

Pursuit

'Science is the Pursuit of the Unexplained'

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Pray fera
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Prisonnier,
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The Society For The Investigation Of The Unexplained

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Pursuit®

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On Invisibility

In the study of nature's unexplaineds there is one factor that often plays a major part in stifling the efforts of investigators, namely, invisibility. And, yet, it almost seems to be accepted as being so obvious that there is no purpose in looking for it.

It does not necessarily mean that invisibility — if I may use that word — has one, simple explanation that is the same in each case or category where it "appears." It may be multifaceted, vary in wavelength or intensity, be related to time or some physical variable of energy, or as some claim is a particular state of molecular vibration.

Dr. Schwarz tells us, here, that not only does "Nostradamus" appear to Katie but apparently he may not appear to others in the same room. Dr. Levine and Perry Collins, in their articles, describe UFOs that can be seen and/or recorded on film that also may be invisible to others in their methods of examination. And, Dr. Richards is well aware, as he says, of psi events that occur but that are limited in study by their unseen properties.

Some Fortean will argue among themselves that ghosts and parapsychological subjects are not in the realm of Fortean, yet they will discuss UFOs, Bigfoot, Nessie, mysterious big cats and vanishing kangaroos, etc., as if invisibility were not a factor in many or all of these sightings.

Is invisibility an "aether" that permeates all realities or a force that protects those in other dimensions from us — perhaps an inseparable variable of that "fifth force" that scientists and philosophers have for centuries alluded to but have never gotten close enough to catch?

Whatever invisibility is, perhaps we should consider giving this "matter" more attention.

Katie: Nostradamus Automatic Writing, Possible Direct Writing and Psychic Nexus of an Illiterate (Part I of II Parts)

by Berthold E. Schwarz, M.D.

Introduction

Automatic writing occurs^{1,2} in a dissociative state and is related to the psychopathology of everyday life and trance-like-state behavior; *viz.* doodling, daydreaming, slips of the tongue, use of the ouija board and dowsing. Automatic writing can be a useful psychiatric tool in probing the unconscious and in helping to resolve conflicts. Occasionally, the contents of the messages are apparently paranormal. When so, they are most commonly telepathic and rarely precognitive. Although there are often claims for sometimes fanciful discarnate communications, the evidence for that is usually thin. However, there are exceptions to this.

A famous example is *Oahspe*, automatically typed by Dr. John B. Newbrough,³ an entranced New York dentist, a century ago. It was purportedly undertaken by the agency of spirits who, through Dr. Newbrough, produced a scholarly, detailed work that drew from various ancient and modern languages that Dr. Newbrough did not know and which foretold, in some instances, events far in the future. There is one aspect of the Newbrough/*Oahspe* case I've often wondered about, which may not be relevant to the present discussion. However, at the time that Newbrough was sitting up all night writing *Oahspe*, then working all day as a dentist, cocaine and nitrous oxide were part of the standard equipment in any dentist's office. Was Dr. Newbrough sniffing cocaine and inhaling laughing gas more or less simultaneously during the period that he wrote the long *Oahspe* manuscript at such extraordinary speed? Dr. Newbrough could also paint with both hands in darkness.

Another example of alleged paranormal automatic writing are the poems, prose (and talk with guests), in the works of the entity, Patience Worth,⁴ who wrote in archaic English of two to three centuries ago and who communicated through Mrs. John H. Curran of St. Louis, Missouri, at first through the ouija board, and later through automatic writing, about the time of the first World War and in the 1920's. In both cases, neither Dr. Newbrough nor Mrs. Curran had the previous scholarship and knowledge to produce what they did, however, they could both read and write, and they held responsible positions in their society.

Direct writing can be traced back to the Biblical example of the Writing on the Wall (Daniel, Chapter V, verse 5). In direct writing, script is produced with a pen or other instrument, or presumably, directly materializes but with no known human agency holding the pen. Some modern examples of this are the controlled, automatically filmed studies provided by the SORRAT^{5,6} group.

Also, Matthew Manning has repeatedly written messages in "Italian, German, Greek, Latin, Arabic and various Eastern tongues as well as old English or Saxon."⁷ Both the SORRAT material, Manning and other data⁸ could be profitably studied.

Recently, Montague Ullman,⁹ eminent psychiatrist and researcher of psi, wrote about his personal, extraordinary experiences of direct writing when he was about sixteen and participated with a group of other teenagers from 1932 to 1934.

At that time, six young men had a series of Saturday night seances for almost two years, from which communications were received from an alleged dead physician, Dr. Bindelof, who contacted the young men by direct writing and other paranormal means. Thirty-three years later, five of the surviving "core group" were reassembled by Dr. Ullman and they reviewed and confirmed the previous events and data. Needless to say, the impact on the young men and, in particular, on Dr. Ullman's later outstanding career, was far-reaching.

My personal experiences with automatic writing beyond the common everyday variety includes hypnotizing a young woman who was suffering from chronic, intractable hiccuping and who, when entranced, in addition to relief from her symptoms, could write disparate thoughts with both hands simultaneously while I was talking to her. The other possibly related example pertains to Jacques Romano,¹⁰ the nonagenarian paragnost, and his "spirit reading." He would telepathically perceive specific, significant events, including dates and physical symptoms, about the deceased person, who was well known to the subject over a long period of time. At the conclusion of Romano's trance-like state and his sometimes associated transfiguration, he would have the subject take the rolled-up piece of cigarette paper that the subject held between his thumb and forefinger, and which was opposed to a pencil point, open the paper, and look inside. For proper identification, the subject had previously torn off a corner of the paper. The subject invariably found the signature of the Christian name of the one about whom he was thinking on the torn piece of paper. The subjects frequently said that the signatures were good facsimilies. Romano confided to me that he telepathically got the name but that he, in fact, wrote the signature earlier and switched the roll of paper in the subject's hands when no one, including myself, ever saw him do this; Romano was proud that no magician or "psychic" had ever duplicated his feat. Finally, a personal instance of purported direct writing pertains to Peter Sugleris who, according to his teenage male cousin, was seen to be painting in oils while entranced and "then Peter stepped back and the brush kept going by itself."¹¹

Katie

In two previous studies,^{12,13} Katie, a Vero Beach, Florida, housewife, while being videotaped under good lighting conditions and often in the presence of multiple witnesses, produced various mental and physical paranormal phenomena including forty-four instances of apparent "gold" (actually copper foil) which materialized on her body and, rarely, on the bodies of other people and even in sealed containers. The foil never dematerialized. Also during the study Katie has, on occasion, produced, (while entranced), writings in what appeared to be old French. Sometimes the writings just turned up on papers which were found around her home or she said that the writings happened by themselves: direct writing by unaided, capped pen while she watched in amazement, or materialization of writing without any pen or pencil. On three

occasions, two of which were witnessed by others than myself, automatic writings in old French were videotaped while they were being produced. The communications were attributed to an "Old Guy"...Nostradamus. Aside from the curiosity about *how* this could happen, there is the question about the possible meanings of the communication; both for Katie and her family; those present at the research room sessions and, on a wider scale, for society and the world at large.

Katie was the tenth of twelve children born in Copperhill, Tennessee, a mountain hamlet on the border of Georgia and North Carolina. Because of her mother's acute paralytic illness "from her waist down," which happened shortly after one of her older children had unexpectedly left home and taken her baby, which Katie's mother had been raising, Katie had to discontinue her schooling in the second grade and assume care for her mother and the home (cooking, cleaning, washing, hauling water).and performing physical therapy of her mother. Consequently, she never learned to read and write. Although she can write her name, and she knows the letters of the alphabet, she cannot synthesize them into words. And while she knows numbers, she is hardly able to perform simple arithmetic. Katie is an intelligent woman who, from early childhood, has always had to struggle and work hard in order to survive. She has an excellent reputation as a mother and worker. There has never been any question of sociopathic traits such as lying or dishonesty. She does not use excessive amounts of alcohol, nor does she use un-prescribed drugs. She has been smoking cigarettes since thirteen years of age.

Furthermore, now that we are into the fifth year of our studies, she has always been truthful during formal research sessions, home visits and later psychotherapeutic meetings. She is not a professional medium and she has no zeal to proselytize or promote any particular viewpoint. She has not been filled with ideas and notions by any organized group. In view of her illiteracy, it seemed that Katie's inbuilt psychobiological-cognitive controls give added significance to the alleged Nostradamus writings. For if their production is a fact, how then can the fragmented verses in old French be explained when Katie and her family do not speak, have knowledge of, or ready access to any other language than English? There is sparse reading material in the home and the family does not get a local newspaper. When Katie and her husband are not working seven days and nights a week, they catch glimpses of television on the limited three channels available on aerial (non-cable) television. Once, a few years ago, when the family had cable television and after her Nostradamus writing had already begun, Katie saw a special program, Orson Welles' TV docudrama on Nostradamus.

In this report, various background factors that might relate to the production of the old French writings are described. Then the actual communications and how they might have taken place are detailed. Katie's old French and accompanying translations by George Andrews, a French scholar, are then presented. Also, Mr. Andrews' insightful comments and possible alternative meanings are supplied in footnotes with subsequent, serial verses. At the conclusion of the examples, there is a brief discussion of Katie's possible physical and psychophysiological factors and their correlations with her trancelike, emotional status.

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- Dresden and Leipzig, 1930.
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4. Yost, Casper W.: *Patience Worth*. Patience Worth Publishing Company, New York, 1925.
5. Richards, J.: *SORRAT — A History of the Neihardt Psychokinesis Experiments, 1961-1981*. Scarecrow Press, Inc., Metuchen, NJ, 1982.
6. Cox, William Edward: unpublished manuscript on SORRAT.
7. Manning, Matthew: *The Link*. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York, 1974.
8. One of the most enigmatic trance writings that I have ever come across was reported by a leading inventor-engineer at a Hollywood, Florida, Psychic Society meeting February 2, 1985. In 1957, the inventor's nine-year-old daughter suddenly interrupted her playing at home and asked her parents for a piece of paper. "I have to write something," she said. She took the only thing available, her father's paycheck envelope, and proceeded to fill it with peculiar, unrecognizable script. The father told me that it looked like shorthand. He took the envelope upstairs and put it in a drawer, where it stayed until 1967. One day he came home and threw a magazine (No. 1 edition of *Flying Saucer UFO Reports*, Dell, 1967) on the table. Shortly afterward, when looking at the magazine, he was shocked to note an article featuring pictures of glyphs obtained by a sixty-five-year-old Florida UFO contactee on thin tissue paper in the sand dunes of Weeki-Wachi Springs on March 2, 1965 (also see Schwarz, B.E.: *UFO-Dynamics*, Book II, Rainbow Books, Moore Haven, Florida, 1983, p. 351). The father rushed upstairs and found his daughter's original writings. He noted that the first thirteen characters of the message were identical to his daughter's glyphs. Therefore, a nine-year-old girl had written the exact message eight years before the Florida UFO contactee discovered his message at an alleged UFO landing site and ten years before the magazine article was published. Inspection of the scripts revealed so many intricate patterns that it is hard to imagine how under any circumstances, including coincidence, the precise configurations could have been so perfectly matched. The father wondered if the message that his daughter had received was a hoax by an entity "not of this planet." In 1952, the father "was giving lectures on UFOs and 1957 was an active year for UFO reports." In a letter to me years later, he wondered if "someone from outer space was trying to 'con' me through my daughter. As usual, I am long on questions and short on answers." In my interview of the researcher and his wife, it was apparent that they both had lifetimes of high-quality psi. However, they never directly related this to their interests in closely allied UFO material. On the contrary, the man felt that the UFO data was independent of psi. Both the adoptive daughter and adoptive son had many later possible psychic experiences. A more recent twist to these symbols can be found in William S. Steinman's and Wendelle C. Stevens' book, *UFO Crash at Aztec* (UFO Photo Archives, P.O. Box 17206, Tucson, Arizona 85710). A generous sample of "Sanskrit-like" script found on an alleged UFO that crashed at Aztec, New Mexico, March 25, 1948, was "turned over to this nation's two topmost experts in cryptology." There were symbols which resembled the above mentioned daughter's (*opus cit.* pp. 40-42; also see Gordon S.: "The Military UFO Retrieval at Kecksburg, Pennsylvania," *PURSUIT*, Volume 20, Number 4, 1987: p. 177).
9. Pilkington, Rosemarie ed., Ullman, M. in *Men and Women of Parapsychology: Personal Reflections*. McFarland & Company, Jefferson, NC, 1987.
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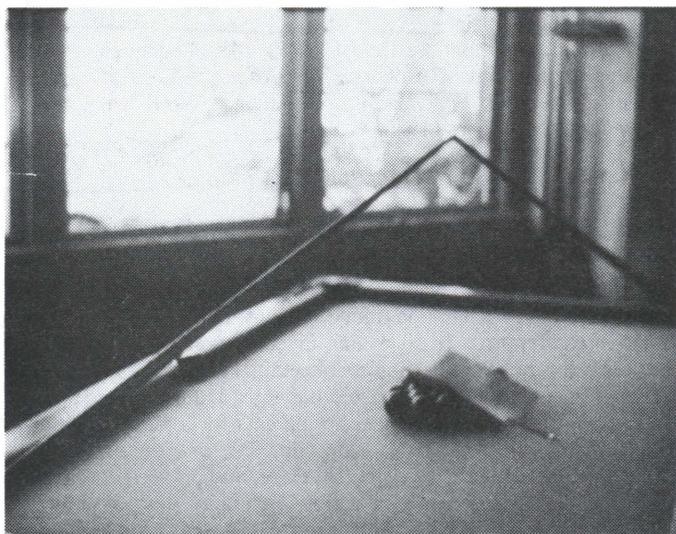


Figure 1—Propped pool cues with note below.

Example 1

At 3:35 p.m., November 14, 1985, Katie telephoned me after returning home from picking her daughter up at school. Earlier in the day, she discovered that her dining room chandelier was turned on its side, experimental specimens of bovine aortic rings in a sealed bottle were “minced,” four psychic (?) apported (?) photographs of her deceased (murdered?) brother in his coffin were again missing, and the deformed stray cat that her son had recently brought home was pacing the floor. Katie said that in the family room, two cue sticks on the pool table were propped up against each other like a church steeple. The billiard balls, which were formerly in their triangular frame, were then in the middle of the table and arranged so that they spelled out the letters “OK.” There was a page from her daughter’s notebook on the table, with a pencil inscribed “Heather” that I had recently given her, pointing at the paper which had penciled printing in what appeared to be old French (see Figures 1 & 2). Katie’s husband and son were away from home. Although there were no ostensible immediate precipitating events, Katie had been recently split by a series of life-threatening traumas. She had been repeatedly abused on the telephone by a strange male voice and presumably this person was the one who had, three weeks previously, broken into her house and beaten her up. The sheriff was called and, despite numerous crimes and repeated warnings, they were never able to apprehend the assailant. Katie’s domestic situation was also strained. The message read:

A son hault pris
 plusla lerne Sabee,
 D humaine chair par
 Mort en cendres
 Mettre,
 Allsle Pharas Par
 Croisars pertubee,
 Alors qua Rodes parols
 tra dun espectne.

Mr. Andrews wrote about “espectre,” “It was not clear in the original script whether this was an ‘N’ or an ‘R.’ I interpreted it as an ‘R.’”

Taken from above
 no more Sabaeon tears
 human flesh by death burned into ashes
 at the island of Pharos disturbed by Crusaders
 while at Rhodes words came from a ghost.

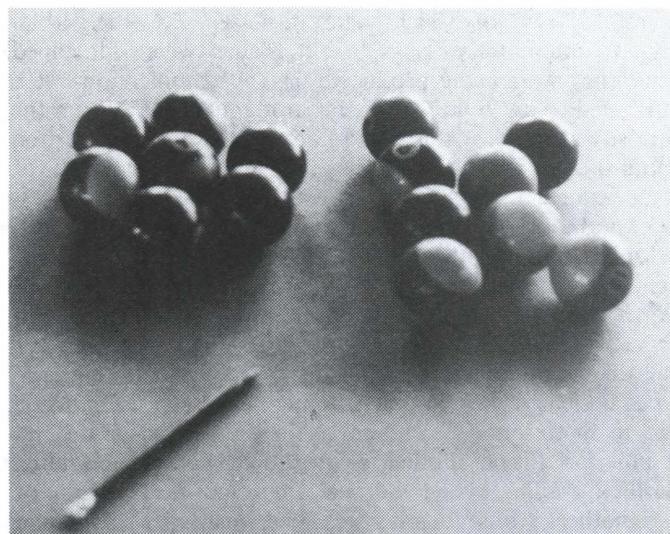


Figure 2—With note removed billiard balls spell out “OK.”

If the message has any meaning that is applicable to Katie and her situation, it should first be admitted that there are no controls that rule out collusion or some trick. The event happened during dangerous times and brought the sheriff’s office, the telephone company and neighbors onto the scene. If some religious fanatic or deranged person contrived the beating and threats to Katie and her family and also pointedly indicated his awareness of her involvement in our paranormal psychiatric researchers, then questions arise about how this message was accomplished under the time frame and household circumstances. What purpose did it serve? If the assailant, for example, had broken into Katie’s house a second time and left the old French message and other effects, how did he do this without leaving additional clues? Why stop at this harmless intervention? Why the esoteric motifs? It is unlikely that Katie, who is illiterate, could have done this by herself, and equally so for her husband and children, who were either at work or in elementary school when the events took place. The family has limited reading material available and no one in the home is familiar with old French. It can be speculated that the pool table cue sticks arranged in a church steeple-like pattern and the “Heather” inscribed pencil, pointing to the billiard balls arranged in an “OK,” are reassuring: i.e. calm, sanctity, and religion. (Nostradamus was a devout Roman Catholic, at least superficially. As a converted Jew practicing medicine, it was the only possible way to survive during that historical period in France.) A message from the distant past and steeped in scholarship symbolizing the psychic tracer of Nostradamus, referring to the Sabaeans with a reputation for magic and astrology metamorphizing with science, and concluding with the built-in allusion to a ghost, might give comfort to the family by the possible implications of the end of the death threats, dangers and their current ordeal but it is so general and vague that the same reasoning could be applicable and symbolic of the horrors associated with the space shuttle *Challenger* disaster on January 28, 1986, which happened and I witnessed at the exact juncture when I picked up and read Mr. Andrews’ translation from the morning mail. In Katie’s traumatized condition and during perilous times, something new and powerful had entered her life and experimental situation.

References and Notes

1. When this writing was sent to George Andrews, he responded as follows: “The communication is in ancient French, which makes

it difficult. Roughly the medieval period, which is in accord with the text of the message. The Sabaeans were one of those obscure minor sects like the Mandeans and the Druse, inhabiting the general area of Nineveh, though in deep antiquity they lived further south in the Arabian peninsula. The Sabaeans maintained pagan beliefs long after surrounding populations had been converted to Islam or Christianity. They were considered heathen star-worshippers by both Moslems and Christians, and were suspected of practicing forbidden magic, including human sacrifice. They were famous for their ability as astrologers. They produced a brilliant succession of scholars and scientists, and were highly respected at the court of Harun al-Rashid, after which they fade from historical records. Pharos was the island in the bay of Alexandria (famous for its library, destroyed by both Christian and Moslem fanatics) on which Ptolemy II built a tower of white marble 135 meters high, with mirrors on its top to reflect the fire which was kept burning there at night as a light-house for navigation. My dictionary says that this tower collapsed in 1302, but does not give any cause for its collapse. The island of Rhodes was invaded and conquered by Crusaders in 1309. It is possible that these same Crusaders also invaded the near-by island of Pharos, and destroyed what to them was a heathen monument. These days accord well with the medieval French in which the communication is expressed."

Example 2

Upon my return to my office at 4:00 p.m. on February 5, 1986, there were three taped messages, presumably from Katie, on the telephone answering machine: shrill, intermittent blipping and whistling and Katie's alter-personality, muffled, unintelligible voice. Later, when I spoke to Katie on the telephone, she said that she had received more menacing calls from her assailant and that he had come to her door, looked in and said "Hi." He also wrote obscenities and left numerous fingerprints on her glass, locked panel door. I jumped in the car with my former roommate and scientific collaborator from Mayo Foundation days, B.A. Ruggieri, M.D., who was then visiting me. We drove to Katie's house and interviewed her, her son and daughter, and two friends of the son. While there, I noticed a yellowed piece of paper on the pool table. It had old French penciled printing which Dr. Ruggieri attempted to translate. The detectives were called and Katie's husband returned from work. Katie was extremely upset over the threats and perhaps equally so by specific tumultuous domestic developments beyond her control. The message was:

Le tempes present
avecques le passe
sera juge par grand
Jovialiste
le monda tard
lui sera lasse
et desloyal par
le clerge juriste

Present time
with the past
will be judged by the great
Jovialiste
the world is retarded
it will disgust him
and the betrayal by
ecclesiastical lawyers

This message also happened at a time of crisis and perceived threat to Katie's and her children's lives. I discovered the message on the pool table where the previous one was, and it can be conjectured that this development might have been related to the author's purpose: i.e. a "set up." Ap-

parently, Katie and the family were unaware of the existence of the message, and they were all agitated and frightened. Apparently the one (assailant) who made the threats was not too careful in protecting his own identity or risk of apprehension. He seemed to be asking for it.

Perhaps the translation¹ of the message might have given Katie reason to have faith because, no matter how great her perturbation and the danger of her present predicament, as past events have been, the present ones will still be finally accounted for by Jove (Jehovah) who is disgusted with such goings-on, perhaps brought about by the misguided zeal of religious fanatics (possibly her assailant). This serial message could be an indication to Katie that she is not alone and that her tormentor, who seemingly continues to get away with his stunts and make a mockery of law enforcement (the world is retarded), disgusts the Jovialiste and the perversion of his teachings by the zealots (ecclesiastical lawyers). If an alter personality of Katie's, for example, the entity Nostradamus, had actually written the message for which she could have had complete amnesia, the *modus operandi* would still be inexplicable, in view of her illiteracy.

References and Notes

1. In his translation notes, George Andrews wrote: "The word Jovialiste is interesting. Some of its associations: jovial, Jove, Jupiter and Jehovah. As I translated this, one thing that came strongly to mind was something from a quatrain of Nostradamus, in which he referred to Judgement day as 'the day the sun takes back its days.' Also one of the Mazdean prayers: 'May we be among those who bring about the transformation of the earth.'"

Example 3: February 22, 1986

The police and telephone company were frantically trying to solve the case of Katie's assault, telephone harassment, and continuous threats to Katie and her children. The assailant again told her that he knew about her visits to my office. Finally, through their own sleuthing, Katie and her husband visited two young, suspect men whom they learned about through questioning, and one of the men conformed to Katie's description and the police composite drawing, allowing for a wig and moustache.

In the research session on February 20, 1986, one of the guests was my condominium neighbor, Ernest Gervais, who has a French surname¹ and who is chiefly of French descent. Although Katie produced no physical phenomena, one of her trance entities, who refused to be identified, said that there would soon be more French writing, either in my office or in her house. Later that same day, while visiting my other immediate condominium neighbor, an accomplished pianist, she volunteered the information that her protege from her university hometown had become a medieval French scholar. Something seemed to be happening.

On February 20, 1986, I gave Katie a typed query directed to "respected entities" which was modeled on the format that was successfully used in the SORRAT mini-lab experiments in Rolla, Missouri, where direct writing had been recorded on film under controlled conditions: "Respected Entities: Are you aware of the work and the communications of Dr. John G. Neihardt; John King, Rector; Emperor and the others? Who has written the beautiful, ancient French quatrains? How can we help Katie to become a better channel for you to give information?"

Katie telephoned me at 4:45 p.m. February 22, 1986, to state that her in-laws had arrived one hour ago for an extended visit. Approximately forty-five minutes after they left Katie's house to visit their other son, Katie said, "my house shook...whole place like an earthquake. A man appeared. I

don't know who he is. [A phantom?] I don't know what you call him...dark hair, bald in front...hair along the sides. He looks different...in his sixties...a dark robe.[A priest?]In my living room. I was sitting there and the house started to vibrate. He went toward my bedroom [where the in-laws were to stay]. I watched. I went back [to the bedroom]...folded paper has writing on it.² But the pen wasn't opened...[wrote] all by itself. I'm stunned because I can't figure out who this guy is. It's (paper) sitting there in front her [mother-in-law's deceased] husband's photo." When I asked if I could come out right away to survey the situation and obtain the paper, Katie agreed since her in-laws, who were of an antipathetic religious persuasion compared to Katie's more tolerant outlook, were still visiting their other son's family. However, she cautioned me to be circumspect should my arrival coincide with the return of her in-laws. She said that she would put the folded message in a sealed envelope so that she could hand it to me privately.

When I arrived at Katie's house, she gave me the envelope with the message and I immediately noticed a bulge, so I opened it in her presence to see what it contained. The writing appeared to be old French, and there also was a small, light, gilded candy dove inside. Although the bird was a mystery, I later learned that the dove was similar to a candy bird that was on top of Katie's wedding cake years ago. Katie was stunned and would not touch the envelope. She recalled that she was straightening out ornamental vases and dishes on top of her coffee table, and they became disarranged during the "house-quake." I took the message and apport when leaving Katie's house and gave my wife my leather eyeglass case containing my "astronaut" ball point pen. I drove to a nearby restaurant where we could have supper and I could write an account of the preceding events. Needless to say, I was shocked and annoyed that I could not find the case and special pen that was designed to write under adverse circumstances, even though I searched the car then and on several subsequent occasions. Finally, two days later, my wife found the case and the pen wedged between the lap strap and seat — an area that had formerly been checked and rechecked.³

In view of the strangeness of Katie's old French writings and possibly analogous writings which happened in several instances under controlled conditions, this latest message was sent to the "Isolation Room" in Rolla, Missouri, for a possible uncontrolled SORRAT translation and opinion on February 23, 1986. Although the hoped for translation was not done, I received an answer on April 8, 1986: "The person who wrote these lines was a French man who sees parallels between your world today and his former earthly existence. He is not actually the seer Nostradamus, any more than he is Andrew Jackson. He feels that Katie would pay more attention to a celebrity than to an obscure, disaffected person. He says he wishes to help her; we shall try to help him, if he is willing to raise his level." Shanti - Rector/J.K. This is the message:

Dans deux logis le
feu prendra,
Plusieurs dedans estouffes
Et rostit: Pres de deux Fleuves
pour seul il adviendra:
Sol, l'Arg et caper tous⁴
Seront amortis.

Two dwellings will catch on fire.
Several of those within suffocated
and roasted: near two rivers
it will happen by itself

Land and coast of Normandy covered as by a cape
All will be struck dead.

Hardly had the horrors of the possible assailant been quelled, largely by Katie's and her husband's efforts, when a new crisis arose. The arrival of importunate relatives who had neither sympathy nor understanding for Katie and her unique abilities coincided with the appearance of the phantom author of the old French writings who directed the traumatized, split and dissociated Katie to her bedroom while the house shook and where she found the folded paper with writing on it, in front of her deceased father-in-law's World War II photograph. Although she had never met her father-in-law, he has figured in many of the previous and ongoing possible paranormal events which developed at the approximate time of her marriage eleven years before.

Katie's concern that her secret — the writings — would become known to her in-laws, led her to take preventative steps. However, the forces, whatever they might be, could have signaled their knowledge of her innocent subterfuge by enclosing a small candy bird that was only later recognized as being similar to the ornament that she had on her wedding cake years ago. Her immediate response to the bird — a symbol of her marital vows — was reflex repulsion and shock, as if indicating her emotional recognition of the uncomfortable nature of her actions: i.e. having to comply with her husband's relatives' wishes and lifestyle in her own home. The contents of the translated message might have graphically portrayed her thinly veiled feelings.

References and Notes

1. One of the apparently silly coincidences or synchronicities that pop up in this research happened when I was typing this material and was undecided whether to use the French surname, and received Professor M. Rojcewicz's *Signals of Transcendence: the Human-UFO Equation*, which he presented at the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Society for Scientific Exploration 2-4 June 1988, at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Under the heading "Traditional Proof," he wrote, "Human abductions did not originate with the modern age of 'flying saucers.' All cultures possess narrative and beliefs concerning people being kidnapped. For example, the devil of tradition, who can transport people through the air over vast distances (an ability shared by the *loup garou* — i.e. werewolf), lures, abducts and murders children. Gervaise of Tilbury, who dedicated a work on prodigies to Emperor Otto IV around 1214, points out the abduction tendencies of witches, incubi, sylphs, and other enigmatic entities. Gervaise found eyewitnesses to the flight of witches over land and sea and was himself confident that they could fly effortlessly across the globe."
2. Although old French scripts made up the bulk of Katie's automatic and presumed direct writings, there were other communications and drawings, one of which was purportedly from Andrew Jackson, and another from Katie's deceased father-in-law, whom she had never met. Also, early in the investigations, Katie once had the word "no" appear on a calling card that was contained in a sealed jar with a crayon stub and three keys. At that time, one key was separated at the neck and two other keys were bent approximately 20° and 85°, respectively. On another occasion, in addition to metal-bending and glass shattering, mayhem in her bedroom with various sealed specimens, a basket of yarns was turned over and the yarn spelled out the word "yes" on the floor and then extended upward without any visible support to the ceiling nine feet above where, on inspection, there was no apparent attachment or glueing. It remained there for two days, even though it was near a ceiling fan which, despite its motion, did not seem to interrupt the extension (see figures 3 & 4).
3. Although mal-observation on my part is the most likely explanation for the disappearance and later reappearance of the necessary eyeglass case and special pen, the experimenter is often part of the

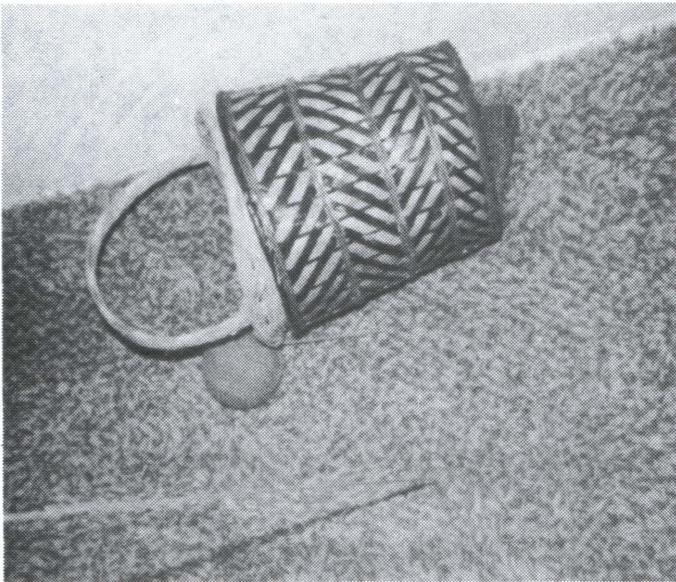


Figure 3—Tipped basket with word yes (retouched from original photo).

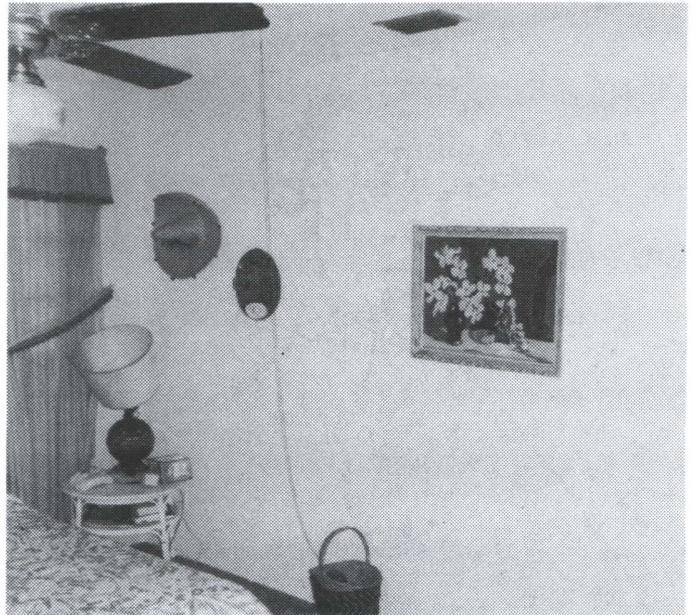


Figure 4—Yarn from basket to ceiling.

experiment and he should not be spared scrutiny. Even if an occurrence is odd and inexplicable, it should not be omitted for it could conceivably be part of the psychic nexus, and whatever the cause of the disturbance, it could possibly extend beyond the immediate and affect those who are intimately involved in studying (revealing) its sources: e.g. possible unconscious, unrepentant furies.

4. On February 27, 1986, George Andrews wrote: "I think I've found the meaning of that puzzling line: 'sol, l'Arg et caper tous.' In two other places in the two communications, he uses a 'g' where a 'q' would normally be used ('monargue,' 'pargue'), so I decided to check out my dictionaries for some sort of proper noun or name for which Arq might be an abbreviation. I found that an obsolete designation for the coast of Normandie is 'l'Arques.' So the puzzling line translates as: 'Land and coast of Normandie covered as by a cape.'" Mr. Andrews modestly continued: "I know a bit about Nostradamus, but am not an expert. I hope you are sharing this information with someone who is an expert on the quatrains, who could tell us if the odd spelling and punctuation that characterize these communications correlate with the spelling and punctuation of the original Nostradamus quatrains."

Example 4: February 22, 1986

At 6:40 p.m., February 22, 1986, after stopping off at the office to check the telephone tape answering machine, there were three messages from Katie: (1) "Doc, this is Katie. It's happening all over again. The pen is absolutely standing up by itself and writing. I know you didn't have time to get back to the office but the whole place is shaking...it's writing!" (2) "Mine and [my son's] picture (Polaroid) is stuck to the wall...when the pen started writing...the picture,...whooshed to the wall. It's just hanging there. [My son] is standing there waiting for it to fall." (3) The son called. "Come back, Doc, other stuff is going on. After you left, the motorcycle that I have and which would not run...I jumped on it and now it runs." (4) Katie: "this person keeps mentioning 'Betty Hill'." Said I already met her. I can't remember. 'Betty Hill saw this...Betty Hill saw that.'"

Upon my return to Katie's house at 7:25 p.m., her son and two of his friends repeated the story that Katie had told them. One of them, B.N., age fourteen, recounted two recent experiences with Katie. In one instance, a fifty-cent piece bent in her hand and, on another occasion, Katie held out her hands and "when I saw the spoon appear, it first was just an outline. Then it looked like it had a yellowish tint to it. Then,

all of a sudden, it filled with the color of silver."

The three boys' and, later, Katie confirmed the direct-writing account and said that the Flair nylon-tipped soft pen was capped during the writing. In response to specific questions, Katie felt that the capped pen touched the paper. She was in her dining room, standing approximately twelve feet away, observing the action on the round glass top table in her family room. They all recalled that the house shook, the German shepherd went wild and barked ferociously, the guinea pig squeaked, and birds chirped. I photographed the Polaroid that was stuck on the wall and which I had originally taken and given to Katie, but when I gently touched it, it fell off. There were no visible or tactile means of adhesion on either the Polaroid or the wall. Katie and her house guests were out to dinner, so the son gave me the paper with the allegedly direct writing and I hopped in the car to drive home. To add to the macabre merriment (synchronicity? coincidence?), when I flicked the radio on, I first heard a serene song by the Mills Brothers, which was followed by an advertisement from a nearby funeral parlor and featured a message about Jack Romano "who was compassionate and good at consoling." Perhaps the most amazing paragon I ever studied was the nonagenarian Jacques Romano.² The next song was by Frank Sinatra: "The final curtain...I did it my way."

Plui, f'aim, guerre en
Perse non cessee,
Le foi trop grand
trahira le monargue:
par la Finie en Gaule
commencee,
secret augure pour a un
estre pargue.

Rain, hunger, no end to war in Persia,
Over-confidence will betray the monarch:
it will end in Gaul where it began,
secret omen for a fated being.

On March 3, 1986, my wife, Ardis, walked into the office and said that she had found the missing pen and handcrafted leather eyeglass case stuck between the driver's seat and lap belt. Later in the day, Katie called to say that, while high on a stepladder and painting ceiling decorations in the same room



Figure 5(a)–Rough sketch of Nostradamus by Katie.



Figure 5(b)–Copy of old print of Nostradamus.

as other employees, she suddenly saw “an old guy” with white hair and baggy trousers. He presented me with a wooden box with leather hinges and brass pins. (Inside) was a stag antler handled carving knife and fork. A stag’s head, mountains and a fir tree was carved on the outside of the box.” In our discussions, it appeared that Katie was smoldering in rage all day because her mother-in-law had unilaterally invited eleven guests for a turkey dinner that night, which Katie was expected to prepare and serve after returning from a day’s hard physical labor. When Katie showed the alleged carving set apports to her husband, he quipped, “What good is it if it isn’t money (gold?)?” Within two days, Katie materialized her first “gold” on her body.⁴ The carving set might be considered as a telekinetic psychic complement to the dreaded turkey, with the double meaning of her feelings about the source (her mother-in-law) and fantasied solution of this difficulty, and her own savaged self esteem. If psychodynamically plausible, psi can be an effective compensatory mechanism.

On April 26, 1986, G.S., one of Katie’s co-workers, in a videotaped interview, confirmed the “old guy” carving set sequence, since she was in an adjacent room when the event happened. G.S. did not see the “old guy,” but she recalled seeing the carving set for the first time, and Katie’s astonishment. In a telephone interview on March 7, 1986, Stewart Robb,⁵ an authority on Nostradamus, identified Katie’s quatrains (Examples 1 and 2) from an earlier edition of Nostradamus. Their precise locations and meaning were not defined. On July 7, 1987, after much tangential negotiating, the owner of the house where the “old guy” and the carving set first appeared agreed to come to a research session. Although the owner had told Katie that she was highly interested in some of the things that Katie did or had happen around her, she did not keep her

word and come.

With liberties, the translation might be applicable to the domestic “front” analogous to quasi-wartime conditions of extreme emotional stress and with no seeming end in sight unless the source of the suffering (monarch) was set back by his or her own overconfidence and miscalculations. “They have gone too far” would be a logical interpretation.

Although speculative, this verse of presumed direct writing also could pertain to the current war between Iran (Persia) and Iraq, the downfall of the late Shah or a prophecy of the ruler Khomeini’s, downfall, from over-confidence and the end of his career (by a counter-revolution?). Khomeini lived in France, where he was exiled for years before returning to Persia and the revolution.

References and Notes

1. Schwarz, B.E.: *UFO-Dynamics*. Rainbow Books, Moore Haven, Florida, 1983.
2. Schwarz, B.E.: *The Jacques Romano Story*. University Books, Inc., New Hyde Park, New York, 1968.
3. In the videotaped and witnessed session on February 27, 1986, Katie apported a silver locket from her left ear, which was closely followed by the stigmatization of a cross on her left forearm. She refused to touch the locket for fear of being burned as she had been in similar previous situations. Others, including myself, could touch the apport without harm. Later in her session, Katie described the recent old French writing experiences which coincided with her past accounts. She then drew a picture of the “old guy: bald on top, fringe of hair, no hat, couldn’t see too much of his beak; didn’t see any arms, dark hair, could see his teeth; comfortable smile...friendly...little beard; material under the V area of his neck; a red shiny ornament (or pin in the V area); robes were dark. I stood there trying to watch the pen and the guy came right alongside me. I was tongue tied and couldn’t talk. Pen wasn’t even open yet, it was writing...” See Figure 5 and 6 for Katie’s drawing of the “old guy” and a picture of Nostradamus.

The association of heat with psychic metal bending (“warm forming”) and paranormal linkage of paper rings that burst into flame (akin to a friction effect) in the SORRAT data is similar to a situation reported to me on June 30, 1988, by M., a Swedish nurse, who was told of a first-hand experience by a ufologist silent contactee whom she knew well. He had a hot gold ring allegedly ap- port onto the palm of his hand. Although his researchers were widely known, among his peers, only a few close friends were privy to his personal UFO-psi experiences.

4. Schwarz, B.E.: “Apparent Materialization of Copper Foil, Case Report, Katie.” *PURSUIT*, Volume 20, Number 4, 1987; pp. 154-158.
5. Robb, Stewart: *Prophecies On World Events By Nostradamus*. The Oracle Press, New York, 1961.
6. Robb, Stewart: *Nostradamus On Napoleon*. The Oracle Press, New York, 1961.

Example 5: September 3, 1987

During my vacation in New Jersey, Katie telephoned my Florida office on August 21, 1987, and left a message on the telephone answering machine that she had passed three kidney stones. “Watu,” an alleged female UFO entity, had recently visited Katie when she had back pain and advised her to take cod-liver oil and cranberry juice for her kidney stones, which might have been effective in Katie’s instance but which would not usually be recommended. I returned to Florida on September 3, 1987, and had just walked into my apartment when Katie telephoned because Watu said that I was back at that precise time. Katie had no prior knowledge of my return. The next day, Friday, September 4, 1987, Katie called my apartment at 7:30 a.m., which was a rare time for her to call. She reported that “last night when [my husband] was figuring costs for jobs, I asked for his pencil. I was in the bedroom lying on the bed.” Apparently Katie became entranced, took the pencil and wrote a page in old French.

le grand un jourapre
son songe,
interprete au rebovur
ds son sens: de la gasogne lui
surviendra un
monge qui ferao
lire le grand
prelb pde sens.

On the day following his premonitory dream or vision, the great man will interpret it in the opposite way from its meaning.

From Gascony will unexpectedly come to him a (monk?) (monarch?) (world?) (inhabitant of Monaco?) (member of the Monge family, which was of the minor nobility?) who will make the great man understand its correct meaning.

This communication heralded my return after a long absence from our sessions. Katie said that she learned of my return from a UFO entity who was helping her and who had credited Katie for prescribing the novel remedy that freed her of painful kidney stones. Therefore, this exchange might have indicated Katie’s desire to continue with the researches. In a personal way, it might also symbolize Katie’s rebuking me for failing to diagnose or help her via long distance telephone. In addition to possibly expressing her need to resume our contacts, the message might have been informing me that some other source, someone smarter and more capable, will correct my understanding of her condition. Nostradamus, the physician, is the *sine qua non* of precognition and, consequently, his appearance might imply possible wider meanings for Katie personally, and extensions of this to the world. Assuming

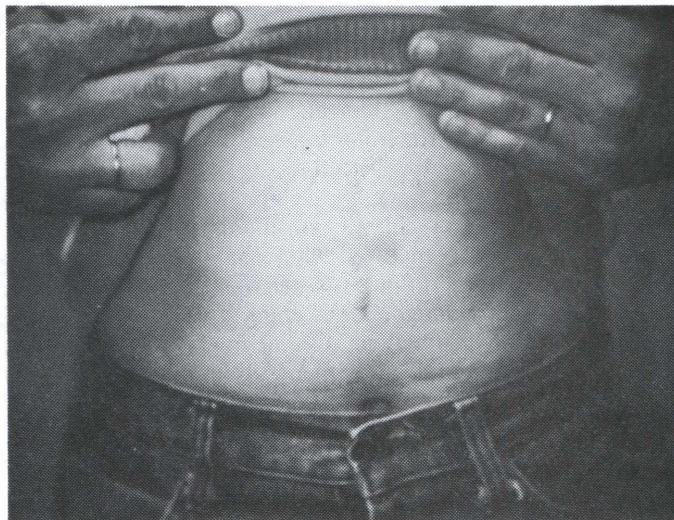


Figure 6—Katie with a 3-4 inch cross on abdomen (see page 56).

that some or all of the communications might have serial significance, any future writings and events must be carefully watched. Although most of the verses are obscure, they do happen and there should be some meaning for them.

References and Notes

1. George Andrews wrote: “This is definitely coming through scrambled, probably due to static from Katie’s subconscious. My guess as to its unscrambled meaning is as follows:

le grand, un jour apres son songe,
l’interprete au rebours de son sens:
de la Gascogne ui surviendra un
(moine?) (monarque?) (monde?) (monegasque?)
qui fera lire le grand
(par le bon?) sens.”

After his translation, he continued by saying, “Gascony is at the western end of southern France, next to Spain, the Atlantic, and the Pyrenees. Monaco is at the eastern end of southern France, but did not exist at the time of Nostradamus. I do not recall any verse like this in the quatrains of Nostradamus.”

Example 6: September 10, 1987

Katie came to the office on September 10, 1987, and I gave her chits for various laboratory tests and an appointment with a urologist in reference to her kidney stones. She was concerned about her husband’s maternal grandmother, who was terminally ill in Pennsylvania. Katie knew the grandmother and was fond of her. Katie told me that, while concerned and making plans to travel north to visit, she noticed that the photograph of the grandmother, which was usually in the living room photo album, was now attached to the wooden kitchen cabinet next to the refrigerator. As in the previous experience with the adherent Polaroid of her son and herself, there was no ready explanation for the photograph’s sticking to the cabinet. The grandmother died shortly afterward and Katie had a possibly telepathic dream of this. She said that, in her dream, “clear to the end...they recited the Lord’s Prayer.”

In her session, Katie then requested a photocopy of a picture which I had once shown her in my von Schrenck-Notzinger’s book on materialization! When she returned home at 2:40 p.m., her telephone rang. She picked up the receiver, but since there was no voice on the other end, she hung up. She then, while apparently entranced, took a pencil in hand and

applied it to a sheet of paper, which was soon filled with old French. She then left home to pick up her daughter at school. While these events were going on in her life, my wife came to the office to tell me that our daughter was seriously ill and had to be admitted to the University Hospital at once. While my wife was leaving for Miami, a two-and-a-half hour drive away, I was visited by Detective G., who had previously worked on the Katie assault case and who now wanted to refer a woman for psychiatric consultation. The prospective patient was allegedly involved with a haunting. In our small talk, the detective said that his sister was a nurse in the same hospital where my daughter was going. I told him of Katie's latest old French writing and how she might have come close to the solution of her harassment of months ago. Within minutes of his leaving, Katie called with the news of the latest writing, as reported above:

le grande Arabe maralvera²
bien avant,
trahis sera par les
Bisantinios;
L'antique Rodes lui
viendra au devant,
Et plus grand mal
par autre Pannonois.
The great Arab will see the Virgin Mary
well before,
betrayed by the
Byzantines;
ancient Rhodes
will come against him,
and even greater harm
from another one from central Europe (region of the
middle Danube).

At 4:00 p.m., I drove to Katie's to pick up the writing specimen and photograph the photo of her husband's grandmother. When I arrived, Katie said that when she returned home from picking up her daughter at school, the telephone answering machine was playing. Katie said: "the 'phone didn't ring...something foreign...Chinese sounding male voice that ended with a loud and distinct, high-pitched voice saying: 'Nostradamus.'" I later re-recorded this eight-second message, which followed two previously recorded business calls.

At 4:50 p.m., Katie telephoned to say that the Minolta-copy of the von Schrenck-Notzing picture I had given her was developing a brown-yellow hue to Martha's (the medium's) face. Katie again called at 6:45 p.m. to say that the facial coloring was then more pronounced and also, while she was watching the Pope's visit to Miami on television, she was developing a (three-to-four inch) cross on her abdomen (see Figure 6). The next day, she came to the office at noon and gave me the colored von Schrenck-Notzing illustration and also let me photograph the abdominal cross stigmatization, which then had a blister at the inferior pole of the vertical line.

This setting for Katie's direct writing in old French might have been catalyzed by her concern over her recent passage of painful kidney stones and her forthcoming medical studies, as well as her preoccupation with her husband's grandmother's impending demise. These two anxiety-laden matters might have been condensed and telekinetically acted out by the photograph of the grandmother apparently transferring from the album in the living room to the side of the kitchen cabinet and by Katie's later dream monition: i.e. the concern for her

husband's grandmother and fear for her own health. The previous Nostradamus writings could have alluded to these developments in Katie's life.

On the other side of the coin, Katie might have been telepathically affected by crisis situations in my life (a paradigm for separation anxiety: i.e. Katie's physician might have to leave when she needed him) with the sudden illness of my daughter in Miami and the unanticipated visit from the detective who (1) had a sister who was a nurse in the hospital that was affiliated with the unit where my nurse-daughter was going; (2) who was formerly in charge of the investigation into the repeated harassment and violence that victimized Katie and her family; (3) and who wanted to refer me a woman patient who was involved in a local spectacular haunting. These overdetermined events for both researcher and subject could have influenced Katie's outpouring of automatic writing, the grandmother-psi events, the "spontaneous" materializations, coloring of a picture of a famous materialization medium of long ago, the electronic voice phenomenon on the tape answering machine of "Nostradamus," and finally culminated in the abdominal stigmatization of a cross and blister while watching the Pope on television in Miami.

The contents of the translated message are inscrutable unless it might be conjectured that Katie's faith in what she does, symbolized by the all-loving Virgin Mary, or Christianity, will sustain her and those who are in contact with her. Or, as the writing states, although the Virgin Mary is betrayed by sources that should be steadfast, the Byzantines will see the forces of the infidel (the great Arab, evil, the crises?) opposed by the forces of good (Crusader from Rhodes? Knights Hospitalers? the hospital?) and, if that is not enough, he (the dangerous situations) will suffer greater harm from afar (an unsuspected source of strength or an ally symbolized by "Pannonia," perhaps central Europe). The religious motifs are interesting because Katie and her family are of old American Protestant stock. Although she has never been absorbed in ritual, ceremony and talismans, she has apparently become the channel for communications with heavy traditional Roman Catholic allusions, and in several instances throughout the past four years, with apports of various religious medals, including the Virgin Mary. There could be some parallel between Katie's highly personal predicaments and crises, those of the researcher on occasion (psychically extrapolated transference-countertransference situations) and, on a wider stage, the ongoing struggles in the world. For, as in the times of Nostradamus, when Christianity struggled to survive in the conflicts with the Arabs and provide an ethical framework for living and the mysteries of the hereafter, in contrast to the Catholics' opinions of those with a different belief system — its adversaries, the current and modern counterparts to these past conflicts might be echoed in the translations of the quatrains. This is striking because, in many other sessions, Katie, who ordinarily had a provincial view to what was happening in the world, would not infrequently utter trance pronouncements warning against nuclear war, global conflict and catastrophes. All of this is contrary to Katie's cognitive awareness and general knowledge, as I understand it to be. This is similar to the trance declarations of many UFO contactees. The mechanics of the possible paranormal events that happen around Katie are no less striking than the possible meanings of these strange and sometimes incongruous events.

References and Notes

1. von Schrenck-Notzing: *Phenomena of Materialization*. Kegan, Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., Ltd. London, 1923.

2. George Andrews wrote: "There is only one word I am not completely sure of. I list the various possibilities for 'maralvera:'

Marial verra, will see the Virgin Mary
maraudera, will commit piracy or theft
maravedis, ancient Spanish penny
merveillera, will marvel
mourra en verite, will truly die
Maree verra, will see the turning of the tide
marelle verra, will see a children's game."

Example 7: October 7, 1987

On October 7, 1987, at 4:10 p.m. Katie telephoned my office: "Waldo just came in and sat down. He's saying, 'Look in the bird.' I got three (ceramic ornaments) birds in the house. That must be cuz he's shaking his head. I'll go and look. Hang on the 'phone...OK: here's another writing; liken before. OK. Ha...There's some more writing appearing on it now. N...O...S...T...R...D...A...M... I can't get the rest of it. [What does it spell?] I have no idea...U...S. I can't make it out Doc, [Nostradamus, Katie] You're kidding me. [How is it writing? Pencil or ink?] No, nothing. I just have the paper in front of me. Things ran out on the end of the paper. Looks like ink. [Holding it in your hand?] Yuh, I got it out in front of me and the other hand on the 'phone. Ha. He [Nostradamus] is standing here next to Waldo. Seems to be talking to one another. [Invite them to the office tomorrow, Miss Katie, I have a surprise for Waldo.] He says he knows. This is pretty neat. I never had that. Slopped up on the paper there. Waldo is smiling. [What does the old guy look like?] He's got long hair to his shoulders. Moustache, a goatee: dark with gray in it. [Thin or fat?] Medium build. Not as tall as Waldo [about five feet nine] Not talking. Waldo said he is taking the ring back (his wife's black pearl ring that he once gave Katie). [How is his brother *Walter* doing?] No, he said, '*Carl*' Ha, ha, I guess he can hear you. [Have the Viking ship and blue sapphire ring (apports) helped his ailing brother?] No. Apparently he still has them. [Will they materialize back in the office?] He didn't say. [Do you have any tests, Waldo, that you would like to do?] He said something he had talked to you about. [About the paper he wrote (his self-written eulogy, "A Memorial Service That Can Be Read By Any Volunteer, Friend on Survival and Psi," read by BES at Waldo's funeral March 23, 1987.)] [Is the old guy still with him?]...[Nostradamus, could you come to the office, too?] He's just looking. Waldo hears it. [What time will you come tomorrow?] Me or them? Hopefully 11:30."

One week before these writings, Katie was visited by her niece from Tennessee. She brought along her father, Katie's brother, to visit their hemiplegic, aphasic father, who was hospitalized and frail. Katie's brother had been seriously ill himself with recent congestive heart failure. The niece recalled the appearance of a phantom child in association with the death of Katie's oldest brother in Tennessee, and this experience corresponded with a similar alleged apparition perceived by Katie's mother in Florida. Although the niece had once seen the "gold" on Katie during a visit to Tennessee, she was pleasantly surprised to learn more about her aunt and to visit the office and peruse some of Katie's multitude of apport specimens, experimental evidence and videotapes. Perhaps these push-pull life experiences contributed to the precipitation or genesis of Katie's psi. She might have been pushed by splitting, traumatic personal events that were loaded with psi tracers at the same time that she was pulled towards psi by the positive attraction of need, interest, respect and recognition from some members of her family and circle of friends.

This is the message which Katie said that she saw as it appeared:

Soldat barbare le
grand Roi Frappera -
In justement non
esloioigné de mort,
L'avare mere du Fait
cause fera
conjuratenr es regne
en grand remort.

NOSTRADAM U (off paper)

The barbarian soldier will strike the great king,
unjustly not removed from death,

The miserly mother of the deed will make a deal with
conspirators and reign in great remorse.

This episode of old French writing is interesting because there were no immediate, severe or potential crises in Katie's (or her researcher's) lives. Her father was hospitalized one week before for a chronic condition, for which he had many previous admissions, treatment and management. However, the visit by a family member, Katie's niece, who knew something about and approved of Katie's abilities was a departure. Why there was circumlocution with Waldo, leading up to discovering the writing inside an ornamental bird, is impossible to fathom. Perhaps, like a game-playing ritual, it creates an atmosphere of heightened attention for the message and for the unique, subsequent development of alleged inked direct writing occurring on the page without any pen or pencil as Katie was holding it in her hands. She could read the letters out over the telephone but could not understand what they said: "Nostradam(us)." The attention and tension was further increased by the almost ridiculous Laurel and Hardy interplay between Waldo and Nostradamus and, in particular, Waldo's correction of my calling his brother "Walter" instead of "Carl." If Katie might have heard Waldo or myself use the name "Carl" in the past, that name was not easy for her to recall, for she apparently had difficulty in remembering people's names who attended the research sessions.

The symbolism of the message does not seem to fit into any discernable framework with events in Katie's life or, for that matter, any current specific world events. There was nothing new about her father's precarious health, and no authority figure or famous personage was killed by some barbarian hit man via a scheme concocted with confederates, and then having to rule in contrition. In general, this comment might be applicable to many political situations throughout history, but without more information in this particular instance the meaning is too obscure to understand. However, if this proves to be a precognitive flash, this all-too-general message should be born in mind.

Form Fruste: January 14, 1988

Domestic discord and highly stressful situational problems contributed to Katie's development of a severe depressive reaction with excessive rapid weight loss and somatizations. However, Katie kept her promised appointment with Professor Stephen E. Braude,¹ a visiting distinguished philosopher-parapsychologist. Unfortunately, there was no positive demonstration of possible physical psi.

At times, Katie's clinical progress was touch and go; but with her psychotherapy and appropriate medication (trimipramine [Surmontil]) the fluctuating depression, furors and fugue-like dissociative states were contained.²

On January 14, 1988, at 1:40 p.m., Katie called to say that she had experienced an episode of automatic writing by her telephone and that she had also drawn a picture, perhaps of Nostradamus. Oddly, for reasons described below, I still had two of my own Nostradamus books on top of my desk when Katie called. She was not aware of this. With her assent, I immediately drove to her house with the TV camcorder and thirty-five millimeter camera to record the evidence. When I arrived, I saw Katie and her husband, both of whom looked grim. Katie said that she had had nightmares³ of her Tennessee brother crying for help in the hospital. In her dream, he was dying of a heart attack. Katie was expecting to hear from her niece who had recently visited Florida. When I asked Katie about the "French writing," she went to get it, but she was obviously surprised, for it had disappeared. Her husband, who was aware of these developments, was also unable to account for this. In the middle of this, Katie's telephone rang and when she picked up the receiver, there was no one on the other end. The writings and picture were associated with Nostradamus.

After returning to my office, Katie called at 3:30 p.m. to say that her dream might have been explained, for she had just learned that her older sister in Vero Beach was "rushed to the hospital last night with a ruptured appendix (with peritonitis) and she had surgery." For highly palpable reasons, Katie had much ambivalence toward this sister, whom she felt could be mischievous and, on occasion, would foment trouble. In addition to these family push-pull psychic nexus stresses, there might have been other physician-researcher/patient-subject factors. On the night of Katie's displaced veridical nightmare, and unknown to her, I was visited by Professor and Mrs. W. G-L of Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire. I never anticipated that Professor of Spanish G-L would have high-quality personal experiences or interest in psychic matters. However, he surprised me by telling me of two softcover books that his mother had just given him and which he brought to Florida to read on the flight. They were about Nostradamus and had his portrait on the covers. The professor showed me his books at 9:02 p.m. and I, in turn, shared with him my two books on Nostradamus by Stewart Robb. Professor G-L seemed curious.

In view of the Katie material and the Professor's forthcoming trip to St. Louis, where he would be a guest teacher for several months, upon learning about the SORRAT⁴ experiments, he wanted to visit the knowledgeable people there and in Rolla, Missouri. Earlier in the day of Professor and Mrs. W. G-L's visit, I had been editing the Katie research session videotapes numbers 1 and 2 and my mind flashed back to the disappearances of the sealed bottles prepared by William Edward Cox. The contents had supposedly twisted and shifted from one bottle to the other and they were seen by Katie's family. Although it is impossible to know what happened to her Nostradamus writings and drawing, the overdetermined synchronistic constellation of psychic tracers, including the earlier frustrating disappearances of the Cox bottles, could have served as plausible speculative factors in accounting for Katie's vanishing Nostradamus material.

As in many previous examples, the production of the Nostradamus writings happened at times of turmoil and stress. Why the Nostradamus evidence allegedly disappeared this time and never before or since — other than its being related to my musing about an earlier time when the Cox experimental bottles disappeared — might be an interesting clue, but it does not answer the question: i.e. the events to some degree are programmable or can be subtly suggested, but why they

come about sometimes, and not at other times, is unexplainable.

References and Notes

1. Braude, S.E.: *ESP and Psychokinesis*. Temple University Press, Philadelphia, 1979; *The Limits of Influence, Psychokinesis and the Philosophy of Science*. Routledge and Kegan, Paul, New York, and London, 1986.
2. Perhaps the psi was through preconscious factors "stored" and not disclosed in the research sessions. In Katie's sessions, she was more *out* of a trance-like state than *in* one, as many other psi patients ordinarily would behave in their psychotherapy. However, on June 6, 1988, the session that was dealing with particularly frustrating and repressed angry material was interrupted with loud, hammer-like banging on the therapy room roof. I fully opened the vertical blinds, but could see nothing that could account for this. After the session, I went outside and checked the building and found a loose ceiling air vent but it was difficult to see how a squirrel or other animal could account for the sounds. There was no breeze or other physical force. For those who are not informed about psychotherapy, real creativity is seldom, if ever, in my experience, compromised or lost. To the contrary, it is either untouched or augmented, as might be the case with Katie, who continues to develop and expand her paranormal abilities.

Aside from relief of her symptoms and weight loss, Katie showed improvement in other areas; she could integrate some of the splits and better cope with the events of life. The frequent "entity" phone calls to my office diminished. She also could better stand on her own and, perhaps because of this, her episodes of asthmatic bronchitis almost completely disappeared. Once, after a conjoint session with her husband, February 19, 1988, I found a presumed apport of a religious medal (the Virgin Mary) on the reception room table. I saw Katie and her husband come directly into the office from the outside, and they had no knowledge of this event. Otherwise, in individual sessions, psi was sparse, discounting paradoxically, in my experience, uncommon patient-physician telepathy.
3. In her sessions, Katie reported few dreams, and those which she did mention might have been paranormal. Perhaps because of her frequent spontaneous entrancements, her need for dreaming might be different from the average person's; her conflicts or problems might be resolved or acted out in her entity messages, trance state personifications and fugues. In an analogous fashion, some have asked if I hypnotize her. I do not. Katie goes in and out of trance-like states spontaneously and, to some extent, she has learned how to throw herself into a trance. The latter might be expedited by psychodynamically adjusting to the circumstances and reality, that is, setting the stage and sparingly using judicious suggestions.
4. Richards, John Thomas: *SORRAT: A History of the Neihardt Psychokinesis Experiments, 1961-1981*. Scarecrow Press, Metuchen, NJ, 1982.
5. Cox, William Edward: unpublished manuscript.

Example 8: January 22, 1988

On Friday, January 22, 1988, at 1:10 p.m., Katie telephoned me between my seeing patients, as I was editing the first Waldo videotape.¹ Katie asked: "Are you free? Waldo has been talking to me all morning. He says, 'Go. Go. Go.'" Told me to get the bottles (glass bottle of sealed human aortic rings prepared December 11, 1986, for possible linkage and a plastic sealed bottle prepared January 7, 1985, containing a fork and colored water)...under my eyes gold on the rings bottle." I hung up and rushed to Katie's house with the equipment to record, on videotape and with the thirty-five millimeter camera, the materialization from a freckle-sized speck on the aortic rings bottle to a swathe approximately the size of a quarter that adhered to the outside and covered the area where the aortic rings inside were bathed in seventy percent isopropyl alcohol. Three "gold" flecks developed on the cap of the aortic ring bottles.²

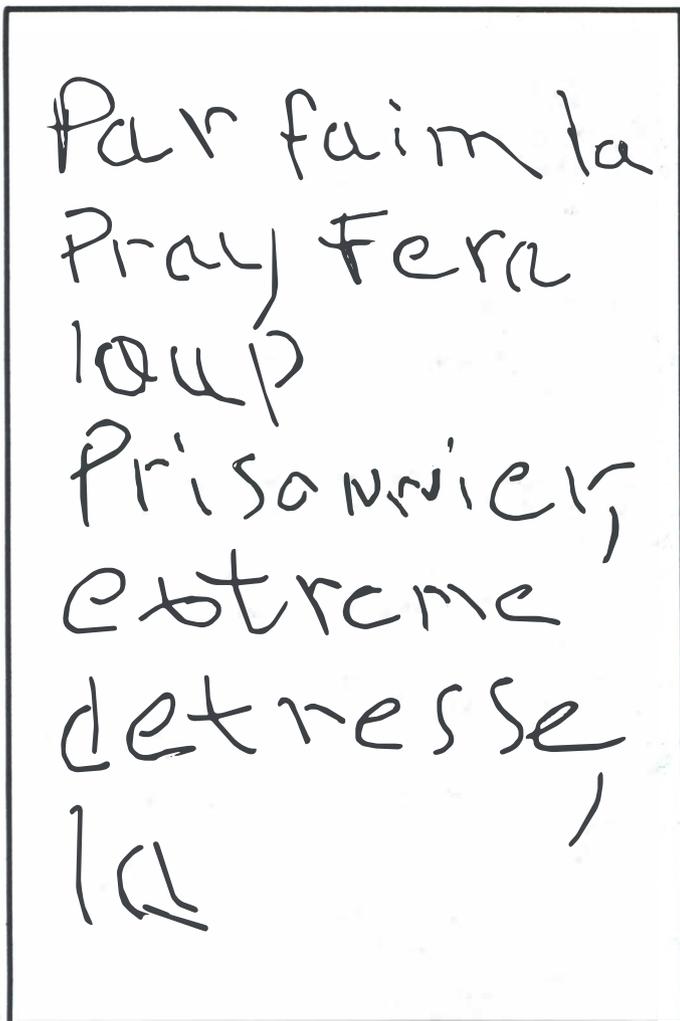


Figure 7-Katie's old French writing.

Soon the "gold" materialization occurred on the plastic bottle with the colored water and fork. A brownish-red double pagoda-like structure with an internal skeleton formed on the bottom of the plastic bottle. It had yeast-like buds on the pointed ends of the extrusions. I also noticed, on the counter next to the bottles, a button with the legend "BURN POT, NOT PEOPLE." I wrapped the button in plastic without touching it for possible later fingerprint study.

Katie was smiling and exhilarated. When entranced and while being videotaped, she grabbed a ball-point pen with her right hand and wrote several words in apparent old French on a counter pad (Figure 7). This was the first time that automatic writing in old French was videotaped from beginning to end. Katie also developed "gold" on the medial canthus of the infra-orbital region of her right eye. She said that her husband had been with her and witnessed the beginning of the events. I videotaped these happenings without stopping the Camcorder except when I took photographs of Katie, and when she had to go to work. She said, "I got a lot of energy in my hands. My whole body is exhilarated."

After I had returned to the office, Katie telephoned at 3:30 p.m. and was frantic. "Waldo was telling me to go for it. That's what I'm going to do." She said that the "gold" increased on the bottles. At 5:50 p.m., my wife and I drove to Katie's house and examined the specimens, which appeared unchanged from the last telephone call description. I interviewed Katie's husband and daughter, who confirmed those events which they observed and which Katie had told them

about. My wife carefully held the sealed bottles in a cardboard box on her lap and we returned to the office and placed them on top of the Cox-Calvin mini-lab in the research room, in accordance with Katie's wishes. Katie wondered if the ongoing materialization process could be extended to or teleported into the locked and sealed mini-lab. She was still buoyant and declared her intention, if agreeable with her family, to spend the night with the specimens in the research room for the first time.

With her family's concurrence, Katie arrived at the office at 7:45 p.m. prepared to spend the night. When she came, I was finishing a telephone call from Joe Nuzum³ of Washington, Pennsylvania. He is an excellent telekinetic paragnost. He had not called in months and he was annoyed at all the attention a self-confessed fraudulent metal bender-mentalistic he knew was getting from the media whereas he, who was genuine, was barely surviving, and none of the cognoscenti seemed to care. Perhaps Joe was telepathically aware of the goings on with Katie, whom he had once met under usual circumstances, and whom he resented unconsciously (telepathically) for the attention she was receiving from me in the researches and, also on an unconscious level, this serendipitous communication might have prompted Katie to even greater psychic exertions.

The following message was written by the entranced Katie while being videotaped:

Par faim la
Pray⁴ Fera
loup
Prisonnier,
extreme
detresse,
la

The (inhabitant of Prayssas?) will take the wolf prisoner by hunger, extreme distress, the...

The translated fragment is insufficient for far reaching speculation but as in the previous examples it called attention to privation and distress, two conditions which might be applicable to Katie, a caricature of the wolf imprisoned by harsh reality...her circumstances (hunger) from which she might have been emerging; from the depths of despair to the exalted state of supreme confidence and contagious euphoria.

References and Notes

- Schwarz, B.E.: "Apparent Materialization of Copper Foil, Case Report: Katie." *PURSUIT*, Volume 20, Number 4, 1987: pp. 154-158.
- The "gold," which, upon analysis, was found to be actually about 80% copper and 20% zinc, does not grossly tarnish with time. It would be helpful to have studies of Katie's blood, hair, and nails for copper content and zinc before, during and after a "gold" materialization research meeting. In view of the rarity of this process, it would also be interesting to see if there could be any changes in Katie or an experimental subject with Wilson's disease, a genetic malfunction of copper metabolism causing hepato-lenticular degeneration. (See Shore, D.; Potkin, S.C.; Weinberger, D.R.; Torrey, E.F.; Henkin, R.I.; Agarwal, R.P.; Gillin, J.C.; and Wyatt, R.J.: "CSF Copper Concentrations in Chronic Schizophrenia," *American Journal of Psychiatry* 140: pp. 754-757, 1983.)
- Schwarz, B.E.: "K: A Presumed Case of Telekinesis." *International Journal of Psychosomatics*, Vol. 32, No. 1, pp. 3-21, 1985. [Also see *PURSUIT*, Vol. 18 No. 2, pp. 50-61, 1985].
- George Andrews wrote: "'Pray,' which does not exist in French ('to pray' is 'prier'), might mean an inhabitant of the small town of Prayssas in the region that used to be known as Gascony."



The UFO Impact

Part II of a IV-Part Series

(The aspects of fluid mechanics)
by Jean-Pierre Petit

Introduction

I showed in the preceding paper how some matters with fluid mechanics got me involved in the world of UFOs. Again, a young French engineer, Bertrand Lebrun, graduate from a technical school, asked me in 1983 to do a Ph.D. thesis with him. I gave him the initial idea, which was the following:

Consider what is involved with a two-dimensional gas flow with some sort of wire perpendicular to this flow. In figure 1 this wire is represented by a point, since its direction is perpendicular to the paper.

Characteristic lines

The wire is a perturbing object and it creates sonic waves that propagate in the medium at a velocity V_s , so that:

(1) If the fluid velocity V is smaller than the velocity of sound (subsonic conditions) the sonic waves do not intersect. (See figure 1a)

(2) If $V = V_s$ (sonic conditions) the waves accumulate in the vicinity of the perturbing object. (See figure 1b)

(3) If V is larger than V_s (supersonic conditions) the sound perturbation accumulates on two surfaces represented in figure 1c by two "characteristic lines," or Mach lines. These two surfaces form a dihedral. Outside of this dihedral the observer cannot receive any sound wave emitted by the object. The characteristic surface makes an angle θ with the direction of the velocity. A very simple calculation shows that the tangent of this angle is nothing but the inverse $1/M$ of the Mach number $M = V/V_s$.

We could put a large number of such thin wires in a two-dimensional flow and define the characteristic net associated to the flow. Given this net we can derive the flow parameters. In effect, the direction and the length of the velocity vector comes directly from the two characteristic crossings at each point of the flow. (See figure 2)

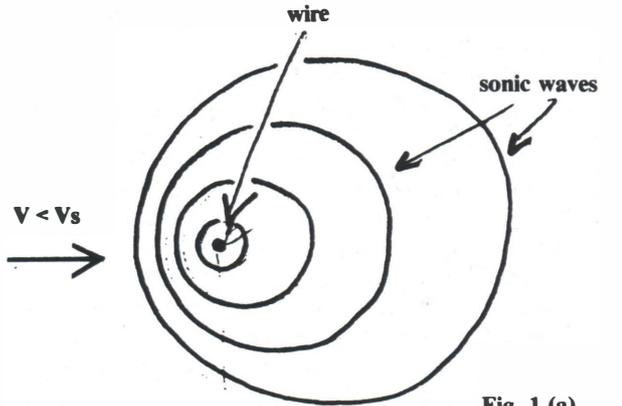


Fig. 1 (a)

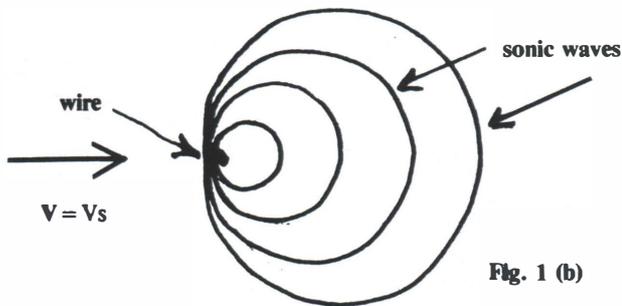


Fig. 1 (b)

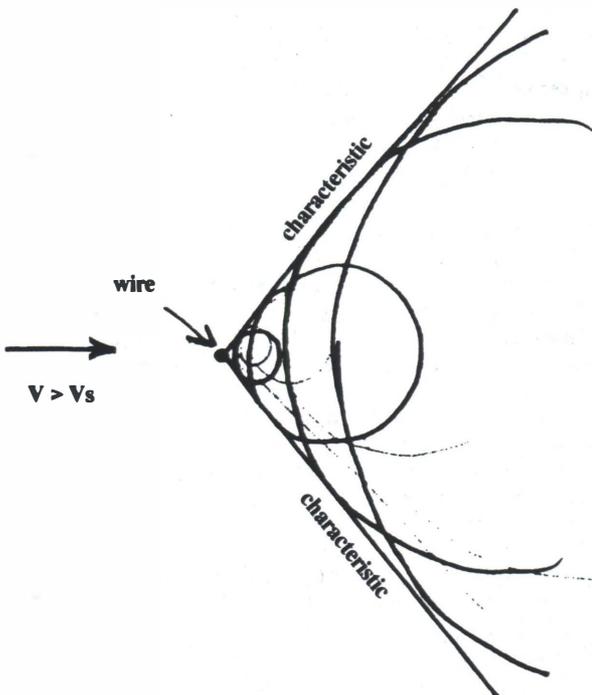


Fig. 1 Sonic waves in (a) subsonic, (b) sonic and (c) supersonic conditions.

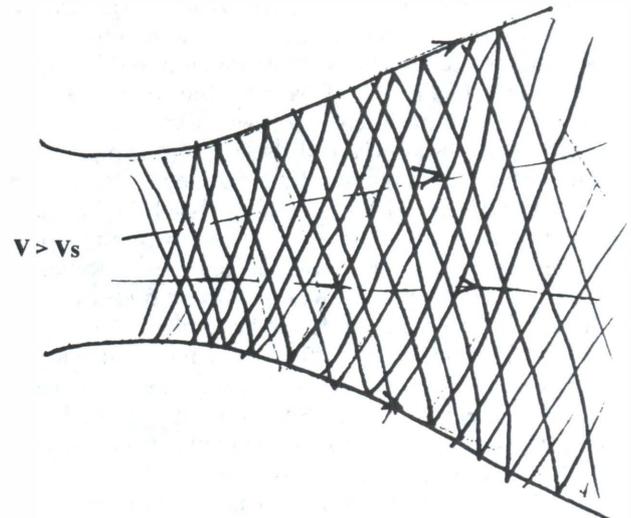


Fig. 2 The characteristics net of a two dimension flow.

In a three-dimensional flow the characteristic surfaces should form a family of cones, whose angle should be equal to the Mach angle, as defined earlier.

A wall can be considered as a succession of wires, so close to each that the flow cannot go through it. Then the velocity vector becomes tangent to the wall's direction. (See figure 3)

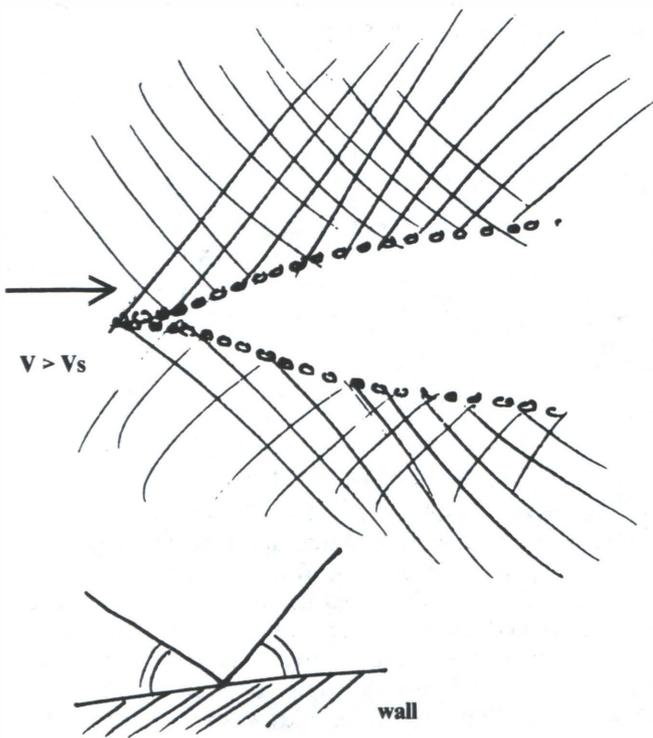


Fig. 3 Boundary conditions of the wall.

If the wall is convex the characteristics coming from the wall diverge like a fan. As the velocity increases, the pressure and temperature fall. If the wall is concave the characteristics coming from it tend to focus exactly like light rays after their passage through a glass lens.

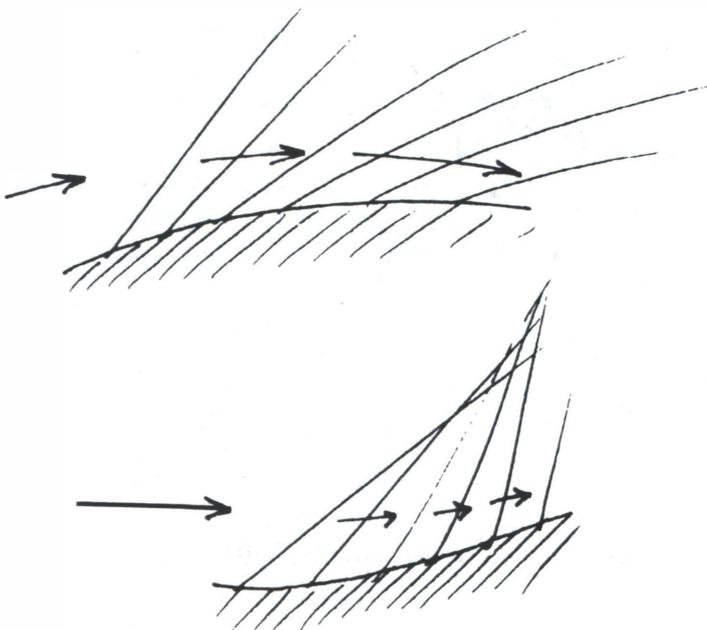


Fig. 4 Convergent and divergent flows.

If light rays are focused with a lens in a refracting medium, and if the electromagnetic energy deposit, corresponding to the absorption phenomena, is large enough, the local refractive index will be changed. (See figure 5)

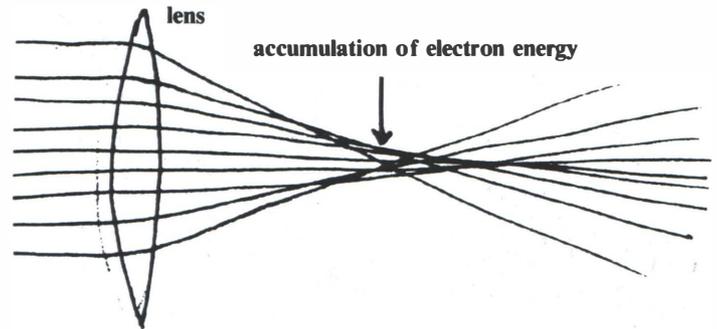


Fig. 5 Accumulation of electromagnetic energy.

Scientists call it *nonlinear optics*. It occurs in powerful laser experiments. This refractive index change is nothing but a change of the velocity of light in the medium. If we call c_0 the velocity of light in a vacuum (300,000 km per second), in a refracting medium the light velocity is smaller and the refractive index is $n = c_0/c$. The energy absorption rises c and changes the ambient or local light velocity.

In a supersonic flow the accumulation of sonic energy changes the local velocity of sound. This increases the energy absorption in this area and the result is a strong nonlinear phenomenon called a shock wave, which can be considered as an effect of nonlinear acoustics.

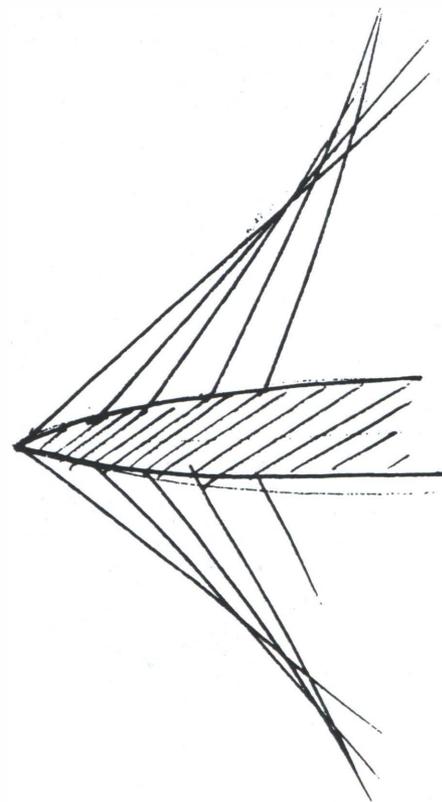


Fig. 6 The birth of a shock wave.

Of course a shock wave takes place near converging sections of a flow. Consider a flat wing where we have two converging areas, precisely at the leading edge and at the end of the profile. Thus, two systems of shock waves occur when this wing moves at a supersonic velocity in a gas.

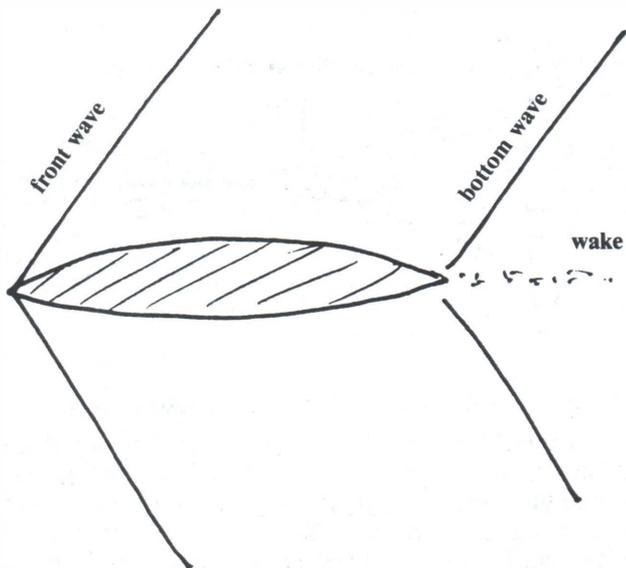


Fig. 7 Shocks associated to a flat wing.

This can illustrate the close similarity to free surface liquid flow. There the critical velocity becomes the velocity of surface waves. For example: In your bath you may rebuild the characteristic phenomena by moving a needle penetrating vertically the surface of the water. If you move the needle at a velocity V smaller than the velocity of the surface waves V_s you will get a pattern very similar to figure 1, and so on.

Near my house is a water fall. The water accelerates when falling. The next figure shows the characteristic lines at different points of the flow, showing how the characteristic angle measurement gives the direction and intensity of the velocity.

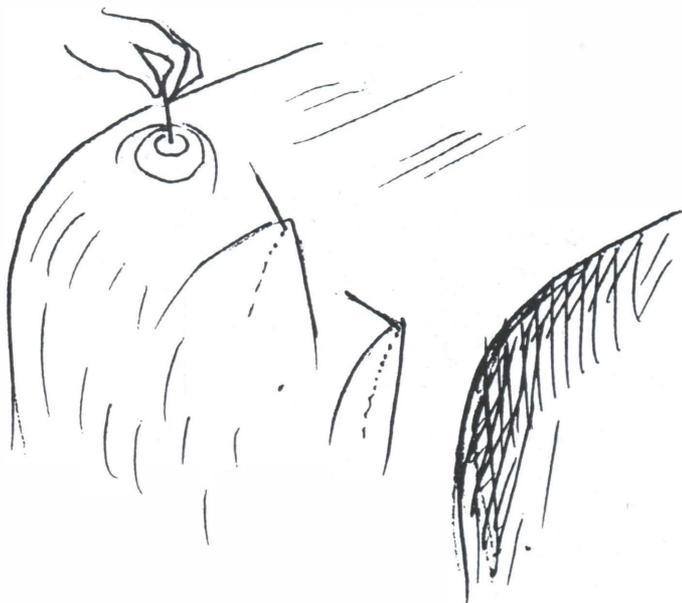


Fig. 8 The water fall.

In theoretical fluid mechanics it is easier, in supersonic conditions, to compute a characteristic system than to compute a velocity pattern. We can make a numerical computation of the characteristic system with a computer. It is classical. Remember that before the second world war, around 1930, when the characteristic theory was not yet born the aerodynamician used to "compute" the characteristic system through water simulation. A free surface water flow was then considered as some sort of analogical computer.

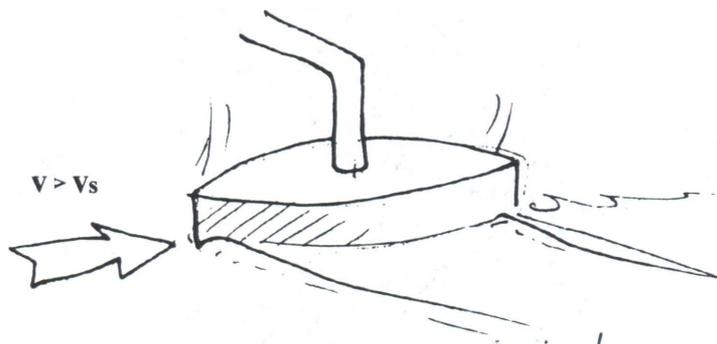


Fig. 9 Analog simulator

Free Surface MHD Water Flow Experiments

Following this idea, in 1975, Viton and I tried to approach the impact of Lorentz forces on a flow through free surface water flows. All that is described in my book, entitled *The Silence Barrier* and issued by William Kauffman Editions.* We put a small cylinder, 8mm diameter, made of insulating material, in a free surface water flow. The velocity of the liquid (water plus 2% hydrochloric acid) was 8cm/s. Thus, the flow pattern is very similar to the shock wave system in a supersonic gas experiment.

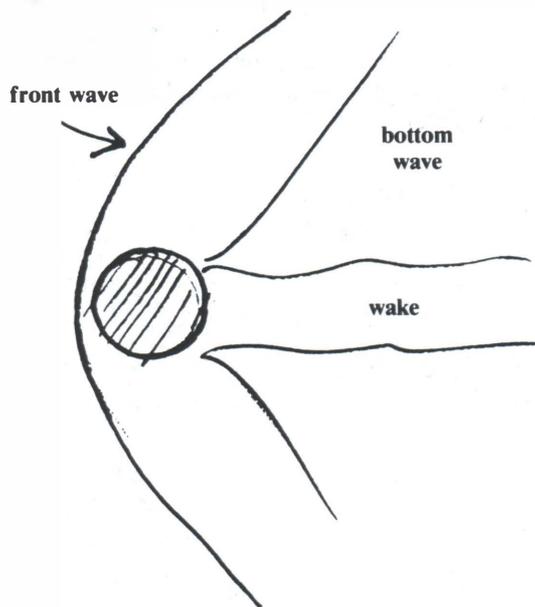


Fig. 10 Shock system around a cylindrical object.

* Upon checking William Kauffman, publisher at 95 First St., Los Altos, CA 94022 has a limited supply of "The Silence Barrier" at \$7.95 each, plus postage.

We introduced a strong magnetic field (one tesla) perpendicular to the surface and two small carbon electrodes¹ located at the wall of the cylinder, as shown on figure 8, and connected to a constant voltage electrical supply. The current density had to be limited to one ampere per square centimeter to avoid producing bubbles as a result of electrolysis.

The liquid flow corresponded to the following characteristic force:

$$F \approx \frac{\rho V^2}{2d}$$

where ρ is the volumetric mass of water, V the water velocity and d the diameter of the cylinder. $\frac{1}{2} \rho V^2$ is insignificant to the dynamical pressure associated to the water flow. The electromagnetic force is JB where J is the current density in amperes per square centimeter and B the magnetic field.

If one wants to act efficiently on the fluid, in such conditions, the electromagnetic parameters must obey:

$$JB > \frac{\rho V^2}{2d}$$

Our experimental constraints required a one tesla magnetic field. Then the front wave disappeared immediately. If the current intensity was exactly the critical one the level of the water, corresponding to the pressure distribution, was unaltered with respect to its upstream value. But if we insisted, the level was depressed, as shown on figure 8.

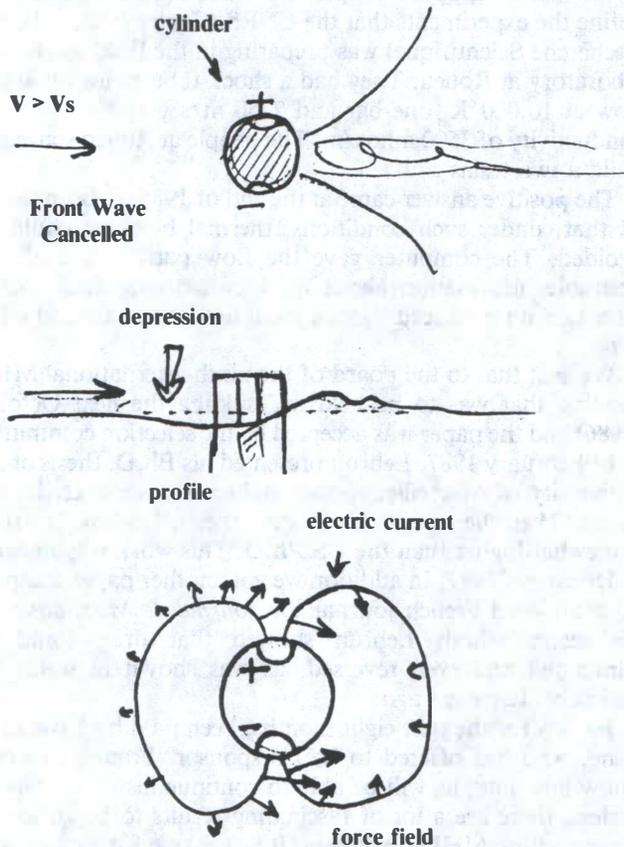


Fig. 11 MHD experimental results.

It showed that a depression could be controlled at the front part of a vessel cruising at supersonic, or even hypersonic, velocity in a gas. We called it a MHD aerodyne and suggested such a flying machine could fly in air like an aerial mole "digging" the air in front by Lorentz force action.

In these 1976 experiments the backward shock was not suppressed, but reinforced. Later we did other experiments with objects similar to a ship. It showed to us that we had to accelerate the fluid in the converging sections and to slow it down in the diverging sections. In fact, we had to minimize all the variation of the flow parameters. Around a small ship a shockless system, with flat water everywhere, was obtained with a multielectrode design and constant water velocity. Around a ship figure 9 shows velocity variation and in figure 10 we show how the force field should be shaped in order to keep this velocity almost constant along a profile.

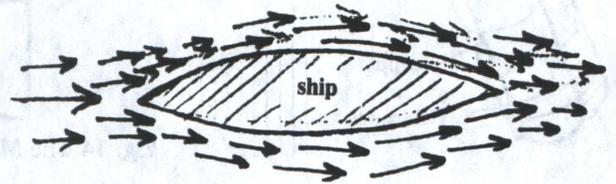


Fig. 12 Velocity along the profile of a ship.

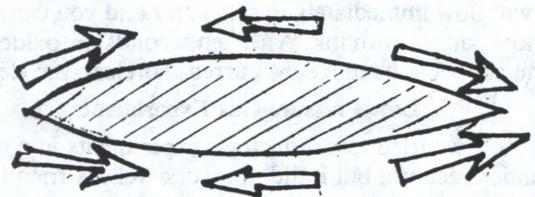


Fig. 13 The adequate force field for wave cancellation.

This analogical result shows a very interesting aspect of wave cancellation, that we discovered later. When you accelerate a fluid by Lorentz force, you release energy. But inversely when you slow it down, it brings energy to you. The decelerating sections of such a converter behave like a MHD generator. As such, the energy expense represents the difference between the two. Does it mean that wave cancellation would need zero energy? Certainly not. The cost lies in the Joule effect. If the electrical conductivity is poor the efficiency will be bad and the energy cost large.

In water experiments the electrical conductivity, due to the additional 2% HCl was close to one mho per meter. In such a condition we can define the MHD efficiency as:

$$\begin{aligned} \eta &= \frac{\text{Propulsive power}}{\text{Propulsive power} + \text{Joule power}} \\ &= \frac{JBV}{JBV + \rho J^2} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\rho J}{BV}} \end{aligned}$$

with $B = 1$ tesla, $V = 8 \cdot 10^{-2}$ m/s, $J = 10^4$ A/m², $\rho = 10^3$ kg/m³, notice how small the efficiency is. For submarine nuclear propulsion, in salt water this MHD efficiency would require at least a 20 teslas superconducting magnetic field. Notice that this MHD efficiency grows with B .

It is perfectly possible to reproduce such simple experiments in a technical school if you own the magnet. But the readers can produce a slow MHD flow, just using the following:

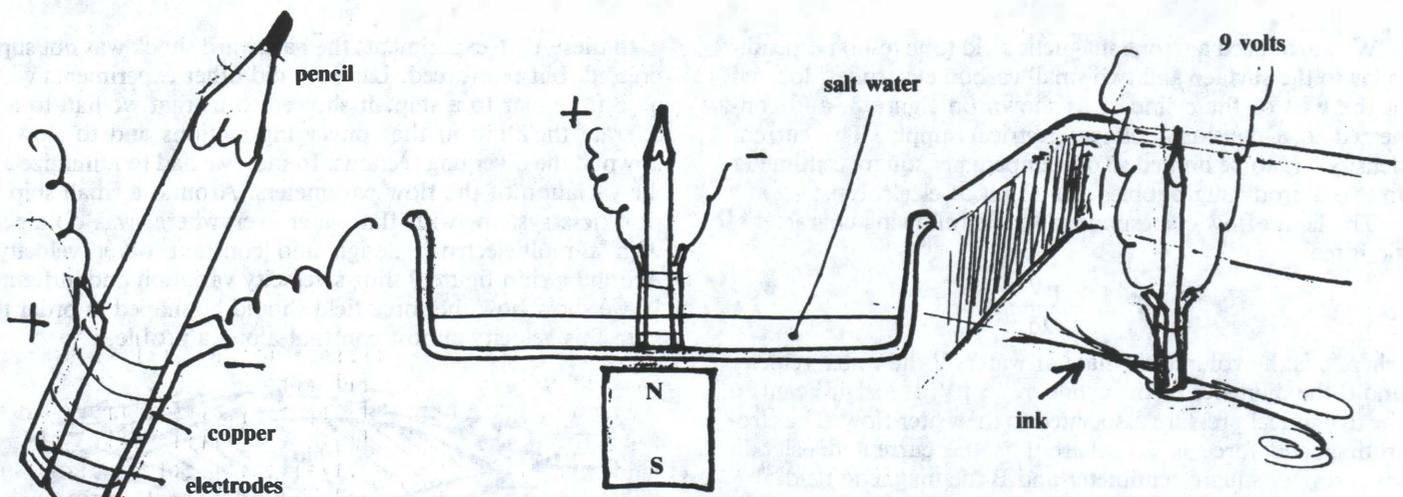


Fig. 14 The MHD "kitchen experiment"

Put salt in water up to the point of saturation. Fix two copper electrodes on a pencil and connect it to a battery. The current will flow immediately in salt water and you can visualize the flow pattern with ink. After ten seconds an oxide deposit on the copper will reduce the current, so clean the electrodes.

Low Pressure Gas Experiments

In 1977 we tried to conduct gas experiments in a glass bell jar under vacuum, but it did not work well. A friend of mine made spectroscopic measurements of the gas temperature in the discharge. It was found very high: something like a thousand degrees. Then, we discovered another very important feature of MHD acceleration in gas. The Joule effect caused a strong energy deposit in the gas, so that the gas temperature rose as well as ambient pressure, too. Then we got a negative pressure gradient that tended to slow down the gas. In our low-density experiments the computation showed that the slowing-down effect due to the pressure gradient (thermal blocking) was larger than the accelerating force!

Our low-density experiments showed a lot of additional things and it would take too many pages to report on it here. For an example, we ionized the gas (10^{-1} torr air) with a high-frequency electric field as provided by a simple Rhumkorff coil. The frequency was around one megahertz. We tried different aluminum shapes. We expected to create just a glow discharge around the object, but the sharp edges of a disc-shaped body reinforced the field, thus, we got high-frequency sparks, as shown in figure 12. The similarity to the so-called truncated rays, as reported by the witnesses, was evident.

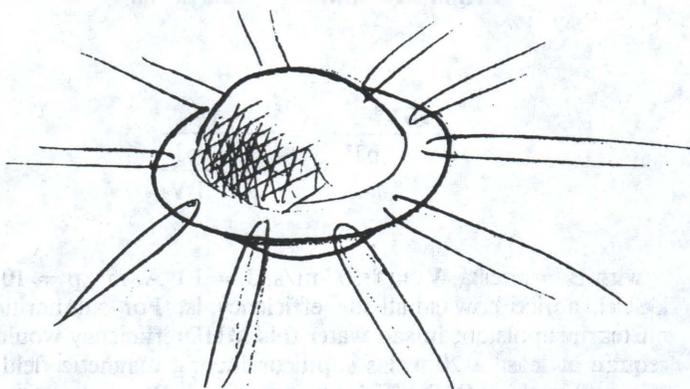


Fig. 15 High frequency sparks, like "truncated rays"

1. Metal electrodes, like copper, will oppose a quick polarization with an oxide deposit.

Lebrun Ph.D. Thesis

In 1983 Bertrand Lebrun, a young engineer, started his Ph.D. thesis under my direction. I recommended the use of the characteristic theory. Lebrun started with a simple Macintosh computer and the complete simulation of a two-dimensional steady flow took two days for each run. Later, we shifted to a much faster VAX. Lebrun started with the "internal problem." Given a converging nozzle with a supersonic flow, was it possible to avoid any shock?

We were supposed to provide information in order to define the experiments that the CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) was preparing in the fluid mechanics laboratory at Rouen. They had a shock tube giving an argon flow at $10,000^\circ\text{K}$, one bar and 2750 m/s with the electrical conductivity of 3500 mhos/m . The people at Rouen started to build a two-teslas coil.

The positive answer came at the end of 1985. Lebrun showed that, under such conditions, thermal blocking could be avoided. The computer gave the flow pattern and all the desirable information about fluid parameters. One month later Lebrun produced shockless configurations around a flat wing.

We sent that to the board of the ninth international MHD meeting that was to be held in Tsukuba the next October (1986) and the paper was accepted by the selection committee.

In February 1987, Lebrun presented his Ph.D. thesis at the University of Marseille, to the applied mathematics department. Then he wrote his "state thesis," whose level is somewhat higher than the US Ph.D. This work was finished in December 1987. In addition we got another paper accepted by a top-level French journal: *Le Journal de Mécanique*. In his second thesis Lebrun showed that drag could be eliminated and even reversed, as was shown in water experiments ten years ago.

He has, for the past eight months, been paid by a friend of mine, who has offered to be his sponsor. Frankly, I don't know how long he will be able to continue his work. Nevertheless, there are a lot of fascinating results to be gotten by these exciting MHD aerodynes. It is a shame for France, as I said in the first paper. But let's not return to this sad reality.

After directing Lebrun's work during those five years, I realized MHD had no future in France and that our team was condemned to disappear sooner or later, so that I shifted towards cosmology, and this will be the subject of the next paper [Part III].



Sky Anomalies – Oceanic Mysteries

by Gary S. Mangiacopra

INTRODUCTION

Mankind, throughout his history, has always been fascinated with the unreachable sky and the unfathomable depths of the oceans — two regions that, for millenniums, were explained away by superstition and folktales to account for the many strange phenomena observed therein. Now, in this present, 20th century after man has been able to better penetrate these two dynamically opposed regions, many of the observed anomalous events have been assigned more logical or practical explanations by earth-study scientists.

St. Elmos fire, an eerie phenomenon seen by seamen for centuries as an omen of disaster, is now recognized for what it is: An electrical phenomenon that manifests itself during periods of violent atmospheric stress, as in oceanic storms. Though harmless, its appearance throughout the centuries had given rise to many superstitious meanings among mariners and others.

Another electrical anomaly, though not so harmless, is ball lightning, which has been known to cause serious physical damage. Not until the early 1960's was this phenomenon recognized in the earth sciences as a rare and unusual — but tangible — anomaly.

The ultimate of sky anomalies, determined to originate from beyond the earth's atmosphere, are meteors. Once considered by learned men of science of the early 19th century as nothing more than peasants tales of stones falling from the skies, it has since been proved that these stones *do* actually fall through the heavens. In today's astronomy, this is accepted as an everyday occurrence. In fact, everyday our earth is bombarded by an unknown number of meteors, the majority of which are small and minute, and burn up in our atmosphere before reaching the earth. Only the larger ones survive a rite of passage to actually strike our earth's surface, but rare are their journeys viewed by the eyes of man — especially at sea.

Today, meteors per se, are not considered mysterious unexplainable anomalies, that is, no longer to be categorized as Fortean events. But there are a few instances in which events surrounding some "meteor" occurrences can be classified as "unexplainable" including strange noises, odd smells, explosions, too long in flight and near or actual collisions with ocean-going ships.

To the average person schooled in the conventional sciences, such near disasters with ships can be accounted as mere coincidences or chance, by which the laws of averaging would allow such events to occur over several decades. But to an investigator of Fortean anomalies such a simplified explanation may not seem so logical, when events that occurred in relationship to the meteors are considered.

METHODOLOGY

Like many unexplainable phenomena, all that is left of such an occurrence after nearly a century is some obscure published record. The following cases were located in various newspapers, and for the most part, were buried on some back page as column fillers. Taken separately, these cases appear insignificant; but taken together over several decades of time, a possible pattern may be obvious.

I have taken each of the following cases and broken them down into pertinent constituent parts and placed them in a chronological order as they occurred in either the Atlantic or

Pacific Oceans.

Case I

Vessel: *Scandinavian* (Allan Line)¹

Date: 22 January 1890 (at night)

Location: Latitude 41°46', longitude 65°06'.

Weather: High seas, dense snowstorms and blowing winds, occasional squalls of hail and rain.

Observations: Enroute during her passage from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Glasgow, Scotland, Chief Officer Miller was on watch when a twinkling ball of fire descended with a hissing sound and exploded on the decks between the main and mizzen masts. The explosion caused sparks to be scattered all over the ship, with hundreds of pieces of metal flying in all directions. Holes were burned in the decks, and several of the crew were burned.

Comments: This anomaly is what we now call ball lightning, as indicated by the then occurring adverse weather conditions. What is interesting is the amount of damage that was caused.

Case II

Vessel: *Yemassee* (Line unknown)²

Date: Several days prior to 16 January 1894.

(Just about dawn)

Location: 15 miles south of Charleston Bar, South Carolina.

Observations: Arriving at New York City, Captain McKee and Chief Officer Catherine reported that they were the only officers on deck at the time. Officer Catherine gave the following details of the event:

"The meteor was dead ahead and far up in the heavens when we first saw it, and seemed to be coming straight for the ship. I thought judgement day had come for sure and that some planet was about to strike the earth. It was as big as six full moons and burned like the sun.

"Suddenly it shot off to the east, followed by a great streak of fire. When I saw it was not going to strike the ship, I felt some relief. It frightened me badly, I admit. After going about 50 degrees to the east it began to take a zigzag course. It darted about the heavens at great speed, just as a bolt of lightning would. It continued to go about in that way for a long time.

"At last it burst into more than 100 pieces like a sky-rocket. The small fireballs were shot all over the heavens in every direction and gradually died away as the fire does from an exploded rocket.

"I pulled out my watch when the meteor, or whatever it was, began its zigzag course, and the display lasted more than half an hour. The captain and I both watched the thing from the time it started until the great streaks of fire it left in its wake gradually died out."

Comments: A meteor that "shot off to the east," taking a "zigzag course" and lasted "half an hour," certainly is not characteristic of any known type of behavior for a meteor. Though the explosion of this anomaly is typical of the ending of some meteors that do enter the atmosphere, this is a most peculiar sky phenomenon leaving much unanswered as to just what was seen.

Case III

Vessel: *Brooklyn City* (Bristol Line)³

Date: 12 February 1896 (3:05 a.m.)

Weather: Howling gale, cold

Location: One-fourth distance from New York City to Swansea, England.

Observation: Laden with tin, the vessel left Swansea on January 28th and during its 20-day voyage met all kinds of adverse weather. Chief Officer Ellis and Second Officer Deehle watched as a blinding flash of light blazed upon the truck of the foremast. Then, with a sharp crack of lightning and the sound of splintering wood, the truck split in two and fell on the deck, and a big splinter of the foretopmast came clattering after. A globe of fire, high, hot ball, two feet in diameter ran down the foremast quickly and gleamed with an intense white light, as though metal heated to its highest point. It illuminated the mast and rigging with a strange ghostly light and then struck the deck, bursting into a thousand brilliant fragments like a big rocket. Splinters were strewn on deck, with the ruins of the highly ornamental truck.

Comments: This is clearly an incident of ball lightning that occurred during adverse weather conditions.

Case IV

Vessel: *Willkommen* (German oil tank steamer)^{4,5}

Date: 17 November 1896 (after midnight)

Weather: Heavy seas

Location: Latitude 48°10'N, longitude 44°W

Observations: Arriving at New York City from Danzig, Poland, with 6,000 bags of beet sugar, Captain Schaeffer reported that a huge meteor shot across the sky from the southeast to the northwest plunging, hissing into the sea some distance ahead of the steamer. Almost immediately afterwards, a huge sea, like a tidal wave, broke over the vessel's bow and swept aft, doing but slight damage.

Comments: This close encounter with a meteor at sea by the *Willkommen*, may have been a straggler belonging to the Leonid meteor shower that was due on the morning of the 13th of that month, arriving several days later after the main stream had passed the earth—a consideration that has some merit to explain its appearance.

Case V

Vessel: *Cawdor* (British)⁶

Date: 20 August 1897

Weather: Electrical storm

Location: Coast of Chile

Observations: Arriving in San Francisco, California from Swansea, England, on Nov. 20th after crossing Cape Horn on August 12th. All hands were on deck when a huge meteor flashed across the heavens and plunged into the sea close to the vessel to the concern of the crew over this near collision. Water was churned up and swept over the deck with a strong sulphurous odor hanging around the vessel.

Comments: A meteor having an odor that may have been generated during its passage through the atmosphere is itself a rare event. But that it had come so close to causing a disaster at sea keeps butting the statistical odds for such possible coincidences.

Case VI

Vessel: *Supply* (United States)⁷

Date: 28 February 1904 (6:10 a.m.)

Weather: Clouds, less than a mile high

Location: Latitude 35°58'N, longitude 128°36'W.

Observations: Lieutenant Frank H. Schofield, commander of the vessel enroute from Guam to San Francisco, California, and two others reported three meteors appearing near the horizon below the clouds traveling in a group from the northwest by north directly towards the ship. His detailed account is as follows:

“At first their angular motion was rapid and color a rather bright red. As they approached the ship they appeared to soar, passing above the clouds at an elevation of about forty-five degrees.

“After rising above the clouds their angular motion became less and less until it ceased, when they appeared to be moving directly away from the earth at an elevation of about seventy-five degrees and in a direction west-northwest. It was noted that the color became less pronounced as the meteors gained in angular elevation.”

Schofield added to his comments about the most remarkable size and how in formation these meteors flew. The largest meteor had an apparent area of about six suns and was egg shaped, with the sharper end forward. This end was jagged. The second appeared to be twice the size of the sun; the third about sun size and both these were round.

Comments: Meteors do occasionally fly parallel with the earth and sometimes skim the earth's atmosphere to fly back into outer space again. But meteors, if Schofield's description is correct, do not fly upwards! Whether this was some unusual atmospheric anomaly is debatable, but it should be taken into consideration.

Case VII

Vessel: *St. Andrew* (Phoenix Line)^{8,9}

Date: 30 October 1906 (Half an hour before sunset)

Weather: Cloudy

Location: 60 miles eastward of Cape Race.

Observations: First Officer V. Spencer, on board the vessel enroute from Antwerp, Belgium, to Hoboken, New Jersey, told in detail of his observation of four meteors:

“I was standing on the bridge at half-past five, when I saw three meteors ahead about three miles away, flash as they fell, although it was before sundown. The sky was clouded and I had hardly noticed the fall of the meteors when the chief engineer cried out from below on deck, ‘Look at that.’

“There, off to the south on our port beam, was a big meteor falling plainly less than a mile away. It appeared to be saucer shaped and showed like a white hot coal streamed a shower of reddish fire fully a mile long. While we were looking the meteor zigzagged, I supposed on account of its shape, and plunged into the sea. Up rose clouds of steam and the sea boiled for a space fully five or six hundred feet in diameter for several minutes.

“While the flight lasted only a few seconds, it seemed an hour, we saw it so plainly, and had it struck our ship it would have melted its way down through the steel hull and sent us without a moment's warning to the bottom.”

Comments: A zigzagging meteor that was saucer shaped, is indeed, an unusual celestial anomaly. That it was able to boil thesea where it had struck for a considerable area and amount of time is also interesting. Though in this instance, the vessel was a safe distance away and was not, fortunately, placed in any immediate danger. As there were also three other meteors seen to fall before its appearance, it can be safely concluded

that this phenomenon was a meteor seen as it made its way through the atmosphere and hitting the ocean's surface.

Case VIII

Vessel: *Brazilia* (Hamburg-American Line)^{8,9}

Date: 30 October 1906 (7:30 p.m.)

Location: 150 miles further eastward of *St. Andrew's* position.

Observations: Captain Russ, as noted in the logbook of his vessel saw a monster meteor drop into the sea.

Comments: As neither the *Brazilia* nor the *St. Andrew* could have known of the other's observations of falling meteors that had occurred two hours apart, there is independent confirmation of what was seen by each vessel. It can be speculated, that perhaps the earth was going through a small meteor storm whose focal point was this portion of the Atlantic ocean on this date.

Case IX

Vessel: *American* (Line unknown)¹⁰

Date: 27 November 1906 (at night)

Location: Between Dungeness and Port Angeles, Washington.

Observations: Captain McWilliams commented:

"I saw the meteor some time before it fell. I thought at first it was a shooting star, but it seemed to come dangerously near. It passed and fell into the water about a hundred feet or less, astern of us. It glowed as though white hot. It cut the air with a hissing sound, and went down with a great plunk and sizzle."

Comments: Of the cases so far, this was the closest encounter by which a vessel could actually have been destroyed, or at least severely damaged. Unfortunately, its accurate size was not given by the captain.

Case X

Vessel: *Antelope* (British bark)¹¹

Date: Uncertain, but prior to May 1907

Location: Latitude 9°, longitude 123°W.

Observations: The *Antelope* was sailing between San Francisco, California and Liverpool, England. An unnamed crew member commented as to the events that had happened during her voyage:

"I was leaning over the rail looking at a brigantine becalmed about three miles away. We hadn't spoken her and didn't know what she was or where she was from. I could tell from the taper of her masts that she was American built, but that was all.

She was a trim little craft and it was enough to break a seaman's heart the way she was wiped off the face of the earth that night...

"...I was leaning on the rail at about six bells, with my cheek in my palm, looking away where the brigantine lay in the moonlight. The motion of the bark on the swell was slow and kind of soothing, and I had got sort of half dreaming with the lazy roll of her, when I was startled broad awake by a bright light in the sky.

"Looking up, I saw a great ball of fire rushing down through the air on a slant, and there was a dark cloud above. By the time I had hauled in the slack of my mind enough to know that it was a shooting star the glare of it got so bright that the light of the moon was of no more account than a slush lamp, and the stars were put out altogether.

"There was a rushing, hissing sound in the air as the thing came down. When it got pretty near the light almost blinded me, and I could see nothing but the fiery gleam of it on the water. It wasn't as long from the time it hove in sight until it struck as I've been telling how it looked. It must have been traveling like a cannon ball, of maybe a good many more knots a minute. In the glare I lost sight of the brigantine, I heard a crashing sound, and the ball of fire disappeared, leaving everything black before me eyes for a moment.

"When I blinked the right sight back into my eyes and got used to the moonlight, that seemed pale and sickly, I glanced over the starboard quarter, to where the brigantine had been, but there wasn't a trace of her to be seen. I could hardly believe my own eyes, although they were a good pair in those days...I must have been a bit dazed by what had happened and got confused in my bearings. But in no direction was so much as a spar in sight, and off there, on the quarter there was a rising and falling of short waves, their tops reaching the glint of the moonbeam, that showed where the shooting star had gone down into the sea. That was where the brigantine had been.

"The flash and roar of the falling star had aroused the watch on deck, and the men were gathered in a group by the foremast, blinking their eyes and wondering what had happened. They had seen all that I had and didn't know what had made the great glare of light. I told them to look for the brigantine, and sent a man aloft to see if anything could be made out where she had been. They were just about struck dumb when they saw the sea clear of all craft but our own, and asked me if the brigantine had blown up. The man aloft reported that he could not make out anything...

"Thinking some poor fellow might be floating about where the brigantine went down, I called up the Captain and all hands, and the old man sent out a boat to search. The second mate went in the boat, and when he came back, he brought only a bit of scorched deck planking that he picked up adrift where he calculated the brigantine had been. That was all the trace of her that was left, and we never knew her name or anything more about her."

Comments: This alleged account was originally published in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* newspaper as a probable Sunday-supplement article, and therefore, must be viewed with serious consideration as being a fabrication, as presently there is no confirmation with regard to the vessel named. Also, that the crew member who is alleged to have seen the nearby ship disaster was unnamed in the article, leaving more suspicion about the validity of this account.

Case XI

Vessel: *Cambrian* (Line unknown)¹²

Date: 17 August 1907 (noon)

Weather: Sky cloudless, ocean smooth, no haze.

Location: Latitude 42°5'N, and longitude 51°10'W.

Observations: This 6,000-ton cargo vessel was enroute from London, England and had departed there on August 7th for its American destination of New York City or Boston. It was not clearly identified by the writer who was the second officer and gave the following lengthy account:

"...Mr. Thomas Hughes, the first officer, mounted the ladder to the bridge to relieve me, my watch on deck being over. After some minutes conversation with him I

was about to leave the bridge and go below, when our attention was attracted to an unusual number of stars which were falling from the heavens away over the star-board quarter...

"The stars continued falling for about two minutes and we remarked that they all traveled in very nearly the same direction across the sky, from northeast to southwest. Some of them left trails as they soared over our heads, and the ship's rigging dropped a tracery of shadows along the deck; the effect being the same as if a big fireworks display was in progress.

Indeed, the stars looked for all the world like the rockets which are used at sea as signals of distress to attract the attention of passing vessels. By and by, however, they grew fainter and less numerous, and presently ceased altogether.

"While Hughes and I were standing talking and wondering at the meaning of this unusual stellar activity another shower took place, even more striking than the first, and soon the display got quite alarming, passing as nearly all the stars did, directly over the ship...All the time the stars were becoming more and more luminous.

"...from the sky to the northeast, there flared up something that looked like a rocket, save that it was much larger, and the train of fire that followed its glowing head trailed away behind like a horse's tail, while fragments of fiery matter fell away from it like a shower of spray, and now and then a larger piece dropped off into the sea. We had no time to ponder on the glowing apparition before it had reached the zenith of its bow-like flight, and the light from the incandescent mass fell like the break of day on the deck of the Cambrian, flooding her wake, and apparently heading directly for the ship...

"In less time than it takes to tell we were confident that a meteor of enormous size was after us...The great luminous shape seemed to pause awhile in its flight, and then drop toward the sea, heading directly for us as it came. Its light transformed the night into day, and the bright stars that had been whizzing and zigzagging here and there were lost sight of in the brilliancy of this newer light. The phenomenon was taking place so quickly that it would have been useless to alter our course in an effort to avoid the onrushing meteor: there was nothing to be done but stand on and take our chance.

"As the meteor began to plunge downward in its flight through the atmosphere we heard a strange roaring sound — faint at first, but growing louder and louder as the glowing sphere came nearer. The whole sea and sky were now bathed in a blinding bluish-white light, such as is produced by a calcium burner, and the electric bulbs on the ship became dimmed and turned a sickly yellow.

"...The meteor was now quite close, and such was its brilliance that it was almost impossible to turn our eyes toward it. The hissing and roaring noise which accompanied its progress was sufficient to strike terror into the head of the most hardened of seamen. In the fraction of a second, as it seemed, its glowing head had expanded to the size of a balloon, against which the funnel and aftermasts were sharply silhouetted.

"...Nothing could shut out the dazzling glare of the meteor which pierced through our closed fingers,

clasped tight over our faces to protect our eyes. The air was filled with a deafening din, such as a dozen railway trains in a tunnel might create, while the hiss of the fiery fragments as they struck the water gave me the impression of a ship's boilers leaking in every plate. Then, with a crash that shook the ship, the meteor struck the sea not 50 feet away. The upheaval was terrific, but we paid little attention to it, for the peril was past.

"The Cambrian had escaped, but by an exceedingly narrow margin. Not a top or a spar was touched when the meteor, literally as big as a house, passed close over our mastheads and fell into the sea. The vessel soon ran out of the commotion caused by the aerial monster, though not before she had slipped some water along the after-deck, caused by the first wave which rushed from the spot where the monster had disappeared."

Comments: Of all the reported near-collisions, the *Cambrian* is claimed to have the closest encounter. However, this report was published in *Wide-World Magazine*, that makes this account, like the one before it, a possible fabrication on the part of the writer. Though, as the specific name of the vessel was given and one of the officers, the possibility of this being nothing more than a "seamen's tale" is less likely. Until further confirmation can be acquired, this case be best viewed with reservations as to its veracity.

Case XII

Vessel: *Ocean* (Dutch)¹³

Date: 4 March 1908 (3 a.m.)

Location: 39°59 'N. and 71°27 'W.

Observations: Arriving in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on March 17th, Captain Benkert and the crew of his vessel reported that a descending meteor struck the sea, resulting in huge waves to sweep over the vessel, after which the sea settled, the atmosphere became filled with a suffocating gas so strong that the crew had to remain on deck — the deck itself covered with a peculiar brownish powder. After which, a shower of blazing meteors began to fall about the vessel, lasting several minutes.

The sea about the vessel became phosphorescent, with the sky having dazzling clouds of every color dancing about.

Comments: This meteor had several interesting characteristics: that it left a trail of brownish powder on the vessel; a smell that was either directly or indirectly caused by the meteor striking the sea; and that it was close enough to the vessel to cause waves to be swept over the deck.

As there was afterwards a show of meteors falling about the vessel for several minutes duration, it may be concluded that this was a small swarm of meteors that was hitting this specific focal point on the ocean.

Case XIII

Vessel: *Bostonian* (Leyland Line)¹⁴

Date: 24 February 1912 (5 a.m.)

Location: Three days out from Boston coming from Manchester, England.

Observations: Arriving in Boston on February 26th, Captain Perry reported seeing a meteor flashing brilliantly and falling to the southwest of the vessel. A loud hissing sound was heard as it approached the water, then fell into the ocean a few ships lengths from the bow. Water was dashed over the decks of the steamer.

Comments: A sound was associated with the meteor fall, with the vessel coming within close distance to where the meteor had struck the water.

Case XIV

Vessel: *Bohemian* (Leyland Line)¹⁵

Date: Prior to 29 March 1913 (night?)

Weather: Snowstorm

Location: Between Boston, Massachusetts, and Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Observations: Arriving at Boston on March 29th, from Liverpool, England, after towing the disabled British steamer *Cayo Rimano* to Halifax, the crew and passengers reported a meteor that appeared on the steamer's port side in a heavy snowstorm. Crossing her bows at a great speed, it exploded with a deafening report and blinding glare about 40 feet from the surface of the ocean. Causing all parts of the steamer to be lighted.

Comments: Again, a meteor that exploded near the vessel.

Case XV

Vessel: *Laplant* (Red Star Line)¹⁶

Date: 13 February 1914 (night)

Weather: Snowy sky

Location: Seven days out from New York City.

Observations: Captain J. Bradshaw reported a giant meteor appearing and swept in a great downward curve straight for his ship. The falling mass of fire was directly over the ship when it exploded in the air with a shock that shook the plates of the vessel.

Comments: This is another description given in which the meteor took a curved path, as though specifically attracted to the vessel.

ANALYSIS

Of the 15 cases, each can be placed into one of the following three categories of aerial phenomena.

St. Elmos Fire/Ball lightning: Cases 1 and 3

Sky Anomalies: Cases 2 and 6

Meteors: Cases 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.

CONCLUSION

As plotted on the map, the first and second categories — due to a lack of a sufficient number of cases — can be referred to as random encounters that occurred in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. However, it is the third category that may show a possible pattern emerging. As shown on the map, the majority of the cases occurred along the northeastern portion of the Atlantic along the North American continent. But whether this pattern is definite or just sheer coincidence is conjecturable. It must be pointed out that New York City or Boston were the main destinations of these ocean crossing steamers. And, that the steamers followed set sea routes in order to cross the Atlantic in the fastest amount of time by traveling the least amount of sea miles. Thereby, anomalies that may have occurred on the voyage would have happened along this set sea route, and since literally tens of thousands of vessels would have traveled this route over a period of several decades, statistically this should produce the largest number of sightings of anomalies. Yet, in actuality, the newspaper columns were almost totally void of such reports for the late 19th and early 20th centuries. After World War I, such reports were totally neglected by the newspapers.*

One unmistakable fact can be deduced: that several near disasters had almost occurred to sea-going vessels by the bombardment of meteors from outer space. And that only by the most fortunate of circumstances did the vessels survive such encounters and by which the ship's crews were able to report what had occurred. But what of the possible cases in

which both the ships and the passengers were not so fortunate? Such disasters at sea would leave no witnesses to tell these tales. It may be concluded, that possibly a minute few vessels throughout the centuries were destroyed by the chance encounters of meteors at sea and thereby account for the disappearances of some vessels now long forgotten in some insurance company's record/log book. Though of all of the hundred of thousands of vessels constructed, by far more were lost to bad weather than by meteors from space.

The odds of such a loss by a meteor is like hitting the head of a pin on a dartboard at 100 feet with a grain of sand. Toss the grain enough times, and ultimately you will hit the pin's head.

Perhaps nature is having a cosmic joke at our Fortean expense, and that we are looking for some ominous pattern when there really is none. And that these anomalies are just sheer coincidence that happen over a set period of time.

I leave it to the reader to decide.

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***Editor's Note:** Gary Mangiacopra, avid collector of Fortean articles, covers a span of exactly 24 years ending about 75 years ago. These old newsclips could have easily been passed over by ufologists but, put together here, give us a new perspective on "meteors."

Particularly interesting is the sailor's description of a "meteor" being "saucer shaped" more than 40 years before Kenneth Arnold's now famous "flying saucer" quote.

If we are to speculate that some of these "meteors" might have been intelligently controlled craft from outer space, we may likewise speculate that fewer such reports, following World War I, may have been due to the easier detection of newer, steel-hulled, ocean-going vessels and electric generator-lighted ships that were not as prevalent when these reports were made around the century up until 1914.



'Big Creature' Hoaxes

Florida's 'Giant Penguin' Hoax Unmasked

The year was 1948.

In Clearwater, Fla., a town of about 15,000, crazy things were happening. On a morning in February, a resident out for a walk on Clearwater Beach discovered what looked like the footprints of a monster and ran home to call the police.

The tracks were large — 14 inches long, 11 inches wide. They had three long toes with claws. Whatever had made them apparently had come out of the Gulf of Mexico at the south end of the beach and, taking 4-foot to 6-foot strides, had walked for more than two miles in the soft sand before returning to the water.

The police didn't know what had made the tracks, but an official with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department said he had "studied the footprints carefully and was personally assured that, if a prank, it was one of the most masterful ever perpetrated in Pinellas."

Over the next 10 years, the footprints of the "Clearwater Monster" appeared frequently: on Clearwater Beach, on Indian Rocks Beach, on the Courtney Campbell Parkway, on St. Petersburg Beach, on the beach at Sarasota. The "monster" also left its prints on Honey-moon Island off the coast at Dunedin, along the banks of the Anclote River north of Tarpon Springs and on the banks of the Suwannee River, where U.S. 19 crosses the river, five miles east of Old Town in Dixie County.

In July 1948, four fliers from the Dunedin Flying School said that they had seen the creature off Clearwater Beach and that it looked like a furry log with a head shaped like a hog's.

Because of the "monster" sightings, the "little town on Florida's West Coast" made headlines and news broadcasts nationwide.

Ivan T. Sanderson, noted zoologist and science commentator for WNBC in New York as well as the science writer for the *New York Herald Tribune* and WNBC's special events director, visited Florida in November 1948 to study the tracks along the Suwannee. Sanderson, who died in 1973, determined after months of study that the tracks had been made by some form of giant penguin. He called the creature "Florida Three-Toes."

A number of local people, including the police, believed the whole thing was a hoax. But they had no way to prove it, and no one ever came forward to admit to it.

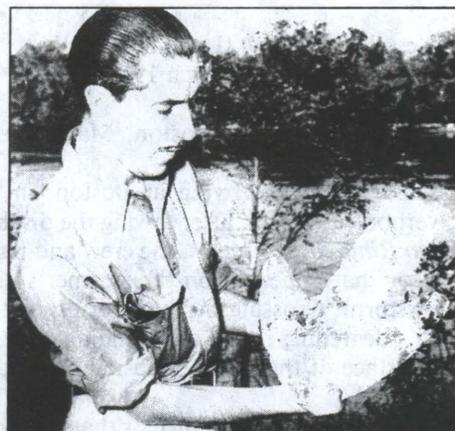
Until now.

Tony Signorini still chuckles when he thinks about the stories that sprang up to explain the footprints that he and the late Al Williams stamped into the sand.

Williams was a notorious prankster in Clearwater in the 1940s and 1950s. Just for fun, he once sneaked a horse into the holding area at the Clearwater police station. Another time, because he loved to play tricks on the



Times photos — JOE WALLEES



(upper left) 'Penguin' print in sand; (upper right) I.T. Sanderson holding plaster cast of print in 1948; and (bottom) Tony Signorini wearing both hoax feet.

fire department, he set off flares in his business, Auto Electric. The fire department showed up all right, and the flares provided quite a show, but as a result the building was badly damaged.

Signorini, who was Williams' partner at Auto Electric and, with his son and daughter, still runs the business on Greenwood Avenue in Clearwater, said Williams came up with the idea for the "monster" tracks. It seemed an appropriate prank: The Loch Ness monster was still making news (its photograph was first published in 1934), and dinosaur remains had been dug up near Albuquerque, N.M., in July 1947. During the World War II years, Gulf residents were constantly watching the water for signs of German submarines.

When Williams died in 1969, he left the secret of the "Clearwater Monster" to Signorini for safekeeping.

Encouraged by his friends Bud and Joanne Lobaugh of Largo (Bud learned the true story about the "monster" from Signorini in 1965), Signorini agreed to bring the "monster" out of hiding, 40 years after the tracks were first seen.

All these years, the "monster" was tucked away in its cardboard box under a workbench at Auto Electric. The real "monster" is a pair of cast iron feet with high top black sneakers.

Signorini lifted the feet, each weighing 30 pounds, out of the box and put them on.

"You see, I would just swing my left back and forth like this and then give a big hop, and the weight of the feet would carry me that far," Signorini said, explaining the 6-foot stride of the creature. "The shoes were heavy enough to sink down in the sand."

Signorini said the idea for the big three-toed footprints came from a picture of dinosaur tracks. After several tries at making the feet, Williams and Signorini decided concrete was not heavy enough, so the molds for the tracks were taken to a foundry in St. Petersburg. The resulting cast iron feet were ideal.

Holes were drilled into the tops of the feet and the sneakers set in place with screws. When the inner soles of the shoes were glued back in place, the "monster" was ready.

A rowboat supplied by a friend brought the creature to shore.

"We would go on nights with not too many

waves or beach walkers around. Of course, not many people were on the beach then," Signorini said.

The "monster" came out only at night.

"I put the shoes on in the water and then walked a long way, maybe two miles up the beach and then got back in the boat," Signorini said, grinning. "I had...to be careful the water wasn't too deep when I had them on.

"Other times, we would take them (the feet) in the car and carry them to where we wanted to make the tracks. Then we'd take a palm frond and brush away all the footprints we'd made while we were doing it."

At the Suwannee River site, "we stayed on property belonging to a friend named Al Spears," Signorini said. "After we found some good places along the river, we waded in the water and carried the feet. Then I'd put them on where we wanted to make the tracks."

Clearwater police were skeptical about the existence of the monster from the beginning and suspected that Al Williams might be the culprit, said Frank Daniels, who retired in 1981 after 32 years on the Clearwater police force, the last 13 years as chief of police.

"I don't think any of the Clearwater cops took it seriously," Daniels said. "We suspected Williams because he usually called in the reports of the monster and was such a local prankster, but we could never prove it.

"When a pilot flying over the beaches reported seeing something furry with a head shaped like a hog's in the Gulf, we suspected Williams because he flew his own plane," Daniels said.

"You know, that's a funny thing," Signorini recalled with a smile, "because we never knew who was flying that plane and made the report. It wasn't us."

SOURCE: J. Kirby, *Times*,

St. Petersburg, FL 6/11/88

CREDIT: Ada Fagg and Betty Dickson

[Editor's Note: It must be said that Ivan Sanderson was fairly convinced shortly after he arrived in Clearwater that the "Florida three-toe's" prints were part of a hoax. Upon reviewing Ivan's report, as part of SITU's files, it becomes obvious that in correspondence between Al Williams, perpetrator of the hoax, and Ivan, the media coverage gave Mr. Williams a distinct advantage when, by giving him Ivan's daily progress report, he simply invented a new trick to confuse and confound everyone.

For the record, Ivan said on WNBC radio, Nov. 15, 1948, "I think I've caught a fish in one of my traps. I think the trap for hoaxers has sprung." And, "if a hoax it be...no crime has been committed, it's just a good joke."

Ivan the investigator could also masterfully play the role of entrepreneur of mysteries. Nearly two decades after the hoax made headlines Ivan revived the story in chapter 3 of his now-out-of-print book, *More Things* in 1967.]

Monster in N. Carolina?

Probably Print Prank

John Alexander was wondering what it was that went through his fields near Pinetown last weekend.

Whatever it was, it left big tracks.

Tom Henson said he had the answer. Henson, an animal expert, said it was not an animal but a prankster.

Alexander said he spotted some tracks Saturday morning. "The sun was just peeping up," he said, when he saw some bent grass while he was walking through a field.

He looked around and found what looked like tracks in a plowed area. They were nearly round, about eight inches across and 11 inches long. Each had what appeared to be six claw marks.

Alexander said the trail was about 75 yards long.

There are bears around Alexander's farm, which is near the Dismal Swamp, but these weren't bear tracks.

Neighbors who looked at the tracks couldn't agree on what might have put them there. Alexander consulted the Beaufort County Sheriff's Department and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Committee.

Henson, an animal specialist for the wildlife commission, inspected the prints. His conclusion: "Somebody's having them a little joke."

He said no animal had such a print and that an animal could have left indentations from paw pads. These prints were flat, leading Henson to think they were made from boards.

He said the steps were regular-sized steps for a person. "They made sure they walked in a plowed field and not in the road," he said.

Besides that, he said, he detected some snickers and some sidelong glances among the people who watched him inspect the tracks.

"I think that some of those folks knew more than they were telling," Henson said.

Henson said he did not take any plaster casts. But at least one Pinetown resident did, according to Alexander.

Alexander plowed over some of the prints, but some still barely remain in a small field beside his house. And neighbors have been spreading the word, drawing some Beaufort County residents to the farm.

Whatever their source, the prints definitely made an impression.

SOURCE: C. Spivey, *Daily News*,

Washington, NC 6/9/88

CREDIT: *Fortean News*, Lou Farish

Bigfoot Easy to Fake, Anthropologist Claims

A Washington State University anthropologist has found that it's relatively easy to fake one of the more impressive bits of evidence in so-called footprints of the Sasquatch.

The Sasquatch, or Bigfoot, is a legendary human-like creature that has been reported in mountains of the Northwest for generations.

Some of the better preserved footprints have shown dermal ridges, the tiny whorls that appear in the skin on the bottoms of toes and feet, similar to fingerprints. The feature occurs in humans and apes but not other animals.

In fact, some apparently fresh footprints — 17 inches long and 6 inches wide — that John Bodley found in the Blue Mountains of

Southeast Washington last year, showed dermal ridges clearly. But some other things about the prints made him suspect they were fake.

Back home in Pullman, Bodley decided to see if he could fake dermal ridges. He began by fashioning a clay mold of an oversized foot. Then he rolled his bare big toe in the soft clay to leave impressions of dermal ridges. He did the same with his heel. Then he pressed his forehead into the center of the clay footprint.

Bodley's son, Brett, 16, spread glue on the skin of his fingers and feet, peeled it off and then pressed the dried glue into the clay to leave still more impressions of skin patterns.

Bodley poured plaster of Paris into the mold and let it harden into a cast of a Sasquatch foot. Then he pressed the cast into soft ground. The dermal ridges were clearly visible in the "footprint." And they were still visible in a plaster cast he made of the print.

Bodley wasn't trying to fool anyone, and his fake print didn't. He showed the cast to Grover Krantz, a WSU anthropologist who has investigated reported Sasquatch sightings. Krantz pointed out that the crudely shaped toes were a giveaway. And at Bodley's request, Krantz showed the fake footprint cast with dermal ridges to six fingerprint experts.

"I showed them two casts and told them one was a fabrication and the other was of unknown origin," Krantz said. "Each one picked the fake immediately. They said the dermal ridges were not oriented correctly on the foot."

The experiment did now shake Krantz's conviction that Sasquatches do exist, even though no bones of the legendary animal ever have been found.

"It would be extremely difficult to fake dermal ridges well enough to fool the experts," Krantz said. "It would take someone well versed in the arrangement of ridges on the feet, as well as skillful in the technique Bodley used."

Krantz cited one supposed Sasquatch print seven inches wide with dermal ridges running the entire width. "No human foot is that wide," he said, "and there was no patching of the ridges. It would have been impossible to fake."

Bodley says he is "not a disbeliever" in the Sasquatch, given the persistence of the legend in history.

"But it's possible hoaxers are a lot more sophisticated than I thought and we're going to have to be more careful in examining footprints," he said.

The footprints Bodley found last year didn't appear more than 30 minutes old.

Although the prints were spread out over a quarter mile of trail, only one sequence of left-right prints was found. And Bodley was puzzled why there were so few tracks on so much available soft soil. Still, he felt he needed to account for the presence of the dermal ridges.

"Now I think it's even more likely they were fake," he said.

SOURCE: H. Williams, *Union Bulletin*,

Walla, Walla, WA 6/27/88

CREDIT: *Fortean News*, Lou Farish

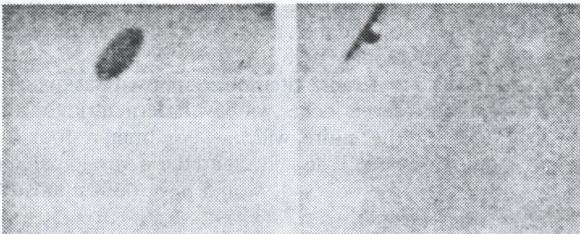
The Psychic Connection

by R. Perry Collins

Two fields of research which have become more accepted in recent years are those involving psychic events and UFO-related events. They seem to be entirely separate. At first glance they seem related only by the fact that they are both unusual areas of investigation. By this it is meant that both UFO and psychic questions deal with non-ordinary realities, realities we do not experience on a daily basis. The research done on the paranormal aspects of the mind seems more acceptable to the scientific establishment, but both fields have abundant amounts of case-history evidence that open them up to investigation.

Upon examination of case-history evidence found in the UFO field, a perhaps surprising discovery can be made. There are numerous accounts of UFO incidents, especially close-encounter incidents, that involve a large interplay of psychic or paranormal mental experience. People who have had no previous experience with psychic phenomena have found themselves psychically aware and participants, too, in the world of the paranormal both during and after their first UFO experience.

Why are such effects reported? How and why are UFOs and the paranormal related? What tentative conclusions can we draw about reality from these events? To understand these questions and their answers we need some background of knowledge about both fields. Only then can we determine what role the paranormal plays in conjunction with the UFO phenomenon. To get a brief look at some overt examples of psychic/UFO interplay, these next few cases are presented. There are numerous other examples, some of which have been recounted in the present UFO literature. They all show various aspects of psychic events experienced with close UFO encounters and give us a background for the exploration of the reasons and meanings inherent in them.



Two of four photographs taken by Helio Aguiar over a beach near Piata, Brazil on April 24, 1959.

April 24, 1959 — Piata, Brazil — Helio Aguiar, a thirty-year-old accountant was riding a motorcycle when he observed a silvery, domed disc with windows, moving slowly overhead. He stopped and took three photographs of the object and was winding his camera for the fourth picture when he began to feel “a pressure in his brain,” and a state of progressive confusion overtook him. He felt vaguely as if he were being ordered by someone to write something down. It was as though he were being hypnotized. He passed out. Upon awakening he found himself slumped over his cycle, a piece of paper in his hand. On it, in his own handwriting, was a message: “Put an absolute stop to all atomic tests for warlike purposes. The balance of the universe is threatened. We shall remain vigilant and ready to intervene.” The photographs were developed and clearly show a detailed, domed disc hovering low over the nearby Atlantic Ocean.

November 2, 1966 — Parkersberg, West Virginia — William Derenberger, salesman, was driving when he came upon a strange vehicle hovering just above the road. He stopped his car and was approached by a man of dark complexion dressed in what appeared to be blue vinyl shirt and pants. The man smiled at Derenberger and, although no words were spoken, the witness telepathically received a message describing another world and was told to report the meeting to authorities. Several people driving by reported seeing the man speaking to Derenberger.

September 1, 1965 — Huanaco, Peru — A foreigner to Peru who desires anonymity made the following report. Early in the morning, for no apparent reason, this man felt overcome with a strange sensation which seemed to impel him to go to a certain spot on an airstrip belonging to a large, private estate. As he arrived at the spot he saw an oval UFO descend and land very near to him. A small, human-like being with an enlarged cranium and about three feet tall, emerged from the vehicle and began making gestures or signs as if trying to communicate. The being then re-entered the machine which began to glow and then ascended vertically into the sky.

March 13, 1963 — Richards Bay, South Africa — Fred White, a fisherman, had seen a UFO a year before with Harry O’Dank, while night fishing near North Beach, Durban, approximately 150 miles from Richards Bay. On this night he was ashore and had just finished dinner and decided to take a stroll along the beach. It was about 10:30 p.m. While walking, he became aware of a high-pitched whining sound and saw a very bright light moving south about 200 feet above the water. It changed direction and descended to the beach, stopping about 100 feet from him. White saw it was a domed saucer and through a porthole he saw a fair-complexioned, well-built man wearing a “crash” helmet. The craft began humming and displayed a pulsating green light. It suddenly ascended into the sky, scattering sand on the beach in the process. Several years later, in September of 1966, White was hospitalized with a collapsed lung. He reported that the same man “walked into my room, pulled up a chair and repeated my name.” He was wearing a glowing, pulsating wristwatch and while smiling and engaging White in conversation he reached over and touched White’s arm and chest. He told White not to be alarmed and to be prepared for beneficial changes and more ‘contacts.’ He did not elaborate. After his visitor had left, White reported that his chest was free of pain and he was able to breathe freely. Medical examination showed his lung to be completely normal, i.e. to have been re-inflated and the hole that caused the puncture was completely healed. The doctor treating White stated: “I have never seen anything like it.”

August 13, 1975 — Tucson, Arizona — Mr. Lewis (a pseudonym), thirty years old, a serviceman and preferring complete anonymity, recounts this story in several interviews with members of the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization. After getting off work at 11:30 p.m. on August 12th, Lewis decided to drive out and watch the Perseid meteor shower of August 13th. At 12:30 he drove for fifteen minutes into the country and stopped, exiting his car to watch the sky. At 1:20 a.m. a large, dull grey metal disc ‘dropped’ out of the sky and

hovered about twenty feet above the ground. To the right center of the disc a rectangular lighted window was visible. Human-shaped forms could be seen moving about inside and the object began emitting a strange buzzing sound. Lewis became frightened and got back into his car, but he could not start the engine. He remembers being very frightened at this point. The buzzing noise then stopped and he felt a calmness coming over him, "like I was floating on a cloud." The disc then began to rise into the sky and his fear returned. Now his car started and, as he began to drive for home, he noticed that his wristwatch read 2:45 a.m. Lewis was certain that he had watched the disc for no more than a few minutes and had no idea what had occurred between 1:20 and 2:45 a.m.

November 1966 — Owatonna, Minnesota — Mrs. Ralph Butler and another woman were watching the night sky, observing "little flashers," a name they used for the nocturnal lights that had become commonplace around Owatonna. Suddenly one of the lights descended rapidly and hovered a few feet above the ground near them. It had multicolored lights flickering around a disc-shaped rim. Mrs. Butler's friend fell to her knees with her head bowed, seemingly in some kind of trance. She abruptly began speaking in a strange, high-pitched voice: "What is your time cycle?," she asked. Mrs. Butler, surprised, tried to explain about days, hours, minutes. A few more seemingly trivial questions about time followed and then the other woman came out of the trance. "Boy, I'm sure glad that's over," she remarked. Later, both women came down with intense headaches whenever they tried to discuss the incident. Mrs. Butler wrote to John Keel, a UFO investigator, and for some reason did not experience a headache when he called to ask about the incident. She told him the details of the experience as well as about unusual poltergeist activity that she and her husband had noticed around their home immediately after the incident.

November 24, 1964 — New Berlin, Connecticut — Mrs. Mary Williams (a pseudonym) and her mother-in-law were staying at the older woman's house when they witnessed the landing and apparent repair of two unusual vehicles which resembled "flying saucers." Mrs. Williams had stepped out onto the porch for some fresh air at about 12:30 a.m. when she saw an unusually bright light descend rapidly from the sky. It leveled off and began moving slowly, parallel to a creek bed across the road from the house. Several cars went by as the object drifted back and forth and the drivers seemed to see the object as they, at first, slowed and then drove off at a high speed. Mrs. Williams then called her mother-in-law's attention to the object. At this point it moved in one direction along the creek bed and up the side of a nearby hill to a point later determined to be 3800 hundred feet from the witnesses. The women got a pair of binoculars and observed the object land. She also saw five or six men get out and walk about it. They were dressed in tight-fitting "diver's suits" that were darker than their skin and they seemed to be six feet or more in height. Soon, a second object arrived and landed next to the first and it, also, discharged a number of men. Both sets of men then seemed to become busy in efforts to repair the first object by moving a section out from its underside, working on it and then replacing it. They did this several times until about 5:00 a.m., when both objects rose into the air and moved off in the direction from which they had arrived. When asked why she didn't call anyone to report the incident or to get more witnesses, Mrs. Williams indicated that she felt as if the men on the hill did not wish her to do so. When the

object had first hovered near her house, she had received the distinct impression that she was being watched by several people, that they were friendly and that they only wanted to get their machine fixed and leave. She knew, by some sort of telepathic process, that they did not want her to call anyone, as they might come with guns and bother them. She stated that she was aware of the occupants' thoughts somehow and that they knew she would not call attention to their presence.

What are we dealing with here? Well, certainly the existence of a UFO reality cannot be denied — there are, on record, thousands of detailed reports of close encounters with unusual, structured and intelligently controlled vehicles crewed by beings of various natures and appearances. Physical evidence exists in abundance, including photographs, radar returns, ground traces, electromagnetic effects and even metal fragments. In most of the more extensive reports, events of a psychic nature have repeatedly surfaced.

If psychic or paranormal events interest us, and by seeking to understand them we may find a more complete awareness of ourselves, then it would be informative for us to have a clear picture of their intricate relationship with the UFO phenomenon. This is one reason why an understanding of the real nature of the UFO is attractive.

From the early fifties to the present time UFOs have been considered to be visitors from outer space. Other ways of viewing them have also become popular. UFOs represent mankind's 'collective unconscious,' relates one school of thought. They are 'psychic projections' and 'manifestations of psychokinetic energy.' Before we discuss the nature of these views let's review why the idea of UFOs as visitors from outer space has begun to fade.

One of the primary drawbacks of the extraterrestrial hypothesis for UFOs is the large magnitude and diversity of the phenomenon. There are numbers of UFO incidents on a daily basis on our planet and only about twenty percent can be fit into correlative patterns. The majority of events are unique, having characteristics of vehicle structure and occupant description that are seldom reported more than once. This large number of unique UFO incidents is a strong argument against their existence as interstellar visitors.

Carl Sagan and other scientists have shown, by mathematical deduction, it can be demonstrated that, to account for the large number of UFO incidents, especially the unique incidents implying separate origins, our galaxy would have to be literally overrun by advanced civilizations. They claim that by taking into view such factors as the number of stars in the galaxy, the probable number of such stars having planetary systems, the number of such planets where life has been initiated, the probability of civilized lifeforms, etc., it can be shown that there should be approximately ten million advanced civilizations capable of visiting Earth. Considering the vastness of our galaxy (one hundred billion stars within an area of one hundred thousand light years), each one of these civilizations would have to launch ten thousand interstellar expeditions per year for Earth to be visited only once every twelve months. UFO activity of a confirmed, investigated nature sustains itself at approximately three incidents per week. I feel, logically speaking, they cannot all be interstellar visitations.

It is this sort of reasoning that has led many researchers to the view that UFOs are manifestations of some sort of human frustration with an imperfect world. This view, however, is also difficult to maintain in light of practical considerations.

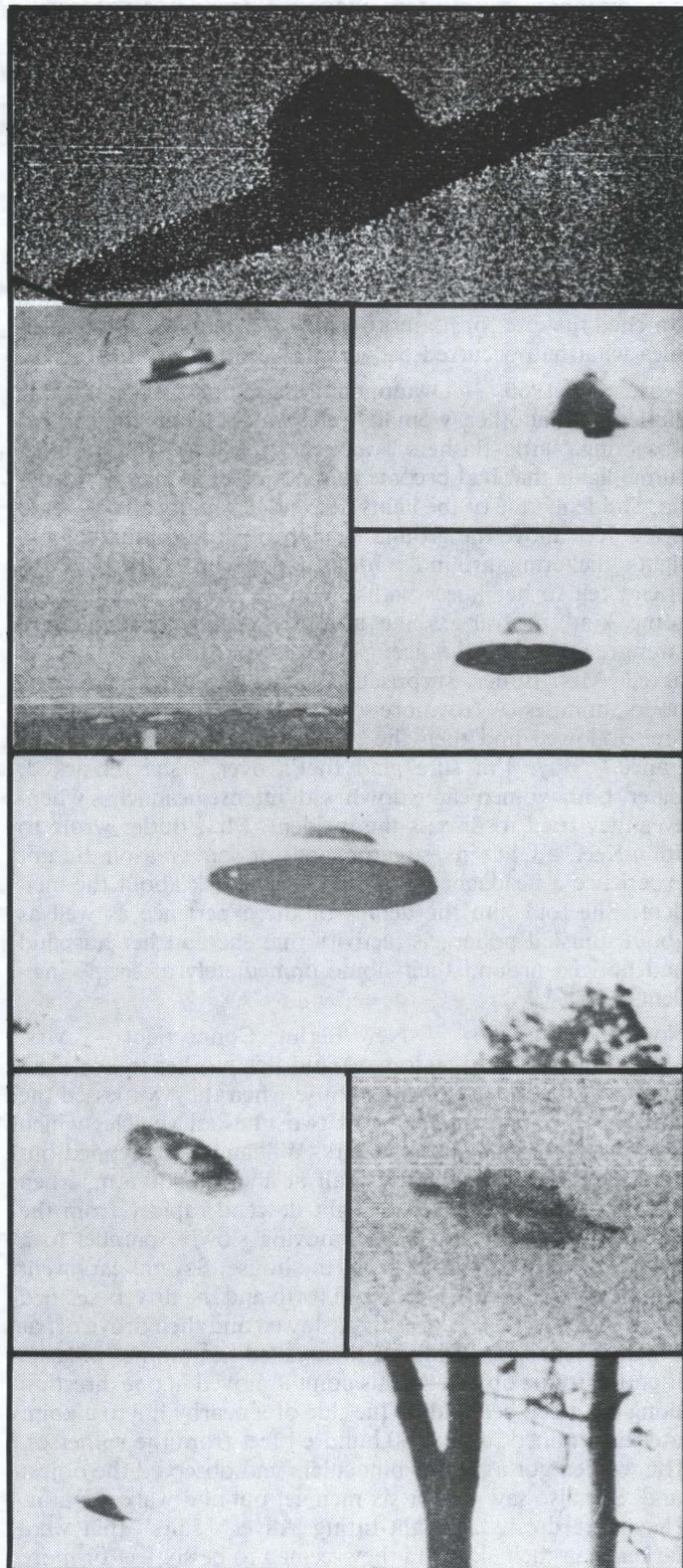
First, there is little or no evidence for the reality of such a 'collective psyche.' There is a great deal of evidence for the physical reality of UFOs. The concept of UFOs as products of the 'human unconscious' cannot explain that physical reality. If an entity called 'the collective psyche' did exist, why are there manifestations of UFOs? As a function of the human unconscious would not the manifestations be of a much more diverse and miscellaneous nature? There is evidence of a greater whole of which we are a part. This evidence seems to indicate that many paranormal events are perceived as such because of our cultural (and resultant individual) split from this whole. This concept, however, encompasses much more than a simple postulation of a 'collective human unconscious' that manifests itself through UFOs.

Another approach to the psychic explanation for UFOs involves the individual manifestations of UFO events by means of psychokinetic projections. It is well known that poltergeist phenomena take place usually in the presence of an agent, often a pre-adolescent child experiencing an unusually difficult transition into our cultural reality. It is speculated that UFO activity could be similar, the incident taking place through a psychic projection of one of the witnesses. This explanation, although more secured in reality than the 'collective psyche' view, is inadequate. While studies, especially in the USSR, show definite evidence for psychokinetic abilities in certain individuals, they are nowhere near the magnitude implied in the UFO phenomenon. To project by psychokinesis (PK) a structured, metallic vehicle that demonstrates strong electromagnetic effects and which can be photographed, seen and detected by radar is far beyond what has been observed in psychic demonstrations. Such psychic projections would imply almost limitless psychic powers inherent in individuals, powers which they use without being aware of them as such. This seems very unlikely.

From what has been observed of the UFO phenomenon over the past forty years, the most tenable hypothesis is that they represent a reality outside of our psyches, but an extremely diverse and almost inexplicable one. There seem to be two or three different groups of visitors to our planet and many others of a unique and numerous nature. The majority of cases fall into this last category, implying that our planet is being visited by various types of beings. This does not mean that they are projections of our minds. There is the possibility of alternate realities, other dimensions, other places of which we are at present totally unaware. Considering these concepts, we also notice that these "visitors" display strong psychic abilities not limited to one type or group. The psychic manifestations seem to be a common denominator in all types of close-encounter incidents. This has tremendous significance for our world and culture.

What does this common denominator suggest to our view of the paranormal? Let us consider what has been shown. UFOs seem to represent many types of intelligent visitors to our planet. They may come from many different places or realities, in fact, they must do so in order to explain their presence. There are logical considerations that points to a common mechanism or agency behind a great deal of UFO activity, but along with this there seem to be large numbers of other, more random visitors to our world. How is it that they have such easy access to the paranormal? Is it because they are technologically advanced and their psychic senses are also advanced proportionately? Or is there some other reason or reasons?

First of all, it does not seem logical that because a race of



The photographs shown on this page illustrate the variety of models of UFOs reported around the world. Each of these photos have been the subject of considerable attention and, in each case, no evidence has surfaced which would show it to have been faked. In three of these cases, evidence based on details of backgrounds in relation to shadows and time of day are extremely difficult to explain without admitting to the reality of the incidents. The high "uniqueness factor" represented by the many different types of UFOs and occupants is, surprisingly, evidence that they do not originate in 'outer space.'

intelligent beings is technologically advanced they would necessarily be psychically advanced. Our human race has made tremendous technological advances in the last two hundred years yet we are no more psychically aware now than we were in 1788. Let's look at this from a different viewpoint. Many sensitives or psychically gifted people have stated that it is their feeling that all people have psychic abilities. It seems that most people just do not have access to these abilities or do not know how to use them. Could it be that all human beings, especially the more intelligent ones, have a psychic component in their make-ups and that we earthlings, for some reason, are not fully aware of this?

There is some solid evidence in this direction. Charles Tart, a parapsychologist at the University of California, relates an experiment in which a subject was placed in a sensory deprivation environment. He was told of another subject down the hall who was to be given electrical shocks at random intervals and was asked to signify those moments when he felt, by psychic means, that the other subject was being shocked. The first man, in addition to his condition of sensory deprivation, was monitored physiologically to determine such things as heart rate, breathing rate, amount of perspiration, etc. The experiment proceeded, with the second man being shocked at random intervals and the first man pushing a button whenever he thought that the other was getting "zapped." The experiment mechanically demonstrated that the first subject's physiological response peaked noticeably each time the other testee received a shock. His conscious guesses, however, were consistently incorrect. In other words, the man knew at some level exactly when the other man was being shocked and subconsciously his body's responses expressed that knowledge, whereas at a conscious level he simply did not know when the shock occurred.

This and other similar data point to an important concept in parapsychology. The paranormal is not unusual at all. Indeed, it is normal, and for some reason most of us are not usually consciously aware that it is. For whatever reason, we are not fully whole in our awareness and therefore do not make full use of this component of our nature. There could be many reasons for this but it seems to be a fact as indicated by research in various parapsychological laboratories. If our other-worldly visitors come from cultures that do not share this psychic inhibiting factor, then use of psychic abilities would be a natural adjunct of their appearance. In case after case, this turns out to be exactly what occurs. With this in mind, we must ask ourselves an important question. What is it about our culture that inhibits our development in this direction? What is it that prevents us from making use of a natural part of our make-up, the so-called extra-sensory perceptions?

To truly appreciate how we may not be seeing the full picture in many UFO reports, we should return to the 'collective unconscious' concept and admit that there are certain signs that some sort of collective knowledge may exist, or that, at least in small groups, human beings can show evidence for unconsciously shared concepts.

There is evidence that we may, in small populations, share an unconscious consensus reality which transcends ordinary knowledge in a psychic manner. Two relatively recent experiments stand out as examples of this. A.R.G. Owen, a mathematician and parapsychologist, initiated one of these. He assembled a group of eight people who, working together, made up the story of a ghost. They gave the ghost the name of 'Phillip' and cast him as an aristocrat from the time of King Charles of England. Phillip, as the story went, had

fallen in love with a Gypsy girl. His wife found out about the affair and brought charges of witchcraft against the girl, resulting in her trial and the sentence of death. Phillip, afraid to come forth with the truth, became despondent and committed suicide. Once they had created the personality of Phillip, the group began to hold regular seances in an effort to contact his 'lost spirit.' Soon Phillip arrived on cue, began communicating to the group and produced audible raps and table tilting in full view of audio-visual equipment set up to record events.

The other example involved an experiment conducted by Alvin H. Lawson, a professor of English at California State University; John DeHerrera, an APRO investigator; and Dr. W.C. McCall of Anaheim, California. These researchers selected a screened group of eight volunteers who had read little or no UFO literature and knew almost nothing about the subject. The volunteers were separately hypnotized and asked to imagine themselves abducted by a UFO. The results were very important to any consideration of UFO abduction reports retrieved by hypnosis, and tend to show that we may all share some hidden 'UFO archetypes.' What surfaced were richly detailed accounts which conformed closely with details of supposedly 'real' abductions also brought out by hypnosis. The fact that the imaginary reports were virtually indistinguishable from actual reports has caused many investigators to take hypnotically recalled abduction reports with skepticism.

Without completely defining the real nature of UFO events, we can still perceive that psychic influence is exerted upon witnesses on a repeated basis. There have been numerous cases where this influence has been evident at a conscious level. (We may omit cases made up largely of information retrieved by hypnosis. Lawson's experiment and the inherently unreliable nature of hypnosis indicate that these cases may not be real or at least should not be taken at face value. In every UFO incident where missing memories are brought back by hypnosis, it should be noted that the missing material could very well be only a screen, a cover story planted precisely so that investigators would retrieve it and consider it real.) UFO agencies involved in interactions with humans are known to be presenting information in various ways and at different levels. Part of this presentation, (a significant part), involves the use of psychic abilities. If so, events of a psychic nature, then, are admittedly a consistent part of the UFO phenomenon and occupants of UFOs seem to possess a much greater mastery of psychic abilities than do most humans.

One alternative way of viewing psychic events is to see them not as interactions between minds or as mind over matter but as the direct influence of mind upon reality. In this sense, psychic results that seem to show telepathy, precognition, psychokinesis and other examples of psi are seen in a very different light than is currently entertained. Psychic events are generally thought of as being the result of some, as yet, unidentified mental force or energy. For instance, if a person rolling dice comes up with sevens ten times out of ten (while concentrating on rolling sevens), he is considered to be 'influencing the dice' in some unknown way. The problem with this is that the amount of energy required to actually move the dice into alignments showing sevens can be measured; it turns out that the entire electrical output of the brain is only an extremely small fraction of this measure of energy. There is no known way, no mechanism, no force, no energy that can explain how the unaided human brain could possibly affect the movement of the dice. The alternative



Three original witnesses to Marian vision of Fatima in 1916.



Other children viewing apparition at Garabandal in 1961.

theory is that he is not, in fact, influencing the dice at all but is, by force of will, *moving himself* into that 'series of worlds' where sevens happen to come up. This theory is much more compatible with the facts of physics and even provides a surprisingly coherent proof of the 'many universes' concept of quantum mechanics.

This concept basically postulates that the universe is in the process of being created from moment to moment and that at each moment it branches out into many alternate 'probability states,' each existing as a reality which becomes manifest only when we actually choose to move into one or the other. There is a very secure basis for this concept in the study of small particle physics. Simply put, you face a choice of many worlds at each moment and the world of your reality is the one you choose to believe in, act upon, create and enter. As an example of this, each morning you face a choice between getting up and going to work or calling in sick and going to the beach. Before your choice, each of these probable worlds exists. Upon your choice you enter into one or the other. Your choice actually determines reality, for your movement into one or the other probability states coalesces that state into the reality of your experience.

Telepathy, perhaps, then becomes the process of moving, by will, into that world where your thoughts exactly match



Uri Geller demonstrating metal bending at England's Stonehenge.

those of others. Precognition is the process of moving into that world where your ideas coincide with actual future events. Psychokinesis becomes the process of moving into that world where the effect you want is actually taking place. This theory presupposes an extremely intimate link between our minds and the universe, but recent research in physics leads to exactly the same conclusion. In this theory we need not find a mechanical link or causative factor, a mysterious ether or any type of unmeasurable 'mental force.' In this theory we find that the universe consists of a consciousness and we are local nodes or foci for this consciousness. In this sense, we find a ready explanation for many 'paranormal' events.

The miracles of Christ, for instance, become explainable in a straightforward manner. Christ, being unusually well aware of his real place in the universe ("I am *the* son of *the* father"), is easily able to move into his choice of universes, coalescing or creating that reality he desires most. As a human being endowed with an unusually great awareness and an indomitable will, he is able to move into a very wide choice of possible worlds, simply by wishing it. In his choice of possible worlds, he feeds the multitudes, walks on water and heals the sick. It should be noted that, as far as Christians can tell, he not only has moved himself into the worlds of his choice, he has also created that same world for us.

The consideration to be made here is that the choice of worlds we collectively make is the one in which we collectively live. Those individuals and groups who can and do exercise a greater choice through their greater ability likewise have a greater influence upon the collective reality. It is a fact that the agencies of the UFO phenomenon have clearly shown a much greater ability to influence reality in this manner than have we, the human race in general. The implication here is clear. Our path, our world, our history — in fact much of our reality could be a construct, largely formed by more advanced others. This construct, without a doubt, has a rationale. We are being guided in a certain direction, for a certain reason.



What If Scientists Accepted Psi?

by John Thomas Richards

Suppose that the scientific establishment came to accept the reality of ESP and PK, in the same way that orthodox scientists accept the reality of neutrons and positrons, although only a relatively small number of scientists deal directly (or indirectly) with these subatomic particles. This is an unlikely supposition, on the order of supposing that the Inquisitors of the Church would accept the reality visible through Galileo's telescope. For any established body of thinkers to change their minds about unorthodox concepts, we must assume that conviction has come through necessity, not through logical processes. In order for a country to navigate the globe, its thinkers must painfully reject the flat-earth hypothesis and consider that Columbus might be right; in order to explore, conquer, and exploit this globe, Renaissance thinkers *did* have to abandon medieval concepts about nature. The alternative meant being dominated rather than dominating so, of necessity, the thinkers of the western world changed their minds. But the real change came when new theories were given practical applications, not when scientific thinkers — always the vast minority — accepted the reality of new ideas.

Just now, by analogy, psi research is in the kite-and-key stage of development. There are many theories; journals are replete with them, and nobody much cares, outside of the narrow field of psi research. It is fairly easy to suppose that enough experiments in enough psi laboratories may someday be conducted to overcome the resistance of a majority of reasonable, fair-minded orthodox scientists. While James McClenon's studies have shown that elite scientists tend to oppose the reality of psi, this is largely because the elite minority in any field tend to protect their high reputations by remaining away from controversial concepts. While a Haldane might have championed psychical research in his day, a Wheeler cannot afford to do so now. An establishment of any kind defers largely to the body of opinions of its members; it is only nominally ruled from the top, down. With sufficient evidence, the majority of scientists will eventually, perhaps reluctantly, accept the reality of psi and go on to other business. However, when "psionics" is itself an orthodox scientific discipline, I suspect that it will still be in the Ben Franklin kite-and-key stage of usefulness.

From a pragmatic standpoint, in order for a field of scientific experimentation to matter in the slightest to anyone outside its own boundaries, it must "do work." The scientific establishment of Franklin's day, the "amateurs," might have found his discovery about electricity fascinating; there is every historical evidence that many did become excited. However, work with electricity had to go on beyond that point, or Franklin's discovery would be only an historical oddity, not even worthy of a footnote today. If we had to wait for a thunderstorm for our electric lights to work, the manufacturers of oil lamps and candles would be very happy. We are currently in this position in psi research. If everyone in the scientific community agreed that electricity exists and, under the right natural conditions, can be proven, *but* that the same electricity could not be controlled and made to do work, it would be as "useful" as the reality of black holes in space, i.e. it would not affect our lives at all.

This is the position that I foresee for psi research. I have worked with the SORRAT* experiments since 1961. I know, from personal observation, that ESP exists, and that PK somehow moves target objects — and a vast number of ran-

dom objects, also. I know that W.E. Cox's mini-lab films of PK in sealed, transparent containers are quite genuine. Experience has taught me this during the last twenty-six years. Any person capable of objective observation and common reason would learn the same lessons, and, if enough people replicate the SORRAT experiments, particularly Cox's mini-lab experiments, they will realize that PK is a real force in the physical world. Having learned this, they will be better people, for it is always an improvement in character to learn a truth, even an unwelcome truth. However, after the first wild flush of realization passes, they will learn something else, too; the existence of ESP and PK does not alter the world at all, if these forces cannot be regularized and used at will by the average person under normal conditions, and every shred of evidence indicates that the psi force, whatever it is, operates erratically. It is as unreliable — and potentially as dangerous — as lightning. It is not a constant, like gravity; it does not manifest itself all of the time. Even the finest psychic cannot produce a manifestation of psi at will, on demand. Even if such a psychic existed, he or she would still be the "one white crow." If only one person in a city could turn on a switch and get electricity to make a lightbulb glow, everyone else would still use candles, and consider the light-maker an interesting freak of nature.

It would be pleasant — or frightening — to think that, someday, long-distance communication will normally be done by telepathy. However, the telephone companies are unlikely to lose customers because of this. Whether the scientific community thinks telepathy possible or not is quite irrelevant. If they did think so, this manifestation of psi would still work only part of the time, and quite unreliably. If a telepath regularly scored seventy per cent hits with an ESP card deck, he would still be wrong thirty per cent of the time, and that could not be tolerated in the business world, or in any other area of communication outside the parapsychology laboratory. The same is true with precognition. If someone could accurately guess the stock market, or the gaming tables, two things would happen. First, validated by a scientific establishment which believed in ESP, legislators would put the use of precognition in the same category as all other insider trading, and the proven prognosticator would go to prison if he did make money on the stock market. Already, it is commonly known, people who win too frequently at Las Vegas are "gently" urged not to gamble there again. Although military intelligence has looked into remote viewing as a means of gathering information, little has been learned, and nothing that a spy satellite could not photograph better, (as far as I know).

In the area of PK research, while anyone who is not a dyed-in-the-wool CSICOP member would have to agree that there is ample evidence that PK *exists*, there is no real evidence that PK can do practical tasks more efficiently than ordinary physical force can achieve. If you want a light to blink, you do not need a Schmitt machine; you can hook up an ordinary electrical circuit and operate the light by pushing a button, and this method will work every time, not just 53% of the time. As for target-object movements, if you want a cube to leave traces in a coffee tray, you can take the tray out

*Society for Research on Rapport and Telekinesis — see article in *PURSUIT* Volume 18, #4.

of a mini-lab box and push the cube about by hand. In the SORRAT experiments I have seen table levitation. However, it would be far easier to pick up the table and lift it into the air, if that is what one desires, rather than going to Skyrim Farm and sitting with a group around the table for over an hour and watching the table finally move — or sit there; *even at Skyrim*, only approximately one third of the experiments have been at all successful and, then, only a few have been spectacular.

As a member of SORRAT, I am pleased when we do get positive results, and am patient when we do not, but for practical application of psi energy to perform physical work, I must conclude that PK is quite an inefficient method. Those businessmen who hoped that Dr. Peter Phillips would find a way to make PK work every time, on earth or in space shuttles, simply did not understand the willful, erratic nature of the beast. It was this ultimate failure that doomed the McDonnell Laboratory for Psychical Research, rather than

the ridicule which CSICOP heaped upon this worthwhile project. If PK works only *sometimes*, at best, it is of no practical value to industry.

Sadly, then, I must conclude that, even if the scientific establishment came to accept the reality of ESP and PK, the only thing that would change is that The Amazing Randi Prestidigitator would have to learn how to make his living performing stage magic shows.

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SITUATIONS

Will the 'Real' Stonehenge Please Stand Up

Newly Found Slab Raises Questions About Stonehenge

A recently discovered stone slab, apparently intended for use at Stonehenge, could be crucial in proving a remarkable new theory about the monument's origin.

The slab might show that a Stonehenge ring of distinctive "blue stones" was actually once part of another stone circle elsewhere in Britain that was completely dismantled, transported and incorporated in the great monolith.

This theory suggests that construction of one of the world's most extraordinary edifices was less a matter of religious self-sacrifice by Stone Age Britons, as has been supposed, and more a matter of colonial exploitation of other tribes.

The discovery of the new stone slab — believed to be a blue stone — in the Daugledau River is therefore very important because it might provide the information needed to prove or disprove the blue stone theory.

"If the stone is found to be dressed and carefully shaped when it is eventually taken out of the river, that will suggest it had already been part of another stone ring," Richards said. "Of course, if it is relatively rough and only crudely cut, then that would tend to disprove the theory.

"Everyone assumes the blue stones were moved from a Welsh quarry in a rough form before being carefully shaped and incorporated at Stonehenge," said archaeologist Julian Richards, who has just completed a major survey of Stone Age settlements near the monument. "But it is equally possible the stones were transported in completed form, from a ring that had already been built."

The Welsh connection with Stonehenge was discovered in 1923 when a geologist discovered that the blue-spotted dolomite stones at the circle were the same as those

found at Carn Meini on the Preseli Hills 135 miles away.

It is now generally accepted that Preseli is the original source of the blue stones. Whether they went directly to Stonehenge is an open question.

The idea that the blue stones, which form two of the four main rings at Stonehenge, were taken from another monument helps explain one of archaeology's major puzzles: Why go to the extraordinary trouble of moving stones, some weighing more than 50 tons, from a site so far distant?

Taking already dressed stones would have meant far less work for its builders. In addition, it is now known there existed a great deal of trade between the regions.

"Nor do you have to suppose that Stonehenge's builders simply invaded that part of Wales, subjugated the locals and forced them to take their stones to Wiltshire," said Richards. "It is quite conceivable that Stonehenge was considered to be such an important religious project that the original blue-stone owners gladly gave them away and helped in its construction."

The discovery of the new blue stone has kindled new interest in Stonehenge at a time when seasonal interest in the monument is already growing. Police and military security officers from nearby army bases have already started watching for groups of hippies reported moving into the area for the summer solstice festivities.

SOURCE: The Wilmington *News-Journal*, DE 6/11/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

Archaeologists Believe Find May Be Indian Stonehenge

Archaeologists believe a circle of boulders found on Beaver Island in Michigan may have been a primitive calendar, akin to England's

famous Stonehenge, which enabled Indians to track the movement of the sun and determine the seasons.

And some American Indian leaders said there may have been spiritual significance to the 1,000-year-old rocks, arranged in a 397-foot-diameter circle in an overgrown brushy area that once was a clearing near the shore of the island.

If it is verified that the boulders are astronomically aligned, the Beaver Island site could represent one of the major discoveries of prehistoric landmarks in North America, experts said. Donald Heldman, archaeologist for the Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City, said he is convinced the rocks were placed in their positions by humans but stressed more research is needed to determine the purpose of the arrangement.

SOURCE: (UPI) Philadelphia *Inquirer*, PA 6/20/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

America's 'Stonehenge'

America's Stonehenge is the name given to what is believed to be a megalithic calendar site at Salem, about 20 miles southeast of Manchester, N.H. In the center of the main site, on a hilltop, are 22 structures — walls and chambers — and in the area around it are large standing granite slabs set among more walls. These slabs are astronomically aligned, supporting the theory that the area was laid out 4,000 years ago by an advanced civilization that studied the movement of the sun, moon and stars. Some of the monoliths are aligned with sunrise and sunset on the solstices and equinoxes on March 22, June 21, Sept. 22 and Dec. 21.

Casts of inscriptions found on the site are among exhibits in the museum at the entrance lodge on state Route 111 in Salem. From there it is about a five-minute walk to the hilltop. The privately owned site is open daily through October from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and in November on weekends only.

SOURCE: Sun, Baltimore, MD 6/26/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

The Greene County Films

An Approach to Seeing U.F.O.s

by Gary Levine, Ph.D.

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There is a notion that UFOs cannot be photographed, and without photographs or moving pictures little can be done to establish their existence. During the past four decades there have been few photographic examples that have remained in an unclassified or unknown category, and these usually depict barely discernable, amorphous shapes which, it was hoped, might be capable of explanation at some future date when information about the circumstances of their filming became available.

The short strips of 16mm motion-picture film called the Tremonton, Utah film and the Montana film were reviewed periodically in the hope they could be explained as shots of some natural occurrence or conventional aircraft. Nothing new, though, has yet been found to explain them. A more recent New Zealand film adds to the mystery by giving us a glimpse of a still unidentified UFO. Other single photographs have also raised questions and have been subjected to careful scrutiny. But a few of these have also defied scientific analysis and have resisted attempts to identify them as something other than what they are purported to be.

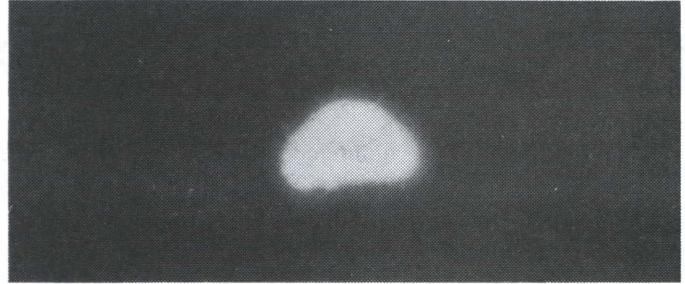
Why has it been so difficult to obtain clear, sharply defined photographs or movies of UFOs? The answer lies with the picture taker and the picture-taking process existing in a special communion. UFOs are a unique phenomenon which must be viewed in a special way. In fact, they are so unique that the communications gap between parapsychologists and ufologists and also between physicists and ufologists has to be narrowed with the hope of better understanding their characteristics.

To qualify for taking UFO photographs, particularly those outside the range of human vision, the photographer should possess above average ability to distinguish between natural and abnormal aerial objects. Under certain circumstances he or she could sense their presence intuitively. This special awareness might result from contact in an area of high UFO activity. Experience in simply identifying the objects is not a sufficient explanation by itself. An area of high UFO activity, however, must be located before these factors are relevant.

Certain UFO photographs are paranormal because they depict UFOs which are invisible to the naked (or unaided) eye when photographed. They are also paranormal when they appear in an area of the photo's negative where they should not be or where the normal photographic processes are inoperable. They fit this definition when they assume a certain shape for the picture taker, in defiance of natural laws. It seems UFOs are, at times, aware of the picture-taking activity and make movements indicating recognition they are being observed.

When the speed of the motion-picture film of UFOs is slowed certain aspects of the phenomenon become apparent which are not visible when the film is projected at normal speed. Single frames of film can reveal minute details and are often an important part of the analysis.

In the summer of 1985, I was approached by a woman who claimed that she observed UFOs in various places. After a careful screening I decided to test the validity of her claims. Mrs. Patricia Baldwin, who resided in a rural area of Greene County, New York, was the latest of a number of subjects



Triangular [bell]-shaped UFO. Color photo showed red corona.

that I worked with over the years in an effort to obtain UFO photographs. For one reason or another I was unable to produce acceptable results. But now I had another chance to prove that these elusive UFOs can be photographed. I loaned Mrs. Baldwin a compact Rollei 35mm camera loaded with high-speed black and white film and awaited the results. After several months and many spent rolls of film I believed that this method, too, was a failure. Mrs. Baldwin completed the last roll of film on August 19, 1986 and it was processed through an outlet I frequently used. The results were heartening for after many years of research my work paid off. The photographs showed the broken light streaks associated with UFOs and two triangles — one above the other.

I gave Mrs. Baldwin a Minolta XL-400 super-8 movie camera and a Ricoh FF-1 35mm camera and monitored her picture-taking activities more closely. She always had the cameras at hand and, depending upon atmospheric conditions, waited for the UFOs she felt she could easily identify.

Another nine rolls of film were taken by Mrs. Baldwin, and a few by myself, which show UFOs of various shapes and forms. The rolls vary in content as follows:

1. Several seconds of a blinking light.
2. Two large "needles" which emit a very bright light.
3. A large ellipsoidal-shaped object leaving a shady image of itself.
4. An ellipsoidal light that was blinking and moving in various directions.
5. Two brightly colored orange-red triangles moving in various directions.
6. One white light; then two white lights which divide; and then three white lights appear.
7. An unidentified helicopter. One white light, in the center of film, which is blinking.
8. A blinking white light; two triangles; and three white lights in a straight line.
9. Two triangles which are on the film several seconds. There are also red and white lights and two very small cylinders which are barely discernable.

The second roll of film is particularly interesting because Mrs. Baldwin was only able to see a number of red and white balls floating in the night sky with her unaided eye. She did not see the very bright "needles" which the camera picked up. The third roll depicts a bright object making fluttering movements as it approaches the camera. Rolls five, eight and nine show bright triangles which divide after being in contact with each other.



One of many needle-shaped UFOs

Almost all of the UFOs were filmed in the early or late evening when the sky was unlimited by clouds or haze and the stars clearly visible. There was nothing unusual about wind velocity or the relative humidity. Reel number two was filmed at intervals during the night of September 1, 1986 between 8:00 and 10:00 p.m. (it was common, when filming, that the UFO activity continued for several hours); while the visibility was unlimited and the outdoor temperature kept near 60°F.

Immediately after processing, each film was examined frame by frame using a Cambridge Copy-Tube 8, a device used for making photographic prints from frames of super-8 motion-picture film. This is an extensive and time-consuming process since there are 4,050 frames in a single fifty-foot roll of Kodak Type-G Ektachrome color-movie film.

Mrs. Baldwin filmed the UFOs when she believed that she saw them and when she felt an inclination to film. I witnessed Mrs. Baldwin film these UFOs on a number of occasions. At times her husband and two of her four children were present. I was also able to film a dark cigar-shaped UFO and a cloud-like cylindrically shaped UFO in the same general area using another movie camera. These UFOs could be filmed using a variety of super-8 or 35mm cameras.

For the record, the Baldwins are a devout church-going family and respected members of the community. Mrs. Baldwin is a licensed practical nurse and a part-time college student; her husband is a state employee. They are both conscientious hard-working people whom I consider to be of good character and who have cooperated fully in the investigation of this phenomenon.

Mrs. Baldwin has an unusual aptitude enabling her to recognize and see UFOs in the day and evening sky. Such a talent can be termed "an acute and unusual visual perception" which is the ability to photograph UFOs beyond the range of "normal" human vision. One possibility as to why she can do this involves her receptivity to images in the electromagnetic spectrum with the aid of a camera. This area of radiation consists of light rays which continue from the violet end of a band, where cosmic and gamma rays exist to the red end, where microwaves and radiowaves are found. Most likely it is here that she filmed the two "needles" visible in reel two and it is here the triangles and saucer-shaped objects go when they pass from the range of vision.

Light in the spectrum travels irregularly as though it is jumping from point to point — the distance between these points is termed wavelengths. The wavelength is measured in nanometers, and humans can only "see" in the 400-700nm range, which is in the center of the spectrum. All other wavelengths can only be viewed by using visual-assistance equipment.

Bees are the only animals that use all light in the spectrum for their survival, a fact established by the German biologist Karl von Frisch. His experiments prove that bees can use light from the spectrum to determine both direction and to distinguish between the colors of flowers. They can, for example, be attracted to red poppies which appear blue-green to them

because they see reflected ultraviolet light absorbed by the flowers. Humans can see only the red color and would have difficulty in distinguishing between these flowers and other red flowers.¹

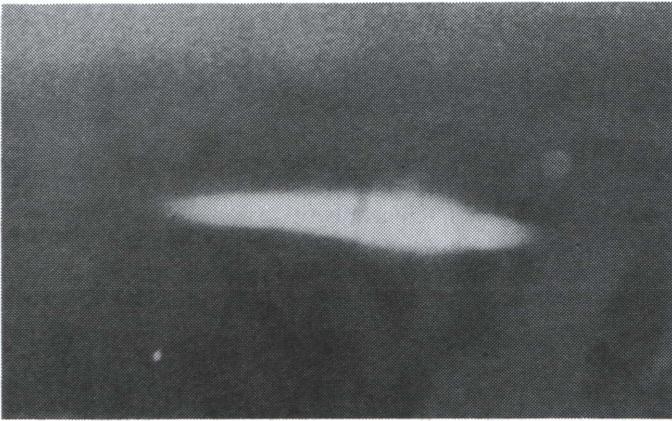
A clue to the unusual use of light and unseen images may have been found by the eminent psychiatrist, Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz who was able to analyze and record "paranormal" photographs taken by such a gifted individual as Stella Lansing, a Massachusetts woman who possesses these most unusual abilities. She was able to make movies of UFOs which, in some cases, were similar to those taken by Mrs. Baldwin. Of particular interest are the needle shapes which appear in films taken by both individuals. A witness to Mrs. Lansing's talents stated that her "specialism seems to be her ability both to experience UFO sightings of fairly orthodox kinds (whatever that orthodoxy might be) and also to impress images, especially the 'clocklike' formations, onto photographic film after the manner of the psychic photographers."²

Mrs. Baldwin is able to sustain filming of the UFOs for almost a whole reel, as in the case of reel two; in other reels she picked up or attracted the UFOs in the middle of, or just at the end of, the reel. In several instances she filmed UFOs moving directly at her in large, brilliantly colored orange-red balls, or as triangles separating from each other. The UFOs seemed to be aware of our presence and, as in the case of reel three, fluttered right up to the camera.

There still are mysteries to Mrs. Baldwin's abilities. Sometimes she can see UFOs without the camera, which could be those passing through the range of normal vision. She is able to orient herself well, in relation to these UFOs knowing where they are in the sky. She would say "look over there, that's one of them." Her ability to sense or be aware is at times due to experience and at times due to something else altogether, which could possibly be intuition.

A careful examination of UFO reports indicates others also have had similar experiences. In the spring of 1978 a Newcastle, England youth named Gary Colgate observed a moving light in the sky outside his bedroom window and filmed it with his super-8 movie camera. The developed movie film showed a bright, ellipsoidal light followed by a smaller green light which Gary said was not visible to his unaided eye. At the time the film was taken no sensible explanation for the objects could be given.¹

In a 1981 case a woman from Vancouver Island, British Columbia, took a photograph of a classic flying saucer which appeared in a single frame of a 35mm color-negative strip. The analysis showed the disc was "a three-dimensional object of at least 30 feet from the camera whose surface, albeit, was diffuse and/or of lower-light luminescence like that of a sunlit cloud."¹ The picture taker was surprised when she found the disc on the negative and had no idea how it got there. The investigation showed the woman and her family to be quite normal and of "high credibility." Did this woman possess acute visual perception?



Single frame from a film of various UFO photos

Within the past year I have been able to monitor films and photographs of Sharon Tompkins, a schoolteacher living in rural Oneida County, in Upstate New York. Using cameras similar to those used by Mrs. Baldwin, she was able to obtain UFO images on motion-picture film and 35mm negatives. Most of these UFOs were invisible to her unaided eye. Following specific instructions given to her she panned the empty night sky or aimed the cameras at undefinable lights; the objects would then appear on the film.

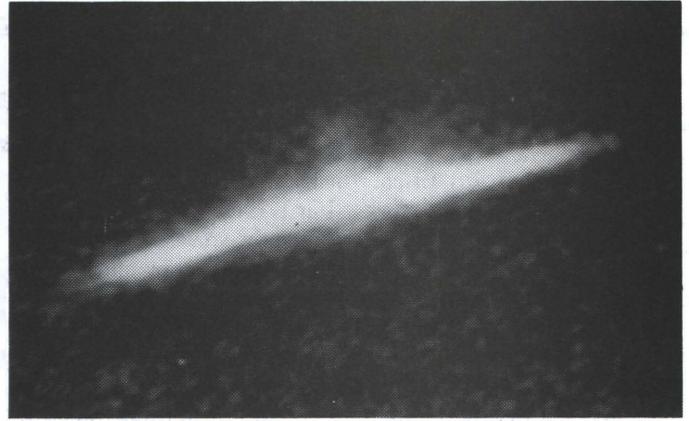
The work of the successful nineteenth-century spirit photographers has never been satisfactorily explained. Nor has the photography of Gary Colgate of a Canadian woman. It seems that certain forces or energy emanations operate between the picture taker and UFOs. A few believe that the process may initiate directly in the mind of the photographer. Psychiatrist Dr. Jules Eisenbud, who has had considerable experiences with photographic phenomena, believes that "whatever is involved in paranormal photographic ability...does not appear to be related to any particular type of personality structure."⁶

Dr. Schwarz suggests the possibility of a mediumship factor in seeing UFOs. For him "the study of documented gifted sensation can yield a wealth of high quality psi that is certainly analogous to many UFO experiences."⁶

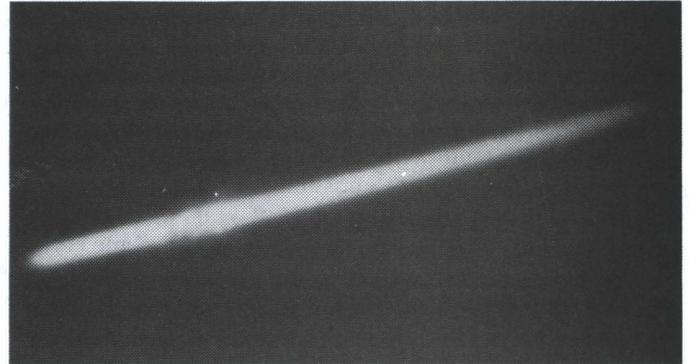
The UFOs on the Greene County Films have been confirmed as phenomena. After being transferred to videotape they were examined by technician Ken Walter of the Image Processing Laboratory of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, who established that the objects were unknown and unclassifiable. Photographs taken from film were subjected to digital analysis and indicated that something quite unusual was present; many of the shapes observed were "typical" UFOs.

Throughout the examination the UFOs showed an ability to change shape easily and assume an identifiable form by amassing energy or particles of some unknown substance. Triangles, needles, saucers and large balls of light are clearly visible emitting white, golden-white, orange or red colors. They moved with great speed, were stationary in the sky, demonstrated erratic movements, separated from each other or floated casually.

Police investigator Richard Powell, an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice with many years experience in criminal investigation, was asked to examine the reels. Using laboratory microscopes he found no evidence of alteration or irregularity on the films. He was able to observe the needle-shaped object in reel two; seeing an extremely bright light with radial arms extending in a north-south direction. It is this object which demonstrated a cycling characteristic, changing position as it blinked on and off.



Film of this UFO showed small spheres being released.



Needle-shaped UFO at unknown distance

There is still much to be learned about taking movies or of single photographs of UFOs. Which areas of the brain are involved when photographing the phenomenon? Does the rapid movement of the film in the camera and the elevated psychic mind affect the film? What new laws must be learned to understand the transmission of light beyond the range of human vision into the eye and brain? Do specially ground lenses and certain photographic filters facilitate the picture-taking process?

The Greene County Films clearly show defined shapes and depict movements which defy some physical laws as we know them. And, they reveal images which are not visible to the unaided eye.

My work with Mrs. Baldwin and others is continuing with several new experiments being planned. To my best knowledge these nine rolls of film are the best ever taken of UFOs. More movies are being planned and, hopefully, there will be a breach in the unknown.

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Our Gods Were Physical Beings or 100 Trillion Gods

by Pasqual Sebastian Schievella ©

A central thesis of Erich von Däniken's ancient-astronaut hypothesis is that religions on Earth have evolved from our worship of physical entities from outer space. Much of the evidence for our gods having been ancient astronauts is the same as the evidence that our gods cannot have been other than physical beings.

Biblical, legendary, and epic accounts depict gods empirically. It is not difficult to reconstruct inferentially the changes in concepts wrought by the minds and languages of prescientific man. Descriptions of power, characteristics, and behavior, originating presumably from visits by ancient astronauts, were amplified into concepts of perfection: power became infinite power; the sky became heaven; and scientific technology became miracles.

Because of man's need to idealize, to seek immortality, protection, and comfort, he was moved to express those needs in the limited concepts possible in his prescientific early evolutionary stage. After thousands of years all that remain are conflicting legends and stories. They have become part of the permanent furniture of our language, continually reinforced in a church-dominated and religiously-saturated society, for most of two millennia, by the clerics whose dogged authority and irrationality continue to feed supernatural and theistic language into it. They do this despite the fact, as von Däniken clearly shows, that the literature gives actual descriptions of physical entities coming to Earth in what can be accepted rationally as extraterrestrial vehicles.

We can try to counter these forces of dogmatism and thoughtcontrol only by clarifying how abilities, values, and characteristics emerged in physical creatures and were later transformed into hypostatized entities. Ultimately, the reified gods were carefully defined as unknowable. Finally, we were persuaded to accept these so-called nonphysical gods through blind faith.

Faith is no pathway to truth and knowledge. Certainly it is not, as Pope John Paul said, "...the highest form of reason." It is rather, a physiological, neuron-conditioned syndrome. In the absence of some physical life form, there is no evidence in the history of man of the existence of such functions as "knowing," "seeing," "tasting," "smelling," or "hearing." They are all neuron-directed activities. This is especially demonstrable by an examination of the emergence of life in man, and of his mental, perceptual, and conceptual faculties. All these are dependent upon a physical substratum. Such characteristics as speculation, reflection, self-awareness, etc., separate us from inanimate objects, and to an enormous degree, lower animals. They separate us, as well, from immaterial gods which by definition cannot exist. Thus, our gods, as man defines them, are best described as having been physical creatures of our universe, intelligent beings far superior to those then on Earth.

Have those intelligences achieved mental capacities beyond our comprehension? Have they developed means of communication which makes ours as primitive by comparison as that of our primitive ancestors beating tom-toms? If so, then 100,000 years difference in the evolutionary progress of knowledge can make gods of us all. Scientific knowledge of the universe is not much more than 300-years-old on Earth, and we have already been accepted as gods by the Cargo

Cults of World War II.

What makes an intelligent entity a god? The answer to this question depends upon the rational and intellectual development and the psychological needs of those seeking a god. Most young children, for instance, think of their fathers as all-powerful and all-knowing.

How, then, are we to interpret such statements as "God is pure act." (St. Thomas Aquinas), "God permeates the universe," "God created the universe," "God is in all of us," "God is the unmoved mover," "God is the energy that underlies and permeates the universe," etc.?

The vacuity of these statements, can be exposed if we approach them through an analysis of the language and knowledge of philosophy and the sciences. Terms like 'knowledge,' 'goodness,' 'intelligence,' 'seeing,' 'hearing,' and so on have acquired their meanings in relation to man's interaction with his environment.

To apply them to cosmic or supernatural "intelligences" gives the *illusion* of understanding, utters sheer nonsense, and fails to recognize that the conditions under which they could apply would have no communicative value for us. Supernatural gods, being beyond nature and hence immaterial cannot, contrary to common but unfounded belief, talk without tongues, see without eyes, hear without ears, or talk without brains. Though gods may exist, communication between them and us depends on their nature.

In the case of some gods, personal contact is possible. Witness the Cargo Cult as reported in *The National Geographic* magazine of May 1974. Such contact is no longer possible, however, because John Frum (their god) cannot be found. Their god, therefore, has achieved somewhat the status of the Christian god, Christ — who has not been seen for almost two thousand years. The return of both of them is now awaited.

As von Däniken has pointed out so well in his *Chariots of The Gods?*, the transcendental, supernatural characteristics of man's gods have always been the end product of a process beginning either in awe of superior intelligences, in hero worship of superior human beings, in myths, legends, political and personal needs, or in fear of what lies beyond the light of the campfire. The gods of ancient Greece and Rome were finely honed and propagated by the poetic genius of Hesiod and Homer; and, later, commissioned by the popes, non-physical Christian gods were depicted in human form by the creative genius of such artists as Michaelangelo, El Greco, and Raphael. They offered up heroes as gods and theistic concepts as reality for the popes and the church. This was done so superbly that the former have become an indestructible mosaic in the societies of the world.

But one irrevocable fact remains as a fault in the mosaic. The great religious books such as the *Bible*, the *Talmud*, the *Koran*, the *Mahabharata*; and the great mythologies: Teutonic, Roman, Greek, Egyptian, Babylonian, Chinese, etc., bear witness to the countless mysterious and enigmatic physical facts, records, stories, artifacts, ancient descriptions in physical terms, of flying ships, gods from space, descriptions of Earth from the sky, and empirical descriptions of the gods' activities, etc. Such facts, though not evidence as compared to the ruins of a spaceship, at the very least unques-

tionably point to a coherent body of data explainable by von Däniken's ancient astronaut theory. The superabundance and consistency of such empirical descriptions attest to their nature. These are the gods who, according to written testaments of their physical existence, lorded with power, influence, and authority over man, loved him, wedded him, and gave birth to children seeded in and by human beings.

It is important that we examine the nature of gods that can exist and the predicated nature of those that cannot. To accomplish this task requires reason, facts, and knowledge. Unlike blind acceptance and illusion, clear understanding requires patient analysis of the language with which we cloth our gods.

Many theologians attempt to show, logically, that past so-called "proofs" for the existence of immaterial Gods are not faulty. They then claim that since it is *logically* possible that God exists, He does. However, we can logically prove, also, that cats are dogs. What is logically possible, i.e., provable by logic, is often not existentially possible. Little, if any, philosophy of language existed two thousand years ago, and no progress beyond Aristotelian logic was made until many centuries later. We know, now, that it is logically possible to prove numerous claims that cannot be existentially proven, i.e., verified. One such claim, that is *blindly* accepted, is that God as cosmic mind is constantly aware of everything in the universe. He knows not only our every thought and action, every event in the universe such as colliding galaxies, the flutter of a particular butterfly's wings, but even the jump of an electron to another orbit due to an energy input.

All this notwithstanding, I am willing to concede to the possibility of cosmic intelligence. Bear in mind that the term 'cosmic' involves a physical not a supernatural world. This admission entails the probability that there are many more than one. Let us, therefore, first consider minds that might be the result of a hundred thousand or more years of evolution. To develop this further, however, we must momentarily digress.

Consider this: according to present estimates there are about a billion trillion stars in our universe. We have here, as von Däniken points out, the basis for a rough computation of the number of planets that might have intelligent life on them.

As you know, one out of ten planets (10 per cent) in our solar system supports intelligent life. If out of every one hundred thousand stars (one one hundred thousandth — .00001 — per cent) only one of their planets supports intelligent life, there are left one hundred thousand trillion (100,000,000,000,000,000) planets supporting intelligent life. If only one out of every one hundred thousand of *these* supports intelligent life *superior* to us, then one thousand billion (1,000,000,000,000) support intelligence superior to us. If only one out of every hundred thousand of these supports life *far* superior to us (as a result of hundreds of thousands of years of evolution and scientific progress), there remain one hundred million (100,000,000) planets supporting life with *far* superior intelligence to ours. This figure represents one one hundred trillionths per cent of all the planets, assuming intelligent life on one planet out of every one hundred thousand (100,000) stars.

Considering the mathematical probability that this is the case, such intelligences would possess the basic characteristics and abilities with which we define our gods. If each of these planets supports a population of a mere one million (1,000,000) adults, there are at least 100 trillion gods.

Let us return, then, to the nature of our gods. Even the

eminent Carl Sagan, when he is not at his arrogant best — attacking von Däniken for saying what he, Sagan himself, holds as a possibility — even he refers to the Oannes legend as deserving of "critical studies" interpretable as "direct contact with an extraterrestrial civilization."

But a concept of gods who have evolved over many hundreds of thousands of years is not what theologians have in mind. Such gods, if they are in our presence, are accessible to the sense faculties. And in the history of man that presence has been described in no uncertain terms. Surely a nonphysical, i.e., spiritual, god could not have wrought the physical cataclysm that, according to the *Bible* was predicted and visited upon Sodom and Gomorrah. Any reputable scientist would deny the possibility of physical effects being caused by other than a physical agent or event. By "physical" here we include all forms of energy.

Von Däniken's gods exist on the same physical dimension as do we. We do not mean here that they will transform themselves from non-corporeal into physical form for our convenience as in the story of Christ and His immaterial Father. Most of man's gods, like the Christian god, are defined as transcendent, supernatural, permeative, nonmaterial, i.e., spiritual and inaccessible to men's sense faculties. Except as conflicting concepts all over the world, such gods are defined as unknowable even though the language gives the false impression that they can be known. That is the language that popes, priests, ministers, rabbis, and theologians use as they presume to be able to describe their gods in remarkable detail and to know specifically what those gods demand of us. They guide our actions, see, hear, and know every good or evil act of every inhabitant and creature in the universe — all at one given moment. And more remarkable still, even as we are maimed, murdered, tortured, or brutalized, such non-physical gods are said to protect us.

Now as to cosmic intelligence, we must embark upon what for some is a viable possibility while for others it is a flight of fancy. It is, however, less fanciful than is an immaterial or spiritual god. Let us fantasize that we are standing on a rock in the open, enjoying the brilliance of the stars. Suddenly we perceive ourselves becoming smaller. Our diminution continues. We must assume for our purposes that our life functions will not terminate. Eventually we find ourselves suspended between the rock's molecules. As our diminution continues the inner space of the rock takes on astronomical proportions. Finally, we have "landed" on a "world" which in proportion to our size would be the size of Earth. As we look up at the "sky," we see little difference between it and the one we formerly enjoyed except of course that the outlines of familiar constellations are missing. We are accustomed to thinking of the vastness of space. We ignore the fact that the distances between galaxies, stars, and planets relative to their sizes are little different from the distances between atoms, electrons, protons, etc., relative to their sizes. There is one crucial difference in our perception, however. We know the "universe" we now experience is a finite rock. Past experience tells us there are other "universes," i.e., rocks, like it.

If, now, we substitute for our rock, an intelligent, physical, sentient being, that entity becomes our physical universe; and its "mind," "intelligence," "consciousness," etc., constitute our "cosmic" intelligence. It is indeed conceivable that our suns, galaxies, and planets could very well be the physical substratum of the brain, body, leg, or toe, or some other object as is the case with our bodies that are the universe of the trillions of life entities which thrive within each of us. Let us postulate that our universe is the brain structure of a giant en-

tity on another dimensional plane. We are forced, then, to accept the further thesis that were this a brain capable of reasoning on at least the order of human beings (for after all it may be a giant amoeba, dog, ape, or creature unknown to us), it would in no way be capable of communicating *with* us. Such an intelligence could hardly be aware of us except possibly in the aggregate, or unless he put one of us on the slide of his microscope. But there are more serious reasons why there would be no communication between him and us.

There are radical differences in the spectrum of the physical composition of the billions of different sentient entities on Earth, and elsewhere in the universe, such as various insects, animals, children, criminals, insane people, or under-achievers (as Woody Allen described God in one of his films), etc. Any one of these might be *our* cosmic "intelligence." It is obvious then that there are radical differences in the spectrum of minds — both human and cosmic.

As long ago as the 17th century, the philosopher, John Locke, and others before and after him concerned themselves with the source of knowledge. Locke postulated that mind is but a *tabula rasa* (a blank slate) on which is written all our experience and that this experience is derived totally through our sense faculties. There is no need here to go into the history of the philosophical dialogue that followed him. However, the important outcome of that dialogue was the recognition that without the sense faculties, anthropomorphic knowledge, such as we attribute to non-physical gods, is not possible. We can surely recognize the validity of this thesis if we envision babies born without eyes (i.e., optic nerves). The content of their minds would be devoid of knowledge of color. Extend this perceptual deficiency to include all the sense faculties and it should become apparent that such babies would never be able to develop minds. They would forever remain in a "vegetable" state, i.e., Locke's "blank slate."

At no time in the history of man has there been an iota of evidence that mind or knowledge is possible in the absence of a physical structure. Recent developments in biology clearly demonstrate that minds in those senses of the word that entail consciousness, knowledge, human or animal experience, etc., or any of the functions of animal life such as seeing, hearing, tasting, feeling, smelling, thinking require a physical substratum. Particular substances give rise to particular qualities: eyes to "seeing," ears to "hearing," noses to "smelling," brains to "thinking," etc. Eyes do not hear; ears do not see. A brain thinks according to past input from the sense faculties. If our gods are not physical, they surely cannot possess the qualities and attributes which are possible only as emergents from physical interactions.

Hence, life and mind, as von Däniken shows in his *Gods From Outer Space*, emerge from physical structures sensitive to, i.e., reacting to, other physical substances (light, sound, electricity, chemicals, or matter). Life and mind are qualities of physical substances just as liquidity, transparency, and the ability to smother fire are qualities of water emerging from the gases hydrogen and oxygen interacting with each other.

The only minds knowledgeable people accept are those which are a complex of neuron activity, electrochemical interactions of approximately 10 billion neurons in the brain. There is no act performed by the human structure which occurs without instructions from the brain. Even if an act is erratic or abnormal, it is ultimately a physical malfunction of the brain which causes it. If we realize the validity of the thesis that these activities are "caused" by the brain, we must include, also, all the qualities we attribute to gods such as knowing, believing, thinking, seeing, touching, tasting, smell-

ing, hearing, etc. Therefore, concepts that we have of mind, of intelligence, of thought, of ideas are always given in terms which were acquired through observation and explanation of physical events and behavior. Surely rational people cannot ignore Ezekiel's description of a spaceship and its occupants, observed and described with such clarity and coherence that it can bear the critical scrutiny and technological knowledge of an engineer of the caliber and proficiency of Josef Blumrich.

In this paper I have offered philosophical and scientific arguments in support of von Däniken's thesis. Through his prodigious efforts, he has laid before the world mountains of heretofore little known facts; he has brought to light much literature relating to the physical nature of our gods which has been available but conveniently ignored; he has culled out of historical documents and the writings of other adherents to the ancient astronaut theory a body of data which viewed as a coherent whole attests undeniably to the physical nature of our gods. A study of these data will show any rational person who holds the thesis that all facts and hypotheses should be subjected to the cold light of reason or empirical evidence that he will never again be able to close his mind to the viability of the ancient astronaut hypothesis and the physical nature of our gods.

Dr. Schievella has a Ph.D. in Philosophy, founder of the National Council for Critical Analysis and author of Hey! Is That You God?

An Open Letter to S.I.T.U. Members And All Readers of PURSUIT The "ArchiTETI" Program

It's obvious there is a growing audience interested in the mysterious cosmic phenomena such as the "Sphynx" and "pyramids" seen on neighboring Mars, as well as the eternal magic of the numerous pyramids in Egypt, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Australia, the "Bermuda Triangle," etc., here on Earth.

Having found no satisfactory explanations, some scientists connect these phenomena with the activities of cosmic civilizations. To check up on these daring hypotheses of universal importance I suggest that we should work out an international program which could be called "ArchiTETI" (or we can choose another title) — the search for the traces of ancient civilizations' architecture on the planets of the Solar System and the revision of our view to the origin and functions of the Earth's pyramids.

I'll soon be ready to present my preliminary considerations on the "ArchiTETI" program, including several concrete projects of ground and cosmic investigations. Would you like to take part in working out this kind of program?

I'd be very grateful if you find the time to think over this idea and let me know your opinion.

Sincerely yours,

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[Editor's Note: Dr. Avinsky is a leading proponent in the Soviet Union for the study of the "face" and other curious features on the surface of Mars. He attended the Ancient Astronaut conference in Novi Vinodolski, Yugoslavia in 1987 and the latest word is that he's making plans to attend the upcoming Ancient Astronaut Society conference to be held at the Schaumburg Marriott Hotel near Chicago's O'Hare Airport, Aug. 25-27 '89. For further info call (312) 295-8899.] Europeans may contact Erich von Däniken for a special flight fare from Frankfurt, W.G.



Conference Reports

MUFON UFO Symposium in Nebraska, June 1988

by Michael D. Swords

The nation's big UFO meeting took place at the University of Nebraska for 1988 and some of the "stars" of ufology were there: Budd Hopkins, Bruce Maccabee, David Jacobs, Philip Klass, Jerome Clark, and many of the active researchers of the Mutual UFO Network, headed by Walter Andrus. Many well-known UFO figures were not there, most particularly Whitley Strieber. And his absence was probably not coincidental, as a rift seems opening between "scientific ufologists" and the quasi-cultish and spiritist versions of ufology which Strieber seems to be encouraging. It is a rift which seems to be welcomed by a number of veteran UFO researchers.

MUFON conventions consists of formal talks (ten of them this time), questions and answers, photographic displays, some book materials, talks in the foyer, talks over meals, talks in rooms, and talks late into the night. You often learn more "informally" than you do formally. The best way to learn what's happening regarding UFO phenomena, other than researching cases yourself, is to go to a MUFON convention and sit in on as many ad hoc discussions as you can. So what *is* going on? I'll limit the discussion to just a couple of the more intriguing topics.

The "big news" was the report on the Gulf Breeze, Florida case. The case went on from early November, 1987 to first of May, 1988. It is one of the very few "repeater photographic cases" in ufology. One witness, who served as the focus for the events, took 41 pictures with a variety of cameras, some personal, some "rigged up" by the MUFON research team. Another anonymous photographer took a series of 9 photos. A third took another five. Fifty-five photos in all (including a videotape), and over 100 witnesses of "something odd" in the skies.

The "objects" were of at least five different types: three were varieties of a single design, one a similar but noticeably different object, and the fifth a totally different conformation. Photos were taken with twinned cameras to get measurable distances, and, thereby, sizes. A small elongated object was between 3 and 5 feet long. A mid-sized object had a circular lightzone in the base 7 feet in diameter, and was 14 feet at its circular diameter best, and 14 feet from base lighting to top light "turret." The larger varieties resembled the midsized version in shape, but were 14 feet in the base lightzone, 28 feet in diameter, and about 28 feet high. It may be that the focus witness has been abducted by one of these latter objects, and hypnotic regression work is proceeding.

The measurement work on the photos has been done, and is still being pursued, by ufology's "best in the business," Dr. Bruce Maccabee. Bruce is quite impressed so far, both as to the evidence and the quality of the witness. Most ufologists feel the same, though there is still debate and the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) in Chicago has been particularly vocal in urging caution. Caution is always an appropriate mental stance in investigations-in-progress, and caution derives in this case from contrary statements about the character of the main witness, and the irrational but strong intuition that everything is just too convenient, too pat and too strange. For example, photos never happen when investigators are present or even when they are "staked out" out of sight.

This case is one we'll probably hear about for a while unless it is a hoax and soon revealed. Archskeptic Phil Klass

hasn't finished his analysis yet either, but apparently will argue against the case on the following grounds: a) unreliable character of primary claimant; b) model-making; c) double-exposures, and, perhaps, although he didn't mention this one to me, d) the general "impressionability" of people to see and talk about things that they hear are going on.

The primary UFO researchers on-site will doubtless rate Mr. Klass' explanation low on the following grounds: a) involvement of multiple witnesses including direct involvement by the prime witness' own family; b) independent separate sighting of an object while main witness was getting a picture; c) difficulty in hoaxing the twinned polaroids by double exposure; and probably, d) a general rejection of any researcher's opinions if that researcher has not gotten directly involved with the witnesses, the sites and the "leftover" evidence (photos and a ground-trace).

Explanations are few and hard to come by. What's your preference?

1. Real ET or paranormal experiences requiring almost total control over the witness' location and the presence of "wanted" or "unwanted" parties;
2. Elaborate hoax involving witness, witness' whole family, and several other people intimately; plus elaborate model-building and picture-taking and logistics; plus "normal" citizen excitability, impressionability, and gullibility;
3. Some equally, probably greater, elaborate game being played out by a government project residing at the large local air base; a game almost certainly requiring some cooperation by the main witness.

Take your choice. Maybe you can come up with better options.

A second interesting case was an older one reported on by Walter Webb, Assistant Director of the Hayden Planetarium. Walt, like Bruce Maccabee, brings to the investigation great skill, discipline, and an impeccable reputation for honesty. The case was the Buff ledge case and took place in an upper NY State summer camp several years ago. Walt researched the case for 5½ years and left most of the convention shaking their heads at his tenacity and probably embarrassed at the comparison of his dedication with the UFO "norm."

Very briefly, the incident involved the camp at a "break" time with few employees around. The two primary witnesses, a 19-year-old female counsellor and a 16-year-old male laborer (who barely knew one another due to their different "status," backgrounds, and age differential), were at the end of a loading dock at the camp's beach. A large "cigar-shaped" object appeared fairly far away over the lake. Out of it emerged three lights which did a dance and 2 shot off up and down the lake. The third approached. It was a "typical" disk. It hovered, moved right over them, shone a light, and they blanked out. The next memory was of the boy lying on the dock, his arm over "protecting" the unconscious girl. They staggered back across the beach, up the stairs, as a few others arrived on the scene. They went separately to their rooms and conked out. Later, in a variety of misconnections, they never were able to sit down with one another to try to discuss it (the boy remembered more than the girl, consciously). They left camp shortly and went separate ways.

Over the years the boy was bothered by this experience and ultimately linked up with Walt Webb, who, most people do not realize, was the first person to investigate the Betty and Barney Hill case. Walt gathered data, set ground rules, and did hypnosis. The now-adult man told a consistent tale which included an abduction and an examination of the girl, which he witnessed from an across-the-room distance. With persistent sleuthing Walt traced down the girl who had moved several times about the country, married, and with children. She was interested and told a vaguer but supportive story. Under hypnosis, she also told of the abduction, her own examination (though not precisely the same in detail), and her seeing the young man on board. The stories, although over a decade old, matched surprisingly well. If the witnesses are as independent as they seem, it is a remarkable case indeed.

Walt dug out other people from the camp in those years, and even found the two campers who arrived on the scene just after the UFO event. Their memories could not link the young man and woman to it, but they did remember a UFO-like experience that summer, of lights or something leaving the area. Several other possible witnesses turned out to be "dry holes" but Walt Webb's efforts do demand applause.

Overall, it is a remarkable case which is not easily disposed of. Any mundane explanation would require close cooperation between two witnesses who show no signs of any such alliance (they lived States apart in different regions of the country, had wildly different lifestyles, and showed no signs of any familiarity with one another than the haunting intuition that they had shared some particularly special experience). I am slow to "buy in" on alleged anomalies. This one interests me. Perhaps it is a "keeper."

These were the highlights. The "corridor conversations" dwelt on things like the need for professionalism in ufology, the fascinating "face on Mars" and all its neighboring (possible correlated) "monuments," UFO abductions and whether the researchers are helping or harming the witnesses, the MJ-12 document and whether it's all hokey, the fascinating parallels between fairy story phenomena and abduction phenomena, and whether some UFO phenomena are angelic or demonic in character. The interesting Australian "car levitation" case was much talked about, and if you weren't lucky you had to take time out for TV interviews when you'd rather be listening to someone else. And then there was Gulf Breeze, and Gulf Breeze and Gulf Breeze.

It was fun, interesting, occasionally even exciting. Maybe I'll see you next year at the MUFON symposium in Las Vegas...lots of strange encounters there.

Other Conferences by Robert C. Warth

The 1988 International Seth and Metaphysical Conference was held in Clarksville, Indiana just across the river from Louisville, Kentucky, March 24-28. While many of the lecturers at this gathering discussed matters that were other than Fortean, there seemed a good opportunity to learn more about subjects that interest readers of *PURSUIT*.

Psychic phenomena is a part of Fortean and Prof. Walter Uphoff, participant at this meeting wrote, "When phenomena are poorly, or only partially understood, the temptation to perpetrate fraud exists — to the detriment and denigration of the genuine."

Hosts Peter Moscow and Joyce Kevelman brought together an interesting assortment of various talents. Speakers familiar to *PURSUIT* readers included Dr. Walter Uphoff, demonstrating possible contacts with beings "on-

the-otherside" via television communication being developed in Luxemburg and West Germany; Dr. Lee Pulos spoke on various experiments including an update on Thomás of Brazil and Uri Geller, visiting the United States for shows and TV commercials, gave his usual entertaining demonstrations.

There were also numerous demonstrations of channeling by trance mediums including one by Luis Gasparetto who very rapidly, while in a trance state, painted several scenes and signed them with the signature of one of some 30 past artists he allegedly reproduces with the guidance of each now-deceased master such as Rembrandt, van Gogh, Toulouse-Lautrec, etc.

While attendance was good, it could have been better for, as the hosts stated, the local media seemed constrained in their enthusiasm of covering such controversial subjects of psychic investigation or display. The '89 meeting should be equally interesting (see below).

Six weeks later it was off to California to visit friends and relations but specifically to attend the Whole Life Expo at the Pasadena Convention Center, May 13-15.

There was no way any one person could possibly have covered or attended more than a fraction of the more than two hundred guest lecturers and workshops that were crammed into a three-day stint. Naturally, the biggest names got the biggest audiences with holistic health, spiritual healing, channeling, UFO contactees and cases, psychic performances, reincarnation and meditation as some of the major themes and attractions.

There were at least a dozen speakers or shows going on at any one time. Schedule delays, changes in meeting areas to accommodate overflow crowds and drop-outs or substitutions made nearly impossible situations even more frustrating. Those members of the professional media really suffered, and there were times I wished I could have substituted my pen and notebook for a chair and whip entering a lion's den overcrowded with "humans" fighting for front-row seats.

There were talks by Dr. Andrija Puharich, Budd Hopkins, Tom Bearden, Whitley Strieber, Linda Goodman, Ralph Blum, Timothy Leary, Jess Stearn, Elizabeth Clare Prophet, Charles Thomas Cayce, Stanton Friedman, Bill Moore, Edith Fiore, Jack Houck, Brad Steiger, etc., etc. But, be prepared, if you attend a future such Expo, don't expect to see all the speakers.

One big plus for me was to watch Uri Geller again but who, this time, unwittingly erased any doubt I had regarding his psychic ability. And while no one else in the audience of some eight hundred people (which included Peter Hurkos at his last public appearance before his death a few days later) appreciated this "proof," I can only hope what happened did not seriously offend Uri because he really got mad at me, though he denied that when we talked about it later.

Some Upcoming 1989 Conferences

1989 International Seth and Metaphysical Conference, April 6-12 (tentative) in Louisville, Ky. Contact Peter Moscow (502) 423-1188 for details. Featured will be Anna Mitchell-Hedges with "The Crystal Skull" and Carol Davis; Budd Hopkins, Dr. Bruce Lipton, psychics Coral Polge and Bill Landis from England, several channelers and more.

2nd International Conference on Paranormal Research, June 1-4 at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. Contact Dr. Maurice Albertson (303) 491-0633. Not to be missed by the serious student of paranormal research. Featuring: parapsychology, paranormal info, mediumship, prophecies, reincarnation and past-life regressions, UFOs, alternate healing modalities and more.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editor:

Since the astrology story about the Reagans broke and hearing some of the comments by the political and scientific communities, I as a student of astrology for some eighteen years would also like to voice some comments about the whole affair.

It is safe to say that astrology has been with us in one form or another since 2697 B.C. when the Chinese developed their calendar and every cultural race of any literate means independantly evolved its own astrology since that time. Our present form of astrology used in the Western world is a hand-me-down from the ancient Greeks and Romans except for one thing: around the mid-1930's a handful of serious astrologers, the likes of Dane Rudhyar and Mark Edmond Jones researched and incorporated the recently devised field of psychology into the workings of astrology with excellent success. Since then, astrology itself has been transformed into a complex and mind-expanding marriage of ancient astrology, modern astronomy, (in the form of celestial mechanics), physics, metaphysics, computer science, psychology and even Quantum physics, all in the name of "science" and for the betterment of mankind.

The bottom line of all this is; that after all these centuries, astrology still works *and* even better than before, (because the tools at our access are more scientific than ever before...even the human mind). And I see the day when a "New Age Astrology" is regularly taught in the science departments of our nation's high schools because the present popularity, (to the tune of \$6 billion a year business) and the innate quest for inner knowledge of the human species will necessitate such changes, even at the expense of the ridicule now being experienced by the White House, of all places. The truth is some of the greatest scientific minds of history were astrologers: witness Hippocrates, Nostradamus, Sir Isaac Newton, Johannes Kepler, Benjamin Franklin and Carl Gustav Jung, (before I have the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of the Paranormal or Carl Sagan down my throat, let me qualify what I just said by saying that all of these men at least did some research into astrology, which is more than I can say for Carl Sagan or the Committee or most of the rest of those of reputation who would rather debunk something than do their homework. Witness Dr. Paul Michel Gauquelin, a French scientist who over thirty years ago set out to debunk astrology by scientific method only to provide enough valid data from thousands of researched horoscopes to the scientific community which does in fact support the reality that there exists varifiable facts about astrology which if actually studied would bring astrology to its rightful place in the scientific community. His research leaves much room for very serious consideration here.

It is important to realize that throughout history most of the ruling families of Europe, China and India consulted astrologers on a regular basis regarding state affairs, coronations and marriages. Today, Members of Parliament and Members of Congress also consult astrologers. To have it broadcast around the world that our President and his First Lady do the same should not be a surprise to any student of astrology. Even church officials should not be surprised since the largest astrological library in the world lies in the Vatican archives. Wall Street should not be surprised either since many stockbrokers consult astrologers before buying or sell-

ing.

So the issue is not whether astrology is a pseudo-science or whether its believers or those who apply its principles are superstitious or quacks, the issue is how long are the scientific and political communities going to try to maintain their stranglehold of controls over the public by maintaining their closed minds?

—Ronald Bartlett Jones

Dear Editor:

I liked reading the article about possible paranormal events between animals and humans ("Possible Human-Animal Paranormal Events" by Dr. B. Schwarz, *PURSUIT* Volume 21, #1). It made me think of an incident that happened two summers ago. I had two box turtles I kept in an outdoor pen. One was a female who sometimes ended up on her back and could not right herself. Occasionally I worried about her getting into an inverted position while in the shallow pool but I wasn't unduly worried about it. Then one day while I was in my room, I suddenly thought of the turtle being in the water on her back. I went outside to check and she was in that position! (She was okay)

The psychic ability in animals and between animals and humans interests me even more than psychic ability in humans alone. I'd like to see more on this subject. Perhaps SITU could invite readers to share their experiences.

—Adrienne Barker

Dear Editor:

Due to a number of anecdotes I've collected, including personal experiences, I have concluded that 1969 was a banner year for truly WEIRD anomalies. *Science News*, May 10, 1988, "Earth's Magnetic Hiccup: Something strange happened to the geomagnetic field in 1969. It jerked." We are all aware of Dr. Michael Persinger's work on psi/UFO geomagnetic correlations. In *any* case, a private conversation with a fellow anomalist netted an unusual report of a cyclopean octopoid of presumably extradimensional origin appearing briefly in Malaysia in 1969. Regrettably, this gentleman could not recall the exact citation. (It was recalled to be a "Bermuda Triangle" type book.) Perhaps one of you out there recalls it and could send me a hard copy (with suitable postage remuneration) c/o SITU to me. I will gladly compensate the cost. This also would alleviate extra strain on the superb SITU research staff.

Also, perhaps, this data should be brought to the attention of Dr. Persinger, a SITU scientific advisor.

Thanks to all of you and to SITU.

—Keith L. Partain

Dear Editor:

I want to advise *PURSUIT's* readers of a soon-to-be non-profit Cryptozoology Museum that will publish a Cryptozoology Bulletin. See all the articles that the other groups will not print. Learn the very latest from Loch Ness, the truth about Lizard Man of the SC swamps, and the New Guinea Mermaid debacle! Join today!

For more information write: The National Cryptozoological Society, Box 6534, Zuma Beach, CA 90264.

—Erik Beckjord

Dear Editor:

In his letter, (**PURSUIT** Volume 20, #4) Mr. Robert L. Cook referenced U.S. Patent #4,238,968. I therefore obtained a copy of the patent.

The problem with the invention, as I see it, remains essentially as I discussed it in my earlier letter (**PURSUIT** Volume 20, #2). The engine mechanism is different from the car wheel example presented by Mr. Cook in his article, but it remains essentially a mechanical oscillator unable (in my opinion) to develop a sustained motion in a given direction when operated in space.

When operated on rails in a laboratory, different amounts and direction of frictional force between the rails and the engine resulting from the engine's internal oscillatory motions could result in unsteady motion of the engine along the rails. The engine is then dependent for its resultant motion on the presence of the Earth which will experience minute motion changes opposite in direction to those of the engine. In space these friction forces will be absent and the engine will simply oscillate. I'll stake my reputation on it.

—Stuart W. Greenwood

Dear Editor:

I was glad to see your review of *The Ashby Guidebook for Study of the Paranormal* (**PURSUIT** Volume 20, #4) and was very pleased by your favorable comments on it. However, I was chagrined that my name as reviser/editor was not referenced at all. Updating a fifteen-year-old book is quite a chore when the heart of the volume is its bibliographies. The original edition listed 268 titles with summaries for 83 of the comprising 68 of the 190 pages, or 30%. In this revised edition, 113 titles were added of recent books with summaries for 44 of them, covering 83% of the 215 pages, or 40%. I also added, to the original six categories, "Self-Help and Development" and "Textbooks."

Chapter Two was a new "how-to" chapter of eight sections never before published, five of which were written expressly for this book, as was my Appendix on Survival. And, of course, the chapters on "Resources" and on "Important Figures" had to be extensively revised. The two-year effort was an uncompensated labor of love for the late Bob Ashby and for SFF whose journal I edit, but I do like to get credit!

—Frank C. Tribbe

Dear Editor:

I have read your article, "Do Ghosts Barrier Oscillate?" in **PURSUIT** Vol. 21, #1 and note the confusion that occurs when investigators attempt to explain the paranormal. All clairvoyants can explain what you have photographed as the unbilical-like cord. You are photographing spirit beings but these are from this plane and not from the after-death-planes of life. These are the out-of-body experiences of people. Perhaps the following story can best dispel the confusion:

A husband and wife had saved for years to buy a house in the country. Each had dreamed of their home in detail and could describe even the placement of furniture and various plants in the yard. When the day arrived to buy this house they met with a realtor who showed them the picture of the exact house they had dreamed about and feared did not exist. They looked over the house while the owners remained in the garden so they could have free access. The owners were summoned in when the buyers indicated that they would buy the house. The owner stated, "I must warn you. This house is haunted!" "Really!" the woman buyer said, "By whom?"

"By you," he replied!

These out-of-body experiences account for the event of de-ja vu and should not be confused with reincarnation. Most people have these experiences while they sleep; however, there are a number of people who can use out-of-body for other purposes. We have a friend who survived hazardous encounters in Vietnam by leaving his body, surveying the surrounding countryside for the enemy and by avoiding contact. In fact, he was able to displace or be displaced in time. When he was fired at, the bullet would slow down and suspend in space, allowing him to step to one side very easily. The movement of the bullet was no more than slow motion in speed.

One cannot truly know an experience until one experiences. Too many books are written on healing by non-healers which bear gross errors and hypotheses; too much is written on the paranormal by people who have never had a paranormal experience!

—Virginia Light

Dear Editor:

On reading Robert Cook's (to my mind, ungracious) reply to Stuart Greenwood's letter r.e. Cook's alleged new means of propulsion, I was sufficiently intrigued to go back and read the preceding material listed by our editor.

Mr. Cook rightly suggests we should obtain a copy of U.S. Patent 4,238,968 and study it. I have a copy on order and may comment further after I've received it.

In the interim, however, a few observations based on the writings in **PURSUIT** to date.

As described therein, Mr. Cook's device puts me in mind of the so-called 'Dean Drive' invented by one Norman Dean and first widely reported in *Astounding Science Fiction* magazine in late 1960. I believe there were a couple more articles plus the usual letters-to-the-editor but unfortunately my copies of ASF are in storage, else I could be more specific.

The initial ASF article — with photos — aroused a furor that eventually led to the USAF issuing a contract to have Dean's device tested by an independent laboratory. The test results regrettably did not substantiate Dean's claims to have discovered a means of converting rotary motion into unidirectional thrust. Two articles (one a report on the test results) and a number of letters-to-the-editor appeared in "Missiles and Rockets" magazine during May-Sept. 1961. One of the telling points against Dean's machine was that while it did lurch jerkily across the floor under the impulse of its engine, it moved not at all when suspended. By Dean's theory (and claims) it should have moved to one side, standing out straight at 90 degrees from vertical.

It appears to me that Mr. Cook has re-invented the Dean Drive. After all, according to the report by the United Airlines engineers, "Cook's crudely built rig moved spasmodically across the floor." As with the Dean Drive, the motor impulse acting against the friction between rig and floor would account for this motion. Let Mr. Cook suspend his model from a wire — if it then moves substantially off vertical, I'll believe.

The burden is on Mr. Cook to prove his claims — until he does so, his cranky objections to Dr. Greenwood's analysis are valueless.

—George Earley

[Ed. Note: Jim Murray received patent #4,780,632 titled "Alternator With Improved Efficiency" for his power generator.]



SITUATIONS

In this section, mostly contemporary curious and unexplained events are reported. Members are urged to send in newsclippings and reports they deem responsible. Please be sure to include the source of reference (name of newspaper or periodical), city of publication, date of issue in which article appeared, and your first initial and last name (or membership number only, if you prefer to be credited in that way).

Chinese Seek 'Wild Man' Who Laughs

The search for China's laughing version of the Abominable Snowman has been taken up once again as more than 100 Chinese researchers headed for the mountain forests of central Hubei Province to track down what they call "the wild man," a news report said Saturday.

The expedition, divided into 12 teams, is set to search the Shennongjia Mountains in order to solve the 3,000-year-old mystery of what's declared to be a creature who's half man, half ape. Many peasants in the area claim to have seen the creature, the overseas edition of the People's Daily said.

Peasant witnesses speak of a man-beast at least seven feet tall, with reddish hair and long, swinging arms. A number have claimed they heard the "wild man" emit a laugh that sounded almost human.

Nicknamed "Fei Fei" by Chinese scientists, the creature is described as resembling North America's Big Foot and the Abominable Snowman of the Himalayas.

More than 600 anthropologists, biologists and ecologists have been engaged in research on the existence of the beast since the China Wild Man Research Association was set up in the early 1980s.

In 1985, the association held an exhibition in the southern city of Guangzhou featuring plaster footprints, hair samples and droppings alleged to be from "the wild man."

A year earlier, the Shennongjia Mountain forest was declared a nature preserve for the creature because of persistent sightings in the area. The beast has also been reported seen in the provinces of Sichuan, Shaanxi, Henan, the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the far south and in the Himalayan region of Tibet.

Records of sightings date back as far as 3,000 years in China. During the 1950s and 1960s, Chinese scientists searched for the Abominable Snowman in the Himalayas and for "the wild man" in the Chinese forests.

SOURCE: (UPI) *Stars & Stripes*
6/28/88

CREDIT: James R. Bryce

The Yeti is Out There, Says Mountain Man

Yeti hunter and mountaineer Chris Bonington today revealed the discoveries he made as he searched the Himalayas for the Abominable Snowman.

But the legendary half-man half-ape creature, if it exists, can breathe a sigh of relief along with bookmakers William Hill who faced paying out £1 million if the Yeti was found.

For there was no conclusive evidence — just one possible sighting, an unusual set of footprints in the snow and unidentified animal droppings.

Mr. Bonington, who spent ten weeks climbing the remote 23,000 ft. Menlung Tse peak, said: "There certainly isn't any conclusive evidence one way or another, but there are a lot of unanswered questions.

"I personally am convinced there is something there, but just what it is who knows, and I rather hope the Yeti manages to remain as elusive as it has to the present times."

Evidence produced by the team, which is being examined by Natural History Museum experts, includes:

- Two sheepskins cleanly severed from their carcasses, as if by a creature using a cutting tool. The mountaineers were assured that if Tibetans had removed the valuable skins they would have used them for clothing or bedding.

- Photographs of footprints measuring 12 inches by 3-4 inches lying 4 inches deep in the snow thought to have been made by a creature walking upright on two legs.

- A sighting by BBC film producer John Paul-Davidson who accompanied the mountaineering team. As he was climbing he felt the sensation of being watched and through the blizzard saw the dark shape of a creature standing on two legs watching him.

- The curious disappearance of two ski sticks left by the mountaineers at a height of 19,000 feet.

- Unidentified "sizeable" animal droppings found in a secluded valley.

Natural History Museum scientist Iain Bishop has examined the sheepskins and found "nothing unusual."

"We have seen no pieces of Yeti, nor any pieces claimed to be Yeti," he said.

SOURCE: Lesley Yarranton, *Evening Standard*, England 6/8/88

CREDIT: *Fortean News*, T. Good

7-Week Search for Yeti Finds Only Footprints, Dead Sheep

A seven-week search for the Abominable Snowman in the Himalayas turned up footprints and the carcasses of two sheep, but not the legendary beast itself, a member of the expedition said yesterday.

Alan Hinkes, 34, of the six-member British team, said the climbers uncovered more clues — including footprints slightly smaller than a man's boot and the skinned remains of the sheep — but no conclusive evidence that the hairy, manlike beast also known as the Yeti exists. Expedition leader Chris Bonington, 53, planned to present the team's findings at a news conference today.

"It would have been nice to find the actual Yeti," Hinkes said. "In Nepal, all believe in it, which is quite startling — there must be something there."

SOURCE: (AP) *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, PA 6/8/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

Big Muddy Monster Seen

Bob Reiman says he doesn't want to be the laughingstock of his tiny Southern Illinois town, but he's standing by a story that he and family members saw a Bigfoot-type creature in his junk yard.

"I am convinced I saw something," said Reiman, who claims to have sighted what locals call the Big Muddy Monster, a stinking, dirty hulk with matted hair and huge feet.

"Right now," he said Tuesday, "I really wish it was a big hoax or something. But I'll be right frank with you, what we seen is true."

Reiman, the owner of an auto service and salvage business about six miles west of Carbondale, said he got a call on Friday from his security guard, Charles Straub.

Straub, who was keeping watch at the salvage yard, told Reiman he'd heard some commotion out back. Reiman said when he arrived they started investigating. He recalled "a very pungent odor in the air."

"It wasn't anything like a skunk or a sewer, but it was very distracting. It would even make your eyes water."

Reiman said he and Straub heard rustling and in the light of the full moon they saw something standing about 30 feet from them.

The creature "let out a piercing-type scream" when they shone light on its face, Reiman said.

"All we could see was red eyes and yellow teeth," said Reiman, 34. "There isn't any man who could stand that tall."

"There's no man that can travel that fast on all fours. And I don't know a man who can make that noise."

The initial encounter lasted only seconds, but was time enough to make out an 8- to 10-foot frame and lots of long, silver, matted hair, Reiman said.

It was not the first time the Big Muddy Monster has been spotted in Southern Illinois. At least 21 other people reported seeing the Bigfoot-type creature in the 1970s.

But until last weekend, it had not been seen since 1976.

Paul McRoy, a police dispatcher at the Murphysboro Police Department, said they received no reports of the creature and first learned of the latest encounter from a newspaper article published Tuesday. He said they were not investigating.

"I was very scared and it didn't take me long to make the decision to get away from it," said Reiman, noting they failed to contact the authorities "for the simple fact of being hauled off in white coats.

"I was afraid of being ridiculed," Reiman said. "And I'll be quite honest with you, I still am."

But Reiman and Straub, a part-time Ava policeman, did call family members to witness the Big Muddy Monster, so called because of the nearby Big Muddy River.

Joyce Tindall, Reiman's sister, said she thought the summons was a joke — until she saw it for herself.

"We knew it wasn't a person from its size and height," she said.

SOURCE: (AP) *Daily Chronicle*, IL
6/9/99

CREDIT: Member #432

Bigfoot in Arkansas

Joe Cagle of Leachville knew that the creature he saw on the night of Thursday, May 5, was not just a cow that had gotten loose. "It was about 9:30-10:00 p.m., and I was driving down Highway 226 near the 63 Bypass outside of Jonesboro when I saw a creature about seven feet tall, weighing probably 300 pounds and having thick fur.

"The creature was running down the roadside ditch, and then it came out of the ditch and ran upright across the highway and disappeared into a patch of woods on the other side," Cagle explained.

"It took only three strides to cross the highway!" Mr. Cagle also stated, "I don't believe it was a bear or a human because bears usually run on all fours, and this creature ran upright with its knees slightly bent, unlike humans.

"The whole thing has been blown out of proportion," Cagle stated. "I have never believed in anything such as a Bigfoot; however, I saw something that night that I have never seen before."

In spite of this remark, the interview was concluded by Cagle saying, "There is definitely something out there."

SOURCE: R. Henry, *Town Crier*,
Manila, AR, 5/24/88

CREDIT: *Fortean News*, Lou Farish

Bigfoot in Pennsylvania

Last week I experienced a closeup sighting of a large strange foul-smelling creature that in comparison to an extra large gorilla would make the gorilla look like a chimpanzee.

I was at Sleepy Hollow where the ramp bridge goes across Loyalhanna Creek with the intention of doing some lantern fishing. I parked my car and I was in the process of lighting my lantern when I heard a scuffling racket up on the hillside in the woods only 25 feet away from me. It also sounded like burst-wood.

I got my three-cell spotlight. I studied the large creature in every detail. It had reddish brown fur, extra large fiery eyes that glowed orange color like a bear's eyes. I also noticed that the eyes were constricting due to the bright light at close range.

The creature was furious at my invasion of his privacy and its intentions were to attack me. Its intentions were obviously clear. This happened Tuesday night, May 17th, 1988 at exactly 11:30 p.m. When the creature started coming toward me in an unfriendly manner, I hastily made a run for the safety of my car. I turned my car around and I plainly saw the creature at very close range in the bright headlights of my car.

I am 67 years of age, I do not drink and I am of sound mind. I am an experienced hunter, tracker and live trapper, with 50 years experience.

This creature was very, very big and very, very strange and dangerous looking. It definitely was not a bear or a gorilla. It was too big. The size was unbelievably enormous.

Samuel J. Sherry Sr.

Ligonier RD 1

(A letter to the editor)

SOURCE: *Echo*, Ligonier, PA
5/25/88

CREDIT: Stan Gordon (PASU)

California Police Search for Big Cat

Police and state Fish and Game Department officials with tranquilizer guns searched Sunday for a huge cat, possibly a panther, that was spotted near the city of Fairfield, Calif.

The cat was seen several times in recent days in the hills at the edge of Fairfield, about 35 miles north of San Francisco. Police also found a paw print measuring 3 inches long. Witnesses estimated the big black cat weighed about 150 pounds and was 2 feet high and 3 feet long.

SOURCE: *Register*, New Haven, CT
4/11/88

CREDIT: Jon Singer

More Kanga-rumors Poppin' Up in Jersey

The Hohokus kangaroos are still hop-hop-hopping around. Or so it seems.

A school teacher 10 miles away in Pompton Lakes, N.J., thinks she saw a baby kangaroo last week.

"It was like a very, very large rat, sitting up. It was very still. Then it hopped up, like 3 feet. I thought, 'This is strange,'" said Audrey Smith.

Strange indeed.

The jumpy marsupials were last sighted in Hohokus a month ago. Five residents there reported seeing something large that hopped.

Police think people are seeing things.

Pompton Lakes Police Chief Albert Ekkers had his doubts about the latest kangaroo report.

"I don't doubt that the woman saw something, but if you see a beaver or groundhog standing on its hind legs, you might mistake it for something else," says Ekkers.

Then again, Pompton Lakes is only 10 miles from the old Jungle Habitat Game Park that went out of business in 1976.

"Maybe some of them escaped," Ekker says.

All Smith knows is that a gray animal, a little under 2 feet tall, was in her back yard on Ringwood Avenue about 5:30 a.m. on June 15.

The first-grade teacher was looking out through her screen door when she saw it.

It stood still for more than a minute and then jumped up and disappeared into the shrubs.

She said she told friends, "Maybe it was a baby kangaroo," and they said, "Who knows?"

Peggy Brennan, 25, should know. She was one of those who reported seeing the kangaroo in Hohokus.

"A lot of people question the story," she says. "They ask me, 'Did you make that up?'"

SOURCE: *Post*, NY
6/23/88

CREDIT: Ronald Rosenblatt

Rock Mistaken for Foreign Subs, Swedes Say

After an intense search for unidentified submarines in Swedish waters, the military conceded yesterday that two of the eight intrusions it had reported during the last two weeks might have been rocks rather than foreign subs.

"We've had divers down and evaluated all the evidence in the eight different incidents and in two of them we think cliffs caused the scare," said H.G. Wessberg, spokesman for Sweden's defense staff.

"But in the six other cases we've had recently we've been down there with divers too and have indications of foreign intrusion."

"It may seem funny that two of the incidents have turned out to be underwater cliffs — but then cliffs and submarines look alike too...[sonar]. ...You can't tell until you get down and inspect the area," Wessberg said.

In the last two weeks, the Swedish navy has detonated an unprecedented number of anti-submarine mines and lobbed depth charges and anti-submarine grenades liberally into coastal areas off Stockholm and Gothenburg, on the west coast, after submarine intrusions were reported.

For years, the Swedes have reported unidentified foreign subs snooping in Swedish territorial waters, especially near naval bases.

No intruders have actually been caught, although a Soviet sub ran aground outside a naval base in southern Sweden in 1981. The Soviets said the incident was caused by a navigation error.

A Swedish government report has identified the intruders as Soviet submarines. Sweden — which is officially neutral — has lodged diplomatic protests with Moscow, which has denied all of the accusations.

This year, the Swedes have vowed to sink intruding subs, rather than simply force them to the surface.

SOURCE: *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, PA
6/8/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

Sweden Says it May Have Hit Intruding Submarine

The Swedish navy said yesterday that it jolted and possibly damaged an intruding submarine in a depth-charge attack off the coastal town of Oxelosund on May 31, but that the submarine managed to escape.

"We have strong indications that the depth charges were so close that they jolted the submarine, and there is a chance that it was damaged," a defense staff spokesman told Swedish television. "I can not recall us ever having been so close to hitting an intruder."

SOURCE: The Philadelphia *Inquirer*, PA
6/10/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

[Ed. Note: Before World War II, Sweden saw mysterious planes and rockets. After World War II, Sweden has heard mysterious submarines in their waters — but nothing caught.]

Bused to Heaven

A white-robed "messiah" appeared before swooning attendees of a prayer meeting in Nairobi, Kenya. Then he vanished at the No. 56 bus stop down the road, according to a reporter's eyewitness account in the official newspaper Kenya Times.

The robed man had been preceded by a bright, shining star that appeared June 4 over the poor, shanty township of Kawangware in west Nairobi.

A week later, evangelist Mary Akatsa announced to her prayer meeting the appearance of "a very important guest." The crowd chanted "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus of Nazareth," and dozens collapsed as the robed man strolled through the throng with Akatsa.

"Strange sporadic light wafted on top of his turbaned head, his feet and his entire body," reporter Job Mutungi wrote of the incident. Mutungi said the man then spoke in clear, unaccented Swahili.

The man promised to return and bring the devotees "a bucketful of blessings."

Then he accepted a ride from an Indian named Singh and asked to be dropped at the No. 56 bus stop "to alight and head for heaven."

In a spread that included a picture of the swarthy visitor — a bearded, intense-looking man in a white robe — the paper asked, "Did Jesus Christ Come To Nairobi?" It carried Mutungi's account.

The newspaper also happens to be conducting a circulation drive under the tutelage of a team of British tabloid experts.

SOURCE: The Philadelphia *Inquirer*, PA
6/23/88

CREDIT: H. Hollander

Twins Die Within Hours of Each Other

In Dayton, Ohio, twin sisters Ruth Standon and Rachel Garber, born hours apart 74 years ago, died within hours of each other.

Mrs. Stanton of Trotwood died at Good Samaritan Hospital in Dayton on Sunday at 7:16 p.m. Mrs. Garber, died in the emergency room at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Greenville at 10:25 p.m.

"There is absolutely no way Aunt Rachel could have known that Mom had died," Ruth's son, Richard, of Fairfield, said Tuesday. "We hadn't called her family yet."

Like other twins, the sisters often thought alike. One would say, "I just knew," when she received news of the other one, family members recalled.

"I visited Mom at the Brethren Home in Greenville on Friday and she seemed real good," said Donna Denlinger of Brookville, Rachel's daughter-in-law. "But she was concerned about her sister and said she didn't think Ruth would pull through."

Ruth Stanton had been in the hospital nearly three weeks, her son said. A diabetes sufferer, she had had an emergency appendectomy, then a stroke and apparent heart failure.

Rachel had had a heart condition practically all her life. "We knew sometime it would come but we just weren't expecting it right now," Mrs. Denlinger said.

The sisters' 94-year-old mother, Saloma Clawson, also resides at the Brethren Home. She plans to attend both funerals.

The women were born June 13, 1913, to Edward and Saloma Clawson in rural Preble County. They arrived some two hours apart, family members said.

SOURCE: (AP) Circleville *Herald*, OH
5/11/88

CREDIT: John Fry via COUD-I

Couple Driven Out by Spooks

A couple who say they fled from their Nottingham council home because of bizarre ghostly happenings yesterday won the next stage in their fight to be housed as a homeless family.

A judge gave them permission to seek a High Court ruling on their rights.

John and Helen Costello, who are in temporary bed and breakfast accommodation, allege that they left their home last May because they could no longer stand the frightening supernatural occurrences.

The city council refused their application to be re-housed on the ground that it would have been reasonable for the couple and their children to continue to occupy the house.

The council said Mr. and Mrs. Costello, who are now being temporarily housed, were homeless intentionally and it was under no legal duty to house them.

Yesterday Mr. David Watkinson, for the couple, accused the council of failing to comply with its duty under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act to make all the necessary inquiries in order to discover whether there was any supporting evidence for their "very remarkable account" of why they had been forced on to the streets.

Mr. Justice Nolan described the circumstances of the case as "highly unusual" and said that, though he had some misgivings, he would give leave so that Mr. Watkinson could argue his case at a full hearing.

At the heart of the family's case is a claim that others also witnessed the spooky goings-on at their home but were not seen by council housing officials.

Mr. Costello, 52, who is unemployed, and his 51-year-old wife told the council how they had returned home one day last May with their daughter Sharon, who is severely disabled with autism and now in a special home, when they heard the sound of "heart beats" which brought Sharon to her knees.

The couple, who have two other daughters, Suzie, 18, and Rosie, 13, say they witnessed over a period of time power plugs mysteriously pulled from their sockets, a guitar being played apparently by no one, a typewriter activated and paper ripped from the machine, furniture unexplainably moved and bedclothes in Sharon's bedroom mysteriously removed from the bed.

The council was not represented at yesterday's brief hearing.

The couple claimed they could communicate with the "spirit" and the response was a series of knockings.

SOURCE: John Ason, *Daily Post*, England
4/14/88

CREDIT: J. & C. Bord via COUD I

Pictographs of Mayas Deciphered

The secret of the writing of the ancient Central American Maya people has been uncovered after baffling archeologists for generations, the West German news magazine Stern said yesterday.

Stern, in a report released ahead of publication, said West Germany archeologist Wolfgang Gockel had deciphered the Mayan writing system, one of the world's most significant after Egyptian hieroglyphics and Babylonian cuneiform.

The writings, scratched into soft limestone with stone tools, look like a series of square pictures, depicting figures of men, animals, birds and abstract patterns.

Stern said they described power struggles and sexual intrigues at court, wars and natural disasters, giving a picture of a highly sophisticated and structured society.

Archeologists had believed for decades that the writings were secret messages sent between priests and could probably never be understood.

Gockel's researches, the magazine said, reveal that when a blood sacrifice was due, Maya men and women purified themselves beforehand by fasting and abstaining from sex for several days.

Most of the writings were concerned with the lives of individual rulers, who had titles like "Lord of Time" and "Holder of True Power." Birthdates and rulers' dates of accession were painstakingly noted.

The writings Gockel unraveled come from the south Mexican town of Palenque, which 1,300 years ago was one of the most powerful city states in Central America.

Gockel, who lives on a remote Finnish island, could not be reached for comment.

SOURCE: *Star-Ledger*, Newark, NJ
6/23/88

CREDIT: Nancy Warth



The Notes of Charles Fort

Deciphered by Carl J. Pabst

ABBREVIATIONS

(extended from Vol. 21, #1)

A	Aurora	L'Astro	L'Astronomic
An Soc Met De France	<i>Annales de la Societe Meteorologique de France</i>	Liv. Age	<i>Living Age</i>
bet	between	m	minutes
(Bld)	blood	mag	magnitude
B.M.	[? British Museum]	Mass	Massachusetts
Bull Ac Sci Brux	[? <i>Bulletin of the Scientific Academy of Brussels</i>]	M. Post	<i>Morning Post</i> [? London]
Bull Seis Soc Amer	<i>Bulletin of the Seismographic Society of America</i>	Myst. dth	Mysterious death
C-211 +	<i>Choas</i> , p. 211 and more	Nat. Hist. Rev.	<i>Natural History Review</i>
Cel. Obj's.	<i>Celestial Objects</i>	N.M.	No more
disap.	disappearing	N (op)	[?]
E. Mec.	<i>English Mechanic</i>	N.S.	New Series
Eng	England	Proc. Eng.	[?]
Ent Mo. Mag	<i>Entomologist's Monthly Magazine</i>	Proc. S.P.R.	<i>Proceedings of the Society for Psycnical Research</i>
Ghst	Ghost	R.A.	Right Ascension
h	hour	R.N.	Royal Navy
I, II, or III	slight, moderate or great earthquake	Smithson Misc. Collec.	<i>Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections</i>
Ind	Indiana	Smithson Rept.	<i>Annual Report of the Smithsonian</i>
Inf	Inferior	Sup. Ext.	Extraordinary Superstition
Jour. Asiatic Soc. Bengal	<i>Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal</i>	VXCE	[library call letters]

(Continued from PURSUIT Vol. 21, #1, page 48.)

1852 Ap. 9 / LT, Ap. 10 / Cor writes that at 7 p.m. a fiery column had been seen as if up from the sun. / of Ap. 8.

1852 Ap. 17 / Metite / Gütersloh / A.J. Sci 2/15/290.

1852 Ap. 19 / ab 7 p.m. / Chatham / another sky fire / LT 21-8-c.

1852 Ap. 20 / Met / Oxford / Ac to Lowe — "Curious. Repulsed by Aurora. / Rec. Sci, 1/137.

1852 Ap. 26 / Aurora — sun-column / 7:22 p.m. / The sun column again seen — by E.J. Lowe, Beeston. / near Nottingham / L.T. 28/8/f.

1852 April 30 / 5 p.m. / New Harmony, Ind / Tornado. / Finley's Rept.

1852 Ap. 30 / Th. stone / India / See March 18.

1852 May 2 / 9 p.m. / Rain at Paris, from cloudless sky / C.R. 44-786.

1852 May / qs / India / Darjiling / BA '11.

1852 May 2 / bet. 8 and 9 p.m. / Large meteor detonated like cannon fire. / Alsace.

[Reverse side] Le Moniteur, May 20.

1852 May 23 / Freshford is 8 miles N.W. of Kilkenny.

1852 May 23 / Freshford, Kilkenny, Ireland / ac to Rev. James Meave, of Freshford / Nat. Hist Rev 1/247 / Several years before,

[Reverse side] a peculiar black cloud and fall in the storm of black rain. / Year of Tuesday - May 23.

1852 May 29 / noon / Waterspout at

Darjiling / Jour. Asiatic Soc Bengal 29-373.

1852 May 29 / Spon Comb of the Carter / See July 29.

1852 before July / Black rain / Kilkenny. / (Kilkenny Moderator / B.M.) / Sc. Am 7-336 / (See May 23, '54.)

1852 June 1 / q — polt / ab 7:30 a.m. / q. / South Wales / Windows shaken violently and bells ring. / LT 8-8-d.

1852 June / A / Am J. Sci 2/14/131 / 15/55.

1852 summer / Unknown insects in great numbers found on mountains in Yorkshire, near Settle — fly, somewhat shorter than the honey bee, dark thorax, abdomen marked with alternate

[Reverse side] rings of black and red; wings grey, marked with a black, transverse line near the tips — forceps like jaws of caterpillar, but at the tail.

1852 summer // Unknown insect / - The Naturalist, N.S., 8-93 / See Ent Mo. Mag, Dec., 1881, p. 159 / Jan., 1883, p. 188 / Jan., 1882, p. 189.

1852 July, Aug, Sept / LT index / Great thunderstorms.

1852 July 7 / Italy and Jamaica / q's / BA '11 / 8th — Asia Minor.

[Reverse side] Sim q's, Feb. 18, 1889.

1852 July 7 / 7:30 a.m. / Rumbling sound and q. / Jamaica / Timb's '53-249.

1852 July 8 / Rhodes, etc. / q / I / [Light] / BA '11 / July 7 — W. Indies / and Italy.

1852 July 8 / Wedde, Holland. / Stone / BA 60-104.

1852 July 11 and Dec 4 / Livorno / It / Sounds / Rumbings / Feb 1, Jan 27, Nov 10 / rise and fall of sea / See 1816.

1852 July 13 / Carlisle / Met / BA 52/232. /// [Reverse side] Y 5.

1852 July 16 / evening / q and th. storm / Athens / The Geologist 4-145.

1852 July 20 / — 21 h / Venus Inf Conjunction Sun / (A 1).

[BCF, pp. 400-401]

1852 July 24 / III [Great] / q / Armenia / BA '11.

1852 July 24 / [LT], 4-e / Singular Chase at sea.

1852 July 24 / [LT], 6-b / Myst. dth.

1852 July 29 / Spon Comb / the Carter / See May 29.

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1852 Aug 3 / Poonah, India / Fish. / Liv. Age 52/186.

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1852 Aug 7 / M. Chacornac saw a star of 7th or 8th magnitude. / 21 h — 36 m R.A. / — 14°, 33' Declination / On 20th, looked for it and it had disappeared. / C.R. 40-836.

1852 Aug 7 / List of other disap. stars / Dec 30, 1852 / July 5, 1853 / Oct 5, 1853 / Dec 27, 1853 ('53) / Dec 30, 1853 / Jan 10, 1854 / Jan 26, 1854 / Jan., 1854 / Oct 26, 1854 / last Dec. 1854 / Jan 25, 1855.

1852 Aug. 11 / Ext. hail at Thourout / Bull Ac Sci Brux 19 - pt 3 - 28.

1852 ab. Aug 15 / (Bld) / Cr-35-832 / At Reims, red rain. Sample sent to

French Academy. Examined by M. Cahours,

[Reverse side] who said it was colored by minute organisms — spores of mushrooms or of a fungus and of minute organisms of the class of monads.

1852 Aug 20 - 25 / [newspaper clipping] / Destruction of Santiago de Cuba by an Earthquake. / Port of Spain Gazette, 24th September, 1852.

1852 Aug 20 / [LT], 6-d / Spiritual Manifestations.

1852 Aug 21 / one of greatest recorded / Etna — last 9 months "Etna" / Rodwell.

1852 Aug 28 / 5:15 / Crieff / q and loud rumbling noise like distant thunder / Timbs 1853-249.

1852 first week in Sept / D-112 / Th. stone of Andover, Hants / L.T., Sept. 16, '52.

[BCF, p. 117]

1852 Sept 2 / [LT], 8-f / 3-3-f / Ext story / a fasting girl.

1852 Sept / Va / Severe q / Bull Seis Soc Amer '13/129.

1852 Sept 4 / Metite / Mezo-Madaras, Siebenburg. / A.J. Sci 2/22/272.

1852 Sept 4 / Transylvania / Met stones closely resembling those of May 13, 1855 / See. / (F).

1852 Sept 9 / (moon) / Brilliant star like meteor from 4:15 to 4:45 a.m. / varied remarkably / "Venus and the moon were curiously in the same region. / E Mec 90/188 / (See 11.) / (wrong date).

1852 Sept 11 / B Assoc 1853/8, 35 —

said that after the disap. one observer saw Venus in nearly the same place. [Reverse side] Lord W. says that a drawing that he had received, giving [i]ts position rel to moon, makes me doubt whether [i]t could be Venus at all." Seems was widely [o]bserved. He mentions [end of note].

[BCF, pp. 400-401 / See July 20, 1852.]

[BCF, pp. 520-521]

1852 Sept 16 / 7 p.m. / q. / Manilla / then volcs at Albay and Taal / A.J. Sci 2/17/135 [235?].

1852 Sept 16 / q. / Manilla nearly destroyed / others to 22nd / then Oct 11 - 13 / An. Reg.

1852 Sept 20 -21 / night / Etna starts long duration. / Cosmos 2/55 / See stone, Feb 10, '53. / several months.

1852 Sept 24 / [LT], 8-f / Etna / Nov. 15-8-e.

1852 Sept. 25 / St. Ives / Met listed by Lowe as "Large and Curious". / Rec. Sci., 1/137 / 8-35 / BA 53-14.

1852 Sept. 25 / Th. stone / India / See March 18.

1852 Sept 25 / q / Philippines / BA '11.

1852 Sept 28 / 8:45 a.m. / Met seen all over Silesia. / BA 60-92.

1852 Oct 5 / Namur, Belgium / Met streak lasted for a long time. / BA 67-417.

1852 Oct 11 / A nebula discovered in Taurus. Toward end of 1861, announced by Prof d'Arrest, of Copenhagen, that it had vanished. / A. J. Sci 2/33/437 / 2/35/108.

1852 Oct 13 / q. / Manilla / See Sept 16.

1852 Oct 13 / (F) / 3 p.m. / Metite of Borkut, Hungary / A. J. Sci 2/26/299.

[Reverse side] BA '60.

1852 Oct 25 / *Times* of, 6-e / At (Hull) "haunted house" sounds — dull heavy sound and sometimes a scratching sound. For 4 weeks.

1852 Oct 31 / Nov 1 / detonations / Etna / LT, Nov. 15-8-e.

[BCF, pp. 603-604]

1852 Nov. 9 / 4:30 a.m. / q. / Liverpool / etc. / A. Reg.

1852 Nov. 9 / q. / Manchester / M. Post, Oct 9, 1863.

1852 Nov 9 / North Wales / morning / q and a sound "more fearful than the most violent thunder (?) / Timbs '53-248 — from letter in *Times*.

1852 Nov 9 / Arizona / Fort Yuma / began qs that continued almost daily for [Reverse side] many months / BA 1911-42.

1852 Nov. 10 / [LT], 4-f / Sup. Ext. / Blackley.

1852 Nov. 20 / France and Java / q's / BA '11.

[Reverse side] Sim qs Feb 18, 1889.

1852 Nov. 23 / ab. midnight / q and

thunder and lightning / California / [Smithson Misc. Collec. 37/39. / [pro]bably a met.

1852 Nov. 26 / Moluccas and Cuba / qs / BA '11. [Reverse side] Sim q's Feb 18, 1889.

1852 Nov 27 / 11 p.m. / (Mass). / q. sound of explosion and roar / An Sci D 1854-326.

1852 Dec. 2 / Jena / Large met / BA 69-282.

1852 Dec 2 / Bustee / N.W. Provinces, India / (F).

1852 Dec 6 / See Aug 15. / Meeting of French Acad / (C.R. 35-833) / Was discussed a fall at Rheims of liquid like blood or of highly colored iron rust.

[Reverse side] A chemist had found in it little globules of organic matter. They appeared to be "sporules of a fungus. However, a commission appointed to examine the substance.

1852 Dec 6 / Substance / Reims / See Aug 15, 1852.

1852 Dec 11 / 8 a.m. / Silesia and Germany / det met / BA 60-104.

1852 Dec 17 / California / q / BA '11.

1852 Dec 17 / Met cloud in storm / Gt. Brit / D-97.

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[BCF, pp. 101-102 / See March 18, 1852.]

1852 Dec 17 / from the report of Lieut Higginson, R.N., of the Coast guard service / 5:30 a.m. / That [Reverse side] he saw the main body fall in the sea near Dover, and, searching on the beach, found several hot meteoric stones. / L.T., Dec 29, 8, e, 1863.

1852 Dec 18 / Yellowish dust in China / Ref — May 16, 1846.

1852 Dec 30 / See Aug 7, 1852. / star of 9th magnitude / 8 h, 47 m / + 17° 44' / It disappeared.

1853

1853 / Norfolk, Va. / fishes / D-175.

[BCF, p. 183:

Cosmos, 13-120, quotes a Virginia newspaper, that fishes said to have been catfishes, a foot long, some of them, had fallen, in 1853, at Norfolk, Virginia, with hail.]

1853 about / Light like Coggia's at Paris / C Rendus 73/755.

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1853 / Sleeper Susan C. Godsey, near Hickman, Ky / See Oct 27, 1873.

[BCF, p. 134]

1853 Feb 10 / Girgenti, Sicily / A drawing of it in L'Astro 2/131, with "veinules noires" traversing the pate / See Dec 5, 1846.

1853 Feb. 10 / Stone in Girgenti, Sicily / L'Astro 2-131.

1853 Feb. 10 / Stone / Sicily / See Etna, Sept 20 - 21.

1853 Feb 26 / [LT], 5-c / Singular Meteor at Lincoln.

1853 March 4 / [LT], 6-g / q / Inverness.

1853 March 6 / 17 miles east of Bet-tiah (Bet.) / Segowlee / metite / J. As. Soc Ben 30/132 / See Aug 25, 1865.

1853 Mar 6 / Segowlee, India / and 1861, May 12 / Butsura / neighboring sta[te] / CR 85/678.

[Reverse side] Wedge-stone / D-118.

[BCF, pp. 123-124]

1853 March 12 / Lowville, N.Y. / bet. 2 and 3 a.m. / shock and great explosive sound / not known whether q or meteor /

[Reverse side] A. J. Sci 2/16/294 / BA '11.

1853 March 13 / ab 5 a.m. / or twice? / q / Niagara and Toronto / Timbs '54-268.

1853 March 16 / Lowville, N.Y. / loud explosive sound and shock / Am. J. Sci 2/16/294.

1853 March 20 / ab 5 a.m. / 4 shocks and rumbling sounds / Niagara / Timbs '54-268.

1853 March 24 / [LT], 8-f / Met.

1853 March, late in / March 28? / Shock at Haiford / *Times*, Ap. 4, 1853.

1853 March 30 . [LT], 5-e / q. / Wales.

1853 Ap. 1 / (Fr) / Fr / Sèvres and Avranges / (q / C.R., 36/661) / Rennes and Laval / (699 / 748 / 800).

1853 Ap. 1 / 10:45 p.m. / Jersey and Guernsey / q and rumbling / LT, Ap. 5-7-e. / Also Havre, 5-6-b.

1853 Ap 8 / Rain as black as ink near Croyden / [Reverse side] Gardener's Chronicle, Ap 16.

1853 Ap. 12 / [LT], 8-d / Sun phe.

1853 Ap. 21-22 / Persia / great q / 20,000 lives lost / [BA] '11.

1853 May 24 / (It) / Det met / Ragusa / See 1805. / had been preceding phe.

1853 May 24-25 / aurora and atmosphere / L.T., May 27-7-d / 11:20 -1:22 a.m. / Nottingham / Aurora — red haze on horizon all night. 2 mock moons. / Streamers moved easterly. On Feb 21, '52, they moved westerly. [Reverse side] Whole time a patch of orange light in Leo.

1853 May 25 / bet 10 and 11 a.m. / Croydon / Sun appeared to be partly obscured by a dark cloud of almost circular form with prismatic outlines. / LT, May 28-4-f; 30-8-c; June 3-3-f.

1853 May 28 / between 9 - 10 p.m. / Weld, Maine / great numbers of vivid flashes of lightning / sky slightly smoky or dingy at horizon / Smithsonian Inst Rept, 1855-280.

[BCF, p. 413:

About May 30, 1853 — a black point that was seen against the sun, by Jaennicke (*Cosmos*, 20-64.)]

1853 May 31 - June 1 / night / (Larvae) / In gardens of Louvain,

after a rainstorm appeared enormous numbers of "vers" four to five "pouces" long. Of several hundred examined, all were [Reverse side] females, full of eggs — all very lively. In 1841, worms of the species had been named *Mermi's Nigrescens*.

1853 June 1 / (obj) / 4:30 a.m. / sun rise / Obj or spot N of sun like small new moon. Other ab. ½ degree beyond first. Like a large star. Reported by Prof. A.C. Carnes, of [Reverse side] Burritt College, Tenn. / *Sci Amer* 8/333.

1853 June 22 / Cl. burst at Ahmedabad / *Times* of India, Aug 26, 1868.

1853 July 5 / Star 9th mag / 16 h, 8 m / -22° 8 m / Looked for, May next year. Had disappeared. / See Aug 7, 1852.

1853 July 8 / [LT], 8-a / Spon Comb.

1853 July 9 / (Augs) / "Little suns" in sky / An. Soc Met de France 1853/227 /

[Reverse side] Like little suns — great number of red points in sky at Urrugne. /// A 75 [stamped].

[BCF, p. 416:

A great number of red points in the sky of Urrugne, July 9, 1853 (*An. Soc. Met. de France*, 1853-227). *Astro. Reg.*, 5-179 — C.L. Prince, of Uckfield, writes that, upon June 11, 1867, he saw objects crossing the field of his telescope.

They were seeds, in his opinion.]

1853 July 9 / Hail / Rouen / C.R. 37-612.

1853 July 9 or 5 / Ice / Rowen, Fr. / (D-180).

[BCF, p. 189]

1853 July 11 / Persia / great q / 10,000 lives lost / [BA] '11.

1853 July 13 / Mayon volc / Philippines / Ref, Feb 1, 1814.

1853 July 15 / q — darkness / Cumana, Venezuela / "on the Spanish Main" / q and "frightful noise and deep darkness / Timbs '54-269 /

[Reverse side] An Reg, 1853.

1853 Aug. 6 / Eruption of mountain of Korabelott, near Taman, in the Crimea /

[Reverse side] Timbs '54-267.

1853 Aug 9 / Eng / mets mostly from Cassiopeia / BA 53/26. /// [Reverse side] 2 / 16 / 24.

1853 Aug 11 / A / Am J. Sci 2/16/288.

1853 Aug 12 / ab 8 p.m. / Cornwall / Liskeard to Tavistock / q and sound like thunder / *Times*, Aug 20-7-a.

1853 Aug 16 / Waterspout over Leghorn / Timbs '54-280.

1853 Aug 18, etc. / 29, etc. / qs / Greece / C.R. 42-24 / Timbs — '54-270 /

[Reverse side] There had been no volc activity. Denied that, as said by Paris papers, had been fire and smoke.

1853 ab Aug 20, etc. / New Comet

- bet Leo and Ursa Major / LT 23-7-f / 24-8-g / 26-7-f / 30-9-c.
- 1853 Aug 23 / Met "Curious" / by Lowe / Highfield House / Rec Sci 1/137.
- 1853 Aug 26 / Mazzow / met train / 10 minute / BA 60 / N.M.
- 1853 Aug 26 / 7:51 p.m. / bolide / Constantine, Algeria / C.R. 37-431.
- 1853 Aug 26 / Mazzow / met train / 10 minutes / BA 60-17.
- 1853 August 30 / Vulcan / (3) / M. Jaennicke, of Frankfort on the Main, had seen — not sure of date — black point on sun. [Reverse side] Round, well defined, and no penumbra — next day not seen. / Cosmos 20/64 / Webb, Cel. Obs., p. 44.
- 1853 Sept / Hurricane in Atlantic / Am J. Sci 68-1, 176.
- 1853 Sept 2 / A / Am. J. Sci 2/16/446.
- 1853 Sept. 3 / met / ab 1 a.m. / Maidenhead / Met like star that expanded to size of moon was seen in Londo[n]. / Times, Sept 4-6-7-8 / detonated at Cardiff and Dolgelly.
- 1853 Sept / Times bound with Oct - Dec.
- 1853 Sept. / (Invader) / Ab 8 p.m. one evening on Loch Seavig, Scotland, told by Mr T.K. Edwards [Reverse side] to Dr Phipson, "Familiar Letters," p. 21, he in a boat, a luminous obj that moved toward him, but then curved away, visible 2 minutes.
- 1853 Sept 9 / [LT], 7-c / Ghst / Chelsea / 12-5-f.
- 1853 Sept 10 / [LT], 9-a / New Comet.
- 1853 Sept 11 -11 / Comet — nebula in Great Bear / An Sci D 1854-360.
- 1853 Sept 30 / Ascend met / Gt. Brit. **
- 1853 Oct 5 / See Aug 7, 1852. / Star 12th mag / O h, 33 m / + 8° 46' / Star not catalogued. It disappeared.
- 1853 Oct 7 / New comet near B Virgo on 7th / LT, Oct 7.
- 1853 Oct 18 / [LT], 7-e / Ext.
- 1853 Oct 26 / Large met, in Pomerania, left a spiral train that contracted into a ball and then passed into a Z. / BA 60-16.
- 1853 Oct. 28 / Det met / Eng / stones / Hanover / BA 60-92.
- 1853 Oct 28 / Dedernstraart, Holland / Metite fell. / LT, Nov 5-7-d.
- 1853 Oct 28 / Sound / det met / 3:57 p.m. / Great daylight met / Beeston / BA 54/414.
- 1853 Oct 28 / Beeston / 3:57 p.m. / met seen and det like dista[nt] thunder / L.T., Nov 1-5-f / Nov 3-10-b.
- 1853 Oct 29 / Violent eruption and a new island off coast of Formosa. / Trans China Branch Roy Asiatic Soc 1855-147.
- 1853 Oct 31 / Cherbourg / Aurora / CR 37/746.
- 1853 Nov. 2 / [LT], 8-e / Rara Avis.
- 1853 Nov 7. / 6 p.m. / Pembroke-dock (London?) / luminous band in sky / stationary 20 minute[s] / from 5 principle stars of Cassiopeia to Iota and Kappa Ursae Majoris / LT, Nov. 11-4-f.
- 1853 Nov. 25 / Comet in Cassiopeia / An Sci D 1854-360.
- 1853 Dec 10 / LT — 13-7-f / 4:45 p.m. / Rev. N. Straton writes from Aylestone Rectory for information of comet he had seen near Venus. There was a new telescopic comet at the time.
- 1853 Dec. 21 / Germany / det met / BA 60-92.
- 1853 Dec 27 / See Aug 7, 1852. / Star 10th mag / 4 h, 14 m / + 23° 58' / looked for, following March — had disappeared.
- 1853 Dec 30 / star 11th mag / See Aug 7, 1852. / 3 h, 33 m / + 20° 51' / It disappeared.

1854

- 1854 // Sleeper Susan C. Godsey, near Hickman, Ky. / See Oct 27, 1873.
- 1854 (?) // Village of Swanland, near Hull. / Proc. S. P.R., vol 8 / According to notes dated in the year 1854, by Mr John Bristow, [Reverse side] a master joiner, of Manchester, who was then working in a joiner's shop in Swanland — and told in the year 1891 — pieces of wood flying about the shop. No girl here. [Second page] Pieces of wood cut off, and falling to floor would leap up on bench and dance among tools. Move as if borne along on [Reverse side] gently heaving waves.
- 1854 Jan 3 / Wels / Large Met / BA 69-282.
- 1854 Jan / See Aug 7, 1852. / star 9th mag / 21 h, 28 m / - 12° 53' / In following July, had disappeared.
- 1854 Jan. 5 / [LT], 7-f / Aurora.
- 1854 Jan 10 / See Aug 7, 1852. / star 11th mag / 4 h, 26 m / + 21° 24' / It disappeared.
- 1854 Jan 13 / Spain and Mexico / Sim qs / 14th — Chile / BA '11 / [Reverse side] Sim qs, Feb 18, 1889.
- 1854 Jan. 20 / Brandon, Ohio / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1854 Jan 20 / Holmes Chapel / Macclesfield, etc. / Athena[e]um, Jan 28, 18[54] / Whirl (N) / 91.
- 1854 Jan 22 / Aerial soldiers / Buderich / C-211 + .
- [BCF, p. 422: "Phantom soldiers" that were seen at Buderich, Jan. 22, 1854 (Notes and Queries, 1-9-267).]
- 1854 Jan 26 / See Aug 7, 1852. / 2 stars / 23 h, 27 m / - 4° 15' / Looked for in July following, had disappeared.

- 1854 Jan 29 / Woman found, Bantry, Ireland / Devoured by dogs — supposed have fallen and injured self / L.T., Feb 6/5/e.
- 1854 Feb 7 / [LT], 10-c / Supposed wreck.
- 1854 Feb 11 and 12 / (It)/phe and qs / Italy / See 1805.
- 1854 Feb 12 / (It) / Consenza / q preceded by explosion in the sky which was clear / See 1805.
- 1854 Feb. 15 / Hurricane / Gibraltar / Field, March 4. /// [Reverse side] 349 / 732 / 900.
- 1854 Feb. 14 / Harrison, Ohio / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1854 Feb 25 / Turin / 7:20 p.m. / great met / seemed to fall from Canis Major / C.R. 38-511.
- 1854 Feb 26 / Op Mars / (A 1).
- 1854 Feb. 26, 27 / Heavy rain / Hobart Town / Proc Roy Soc Van Dieman's Land 1855-1.
- 1854 Feb 28 / - 1 - 45 / Venus Inf conjunction with Sun / (A 1).
- 1854 March 1 / Switzerland and Tyrol / det met / BA '60-104.
- 1854 March / Disap / City of Glasgow / O'Donnell, Strange Sea Mysteries, p. 12 / VXCE.
- 1854 March 7 / [LT], 8-d / Sup. Ext / Devonshire.
- 1854 March 16 / Paris / psycho-tube like town ghost / Owen, "Footfalls," p. 282.
- 1854 March 16 / Ap. 6, 11 / (It) / Sounds / Strang[e] Sounds / Cosenza / See 1816.
- 1854 March 30 / [LT], 7-d / New Comet / Ap. 1-11-d / 14-8-b.
- 1854 Ap. 4 / Fr. / Falling stars in a fog / morning of 5th, odorous fog / Cosmos 15-36.
- 1854 Ap 5 / dry fog / Paris / odorous fog / Cosmos 15/36.
- 1854 Ap. 16, etc. / City of San Salvador destroyed by a q. / A.J. Sci 2/18/277 / Rumbling sounds from 12th.
- 1854 Ap. 25 / q. / Lake Ontario / doubtful / Canadian Jour 2/278.
- 1854 May 11 / [LT], 12-b / 18-9-f / Met.
- 1854 May 15 / Horbourg, near Colmar (Haut-Rhin) / Red rain. / Ref — May 16 - '46 / [Reverse side] See March, 1862 / Ap., 1863.
- 1854 May 22 / (Ch) / a Vulcan (various objects) / reported by Greg by "a friend of his". / B. Assoc 1855/94 / (N) op / C-29+ .
- [BCF, p. 413]
- 1854 June 23 / Manteno, Ill. / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1854 July 2 / Fr / Eaux-Bonnes / q / C.R. 39/204, 205.
- 1854 July 4 / Strehla, Germany / stonefall / ac to Wolf's Catalogue / BA 60-92.
- 1854 July 4 / great q. / Japan / BA '11.
- 1854 July 17 / Germany / det met / BA '60.
- 1854 July 18 / Weld, Maine / Sounds attrib to distant th. storm / Rept Smithson. Inst. 1855-282.
- 1854 July 18 / Davenport, Iowa / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1854 July 19 / See July 19, 1868. / 3:30 a.m. / Violent q. / Argeles, Hautes Pyrenees / L.T., July 28, 1868.
- 1854 July 20 / (night) / Sound like that of an explosion and q in Vienne, 15 kilometres south of Poitiers / CR 39-697.
- 1854 July 20 / 2:45 a.m. / in the Pyrenees / shock / Timbs '55-277.
- 1854 Aug / Whirl / Roslin / L.T., Aug 25/10-a, 1854.
- 1854 Aug 1 / Göttingen / met train / BA 60-16.
- 1854 Aug 5 / Fr / [LT], 12-e / q / Pyrenees.
- 1854 Aug 10 / afternoon / Bradford Co., Pa / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1854 Aug 27 / 6 p.m. / Louisville, Ky. / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 1854 Sept 1 / 10 a.m. / Paris / fog — sulphurous odor / Cosmos 15/37.
- 1854 Sept 5 / Fehrbellin, Potsdam / Metite / BA '60 / [Reverse side] Brandenburg, Prussia / (F).
- 1854 Sept 5 / metite / Linum, near Fehrbellin / rattling or hissing / no great detonation / [Reverse side] A.J. Sci 2/32/140.
- 1854 Sept 11 / 7 p.m. / Stirling, Scotland / Perthshire / dense mass copper colored vapor. / no thunder / no rain / L.T., Sept 14-12-d.
- 1854 Sept 22 / [LT], 9-c / 26-8-f / 29-10-f / Tidal phe.
- 1854 Sept 24 / Herefordshire / Sounds like Cardiganshire / several hours. / Proc. Eng. 19/144 / 744? [BCF, pp. 406-409]
- 1854 Sept 26 / Aurora / Paris / C.R. 39-752.
- 1854 Oct 15 / Durham / Derby / 9 p.m. / met larger than moon / BA 67-417.
- 1854 fall / Lights like signals / Scioto Co., Ohio / See Lum Obsj.
- 1854 Oct 17 / [LT], 8-b / Remarkable if true.
- 1854 Oct 18 / Siderite said to have been seen by a shepherd to fall. / (Fletcher) / Tabarz, near Gotha, Germany / BA 60-92.
- 1854 Oct 26 / See Aug 7, 1852. / star at 7 h, 30 m / + 23° 54' / Looked for later, disappeared.
- 1854 Oct 30 / [LT], 5-b / Rare birds.

(To be continued)

The Society For The Investigation of The Unexplained

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ORIGINS OF SITU/PURSUIT

Zoologist, biologist, botanist and geologist Ivan T. Sanderson, F.L.S., F.R.G.S., F.Z.S., in association with a number of other distinguished authors, established in 1965 a "foundation" for the exposition and research of the paranormal – those "disquieting mysteries of the natural world" to which they had devoted much of their investigative lifetimes.

As a means of persuading other professionals, and non-professionals having interests similar to their own, to enlist in an uncommon cause, the steering group decided to publish a newsletter. The first issue came out in May 1967. The response, though not overwhelming, was sufficient to reassure the founding fathers that public interest in the what, why and where of their work would indeed survive them.

Newsletter No. 2, dated March 1968, announced new plans for the Sanderson foundation: a structure larger than its architects had first envisioned was to be built upon it, the whole to be called the Society for the Investigation of The Unexplained, as set forth in documents filed with the New Jersey Secretary of State. The choice of name was prophetic, for Dr. Sanderson titled one of the last of his two-dozen books "Investigating the Unexplained," published in 1972 and dedicated to the Society.

Another publication was issued in June 1968, but "newsletter" was now a subtitle; above it the name *PURSUIT* was displayed for the first time. Vol. 1, No. 4 in September 1968 ("incorporating the fourth Society newsletter") noted that "the abbreviation SITU has now been formally adopted as the designation of our Society." Issue number 4 moreover introduced the Scientific Advisory Board, listing the names and affiliations of the advisors. Administrative matters no longer dominated the contents; these were relegated to the last four of the twenty pages. Most of the issue was given over to investigative reporting on phenomena such as "a great armadillo (6 feet long, 3 feet high) said to have been captured in Argentina" – the instant transportation of solid objects "from one place to another and even through solids" – the attack on the famed University of Colorado UFO Project headed by Dr. Edward U. Condon – and some updated information about "ringing rocks" and "stone spheres."

Thus SITU was born, and thus *PURSUIT* began to chronicle our Investigation of The Unexplained.