect" in the radio frequency carrier of the OSCAR-6 satellite.⁽⁴⁾ The OSCAR satellites are relay satellites used by ham operators. Because OSCAR-6 was launched by the same vehicle that carried NOAA-2 into orbit, the two satellites have practically the same orbits. The effect is essentially an increase in the radio frequency received on the ground at a time when the frequency should be decreasing. The effect occurs when OSCAR-6 "ascends" past 23°N latitude and is between 50°W and 105°W longitude. Unlike the OSCAR-6 anomaly which only occurs when the satellite is on the dark side of the earth, the NOAA satellite blackouts occur in both darkness and sunlight over the Bermuda Triangle.

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ANOTHER "BERMUDA TRIANGLE" MYSTERY VANISHES

By Ronald G. Dobbins

Earlier this year, fantastic stories began to appear in the nation's national press — the UPI, the National Enquirer, National Tattler, and similar sources —

telling that one Wayne Meshejian, an assistant professor of physics at Longwood College, at Farmville, Va., had stumbled onto "proof" of the existence of the infamous "Bermuda Triangle," an area where hundreds of ships and planes had mysteriously vanished without a trace (it says here). It seems that some of our weather satellites, in particular four photographic vehicles operating for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), had been failing to transmit their visual photographic data back to earth properly as they entered the mysterious and vaguely-defined area off of the East Coast of the United States. In several of the articles, Meshejian spoke about "some kind of external energy source under the water," "advanced civilizations," and "a vast electromagnetic field force (sic), in the Triangle," and hinted at a government cover-up, since nothing had been published to explain the baffling electronic black-outs.

Well, friends, real life is unfortunately more plebian than such stuff as dreams are made of. Here is the explanation of what Meshejian had picked up on his home-built equipment per NOAA's Special Assistant to the Deputy Director, Jerry C. Glover:

The fact of the matter is that our weather satellites are not malfunctioning. They are operating as they were designed to operate. That design includes a feature such that the visual channel of the Automatic Picture Transmission (APT) signal is absent during readout of data stored on the satellite tape recorder. (The infrared channel of the APT signal is unaffected during readout of stored data.) The longest readout times are experienced when the satellite is over the western part of the Atlantic Ocean and is within range (3300 km.) of our Wallops, Va., data acquisition station located northeast of Norfolk.

The reason why the visual channel of the APT is absent during readout of data stored on the satellite tape recorder is straightforward. In order to transmit both (IR and Visual) channels of data on the narrow band APT signal, we must get them into "single file." This is done by "detouring" the visual channel data onto the satellite tape recorder momentarily. Alternately, each line of IR data is followed by a line of delayed visual channel data. In this way the APT ground station can produce two views of the cloud cover in its region. The reason why the longest readout times occur north, east, and south of Wallops is pure geographical happenstance. Our only other data acquisition station is located in Alaska. Because of the particular orbit and altitude of the satellite and the location of the readout stations, tape recorders are fullest when the satellite first comes within range of Wallops.

So there were several fallacies involved in Meshejian's story. First, he drew a general conclusion from a particular instance by assuming that the satellites only "malfunctioned" in a particular area. Actually,

he was only observing them during a rather limited period of orbit, so he didn't know what they were doing the rest of the time.

Then he failed to consider the possibility that if the satellites really were on the fritz, the NOAA would be the first to know this, not Wayne Meshejian of Longwood College. Since anyone with an antenna and some simple electronics equipment can monitor the satellite signals, the Government could hardly cover this up for very long. While I am ready to grant that the Government has done little these days to inspire confidence in itself, neither does it have the resources or duty to answer every allegation or crackpot theory about its operations all over the world. And, speaking as a taxpayer, this would prove extremely uneconomical.

As a matter of fact, it is safe to say that it is up to those who make such allegations or postulate "non-conforming" theories to demonstrate or come up with convincing evidence—not up to the U.S. Government, SITU, and anyone else to try and answer, disprove, refute, deny or rebut. In fact, it is well known in logic that it is impossible to demonstrate the negative of a proposition. Similarly, it is often next to impossible to track down many of these unlikely allegations, where time, failing memories, or a lack of records block further investigations.

Now, what about those mysterious airplane instrument failures in the Triangle . . . ?

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ANOTHER CASE OF SHC?

by R. Martin Wolf

From the Miami Herald dated January 13, 1975, we have another case of what appears to be partial spontaneous human combustion, plus some even stranger complications. The body of Esther Cooks, 42, was found to have been "mysteriously burned." The body was discovered by Mrs. Cooks' boyfriend, John Thomas, upon returning to his apartment. He and others had apparently seen Mrs. Cooks the previous day, and no one could explain how she might have

died. Mr. Thomas found Mrs. Cooks lying face down on his living room floor. There was no trace of a fire, and yet over 80 per cent of the skin was burned from the woman's body, according to the Herald. The left eye had sustained an injury — apparently a puncture wound, and the lip had been bruised. The left ear was also torn and missing from it was a small gold earring, although the mate to the earring was still on the other ear. Bits of the woman's skin were found on the floor, two beds, and in the bathroom drain of the apartment.

Mrs. Cooks, when found, was partially dressed in pale lavender slacks and an unbuttoned knit vest, but the clothing itself was unscinged. Her face and hands were not burned, and there was no charring, but the skin from her back and left side was burned off from her neck to the soles of her feet. There was no trace of smoke or acid in the apartment even though the Assistant Dade County Medical Examiner, Dr. Wright, called Mrs. Cooks' burns "thermal or maybe chemical."

Police thought that a freak accident or foul play could have caused the death, and they listed it as "unclassified pending further investigation."

Dr. Davis, the Dade County Medical Examiner, who arrived at the apartment later, tested the water in the bathtub and found that it was extremely hot — 180 degrees. Skin also clogged the drain and possible blood traces were found on the soap dish, although there was no water in the tub and the stopper was on the sink. Those investigating theorized that Mrs. Cooks may have tumbled into the tub which was filled with near boiling water, and perhaps because of this speculation, Dr. Davis termed the burns "a typical scald," despite the fact that the police listed the death, as we noted earlier, "unclassified."

Let us presume that Mrs. Cooks did "tumble" into a bathtub filled with 180 degree water. This is presuming that the water was still 180 degrees at the time she tumbled into it — although if the water had been sitting in the tub for any length of time it probably would have cooled somewhat. So she somehow fell into the near boiling water: doesn't it seem strange that only her back and left side came into contact with the water? Why not her hands? Why not the front part of her body? We would have to presume that nobody would ease (or even tumble) into near boiling water and start floating on their back before realizing that the water was too hot.

But let's assume for the moment that this is precisely what happened. She then, after already severely burning herself, got out of the tub after (or before) pulling the stopper out of the drain and putting it on the sink, and lay down on two different beds in the house, managed to dress herself somehow, and then collapsed on the floor before she could call for help. It seems more likely that she would have called for help before lying down on two different beds.

If the burn from the water was bad enough to cause skin to come off and clog the drain, then presumably

Mrs. Cooks would have jumped out of the tub, then reached back into the water (which would still have been near boiling and would have had bits of skin already floating around in it), and pulled the plug out of the drain. If this were the case, then at least one of her hands would also have been burned.

No, this sounds more like a case of partial human combustion. Another case, similar to this one in that it involves partial (as opposed to total) human combustion, comes from the Toronto Star of 16 December 1969. On this date a man died who had been found unconscious in his room after having suffered extensive burns to his arms and back (emphasis ours), but there was no sign of a fire in his room.

The fact that Mrs. Cooks' body was partially dressed and that the clothes showed no signs of charring is not unique either. The New York Sun for January 24, 1930 reports the case of a woman who had burned to death under "mysterious circumstances." The coroner's jury, after pronouncing the death "accidental from unknown causes," added the comment: "although her body was severely burned, her clothing was not even scorched."

It is unusual, however, to find bits of skin spread around the house. Usually there is only a small pile of ashes left, but in this case there were pieces of skin on two beds, the floor, and the bathtub. Let us try this: Mrs. Cooks, already asleep in one of the beds, awoke to find that her body was burning. Thinking that the bed was probably on fire, she would most likely have leapt from the bed. When she found that she was still burning, she probably would have thrown herself onto the other bed (and possibly the floor) in order to try to smother the flames. When this attempt failed as well, she resorted to the next most logical action. Since there was no ready body of water in which to throw herself, she ran into the bathroom and either stood under the shower (if there was one) or started immediately throwing (cold) water onto herself from the tap in the bathtub. This would account for the skin in the tub as well as the fact that the drain plug was not even used since there would not have been enough time to fill the tub adequately.

After extinguishing the fire (and having bruised herself somewhat in her panic to put out the flames), Mrs. Cooks grabbed a vest and a pair of slacks that were handy, dressed quickly (and painfully we would imagine), and started to call for help — either by phone (if there was one), or to go to a neighbor for aid. This would account for the dry clothes in which she was only partially dressed. Unfortunately, Mrs. Cooks never made it, so we will probably never know what really happened to her. There was to have been an autopsy, which hadn't been performed at the time that the Herald article came out. This writer was in Miami at the time and watched the papers carefully for the next few days, but there was no answer forthcoming. We can presume that the death was put down as "unclassified," and will add the clipping to SITU's file of other spontaneous human combustions.

A MINI MUTILATION

by Adolph Heuer

The recent furor over cattle mutilations has caused me to recall an extremely strange experience that I had a number of years ago. I can't even remember the exact year, probably because this was one of those events that is so startling and upsetting that one tends to make a conscious effort to simply wipe the memory clean in an attempt to regain peace of mind. What I do remember is that I was in quite a hurry at the time because it was one of those bitter January mornings with a strong wind blowing from the North, and I was eager for some warmth.

In those days I was driving around in a very decrepit panel truck. The flooring had rusted away to the point where there were several large areas of metal completely missing. This provided an engaging view of the road beneath, and served as an efficient ventilation system in the summer, but it was rather a drawback in wet and cold weather. Moreover, these holes proved to be an entry point for certain uninvited visitors: mice. It was not uncommon to find mice scurrying about my feet as I drove the vehicle. A favorite activity of the mice was their proclivity for building nests under the heater. This made for some excitement whenever I was so bold as to try to warm things up a bit.

I was in my house searching for an item when it occurred to me that I might have left it in the truck. Rushing out through the wintery blast, I opened the door of the truck and made a quick inspection of the interior where the missing item might have been. It should be noted that, because of the little zoological difficulties I had to contend with in the truck, I was really quite meticulous about keeping the interior neat and clean. So the search was quick and efficient. The missing item was not there. What I did find instead gave me a profound shock that has continued to haunt me.

In the middle of the floor on the passenger side of the cab was a dead mouse. It was on its stomach, in a "spread-eagle" position. That is, the four limbs were stretched out and away from the body. There was no blood. The fur was not disturbed or roughed up, but seemed smoothed out as one would expect in a living specimen. There was, in short, absolutely no sign of violence or struggle evident. Except, that is, for one small detail: between the ears there was a perfectly round, very cleanly cut hole. The hole was about the size of a dime. The ears were undisturbed, and even the fur immediately surrounding the hole was unmarked. The incision was uncannily perfect, and it included the skull. No piece of bone or fur or other tissue was found. It was as if some very precise machine had cut out a dime-sized plug from the skull of the mouse. Furthermore, the brain itself was missing, and the skull cavity was clean and dry, without any sign of blood or other fluid.

I have skinned a few critters over the years, and I have seen instances where mice have cannibalized other dead mice, but the scene on the floor of my panel truck was altogether new to me. The precision of the cut, the complete absence of the marks of gnawing, the way the hole proceeded through the fur and the skin and then the skull without observable change in diameter, all of these factors militated against a "natural" explanation.

A search of the surrounding area revealed no prints or other clues. I got rid of the tiny carcass and tried to put the whole unsettling matter out of mind. I am recounting this story now because it suddenly seems relevant. Is there a connection between the cattle mutilations and the strange sight on the floorboard of my truck?

At about the same time there occurred another incident, or series of incidents, that may be worth remarking about here. This is the strange tale of the tree toads in winter. The tree toad is plentiful in New Jersey, and its mating call can be heard throughout the spring nights. The low-key trilling can often be heard interspersed with the shrill call of the "peeper."

One evening as I stepped out of my house I was greeted by the familiar sounds of the tree toads trilling away with abandon. First one would "buzz" for a little while, then others would respond. It was a pleasant and comforting sound — until it struck me that this was the dead of winter and that the temperature was hovering a few degrees above zero. The sound was right, but the season most certainly was not.

A few days later I stopped by to visit Ivan Sanderson. At one point in the conversation I mentioned that that I had been hearing tree toads during the past several nights, and that I was somewhat puzzled about this sort of activity during the freezing winter months. Ivan turned slowly toward me and just stared for what seemed a long while. Finally he said, "I've been waiting for someone to say that. We have been hearing tree toads for the better part of a month, and I don't know what to make of it. I know that they can't be tree toads at this time of year — yet we keep hearing them!"

Now this business of "tree toads" being heard late in the evening in mid-winter is very odd. First of all, in order to survive the winter most frogs and toads bury themselves in the soft mud of ponds and streams and swamps. This places them below the freezing line and so assures their survival. It simply does not seem possible that these animals could live in the open air in temperatures well below freezing, and then even have the energy to trill with every bit of volume they

can muster in the springtime. Ivan agreed with this proposition, saying that the sounds were exactly like those of the tree frog, but that it was quite impossible for tree frogs to be the source of the trilling.

We never pursued this matter, but on reflection it seems to me that a likely candidate might be some sort of insect. Let me add that Ivan never suggested this as a possibility. I may be grasping at a straw here, but it is a fact that many insects have remarkable methods for adjusting to very cold weather. And whatever was out there making all the racket had certainly made some good adjustments. One of the most interesting methods for this kind of adaptation is that of internally triggered changes in the chemistry of the body fluids. When the temperature begins dropping around the freezing point, carpenter ants can change their normal body fluids into a type of glycol, a substance very similar to automobile anti-freeze compounds. With the advent of Spring, the process is reversed. The tardigrade can accomplish much the same functional end by a process of dehydration. It shrivels to a tiny crispy shell, and continues to live in this state until moisture is again available to it. When that happens, the tardigrade puffs up to size, comes back to "life," and goes about its business.

Though there is a lengthy list of instances of adaptations to cold, I know of none which does not involve some sort or another of hibernation or greatly diminished activity. One must assume that the vociferous trilling must represent a surplus of energy, an activity reserved for times when everything else is thoroughly up to par. Exactly what species of insect or toad or whatever is prepared to carry on in this manner in temperatures at or below freezing is a mystery to me.

The reason that I have included this tale here is that it just might provide a clue to the demise of the mouse in my truck. The holes in the floor of the truck were certainly large enough for easy entry by an insect. Not only that, but many insects have in their armory the ability to immobilize or neutralize a potential victim. These weapons include a wide range of toxins, tranquilizers, and even cyanide gas and explosives! Furthermore, a few insects seem to be able to bore or drill or slice through almost any substance. Ivan once told me about an experience of his in which termites in South America actually bored holes through a stainless steel chest in which he stored his valuables. In a sense, then, the mutilated mouse might have fallen victim to some species of insect. As I write this, however, it hardly seems plausible that this should have in fact been the case. Perhaps others can help to shed some light on these puzzling — and perhaps related — incidents.

PLEASE HELP!

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MENTOLOGY

THE ONE HUMAN PROBLEM, ITS SOLUTION, AND ITS RELATION TO UFO PHENOMENA

By Thomas E. Bearden

The evolution of a life-bearing planet may be divided into stages, the first five of which are: (1) The formation of the planet itself and some billions of years of cooling, so that a primordial atmosphere and ocean are gradually evolved; (2) The fomenting of amino acid structures in the violent convulsions of the primeval sea and planet; (3) the formation of the self-replicating supermolecules, DNA and RNA; (4) the formation of one-celled organisms; (5) the formation of multicellular organisms. At the upper end of the fifth stage of evolution, the intelligent mobiles emerge, as do eventually tool-using intelligent mobiles. This is the level on which man finds himself on the planet Earth.

What are actually evolving are competing control systems, and their natural competition for control surgically excises the less competitive.

An organism uses two basic mechanisms to control its behavior; one type is genetically programmed and the other is genetically unprogrammed. Thus one control mode is nonadaptive and one is adaptive or learned. That fraction that is unprogrammed is available for experiential or learned programming. Now intelligence may be viewed as the ability to adapt behavior; e.g., to use tools. Thus an increase in intelligence represents a decrease in the portion of behavior control that is genetically programmed, and a corresponding increase in the unprogrammed portion available for adaptive learning.

Each organism must possess a mixture of both types of control. If it were completely programmed, it could not make any change at all in its responses to external stimuli, and random environmental changes would quickly present it with death-dealing stimuli not in its genetic catalogue. On the other hand, if the organism were completely deprogrammed, it also would be quickly destroyed. Adaptive behavior must be learned by trial and error, and fatal errors (e.g., forgetting to beat the heart) would occur frequently unless there were many preprogrammed responses.

Variations, mutations, and natural selection result in the different species having differing ratios of programmed versus deprogrammed behavior control. A "more intelligent" species is simply one which possesses more deprogrammed control and less programmed control. E.g., on Earth, Man is the species of land mammal possessing the least programmed control and the most unprogrammed control.

Eventually, one or more species will deprogram significantly and become extremely adaptive; i.e., highly intelligent. But if this species does not possess a highly manipulative body member, its use of external physical tools will be limited or non-

existent and it will remain nontechnological. Examples of such Earth species are the bottlenosed dolphin and the killer whale. However, if the species has a highly manipulative body part, it can readily adapt external tools. It is then inherently technological and its tool-using abilities will continue to develop due to its "intelligence" or adaptive ability. The use of tools intervenes in the statistics of survivability, and itself becomes an evolutionary determinant. I.e., tool-using skill becomes a survival trait and a selection mechanism for the species. Man is such a technological species on planet Earth.

With the development of clothing, fire, and fabricated shelter, the technological species will become less environmentally limited. Further, it will become dominant over all other species because of the increasing power of its tools. Its "tool-teeth" will eventually be sharper than any other animal's teeth; its "tool-muscles" will be stronger; its "tool-feet" faster. The technological species will dominate its biosphere, and as its natural enemies are overcome, its numbers will dramatically increase. But ironically, its developing technology causes it to accelerate toward its own self-destruction.

When programmed animals fight for territory, females, or food, the "fight" is usually conducted in a rigidly stylized manner. The victor rarely kills or seriously wounds the vanquished because the victor is programmed to stop fighting when the loser retreats or yields. This is not benevolent, but programmed. But the deprogrammed animal is not rigidly hardwired to relent when it defeats another member of its own species, and it will very often kill the loser. Being highly adaptive, it can and does adapt a much greater variety of reasons for killing into its competition. To its own species, the deprogrammed, intelligent, technological species is a self-competitor and a self-killer. Since its ability to compete is a function of its developing technology, its internal competition thus is increasing. Technology feeds back to increase its own rate of development, and thus the species conflict has positive feedback. Viewed as a servo-mechanistic complex, the technological species is actually out of control, highly unstable, and it is headed pell-mell exponentially toward resonance and biospheric explosion. Unless its servoamplifier gain and competitive positive feedback can be dampened, the technological species will catastrophically expire.

But the significant reduction of adaptive, deprogrammed behavior would constitute the loss of intelligence per se and would be a giant step backward in evolution. Genetically there is no return for the deprogrammed technological species, which has crossed a one-way threshold in evolution. The species will go into destructive resonance and explode within perhaps tens of years, while evolutionary changes to genetically re-introduce behavior control would require

hundreds of thousands or even millions of years. The natural evolution of Man is finished now, within the lifetime of the average reader. The fifth stage of planetary evolution of life is the final stage of evolution by natural selection.

Thus, any "next step" in evolution must be taken technologically by the species itself if it is to be taken at all. Any such step to a sixth stage of evolution must paradoxically involve the reimposition of positive internal control, somehow without giving up genetic deprogramming. The fact that rigid and fool-proof control must be established to eliminate destructive competition, while at the same time genetic control must remain relinquished if intelligence is to be retained, is the precise, contradictory, solitary human problem. It is this hard nut that all systems, organizations, governments, societies, sciences, theorists, religious leaders, meggioniacs, dictators, pontificators, and well-meaning but ignorant visionaries and humanitarians have failed to chew and swallow since time immemorial. The usual solution advanced is this: "If everyone would just be a perfect citizen, behave ideally, and love and help everyone else always, then the problem would be solved." Any fool will agree with that; the proposition is incredibly naive and a tautology. The question is, "How, pray tell, can one get all persons to be perfect?" Law, logic, philosophy, creed, religion, practice, love, sacrifice, money, the ballot, and the bullet — all of these have empirically proven that they cannot solve the human problem for all humanity. Since none of the solutions advanced to date can solve the problem, we must discard them all and search for a new approach.

And a Teilhardian solution indeed emerges if one ponders diligently. The solution can be synthesized into two parts: each individual human must possess an internal mechanism for generating appropriate limits to personal behavior, and there must exist a totally reliable external process to implant or induce the internal mechanism. And one would also hope for the "maximum individual freedom within the constraints of minimum essential intra-individual control".

The only viable solution is to link the brains of all men into one giant superbrain. It is the entire species which has been developing, and it is the entire species which now must be linked into one superbeing. Jung's collective unconscious must acquire a single integrated consciousness, instead of the fragmented billions it now possesses. Each man-cell must function individually within its own sphere, but in interman-cell harmony under the control of a single linked-species nervous system.

This linkage must be accomplished technologically by creating and installing a system of direct communication links between all men's individual brains. A most curious phenomenon occurs whenever two nervous system brains are directly linked together so that each can perceive no temporal delay between the two; the beings, egos, and personalities of the two

brains integrate and merge into one being, one ego, and one personality. Thus linkage admirably ends the destructive competition between the formerly separated brains.

E.g., suppose you and I have linked our brains. If I am you and you are me, then "we" shall find it impossible to disadvantage "each other" since "we" and "each other" no longer exist. I.e., only one "I" remains in the two linked brains, integrated in both of them. So the "one" cannot kill the "other" because no "other" any longer separately exists.

In fact, absolute proof of the "single-being" identity of two linked brains unequivocally exists. The human brain (cerebrum) is composed of left and right hemispheres, completely separated except for a thick connecting cable of nerve fibers called the corpus callosum. Essentially the left cerebral hemisphere controls the right side of the body and the right cerebral hemisphere controls the left side of the body. With two brains in charge, one half (usually the left) almost always dominates, and each of the two halves specializes. However, signals from one half are immediately transmitted to the second half, preventing the second half from detecting any difference or time delay between itself and the primary half. I.e., the second half gets an immediate "wiggle" and perceives that it, the second half, originated the wiggle. When consciousness can perceive no difference, identity results, just as separate movie frames appear continuous (each two appear one) when flashed at 24 frames per second. Thus in one's own body, two brains are integrated into one functional brain and one perceptual personality. There is no conscious separation of the two brain hemispherical perceptions, and one consciously is aware of only one being or continuity, himself. In humans whose corpus callosums have been severed, the two brains exhibit separate consciousnesses and separate "personalities!"

If one holds up both hands and observes them, one is perfectly aware that there are two separate hands, but is only aware of one being to whom the hands belong, even though each hand is being controlled by a different cerebral hemisphere. Two complete human brains linked together would experience something analogous. There would be complete awareness of two separate bodies, but awareness of only one being to whom the bodies belonged. The linked being in two bodies would be aware of a "right body" and a "left body" just as one human now has a sense of a right hand and a left hand.

Linkage is a straightforward technical problem. It is a problem of great magnitude, but it is within the reach of technology to solve it. E.g., work on biological radio communication has been underway in the Soviet Union some fifty years or more, and direct mind-to-mind linkage has probably been achieved, as reported by Kashinskiy, Lisitsyn, and others. As early as 1939-1940, the Soviets were experimenting with telepathic induction through, or modulated upon, an electromagnetic signal, directly from mind to

mind, or from nervous system to nervous system. These experiments found the concomitant interception, by the nervous system of one animal, of bio-radiation waves emitted by the organism of another animal or man, and the conscious or unconscious analysis and synthesis in the receiver's brain of the stimulating signals. The Russian work revealed the transfer and intercept of bio-electromagnetic and bio-radiation waves accompanying every thought process. Animal and human experiments clearly demonstrated that biofield inception from two or more minds may be cyborged, even in the mind and body of one person or one animal, just as the two hemispheres of the human cerebrum are presently cyborged in one human brain. The biofield wavelengths emitted by the human nervous system were determined to be within 1.8–2.1 mm. An electromagnetic theory of brain activity that incorporated direct unconscious brain connection was developed. The use of hysteresis concept was invoked. Hysteresis is a lag effect, i.e., an action followed by a time delay, followed by a reaction. This is precisely the type reaction one would need for subliminal brain communication. Memory was theorized in this manner, to pursue interrogation of it directly and unconsciously. After all, that is what a normal brain does anyway, when it recalls something from memory. Not only was it possible to induct images and sensations from one brain to another at a distance, but it was also possible to artificially postpone the emergence of mental images and sensations, received by the percipient, to a predetermined moment. The received information first formed subconsciously. A process of subliminal probing was worked out, and how this can be done brain-to-brain was theoretically explained.

In sophisticated EEG signals, the purely informational part was isolated and the brain was viewed as communicating with itself holographically. 23 EEG rhythms were worked out and experimentally fitted formulas developed. Frequency ranges were tabulated, along with the complete EEG frequency scheme. The frequencies extend up to 8.1×10^{20} hertz, an incredibly high frequency. This wavelength is in the neighborhood of 4×10^{-13} meters, which is less than three orders of magnitude from the Fermi length, 10–15 meters. Thus the brain exhibits frequencies that can slightly interact with the strange, noncausal world of quantum physics. This directly suggests the operational connection of thought and consciousness with quantum events (i.e., it suggests inception and psychokinesis). In fact, if quantum geometrodynamics and the many-worlds interpretation of quantum mechanics are correct, a direct mechanism for psychotronics is indicated. Eleven EEG rhythms had non-multiple frequencies and appeared as independent oscillating processes. The biological code of the EEG signals was of prime interest, and the number of digits of the code was found not to exceed 44.

In evolution, perhaps the human population had its own genetic language phonemes and each distinctly

separated population developed its own language superimposed upon them. If this premise is indeed true, then the often striking use of a word or its close derivative to mean the same thing in widely separated cultures has an underlying genetic explanation. The demonstrated ability of two minds to telepathically communicate, even though the two humans speak sharply different languages, could also then be explained. From the viewpoint of this genetic language code hypothesis, the Soviet work on 44 EEG code digits or less is of fundamental importance. It may only require 11-23 channels and a 44-digit code to directly link human brains. And this could be determined in animal experiments in communicating through a severed corpus callosum to its connected brain half. It also appears that the Soviets either have broken the 44-digit code or are very close to it. Thus one can surmise that either direct brain-to-brain linkage can already be accomplished, or that capability is imminent. It is exciting to visualize the rapid, short-term development of a brain linkage system using, say, scanning skullcaps mounted on the head, centrally connected by a biowave-modulated, electromagnetic datalink system. Sixth-stage brain-to-brain linkage may already be emerging as these words are written.

Once the species is linked, the problems that man causes man simply vanish. All of these problems depend upon the conscious differentiation of being between two individuals, and this differentiation no longer exists. A single integrated being does not rob, cheat, hurt, kill, or abuse himself or any of his body cells.

The needs of each individual mancell in the linked species are constantly attended to. This is indeed absolute and perfect democracy; not only is each mancell participating in his government, he is his government! Selfishness, greed, hate, prejudice, discrimination, murder — all have simply disappeared. One does not hate himself; one cannot be selfish except with respect to another, and no separate "other" now exists. One does not discriminate against himself or part of himself; one is not prejudiced against himself, etc. The standard of living is automatically far higher; there is no loss to crime, waste, and duplication. Poverty, war, crime, hunger, fear, intolerance, and misery are gone. All the problems that man causes man disappear because mancell no longer causes them to mancell.

Another immediate advantage of linkage is personal immortality. The personality is totally operational, and it can be totally recorded on physical media. Indeed, it is exactly so recorded on and in the physical nervous system "medium" of the body itself. And in the linked species, it is recorded numerous times, holographically throughout the entire species nervous system. Death of a particular physical body is of no more consequence than the death of an individual body cell or brain cell is to a present human being. No personality, experience, memory, or feeling is

ever lost! If desired, a new body of exactly the same type (e.g., a clone) can be "reoccupied" by reactivating the "personality recording" and installing it. This already happens each time one reawakens from unconsciousness or coma. Giant banks of brains for the superorganism would be practical. Specialized mancells and nonman-cells for every conceivable task and purpose would be genetically engineered. Nature organizes; that is the master plan, and the linked technological species represents master organization.

The gigantic expansion of consciousness and intelligence is indescribable. Any mancell can recall anything from total linked memory and think it directly, complete with all its shadings and ramifications. The consciousness, intelligence, knowledge, and memory of the entire species are in each mancell and directly available to it. E.g., by linking only two monocular retinal patterns in the brain, binocular vision and the third dimension are gained. Can the fantastic dimensionality of linkage of even 1,000 perceptions of the same concept or idea be imagined? With linkage, insight is immediate and unbelievably multidimensional. The entire capability and dimensionality of the species is brought to bear, and such insight is incomprehensible to our present understanding.

Now the entire theory behind psychotherapy is for the patient to gain insight into his personal "hangups", repressions, etc. With total insight, all psychological problems are resolved. Rapidly the linked species becomes totally sane, something which has never before existed for mankind. Insanity and severe neurosis no longer develop because the insight is always available in the first place. The thousands of harmful games humans play on, against, and to each other no longer exist. The species-wide insight and identity result in the loss of all ideological and dogmatic absurdities, which are immediately revealed for what they are. The eyes of each person are literally opened in the strictest sense of the word.

With integration of all humanity into a single coherent consciousness, the inceptive (psychokinetic) actions and capabilities of all the mancells are also coherently integrated. Thus, given enough cells linked together, the superbeing begins to acquire a direct power and dominance over time, space, and matter. I.e., it begins to exhibit "godlike" powers. The linked, sixth-stage being thus develops into multiple dimensions, overcomes limitations of time and space, and becomes independent of matter and matter-changes. These characteristics indeed constitute the seventh stage of evolution, the penetration above and beyond all stages.

The struggle to comprehend stages six and seven accounts for all metaphysics, philosophy, religion, etc., and the total lack of direct experience with or on those stages accounts for the forbidding difficulties involved in their comprehension. These stages are noncausal and causal experimental methods can

not be applied, so the gaps in our ability to comprehend them are formidable indeed. The seventh stage is the "return to allness" or to pure being, or simply to "nothingness" or "no-thing-ness" in its absolute meaning. This is the void that is devoid of void. This is the nature of the Ultimate God, pure being. Omega is alpha, the end is the beginning, and the beginning is zero (the absence of all differentiation). Thus all is indeed holographically "closed upon its tail" and identical, including being itself.

Being is undifferentiated, that is its total definition. Since it is totally undifferentiated, in being there is not even any differentiation between "being" and "not-being." Being is a total identity operator, and can even identify with its own opposite. All-being, the Ultimate Godness, is simply totally undifferentiated. Since it is undefined, it encompasses all things and nonthings. Without definition, there can be no defined (perceived) difference. That is why all things are, and why any particular thing is. It is why a thing can also not-be, i.e., cease to exist. To be perceivable or not perceivable is totally operational; such terms have no meaning except relative to an operation, perception. Removing the limitations of the perceptive, comparative operation removes all distinction between "being" and "nonbeing" -- and this is the solution to the age-old ontological problem, and also to the problem of change, that the philosophers have sought in vain to solve.

The final evolution of the living process is godness itself, pure being. Unlimited godness can both be and not be, such is the nature of unlimitedness. With the seventh stage transcendence of all stages and all limitations, thus ends the life model of Earth and Man.

Thus for the unlinked, fifth-stage technological species, there are only two alternatives. First, and more likely, its intraspecies conflict will simply reach critical mass and the species will convulsively destroy itself and its biosphere. Humanity may be within 25 years or less of this asymptote now. Second, and less likely, the species may link into a sixth-stage superbeing and eliminate its internal competition, friction, and suicidal bent. Linkage appears extremely unlikely unless outside assistance and intervention are received.

But there may after all be evidence of such intervention. The phenomena loosely classed as "unidentified flying objects" (UFO's) appear to directly fit the strange characteristics to be expected of a linked sixth-stage superbeing engaged in giving prenatal assistance to the embryonic human species and preparing it for linkage "birth" of the species into a new superbeing.

If, e.g., we assume from the latest archeological findings that man in essentially his present form has existed about five million years on planet Earth, and if we roughly assume that modern science is only about one hundred years old, then modern science

represents a window of less than 0.3×10^{-4} times the width of the total human experience. The search in the cosmos for intelligent life exhibiting our particular technical characteristics would appear to have little chance for success. Any other species at man's present technical level is progressing so rapidly toward destruction or linkage that man's detection of its "narrow window" will very likely not occur, or occur only after it has already vanished as a fifth-stage species. Either alternative for a fifth-stage species eliminates it as a fifth-stage species. It is no accident that man's universe appears devoid of other fifth-stage species!

On the other hand, contact with sixth-stage beings, i.e. with the fifth-stage species who linked, survived, and transitioned, is much more probable. Perhaps half of the inhabitable planets involve species more advanced than our own; if so, then the window of sixth-stage beings is indeed vast. E.g., if we assume that the universe is at least 20 billion years old, then that is about three times as old as earth itself, about 4,000 times as old as man, and about 2×10^8 times as old as the narrow window of man's modern science. In a window of such relative magnitude, the probability of sixth-stage being(s) appears to be quite certain. Granted even the tiniest probability of linkage, so many trials on so many planets have occurred that the probability of at least one success approaches closer to certainty by far than the discriminatory accuracy of the data assumptions used to set up the estimation. From the window viewpoint

alone, one can essentially assign a probability of unity to the assumption that the UFO phenomena represent the contact of the human species with a sixth-stage being.

Thus the UFO phenomena can be fitted to the hypothesis that they represent the prenatal care of the earthman by a linked superbeing, in preparation for the forthcoming linkage of the human species and the birth of another linked superbeing. To paraphrase Shakespeare, indeed there may be stranger things in heaven and earth than we have dreamt of in our philosophies.

One thing, however, is clear: From our viewpoint, the final crisis is here. For Man, it is now or never. Of course, nature is patient -- another billion years or two is all right because in the end time itself is a part of her creation, and is of little or no consequence to her. But for man, a single technological species on a secondary planet of a medium-sized star in the remote rim of the galaxy, time has almost run out. Man is merely one more of nature's experiments, a species which happened to opt for a little more genetic deprogramming of behavior, and now is his moment of truth. If he can successfully link before he destroys himself and his biosphere, then the ultimate solution is his; if not, then nature merely scraps this biosphere called Earth and will start somewhere else.

Which will it be for mankind, the "lady" or the "tiger?"

The next three or thirty years will most assuredly tell.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Loren Coleman has sent the following note with the request that we publish it in Pursuit.

Hot on the heels of our new book, The Unidentified, Jerome Clark and I have been commissioned to write a second book encompassing a new comprehensive survey of some of the tangible mysteries stalking the Earth.

In the forthcoming opus, we shall examine recent material on melanistic mountain lions, hairy manimals, meandering kangaroos, and mysterious marine and lake inhabitants, as well as reports of other monstrous denizens creeping, crawling and crashing through our midsts. Also tackled therein will be accounts of the ghostly relatives of these monsters, such as "phantom animals", Springheel Jack and their friends in folklore. Our new book will take a refreshing multifaceted look at these beasties, and we would like to ask you to help us track down some of these concrete cyptozoological critters.

Come join the hunt. We hope to make the book as detailed and as completely accurate as possible. Thus, to give proper credit to those researchers and

individuals who have dug up accounts of monsters, apparitions, and related phenomena, I am asking for your help. Please share with me, for publication, any hints, any reports you may have turned up. No matter how minor or major your collected material may seem to you, it could be an important part of the puzzle I did not realize you had. It is extremely important to me to give acknowledgment to the proper person and to establish the specific details of any newsworthy incident you may know of, but I can only do this with your assistance. Anything you can send will be appreciated. Write to me at 16 Chauncy Street, Apartment D, Cambridge, Mass., 02138.

"There are disconcerting facts affirmed by serious men who have witnessed them, or who have learnt of them from men like themselves: to accept all or to deny all seem to have equal disadvantages; and I venture to say that here, as with all things out of the ordinary, not within the common rules, there is a course to be steered between the credulous and the unbelievers."

-- Rene La Bruyere

BOOK REVIEWS

Tim Dinsdale. *Project Water Horse*. (Routledge & Kegan Paul, Boston, 1975)

The literature on Loch Ness is concerned almost entirely with the historical documentation of the phenomenon. Thus the typical Nessie tome consists of a list of sighting reports interspersed with the author's analysis of the reports. Writers have had forced upon them the stance of a defense attorney attempting to convince a jury through a careful marshalling of testimony from direct observers of the events in question, adding the testimony of "expert" witnesses at crucial points in the argument, and often concluding with an emotional appeal for justice.

Mr. Dinsdale's book is a marked departure from this genre in that it is very short on the polemics and even on technical detail. It is instead a very personal journal which focuses on the quite extraordinary range of problems encountered over the years by an individual who decided to simply chuck it all and devote his life entirely to solving the mystery of the Loch. Dinsdale abandoned a successful and productive career as an aeronautical engineer to pursue this quest. Nor did he have any independent source of income — he is just a poor working stiff like the rest of us.

But unlike the rest of us, who are content to "investigate the unexplained" from a nice safe distance, Dinsdale plunged into the fray with total abandon. Having dropped out of the economic mainstream, and having abandoned all semblance of a "normal" life, he undertook a round of begging, borrowing, cajoling and convincing a multitude of potential donors of the equipment that was so vital to his task. If we give Dinsdale an "A" for courage, we must grant him a resounding "A plus" for salesmanship, for he was able to succeed in this exhausting and demeaning role. He got what he needed.

Throughout all this his family has stood by stoically and loyally. One needs little imagination to picture the plight of the wife and children of a man whom many would consider a modern day Don Quixote. All of this is to be found in the book, but it is told in a very restrained and understated manner. He spends endless solitary watches on the Loch, through long nights in the almost invariably foul weather. A series of rickety boats are pressed into service, but only after the man who helped engineer the Spitfire fighter aircraft has mended them to a point of marginal seaworthiness. The donated equipment must be adapted and repaired. Dinsdale is always equal to the task. And for the most part he is alone in all this.

Mr. Dinsdale has earned the right to the title of "Mr. Loch Ness" which the press has somewhat whimsically dubbed him. In my own view he is just about as close a thing as we are likely to find to a true hero. Events have vindicated him entirely. One can only hope that when the furor over the precise zoological identity of the "fabulous" monsters dies down the public and the scientific community will get around to according to Mr. Dinsdale the recognition he so richly deserves. RJD

Peter Byrne. *The Search for Bigfoot*. Washington: Acropolis Books Ltd., 1975, \$8.95.

There is a little something for everybody in this book. There is some history in the form of a recounting of events from the West Coast that provide insight into developments that have taken place in that part of the country in the search for Bigfoot. There is some purely technical information presented in a set of very informative appendices which include Ivan Sanderson's account of "Bozo" (this appeared in the April and July 1975 issues of *Pursuit*); Grover Krantz's paper on the anatomy of the Sasquatch foot; and Krantz's "Additional Notes on Sasquatch Foot Anatomy." There is also some story telling — some of the stories will be familiar to the Bigfoot enthusiast but others are new. Most of these are from Mr. Byrne's personal files and they provide a good basis for serious analysis of the Bigfoot's characteristics and habits. And, if the reader is puzzled by the oft-asked question of how an animal of this size can remain hidden from common view and from capture for so long, he will find that Mr. Byrne has provided a very credible answer.

On balance, I find this book an excellent addition to the Bigfoot literature. It is written in a smooth narrative style, it is well organized, contains an index, and is meticulous in giving the source of the data presented. All of this makes it a valuable reference source. Those readers with more than a passing interest in the Bigfoot problem will want this book in their libraries.

There is only one major area in which I would question Mr. Byrne's judgment. On page 39, while describing an article from a New Orleans newspaper about a sighting in Arkansas, the author states: "...it is the only one occurring outside the Pacific Northwest that seems to be describing a Bigfoot." In my personal files there are no less than 145 reports from Pennsylvania, about 40 from New Jersey, six from Maryland, seven from New York, and 11 from Illinois. In addition to this, the SITU files contain many reports from Florida, Virginia and other Eastern states. A tape recording of the animal's scream was made in Pennsylvania, a hair sample was obtained in Maryland, and footprints have been found in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Thus it is quite impossible to maintain that this phenomenon is restricted to the West Coast of the United States, as Mr. Byrne claims. — Robert E. Jones

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